



Emergency Preparedness Community Newsletter August 2023





DO YOU HAVE A WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN?



The Linn County Sheriff's Office is responsible for the County's Emergency Management Program. Ric Lentz is the Emergency Management Coordinator, and he coordinates planning, training and exercising for the county's emergency preparedness, disaster response, disaster recovery and hazard mitigation. Linn County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is located at the Linn County Sheriff's Office in Albany. The EOC is activated when disasters occur which affect Linn County.

We know that an emergency or disaster can happen at any time. Floods, earthquakes, windstorms, forest fires, and a pandemic are all emergencies and disasters we need to be prepared for on a large scale.

Personal preparedness for disasters can significantly reduce the effect a large or small disaster can have on you or your family. The Linn County Sheriff's Office has a preparedness outreach program to help citizens prepare for disasters. In addition, the Sheriff's Office utilizes volunteers to support the county's emergency preparedness and community disaster response activities.

We encourage all Linn County residents to sign up for the Linn-Benton Alert system, through the Linn County Sheriff's website, https://www.linnsheriff.org/.



Your safety is dependent on the preparation and safety of your family, neighbors, community, and local fire department. Get involved.

Your local volunteer fire department has boots for you to fill!





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Prepare for Wildfires

Are you wildfire ready? Knowing what to do before, during, and after a wildfire can empower you to take action. Taking simple steps to prepare today can make a big difference in keeping yourself, your loved ones, and your community safe.

Be Informed. Sign up for local emergency alerts through the Linn County website. Follow local emergency services on social media. Have a battery-powered AM/FM emergency radio ready for use (don't forget batteries). Create community by talking to your neighbors about emergency plans. Exchange contact information and ask for help if you need it, or offer help if you can provide it during an emergency.





Develop an Emergency Plan as a guide. Identify evacuation routes from home, work, or school. Establish a Family Communication Plan that designates an out-of-area contact, a family meeting place outside of the hazard area, and how you'll contact each other if you are separated during an emergency. Discuss the plan with your household, loved ones, friends and neighbors. Plan for pets and large animals such as horses and other livestock. Practice the elements of the plan so you'll be ready when disaster strikes.

Pack the Six P's for evacuation:

- 1. **People and pets** (food, water, hygiene, sanitation, clothing and comfort items).
- 2. Prescriptions (medications, eyeglasses and medical devices).
- 3. **Phones, personal computers**, hard drives or disks and chargers.
- 4. "Plastic" (ATM debit and credit cards) and cash.
- 5. **Papers** and important documents (photo identification, birth certificates, social security cards, passports, visas, insurance policy, mortgage deed or rental agreement, medical records, banking or financial records).
- 6. Pictures and other irreplaceable memorabilia.



The Central Linn community faces the possibility of natural disasters every day. Currently, there are several wildfires burning in Oregon, and the recent Priceboro wildfire near Harrisburg was especially close to us. Are you prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice if the need arose? Do you have a plan to keep your family safe and alive? Now is the time to prepare.

The website **www.clcepc.org** is designed to provide information and help you be prepared for the thinkable and the unthinkable. On the website there are links to other online resources as well.