Personal Emergency Preparedness Overview



Today's Topics: Our Roles in Emergencies and Disasters

✓ Volunteer Tennessee

✓ AmeriCorps Disaster Response Teams (A-DRT)

AmeriCorps Disaster Services Unit (DSU)

✓ Disaster Volunteer Opportunities

✓ Personal Emergency Preparedness

✓ Online Preparedness Courses





Note: We will share a PDF copy of this slide deck with the active hyperlinks.

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What are Volunteer Tennessee's Roles?

- Volunteer Tennessee is the Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service.
- But did you know? Volunteer Tennessee is the State agency for volunteers and donations in times of disaster under the Tennessee Emergency Management Plan (TEMP) ESF-14.
- Volunteer Tennessee <u>Disaster Volunteer</u>
 <u>Services</u> provides volunteer administrative support and acts as a liaison to FEMA for all locally led **CERT programs** in Tennessee.



TEMA Emergency Operations Center



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Personal Disaster Volunteer Opportunities

- At Volunteer Tennessee, we understand your desire to immediately help our fellow Tennesseans in a major emergency or disaster. However, <u>please do not self-deploy</u> to a disaster scene.
- An influx of unaffiliated or **spontaneous volunteers or sightseers** converging on a disaster scene clogs streets and creates problems for emergency workers.
- Instead, if you wish to volunteer in future disasters, please only respond when government officials call for volunteers then go to a specific **Volunteer Reception Center** location.
- Or, see our <u>Volunteer TN Disaster Volunteer</u> <u>Opportunities webpage</u> for additional places to volunteer.

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PLEASE DO NOT SELF-DEPLOY!



2020 Cookeville Tornado Spontaneous Volunteers

Volunteer Opportunities - Tennessee Serves Network

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- Volunteer Tennessee strongly encourages potential volunteers to seek training and <u>pre-affiliate</u> with a recognized disaster response organization in advance of a disaster.
- Potential volunteers can register for disasterrelated opportunities through the <u>Tennessee</u> <u>Serves Network</u> and <u>JustServe TN Relief Efforts</u>.
- And see <u>AmeriCorps Volunteer Opportunities</u> pages for ongoing local opportunities to serve.

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• How to Get Involved in Your Community

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To find a volunteer opportunity near you, visit the <u>Tennessee Serves</u> <u>Volunteer Portal</u>.

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Tennessee Voluntary Organizations in Disasters

- Volunteer Tennessee also works closely with <u>Tennessee Voluntary Organizations Active in</u> <u>Disaster (TNVOAD)</u> as a resource for training and volunteer opportunities.
- Please consider contacting <u>recognized VOAD</u> <u>member organizations</u> for training opportunities PRIOR to a disaster.
- See the: When Disaster Strikes...How to Donate or Volunteer Successfully pdf.



COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION



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So, Are YOU Personally Prepared for a Disaster?





Understand the Risks and Hazards in Tennessee

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Tennessee Emergency Management Agency

TEMA - Threats and Hazards webpage

Tennessee's unique geographical location exposes our state severe weather and other threats. There are 13 hazards of prime concern.

The *FEMA Region 4 – Tennessee* and *Risk Reduction in Tennessee* webpages have information to help you prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters specific to your location. Use them to find local disaster recovery centers, flood maps, fact sheets, FEMA contacts, jobs and other resources. *Learn what disasters can impact you* and what steps you should take to prepare. And see the *USGS - Natural Hazards We Might Face - YouTube video (2:03 min.)*

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Tennessee Threats

Tennessee's unique geographical location exposes the state and its ditzens to severe weather and other threats. The Tennessee's Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies 13 hazards of prime concern for the foundation of long-term disaster planning and strategy.

These 13 threats include: Drought, Earthquake, Extreme Temperatures, Wildfire, Flood, Geologic, Severe Weather, Tornado, Communicable Disease, Dam/levee Failure, Hazardous Material Release, Terrorism, and Critical Infrastructure.

The profiles include hazard descriptions, actions citizens can take to protect their lives, families, communities, and properties, and key terms related to the hazards.





