



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Life Saving Skills: Think Ahead, Have A Plan, Be Prepared for Any Emergency
September is National Preparedness Month

Eau Claire, WI - September 20, 2021- During National Preparedness month, the Eau Claire City-County Health Department encourages you and your family to prepare for and protect against disasters and severe weather events by learning essential life-saving skills. “As we’re seeing more natural disasters, like flooding and tornados, it’s important that our community builds a culture of preparedness,” says Joe Kalscheur, Emergency Preparedness Specialist.

What You Should Know About Life Saving Skills:

- **Make an emergency kit.**
 - Have emergency supplies in place at home, at work, and in the car.
 - Set some money aside from your income in case of an emergency.
 - [Sign up with RAVE](#), our local emergency notification system, to receive timely alerts on disasters and emergency events impacting our local community.
- **Be prepared for natural gas emergencies.**
 - Install smoke, carbon monoxide, and natural gas alarms. Test them monthly.
 - Place natural gas detectors on every level of your home. Test them monthly.
 - Know how to turn off utilities like natural gas in your home.
- **Make an emergency plan in case of fire.**
 - Know two ways out of your home in the event of a fire and practice evacuation plans.
 - Talk to your landlord or building manager about evacuation routes and fire safety.
 - Eliminate common electrical and fire hazards around your house and property.
- **Prepare your kids for an emergency.**
 - Develop and practice a family communication plan.
 - Teach kids how to respond to smoke, carbon monoxide, and natural gas alarms.
- **Know simple skills to help people in need until first responders arrive.**
 - Life-threatening emergencies can happen fast, and emergency responders aren’t always nearby.
 - You may be able to save a life by taking these five simple actions immediately: call 911, stay safe, stop the bleeding, position the injured and provide comfort.



Get involved with emergency preparedness and response by volunteering with the Eau Claire City-County Health Department. To learn more and get connected with local events, sign up with the [Wisconsin Emergency Assistance Volunteer Registry](#) or the [Eau Claire County Medical Reserve Corps](#).

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