

# Yakima Valley Emergency Management QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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## YVEM Updates

- On September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 YVEM received an official letter from the Washington State Emergency Management Division (WAEMD) regarding the approval of our newly updated Yakima County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. YVEM's Emergency Planner Jason Clapp has been working diligently throughout the year to update this plan with all of our jurisdictions and partners throughout the county. The final step for this plan is getting resolutions adopting this plan as the current plan for each of the jurisdictions we serve.

The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan is a basic plan with elements that address all natural and manmade disasters while specifying the purpose, organization, responsibilities of the various agencies involved in disaster response and recovery. You can view the Yakima County CEMP and other plans here:

<https://www.yakimacounty.us/1815/County-Emergency-Plans>

"This CEMP is excellently written and constructed. It is evident that a lot of hard work went into this current version of your CEMP and you should be very proud of what you have accomplished. This Plan is one of the few that have ever received such significant score on the Tiered Evaluation Checklist. It was a pleasure to review." – WAEMD Emergency Planning Program Coordinator

- YVEM has completed some updates to our training room/emergency operations center including:
  - Upgrading outdated displays
  - Adding new displays including a presenter view
  - Upgrading EOC computers



## Upcoming Events

October		November		December	
Date	Event	Date	Event	Date	Event
10/2	Earthquake Preparedness Roadshow	11/4	Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting	12/6	Winter Storm EOC Exercise
10/9	Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce Outreach	11/6	Region 8 Homeland Security Meeting	12/18	Jurassic Parliament: Running Great Meetings
10/10	YVEM Volunteer Dinner	11/11	Closed for Veterans Day	12/25	Closed for Christmas
10/16	YVEM Executive Board Meeting	11/12	Transportation Planning Meeting		
10/17	Local Emergency Communications Committee Meeting	11/13	Food Control Drill		
10/22 & 10/24	Mental Health First Aid	11/20	Issues Meeting		
10/29	Volcanic Ashfall Discussion	11/28 & 11/29	Closed for Thanksgiving		

## Preparedness Tips

September was National Preparedness Month with the theme of “Prepared, Not Scared”. Here are the topics covered that are great to share anytime!

- Keep some cash on hand in case of emergencies, since ATMs and credit card readers won't always be available. Cash can help pay for immediate expenses like lodging, food and gas. Learn more: [www.ready.gov/financial-preparedness](http://www.ready.gov/financial-preparedness)
- 30 Days: The number of days it takes for most flood insurance policies to go into effect. Don't wait until it's too late! For more information visit: [FloodSmart.gov](http://FloodSmart.gov)
- Snap photos of important documents and personal belongings to help you quickly file an insurance claim after a flood. <https://youtu.be/i3MfRpND5gk>
- Preparing your family for an emergency is as simple as a conversation over dinner. Get started today: [www.ready.gov/plan](http://www.ready.gov/plan)
- It's important to include kids in the disaster planning process. Review your family emergency plan together so that they know what to do even if you are not there: [ready.gov/kids](http://ready.gov/kids)
- Learn how to turn off utilities like natural gas in your home. [www.ready.gov/safety-skills](http://www.ready.gov/safety-skills)
- Include your child's favorite stuffed animals, board games, books or music in their emergency kit to comfort them in a disaster.
- Get the kids involved in building their own emergency kit: [www.ready.gov/kids/build-a-kit](http://www.ready.gov/kids/build-a-kit)
- Check in with neighbors to see how you can help each other out before and after a storm.
- Every community has voluntary organizations that work during disasters. Visit <https://www.nvoad.org> to see what organizations are active in your community.
- Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) trains volunteers to prepare for the types of disasters that their community may face. Find your local CERT: [https://community.fema.gov/Register/Register\\_Search\\_Programs](https://community.fema.gov/Register/Register_Search_Programs)