Temperatures







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Are You Prepared for a...?



How to Prepare for a Tornado

TORNADO !!!



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Tennessee Experiences Tornados Each Year!



When Sheltering from a Tornado



Tornado Safety

Learn how to stay safe during a tornado, and how to improve your home's ability to withstand tornados from the <u>American Red</u> Cross.

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SEVERE WEATHER



MYTH: "Homeowners or renters insurance will cover my home and belongings if they are damaged by flood waters."

FACT: Most homeowners and renters insurance policies do not cover damages to a structure or contents in the event of a flood. Only a flood insurance policy will cover flood damage.

MYTH: "I don't need flood insurance because FEMA assistance will cover my damages."

FAGT: Not everyone will qualify for FEMA assistance after a disaster. Even if a federal Disaster Declaration is made, post-disaster FEMA grants average less than 58,000. Remember: Just one inch of water in a home can cause 525,000 of damage.

MYTH: "I rent my home. Only homeowners can purchase flood insurance."

FACT: Most homeowners, renters and businesses in NFIP participating communities can purchase flood insurance. For a list of participating communities in Tennessee, visit www.fema.gov.

MYTH: "I can wait and get flood insurance immediately before a storm and still be covered."

FACT: While you can purchase flood insurance at any time, NFIP policies usually have a 30-day waiting period before the policy takes effect. If you purchase a private flood policy, be sure to ask about the waiting period.

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Commerce &



Tennessee has Experienced Flooding every Year since 2015

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Department of Commerce and Insurance Authorization No. 335594 | 1,000 copies | July, 2021 This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$0.24 per copy

Severe Weather Preparedness Video (1:23 min.)

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Personal and Workplace ALERTS!



Definitely purchase <u>NOAA Weather Radios</u> for your Home <u>and</u> Workplace! This radio broadcasts continuous weather information directly from National Weather Service (NWS) offices across the country. The emergency broadcasts include warnings, watches, forecasts, current weather observations, and other hazard information 24-hours a day.

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Keep Cell Phones Charged - Have Extra Batteries!

A smartphone can be a lifeline in a natural disaster. Unfortunately, many disasters may take out electricity and cell services. To make your cell battery last longer:

- Turn down the screen • brightness
- **Close unnecessary apps** •
- Have an extra cell phone • battery - charge it monthly





FEMA - Power Outage Tips

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Sign up for Weather ALERTS and Training!



Download a **NOAA Weather App** for your phone.

📎 Weather Safety Basics Training 🚩

Why attend a Weather Safety Basics class? You'll learn about:

- Weather safety rules for all types of severe weather
- The NWS
- Products we issue
- Thunderstorm Basics
- Much, much more!

Register here: weather.gov/ohx/weathersafety

Weather Safety Basics classes are: FREE and open to people of all ages Hosted by a NWS Nashville meteorologist About 1.5 hours

NWS Nashville Weather Safety Basics Fall 2023 Class Schedule

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First Class of

the Season:

Wednesday, Sept 13

at 630 pm CDT

Get the "<u>ReadyTN</u>" Mobile App

The <u>*ReadyTN app*</u> is a situational awareness tool for Tennesseans with information on road conditions, weather updates, open shelters, contacts for county emergency agencies, and more.

And be sure to also sign up for your local government emergency alerts.



ReadyTN features include:

Alerts and Warnings Real time weather and emergency alert messages

Open Shelters

Displays a map of open Red Cross Shelters

TDOT Smartway

Displays a map of real time traffic conditions

Local Contacts

Emergency management contact information by county

Prepare

Information on the hazards of prime concern for Tennessee

Plan

Emergency plan checklists for a variety of scenarios

Website

Directly connects to the TEMA website

Connect

Connects users to social media platforms

The app also features a header displaying the current status of operations. Press releases by TEMA can be found by scrolling below the 8 homepage tiles.

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FEMA Mobile App

Please download the newly updated <u>FEMA App</u> to see preparedness strategies and receive real-time weather and <u>emergency alerts</u>. <complex-block>

https://www.ready.gov/fema-app

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Are You Prepared for an...?



