

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation



Covering the Long Beach Unified School District...and more!

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Be Prepared

Are you prepared for a disaster? I was reminded of how important it is to be prepared when we experienced our first Tropical Storm in over 80 years this past summer. As the storm approached I, along with many others, packed the local grocery store aisles to shop for necessities. Whether it is a once in a century hurricane, an extended power outage due to seasonal Santa Ana

Winds, extreme heat, or an unexpected earthquake, there are simple steps we can all take to be prepared for emergencies.

Stay informed. Our City provides critical, timely information during an emergency through a notification system - AlertLongBeach. The alerts include emergency warnings, explanations of emergencies that have happened, what first responders are doing, and what actions you should take to stay safe and preserve property. You can sign up to receive these free emergency alerts through text message, voicemail, or email at longbeach.gov.

Pack an emergency supply kit. It is essential to have a sufficient water supply for drinking and sanitary purposes, along with a food supply of canned meats, fruits, and vegetables, and other nonperishable items such as peanut butter and infant formula. Have on hand a basic first aid kit and any necessary medications. Also, include in your kit extra hygiene products such as soap, toothpaste, and diapers. Extra supplies like flashlights, batteries, and phone chargers may be needed during evacuations or if you have to shelter-in-place. Make and keep copies of any key documents such as personal identification cards and insurance policies. And consider setting aside some cash that could be used during a crisis.

Make a family emergency plan. Plan how your household will stay in contact if you are separated by designating emergency meeting places, making evacuation plans, and having someone who lives out of the area for you and household members to contact if needed. Also, make sure everyone in your household knows how and when to shut off water, gas, and electricity at the main switches.

The City provides a comprehensive disaster preparedness planning guide with steps like these to take, as well as resources for older people, people with disabilities, pet owners, and business owners. Visit longbeach.gov/disasterpreparedness for more information. Emergencies can strike quickly and without warning. We are fortunate to have dedicated public safety first responders and a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program, however, your own preparedness can be lifesaving for you and your family.