



Greene County Public Health

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Press Release

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National Preparedness Month 2026 Theme: Americans Stand Ready

XENIA, OHIO – September is National Preparedness Month, a time to take simple steps to help keep yourself, your family, and your community safe.

The 2026 theme, **“Americans Stand Ready,”** reminds us that being prepared is something we can all do. Small steps today can make a big difference when an emergency happens.

This September also marks the **25th anniversary of the September 11, 2001, attacks**. As we remember the lives lost and the heroes who responded that day, we are reminded of the importance of being ready to act when our communities need us most.

Greene County Stands Ready

In Greene County, emergency preparedness is not just a once-a-year effort. **Greene County stands prepared every day.**

Local public health officials, first responders, emergency managers, hospitals, schools, and community partners work together year-round to plan for emergencies and protect the people who live, work, and visit Greene County.

But preparedness starts with each of us.

When families are prepared, our whole community is stronger. Being ready also helps first responders focus on people who need the most help during an emergency.

Three Simple Ways to Stand Ready

Be in the know.

Know where to find trusted information during an emergency. Sign up for local alerts and consider downloading the FEMA App for emergency alerts and safety information.

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Make a plan.

Talk with your family about what you will do during an emergency. Include emergency contact information, meeting places, and important medical information. Make sure everyone knows the plan.

Build a kit.

Put together an emergency kit with items your family may need, such as water, food, medicine, flashlights, batteries, and other basic supplies.

Preparedness does not have to be hard or expensive. Start with one small step, then build from there.

This September, **Americans Stand Ready—and Greene County stands ready, too.**

For more information and preparedness resources, visit [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) or [Ready.gov/September](https://www.ready.gov/September).

Greene County Public Health offers a **free Emergency Preparedness Guide for families**. To view the guide online, visit the Greene County Public Health website at www.greenecophoh.gov. To request a paper copy, email lfox@greenecophoh.gov or call **937-374-5669**.

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