EARTHQUAKE !!!

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Earthquakes - Drop, Cover, and Hold ON!



Secure yourself and your family.

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Earthquakes – Do NOT Run Outside!



Photo credit - KSL News Radio Salt Lake City, UT - 2020

Unless the building is actually collapsing,

Do NOT run outside as Falling Bricks, Glass, or Debris could Seriously Injure You!

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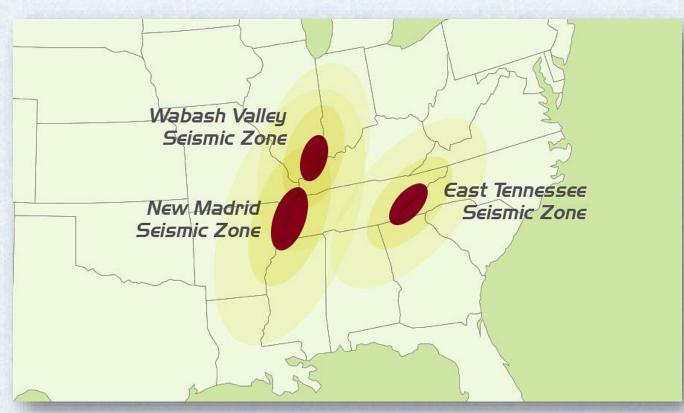


Are there Many Earthquakes in Tennessee?

Yes, small Earthquakes occur nearly everyday.

And a major earthquake, though rare, could affect all Tennesseans!

> <u>USGS – Earthquake</u> <u>Hazards Program</u>



Our Earthquake Risk - Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC)

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How to Survive an Earthquake...

Taking <u>Seven Steps to Earthquake</u> <u>Safety</u> can minimize the impact to your home or workplace and help you Survive an Earthquake!

This <u>guide</u> also gives you details on what to do before, during, and after an earthquake.





<u>C.U.S.E.C.</u> <u>Earthquake Safety</u> <u>& Preparedness</u> <u>Webpage</u>

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Are You Prepared for a...?



Fire !!!

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If you live near an area prone to fires...

CLEAR THE AREA AROUND YOUR HOME of ANYTHING that will BURN.

This includes wood piles, dry leaves, newspapers, & other brush.

30' 30' 30' 30' Get prepared at READY.GOV Ready. Ether the second second

Stay Informed Before A Wildfire

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Receiving timely information about weather conditions or other emergency events can make all the difference in knowing when to take action to be safe.

- Monitor the weather reports provided by your local news radio and TV stations.
- Sign up for local emergency notifications for your community to receive either text message or email alerts.
- Always have extra batteries for a battery-operated radio and your cell phone.



Wildfires can spread quickly and put your life in danger. <u>#BeReady</u> before they strike! Create a fire-resistant zone at least 30 feet around your home, have a go-bag with supplies, and know your evacuation routes. More tips: <u>http://ready.gov/wildfires</u>

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Do you Have a WORKING Smoke Alarm?

Working SMOKE ALARMS save lives!



Request an <u>American Red</u> <u>Cross of Tennessee</u> <u>appointment for free smoke</u> alarms and installation.

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Working Smoke alarms are much faster than the fire truck!

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Do you Know Where your Fire Extinguishers are located? ... And How to Use Them?





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Consider Taking FREE CERT Training

- Consider taking this FREE 20-hour CERT training. It empowers YOU by teaching basic emergency and disaster response skills and boosts your ability to respond.
- CERT trained individuals will be better **prepared** for the hazards and emergencies which threaten our community.
- For more information see: <u>Ready.gov/CERT</u>
- And *Find a CERT* program near you.









What is CERT Training?

- Community Emergency Response
 Team (CERT) preparedness training is important for Your Safety, and for the Safety of Your Family, your Staff, your Members, and your Neighbors.
- Local CERT programs are usually sponsored by government agencies, schools, community organizations, non-profits, faith-based organizations, or in the workplace.

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Video: "CERT in Action"

In this video, Community Emergency Response Team members explain how they come together to prepare themselves and assist their neighbors during emergencies or disasters.

