

# ROCHELLE PARK OFFICE OF EMERGENCYMANAGEMENT

## SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH



### Week 2 - Plan to Help Your Neighbor & Community

The 2017 National Preparedness Month theme is **“Disasters Don’t Plan Ahead. You Can.”**

Not everyone is able to leave their home to prepare for a storm. Almost one third of our residents may need to rely on their neighbors before, during and after a disaster hits. Attempting to respond to a disaster by yourself involves an incredible amount of work. A little bit of understanding will go a long way. Being prepared requires involvement from ALL our residents working together. When we all do a little, we can all do a lot! Neighbor helping Neighbor!

Here are some helpful hints to get started:

- Meet your neighbors. Exchange contact information and discuss how you can prepare for flooding or disasters that may occur in your area.
- Ask your neighbor if they need anything before you run to the store. Relying on public transportation or a ride can hinder a person from being able to adequately prepare for a storm.
- Discuss the steps to take while waiting for help to arrive. Find out who has children, disabled or elderly and who has pets in their home. Decide who will check on special needs neighbors in advance.
- If power goes out, you may not be able to reach out to the neighbors who need you most. Know who needs to be checked on first after the storm has passed.
- Discuss what you need. What equipment or supplies can you share in case of emergency (e.g. temporary shelter, power generator, transportation, communication devices, first aid)?
- Reveal your skills. Find out who among you has any medical and/or technical skills that may come in handy in an emergency.

Want to help? Rochelle Park Office of Emergency Management, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is always looking for volunteers and the training is free.

For additional information please call the Office of Emergency Management at 201-587-7734 or go online at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

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