

# IREDELL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

JANE HINSON, MS, BSN, RN  
HEALTH DIRECTOR



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Iredell County Health Department

## NEWS RELEASE

DATE: 8/19/2022

TIME: 8:30 AM

Contact: Sierra Ashworth  
Public Information Officer  
Office: 704-878-5337  
Fax: 704-832-2396

[sierra.ashworth@co.iredell.nc.us](mailto:sierra.ashworth@co.iredell.nc.us)

### **PROTECT YOUR FAMILY & PROPERTY FROM DISASTERS: SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

Disasters happen quickly and often times without any warning. What you do or do not do *now* will set the tone for what happens to your family and property during a disaster. Take steps today and throughout the rest of the year to protect your family and property before a disaster happens.

1. Learn first aid, CPR, and put together a first aid kit for your home and car: <https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/anatomy-of-a-first-aid-kit.html>
2. Learn how to use a fire extinguisher: <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/extinguishers.html>
3. Know how to shut off utilities such as gas, water, and electricity safely: [www.ready.gov/safety-skills](http://www.ready.gov/safety-skills)
4. Write down or type up a list of your household belongings. This can help if you have to file an insurance claim for things that get destroyed from a disaster.
5. Make sure you have the right type and amount of home insurance or renters' insurance for your things.
6. Keep important papers and other valuable items in a waterproof container and make copies to keep online or at another location.
7. Direct water away from your house. Clean gutters and make sure the water drains away from your home to prevent flooding.
8. Secure objects outside the home. Do you have loose shingles, trash cans, outdoor sports equipment, or patio furniture? All these things can be picked up by the wind; make sure to secure these objects to avoid damage to your home during a storm.
9. Trim or remove dead, damaged or rotting trees and limbs. Your home should be at least a full-grown tree's height away from the base of any tree, usually about 40 feet away.
10. If living in a manufactured home, be sure that the wheels and axles are fixed to a permanent foundation and the anchoring system is installed properly.

For more ways to protect your home and family from disasters visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) Disasters don't plan ahead, but you can! #BeReady #NPM2022 #LastingLegacy

**Protect your family  
and your property  
from disasters.**



**Proteja a su familia  
y su hogar contra  
los desastres.**



#####