And to learn more about CERT, take the twohour FEMA-EMI Independent Study course: IS-317.A: Introduction to Community Emergency Response Team (CERTs)

https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code =IS-317.a&lang=en



"CERT in Action" 2018 (6:28 min.) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80twsCr7oyc





Personal Preparedness

There are many ways YOU can Learn How to PREPARE!



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Family Emergency Preparedness Planning

Have you ever thought about... "What is the plan if you or your family isn't home when disaster strikes?"

Take a few minutes to create disaster plans for the places where you and your family spends the most time, so everyone knows exactly what to do.

FEMA – How to Make a Plan

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Make a Family Emergency Plan



The <u>Are You Ready?</u> guide provides detailed information about how to best prepare for disasters for families and communities. Learn general disaster preparedness tips and best practices to inform your planning.

FEMA - Make a Plan Fillable Form

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Include Everyone in Your Planning



Ready.gov/disability

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<u>Video: FEMA Prep Talk - We Succeed or</u> Fail Together by Vance Taylor (18:25 min.) For people with access and functional needs and their families, it is important to consider individual circumstances and their needs to effectively prepare for emergencies and disasters. <u>FEMA -</u> <u>Disaster Awareness for People with Disabilities</u> webinar.

FEMA also has a PSA about personal preparedness tips for people with disabilities in the event of a disaster. This PSA has open captions, a certified deaf interpreter, and emphasizes the <u>Ready</u> <u>Campaign's</u> four building blocks of preparedness -Be Informed, Make a Plan, Build a Kit and Get Involved.

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Include Older Adults in Your Planning



National Preparedness Month

Learn what steps older adults can take to prepare. **Tips for Older Adults**

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September is National Preparedness Month, we encourage you to Take Control in 1, 2, 3: Assess Your Needs, Create a Plan, and Engage Your Support Network. While this FEMA campaign is designed for Older Adults, it's accessible and inclusive to help everyone.

Older adults can face greater risks when it comes to extreme weather events and emergencies. Take Control in 1, 2, 3 :

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- Assess your needs Make a plan S Engage your support network

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Include the Kids in Your Planning



Family Communication Plan

Classroom material for grades 1-12

Ready Kids Publications

Just in case you are separated in a disaster, download the Family **Communication Plan for Kids** template designed for children to organize emergency contact phone numbers and identify an emergency meeting place.

Disasters can leave children and teens feeling frightened, confused and insecure. Their responses can be quite varied. It's important to not only recognize these reactions, but also help children cope with their emotions. FEMA -**Helping Children Cope**

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When a disaster happens ...

You and your family may be on your own for two weeks or more. <u>Build a 2-Weeks Ready kit</u> at home and smaller kits for work, school, and vehicles.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8VV7b1VSAYs

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Your Ready Kits Should Include:

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- ✓ Flashlight, chargers, and batteries.
- ✓ Pet supplies, blankets, and cash.
- ✓ Food, snacks, and water for several days.



Personal Preparedness - Do you have Go-Kits?



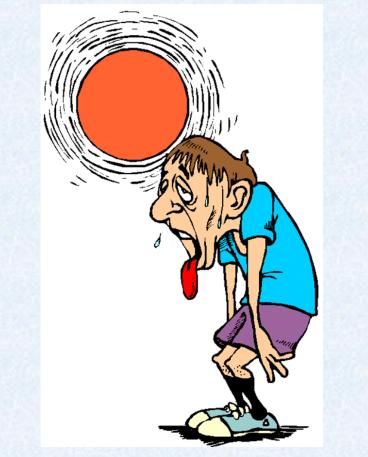


Personal 72-hour Go-Kit https://www.ready.gov/kit Vehicle Go-Kit <u>https://www.ready.gov/car</u>

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Beware of Heat Exhaustion - Drink Plenty of Water



Beware of Heat Related Illness

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Bring and Drink Plenty of Water - Stay Hydrated!

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In addition to having some food, keep several extra bottles of water in your car!



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Do you have a First-Aid Kit and Your Prescriptions?



Put together a *First-Aid Kit* for your home and vehicle.



