



**Eau Claire County**  
 Emergency Management  
**Eau Claire County Courthouse, Rm. 3331**  
**721 Oxford Avenue** Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703  
 (715) 839-4736

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Tyler Esh, Emergency Manager  
[Tyler.esh@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:Tyler.esh@co.eau-claire.wi.us)  
 715-839-4736

Kelli Engen, Emergency Preparedness Specialist  
[kelli.engen@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:kelli.engen@co.eau-claire.wi.us)  
 715-839-4718

**Disasters Don't Plan Ahead—YOU CAN!**  
 September is National Preparedness Month

**Eau Claire, WI, September 7th, 2017** – Now is a great time for everyone to build or revise personal preparedness plans and kits. (And learn new ways to become a more resilient community!)

Eau Claire County Emergency Management identifies flooding, tornadoes, severe weather, hazardous materials, and mass casualty incidents among the largest threats our community faces. In September 2016, Eau Claire County suffered over \$350,000 of public damage due to flooding. And that doesn't include costs that homeowners and insurance endured! In 2017, we were fortunate to be south of the longest tornado path in Wisconsin history, an EF-3 that was fatal in Chetek.

"We are always reviewing, revising, and testing our response procedures with emergency responders," says Tyler Esh, Emergency Management Coordinator. "With the types of disasters we face, we need to make sure our community knows how to get information quickly and easily. So we use social media as the main way to get information to the public."

**Connect with us before an emergency happens so you can be prepared!**

- Follow us on Facebook @ Eau Claire County Emergency Management
- Tweet us @EauClaireCoEM



"We all know we should be prepared for an emergency. But we don't often take the time to create a plan," says Kelli Engen, Emergency Preparedness Specialist. "A plan is important for you and your family."

**An emergency plan should include:**

- How you will receive emergency alerts and warnings
- Where to take shelter at home, work, or school
- A family meeting place to make sure everyone is safe. One location should be close to your home and the other in your neighborhood.
- A contact list in both paper copy and electronic. Make sure you have current contact information for friends and family you may need to reach during an emergency.
- Other ways to communicate in case phone service is not available.

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