FLOOD SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK: PREPARATION CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Kenner, LA. - During Flood Safety Awareness Week, residents of Kenner and around the country are asked to stay alert to the dangers of flooding and to take action now, when there is no emergency, to be prepared for the next flood.

“Floods can happen anytime and anywhere,” said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. “Take steps now to make sure your family is prepared, including financial protection for your home or business through flood insurance. Find out how your community can take action in America’s PrepareAthon! with drills, group discussions and community exercises at www.ready.gov/prepare.”

In fact, floods are both the most common and the costliest of all natural disasters in the country. No state is immune to flooding, which occurs somewhere in the United States or its territories virtually every day of the year.

Flood Safety Awareness Week, March 16 to 22, is a joint effort of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. For more information, go to www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/flood.html.

Fugate said preparation is the key to flood safety. Residents should monitor local weather reports to be aware of potential flood dangers. The latest severe weather alerts are always available on the city’s website, www.kenner.la.us, and on the Kenner Facebook page. In addition, families should have a communication plan when there is a danger of flooding. Most local residents know that flood damage isn’t covered by homeowner’s insurance, so part of being financially prepared for a flood is having federal flood insurance.

“Whether it’s the May 8th flood or Hurricane Katrina, many of us have lived through floods and know how they can devastate a community,” Kenner Mayor Michael Yenni said. “This is a good time to do two things: follow the recommendations of FEMA and NOAA to make sure you and your family are prepared for the next flood and hope those preparations are never again needed.”

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact FEMA’s Intergovernmental Affairs Division at (202) 646-3444 or at FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov.

NOAA’s mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on Facebook, Twitter and our other social media channels.
FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. http://www.ready.gov/.

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