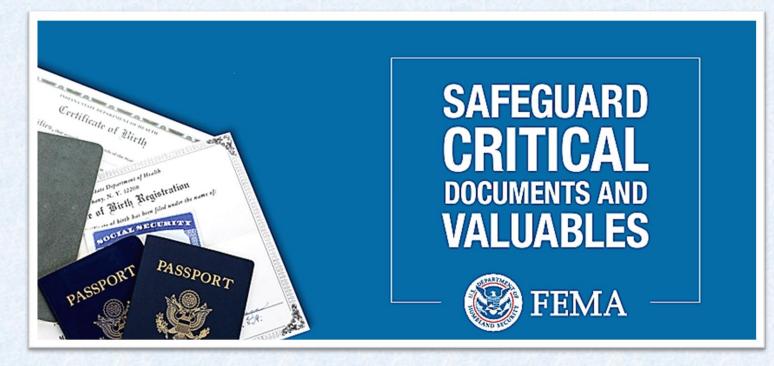
Do NOT forget your <u>Prescription Medications</u>

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Have you Protected Your Critical Documents?



Safeguard Critical Documents and Valuables such as Financial, Legal, Medical Documents and Valuables. (See a Checklist in English & Additional Languages)

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Financial Preparedness



The *Emergency Financial First Aid Kit* helps individuals and families at all income levels collect and secure the documentation they would need in case disaster strikes. FEMA - Insure your Property pdf

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Have You Prepared For Your Pets?



Prepare Your Pets for Disasters

The <u>FEMA Prepare Your Pets brochure</u> and <u>ASPCA Pet Care – Disaster Preparedness</u> have information for pet owners and suggestions for proactive pet emergency preparedness.

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Include: Pet food. Medicine. Collar with ID tag (Consider having a photo handy of you and your pet in case you are separated). Harness or leash. Travel carrier for each pet. Grooming items. Pet shampoo and other items in case your pet needs some cleaning up. Include litter and box, trash bags, and other items to provide for your pet's sanitation needs.

Pet Preparedness Webinar

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Do Not Be Overwhelmed...Do Something Once a Month

Complete 1 activity a month to prepare you and your family for disasters!



a Create an ions Plan Action Plan



Learn Fire Safety



Learn Utility Safety



Store Water

Store Under the Bed Supplies



Build Grab & Go Kits

Practice Drop,

Cover, and Hold On



Prep



Secure Important

Documents



Be 2 Weeks Ready



Conduct a Home Hazard Hunt

See: **<u>10 Ready-Made Tips</u>** and **<u>Take these simple steps</u>** to be better prepared for any disaster or emergency.



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FREE Online Preparedness Courses

There are many ways <u>YOU</u> can Learn to PREPARE Yourself and Help Others!

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"You Are The Help Until Help Arrives"

This FREE online training educates us how to help someone with a lifethreatening injury by performing the 5 most essential actions:

- ✓ Call 9-1-1 as soon as possible
- ✓ Move them away from danger
- ✓ Stop bleeding

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- ✓ Proper positioning of the injured
- ✓ Providing warmth and comfort





Until Help Arrives – More Info

Until Help Arrives webinar

Take the Web Based Training





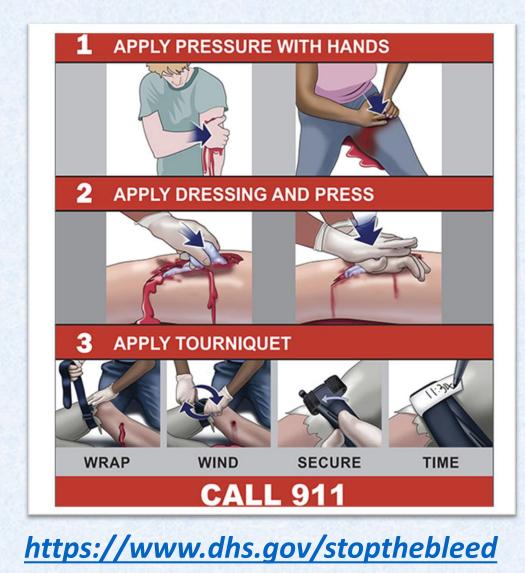


"Stop the Bleed"

Stop the Bleed is a grassroots national awareness campaign and call-toaction. This training encourages bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives.



