



CITY OF FAIRFAX

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SUMMER NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 4 • JULY 2025



CITY OF FAIRFAX OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

[#ReadyCityofFairfax](https://www.instagram.com/ReadyCityofFairfax)

Emergency management protects the community by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other man-made disaster.

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EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN REWRITE

The 2025 City of Fairfax Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) establishes a comprehensive, all-hazards approach to managing emergencies in the City of Fairfax. The purpose of this plan is to minimize the impact of such incidents on the people, property, environment, and economy of the City of Fairfax. The EOP defines the framework through which city departments, first responders, and regional partners will coordinate, and it outlines how the City of Fairfax government will work with regional, state, and other local governments, as well as private sector and non-profit partners.

The City's first EOP was adopted in July 2007. The 2025 City of Fairfax EOP is a fully rewritten version of the Emergency Operations Plan originally approved in July 2021. The EOP was rewritten following annual updates to consolidate revisions, adjust based on findings in past emergencies, and incorporate the latest planning doctrine and best practices.

The following major changes were made:

- Development of hazard-specific annexes that outline roles and responsibilities for high-impact, high-likelihood hazards identified in the Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Integration of FEMA's Community Lifelines, enabling the City of Fairfax to track key services in alignment with current federal and state guidance and best practices.
- Expanded coordination with private sector and non-profit partners to promote whole community engagement.
- Clarified departmental roles and responsibilities, particularly in areas such as sheltering, volunteer management, donations management, and communications and warnings.



CALL TO ACTION

Stay Connected:

- [Fairfax Alerts](#)
- [X](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [YouTube](#)

Update your Emergency Supply Kit:

- Visit ready.gov/kit to review items that should be included in your emergency supply kit.
- Update your emergency kit **every six months** to ensure that all food, water and medication are fresh (not expired), all clothing fits, personal documents and credit cards are up-to-date and batteries are charged.



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

Stay Informed:

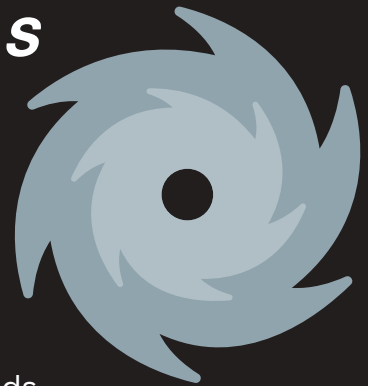
- [Sign up for local alerts.](#)

Make a Plan:

- Create a hurricane plan on the [OEM website](#).

Dealing with the Weather:

- Determine how best to protect yourself from high winds and flooding.
- Take refuge in a designated storm shelter or an interior room for high winds.
- Go to the highest level of the building if you are trapped by flooding. Do not climb into a closed attic. You may become trapped by rising flood water.
- Do not walk, swim or drive through flood waters. Turn Around. Don't Drown! Just six inches of fast-moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.



Know your evacuation zone and consider your personal risk.



Evacuate immediately if told to do so. If not, take shelter from high winds in a designated storm shelter or an interior room.

Make a plan to evacuate AND be ready to shelter in place.



Turn around, don't drown! Do not walk, swim or drive through floodwaters.

Monitor communications and follow instructions from local authorities.



Only use generators outdoors and away from windows.

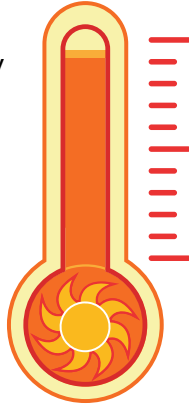
Raise awareness for hurricane preparedness by wearing tropical shirts on Friday.
#tropicalshirtfridays



EXTREME HEAT PREPAREDNESS

Prepare for Heat:

- Learn to recognize the signs of heat illness.
- Identify places in your community where you can go to get cool such as libraries and shopping malls or contact your local health department to find cooling options in your area.
- Cover windows with drapes or shades.
- Weather-strip doors and windows.
- Use window reflectors specifically designed to reflect heat back outside.
- Add insulation to keep the heat out.



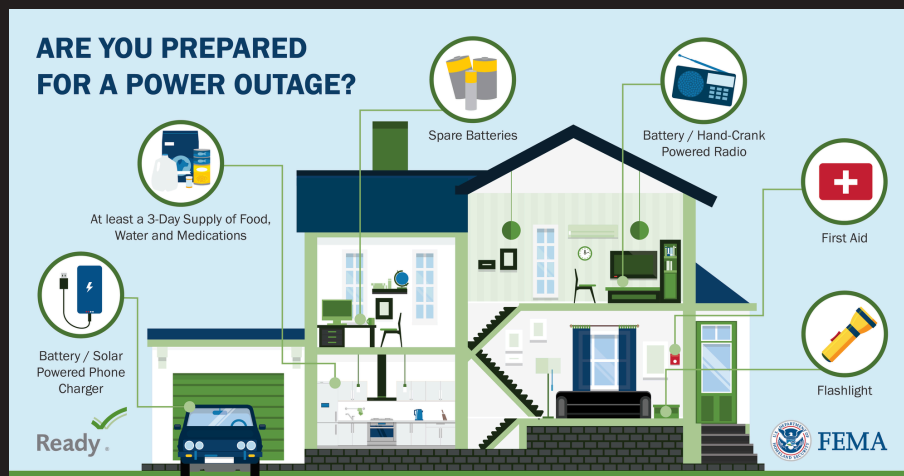
During the Heat:

- Never leave people or pets in a closed car on a warm day.
- Take cool showers or baths.
- Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- If you're outside, find shade.
- Drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated.
- Avoid high-energy activities or work outdoors, during midday heat, if possible.
- Check on family members, older adults and neighbors.
- Watch for heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.
- Consider pet safety. If they are outside, make sure they have plenty of cool water and access to comfortable shade. Asphalt and dark pavement can be very hot to your pet's feet.

POWER OUTAGE PREPAREDNESS

Tips:

- Keep freezers and refrigerators closed.
- Use a generator, but **ONLY** outdoors and away from windows.
- Do not use a gas stove or oven to heat your home. It increases your risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. Using an oven or stovetop can also increase the risk of fires, burns, and could damage the appliance.
- Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.
- Have alternate plans for refrigerating medicines or using power-dependent medical devices.
- Check with local officials about heating and cooling locations open near you.



DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHT

Department of Parks and Recreation

Do you love Fairfax City Parks & Recreation?



Fairfax City is seeking interested individuals to serve as Directors on the newly created Fairfax City Parks Foundation. The Foundation will operate as an independent not-for-profit, working in partnership with City of Fairfax Parks and Recreation to leverage private funding in support of programing, events, facilities, and improved equity. Five inaugural Directors will be reviewed and recommended for appointment by the Mayor and Council. Directors will be voting members of the Foundation and will serve an initial two or three year term.

Interested individuals should write a letter stating their desire to be appointed to the inaugural board of the City of Fairfax Parks Foundation.



2025 PREPAREDNESS CALENDAR



HURRICANE AWARENESS
PET PREPAREDNESS MONTH
PRIDE MONTH

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS
FIREWORK SAFETY



CHILDREN & YOUTH PREPAREDNESS

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH



CYBERSECURITY PREPAREDNESS MONTH
GREAT SHAKEOUT EARTHQUAKE DRILL

THANKSGIVING COOKING SAFETY



RESOLVE TO BE READY

The City of Fairfax is committed to the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This document will be made available in alternate format upon request. Call 703 385-4856.



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<https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/emergency-management>