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Charlotte-Mecklenburg PrepareAthon!

Be Ready for Sudden Disasters with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Emergency Management's PrepareAthon!

Timing is everything in these critical situations, and Charlotte-Mecklenburg residents and businesses must be ready to take appropriate action immediately. Fortunately, a new program from Charlotte-Mecklenburg Emergency Management is making it easier to respond.

Educating residents about what to do in an unanticipated crisis is the goal of Charlotte-Mecklenburg's PrepareAthon!, a grassroots campaign for action to increase community preparedness and resilience. This campaign will run April 24-28, 2017, and is supported by the National Weather Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and Storm Water, Charlotte Water, Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department, Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department Animal Care and Control Unit, and many others.

Each day, throughout this week, we urge you to complete an action to protect your loved ones and your property:

Monday, April 24: Sign up for CharMeck Alerts/purchase and program a NOAA Weather Radio. The [CharMeck Alerts](#) [1] emergency notification system will send you weather and health alerts, evacuation information and other critical news via email, text or voice mail. Also, be sure to purchase and program a [NOAA Weather Radio](#) [2].

Tuesday, April 25: Learn your flood risk. Standard homeowners insurance doesn't cover flooding. Whether you're a homeowner or renter, you'll need a separate policy for it, and it's available through your company agent or the National Flood Insurance Program at [floodsmart.gov](#) [3]. To help you better understand your flood risk Charlotte-Mecklenburg Emergency Management is hosting a free flood workshop at 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at Central Piedmont Community College [1201 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28235](#) [4]

Wednesday, April 26: Learn several [evacuation routes](#) [5] from your home and business. Be sure to plan for your pets, too. Never leave them behind as they could become injured – or worse. Visit [GoPetFriendly.com](#) [6] to find pet-friendly hotels, and make sure your pet wears a collar or harness with ID and rabies tags and a leash.

Thursday, April 27: Build your [Ready Kit](#) [7]. In some emergencies, you may be instructed to shelter-in-place, or remain indoors until the danger passes. Have enough supplies to last for at least three days. Be sure to have a portable kit in your vehicle and at the office, and be prepared to shelter at work at least 24 hours.

Friday, April 28: [You are the Help Until Help Arrives](#). [8] Life-threatening emergencies can happen fast, and emergency responders aren't always nearby. This new web-based training program arms you with simple actions you can immediately take to save a life.

A recent FEMA survey found that nearly 60 percent of American adults have not practiced what to do in a disaster. To combat this, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Emergency Management will be hosting a free Active Shooter Training at Charlotte Fire Department Headquarters ([500 Dalton Avenue, Charlotte, North Carolina 28206](#) [9]) from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Let's all:

- Stay informed during severe weather events by signing up for CharMeck Alerts
- Learn our flood risk
- Make an evacuation plan
- Build a ready kit

Sign-up for Charlotte-Mecklenburg's PrepareAthon! events [here](#) [10].

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- Links**
- [1] <http://www.chameckalerts.org>
 - [2] <https://www.weather.gov/nwr/>
 - [3] <https://www.floodsmart.gov/>
 - [4] http://www.bing.com/maps?&ty=18&q=Central%20Piedmont%20Community%20College&satid=id.sid%3a9fdb8ced-3b70-500f-1f2b-c7baf724a3f2&ppois=35.21728515625_-80.8294525146484_Central%20Piedmont%20Community%20College_~&cp=35.217285~-80.829453&v=2&sV=1
 - [5] <http://chameck.org/emergency/Pages/Uptownevacuation.aspx>
 - [6] <http://www.gopetfriendly.com/>
 - [7] <http://chameck.org/emergency/Pages/Emergencykit.aspx>
 - [8] https://community.fema.gov/until-help-arrives?lang=en_US
 - [9] https://www.bing.com/maps?&ty=18&q=500%20Dalton%20Ave%2c%20Charlotte%2c%20NC%2028206&ppois=35.24068_-80.83606_500%20Dalton%20Ave%2c%20Charlotte%2c%20NC%2028206_~&cp=35.24068~-80.83606&v=2&sV=1&FORM=MIRE&qvt=500+Dalton+AvenueCharlotte%2c+North+Carolina+28206&style=r&trfc=&M=15
 - [10] <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z7FDBFH>