<u>Hands On Nashville</u> will be offering online <u>Stop the</u> <u>Bleed training</u> on September 27th at 5:30pm CDT. Seats are limited to HON DVLs and to you through this <u>hyperlink</u>. Password: supervolunteer



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Active Shooter Training



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Active shooter and targeted violence incidents are rare. But being prepared to act can make all the difference. Many organizations are preparing their staff to effectively respond. For example see: Active Shooter Exercise Toolkit for Houses of Worship

Take the FREE one-hour FEMA Independent Study Course IS-905: Responding to an Active Shooter: You Can Make a Difference.

ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE GUIDE

(If you can)

- Get out if you can, even if others insist on staying
- Leave belongings behind
- Your life is more precious than "things"
- Once out, call 9-1-1



- If you can't get out, find a place to hide
- Barricade or lock doors
- Hide behind large objects
- Turn out lights and silence your phone



- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter
- Act with aggression
- Improvise weapons
- Commit to your actions



-1-1 WHEN IT'S SAFE TO DO SO

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So, how do you Survive an Active Shooter?



RUN. HIDE. FIGHT.® Surviving an Active Shooter Event (5:55 min.)

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5mzI_5aj4Vs



Help Prevent Violence in Our Communities

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You can anonymously report suspicious activities, criminal behavior, and other safety concerns by reporting observed threats, behaviors, or actions, such as:

• Assault

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- Sexual misconduct
- Bragging about an upcoming planned attack

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- Physical injury or harm to self or others
- Threats of violence at work or school
- Violence or planned violence, such as "Domestic Violent Extremism (DVE)"



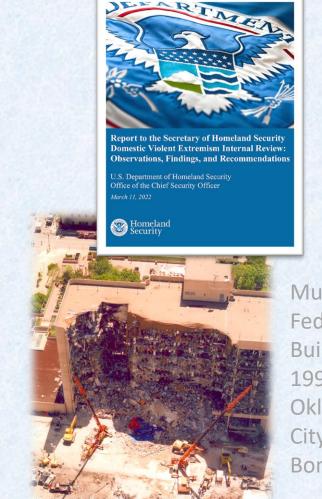


Help Prevent Violent Extremism in Our Communities

According to a <u>report</u> from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security:

"Domestic violent extremism (DVE) poses one of the most significant terrorism-related threats to the United States."

DVE stems from lone offenders or small cells of individuals who are motivated by a range of foreign and/or domestic grievances often cultivated through the consumption of certain online content posing a heightened threat of violence in the U.S.



Murrah Federal Building 1995 Oklahoma City Bombing

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If You See Something, Say Something.

Report suspicious or threatening activity to local law enforcement or call 911.

We all play a role in keeping our communities safe. As you're going about your day, if you see something that does not seem quite right, say something.

More information is available at:

- www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something,
- www.dhs.gov/advisories,
- <u>twitter.com/dhsgov</u>

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if you SEE SAY something

Call 9-1-1

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Stay Informed and Prepared

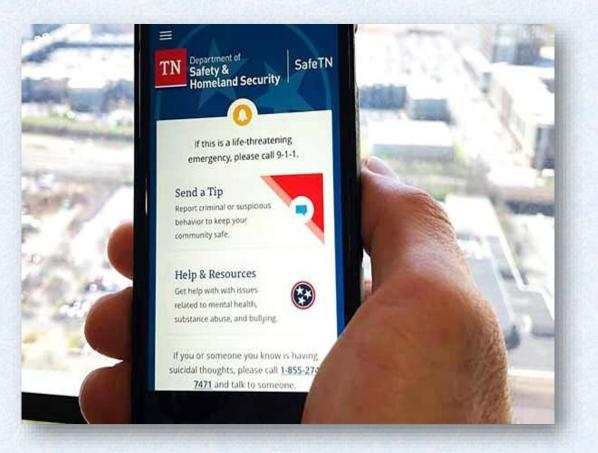
- Be prepared for emergency situations and remain aware of circumstances that may place you at risk. Make note of your surroundings and nearest security personnel. If You See Something, Say Something!
- ✓ Keep yourself <u>safe online</u> and maintain <u>digital and media literacy</u> to recognize false or misleading narratives.
- ✓ Review Department of Homeland Security <u>resources</u> to better protect businesses and organizations, houses of worship, schools, and public gatherings.
- ✓ Prepare for potential <u>active shooter</u> incidents.
- Learn more about community-based Domestic Violent Extremism resources to help recognize threats of violence.

