



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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# City of San Diego Urges Residents to Plan Ahead for Potential Emergencies

## POWER OUTAGE PREPAREDNESS IS THE FOCUS OF THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego’s Office of Emergency Services (SDOES) urges San Diegans to take time during National Preparedness Month 2022 to review safety procedures at home and work. [National Preparedness Month](#) is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster planning throughout the year.

In San Diego, the threat of wildfires and earthquakes is ever present. Emergency experts also encourage people to prepare for other potential life-threatening situations, including major storms, floods, tsunamis and even power outages. Later this month, a regional power outage exercise will be the focus of a preparedness training for SDOES, public safety employees and City staff.

**“Disaster preparedness is a year-round responsibility. There is no better time than now to think about safety,” said Christopher Heiser, Executive Director of SDOES. “National Preparedness Month reminds us to have a plan in place for any potential threat.”**

SDOES reminds everyone to create and frequently review their [emergency plans](#) and to [stay informed](#). There are a number of preventative measures San Diegans can take to help keep their families, pets, homes and businesses safe.

### **Alert San Diego**

The countywide Alert San Diego is a regional notification system that will send telephone notifications to residents and businesses within San Diego County impacted by, or in danger of being impacted by, an emergency or disaster. Sign up at [readysandiego.org](http://readysandiego.org).

### **Fire Safety**

With more warm weather on the way, the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department recommends San Diegans use Ready, Set, Go! as a guide for developing emergency plans for responding to wildfires. The [Ready](#).

[Set, Go!](#) action plan provides information, multiple checklists and suggestions for what you need to supply a proper emergency kit. It also includes a printable contact information sheet and more.

### **Earthquakes**

Because of its location on two tectonic plates, California is a high-risk area for earthquakes. Earthquakes can happen without warning and can result in injuries and damage to property and roads. The state of California offers a free [Homeowners' Guide to Earthquake Safety](#) that can help you prepare for an earthquake and determine what to do after a quake occurs.

### **Power Outages**

If you lose electricity, it is recommended to use portable battery-operated lights or flashlights instead of candles. It is also important to have non-perishable food items, including canned goods and packaged snacks. Make sure cellphones are fully charged or have access to power packs to charge cellphones. For other tips, visit the [SDG&E power outage website](#).

### **Flooding**

The City provides Flood Insurance Rate Maps and National Flood Insurance Program information that can help property owners prepare in areas near the coast, along rivers and creeks and low-lying areas. Also, people who live or work in areas downstream from reservoir dams could be impacted if a dam failed due to earthquake or another catastrophe. Learn more by visiting the [City's Floodplain Management page](#).

### **Evacuations**

In any emergency, it is important to follow the recommendations of public safety professionals. The [San Diego Police Department](#) provides evacuation coordination for safe and expeditious clearing of homes and businesses during emergency situations when necessary. Listen and follow their instructions for your safety.

### **Active Shooter**

Active shooter incidents are often unpredictable and evolve quickly. In the midst of the chaos, anyone can play an integral role in mitigating the impacts of an active shooter incident. Please take a moment to review [SDOES resources](#) to better understand what you can do to prevent and mitigate active shooter scenarios.

### **About the San Diego Office of Emergency Services**

SDOES was relaunched in 2021 by Mayor Todd Gloria as part of a series of public safety priorities and reforms. Formerly known as the Office of Homeland Security, the new office is focused on emergency preparedness and disaster response. To learn more about SDOES, visit [sandiego.gov/oes](http://sandiego.gov/oes).

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