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Prevent Violence in Our Communities and Schools with the "SafeTN" App

The <u>"SafeTN" App</u> is a secure platform to send in tips about potential threats and to access useful resources to help keep our schools and community safe. <u>https://www.tn.gov/safety/homelandsecurity/safetn.html</u>



Also, dialing the "9-8-8" <u>Suicide & Crisis Lifeline</u> provides free 24/7 confidential support for people in distress, prevention, and crisis.

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FREE "OPEN" Online Preparedness Course:



OPEN training helps organizations identify risks, find resources, develop an emergency operations plan, and create a culture of preparedness before a disaster.

Then your staff, colleagues, and families will be more resilient in the face of a disaster.

- Why organizations need to adjust the way they prepare for a changing world.
- How to get started on developing an emergency operations plan.
- The 10 Preparedness Actions.

Organizations Preparing for Emergency Needs (OPEN)

provides preparedness training for Community-Based Organizations

https://community.fema.gov/PreparednessCommunity/s/open-training?language=en_US

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For more information please view **FEMA's Previous Preparedness Webinars**



https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/individuals-communities/preparedness-webinars

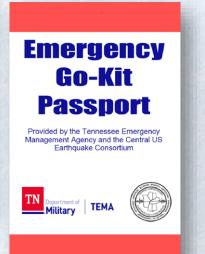
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Visit <u>TEMA.gov</u> and <u>Ready.gov</u> Websites



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More information on how to prepare can be found at <u>www.tn.gov/tema/prepare</u> with resources such as a <u>family communication plan template</u> and a <u>basic emergency supplies checklist</u>.





<u>FEMA Ready Website in Spanish</u> <u>and Other Languages</u> El sitio web de FEMA tiene información y materiales disponibles en otros idiomas además

del inglés. FEMA Seminarios web en español.

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For More Info - Please Contact:

Don Sowers – Volunteer Tennessee Manager of Disaster Volunteer Services

Ofc: 615-742-6775 Cell: 818-519-6881



Email: <u>Don.Sowers@TN.gov</u>



Note: We will share a PDF copy of this slide deck with the active hyperlinks.

"Thanks for Taking the Time to Be Prepared!"

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Volunteer Tennessee is the Governor's commission for volunteerism and community service. We build capacity and sustainability in Tennessee's volunteer sector. Annually, we provide AmeriCorps grants and volunteer center grants to local agencies throughout the state so they can engage volunteers to meet local needs in education, social services, health and wellness, public safety, and the environment. This year, 18 AmeriCorps programs in Tennessee will receive over \$7.4 million in funding which will support more than 800 AmeriCorps members serving community needs, with nearly \$6 million in Segal Education awards for AmeriCorps members. Our Volunteer Tennessee commission consists of a 25-member, bi-partisan volunteer citizen board appointed by the Governor and includes eleven State Government ex-officio representatives.

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Please visit us on Facebook, X, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Instagram.



Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)



Volunteer Tennessee provides administrative support and acts as a liaison to FEMA for locally led <u>Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)</u> programs in Tennessee. CERT training teaches people about emergencies and disaster preparedness for themselves, their families, their neighbors, and local communities. If you are considering a local CERT program for your community, workplace, organization, agency, house of worship, or HOA and would like additional information about CERT emergency preparedness training, please contact <u>don.sowers@tn.gov</u> at Volunteer Tennessee so we can offer our assistance. "Thanks for Taking the Time to be Prepared." MC



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