



City of Austin Homeland Security & Emergency Management

Weather Preparedness Update

6 May 2024

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Agenda

- Know Your Risk: All Hazards Approach
- Community Outreach
 - Neighborhood Guidebook
 - District Pop-Up Events
 - Get Ready Central Texas Emergency Preparedness Fair
 - Training
- Community Partners
- Preparedness
- Staying Informed



Know Your Risk: All Hazards Approach

All Hazards Approach: Being prepared for a multitude of scenarios, not just natural disasters.

- **Flooding:** Austin is in Flash Flood Alley
- **Wildfire:** Dry zones, especially during droughts.
- **Severe Weather:** Includes tornadoes, which can strike at any time
- **Extreme Heat:** Soaring temperatures pose health threats
- **Winter Weather:** Icy conditions, freezing temperatures, and snow
- **Hurricanes:** Coast can bring in storms and heavy rainfall

Other Risks

- **Biological:** Outbreak of diseases or bio-terrorism threats
- **Chemical:** Exposure to toxic substances or chemical attacks
- **Terrorist Threats:** Acts of extremism or targeted violence





Community Outreach

- Neighborhood Preparedness Guide
 - Ways to help you plan for hazards
 - Tools to build and emergency supply kit
 - Resources for making emergency plan for your family
 - Template for how to help your neighborhood plan for emergencies
- Community Events
 - Monthly Pop-Up Emergency Preparedness Events (January – November) with Spanish and ASL interpreters available
 - Learn about how other City Departments can help during an emergency





Community Outreach

Get Ready Central Texas Emergency Preparedness Fair

Every September:

- Learn about preparedness from different City Departments and other community partners.
- Hosted in 2023 at the Austin ACC East Branch and had 200 visitors.
- HSEM offered Go Bag starter kits and weather radios.
- Austin Water gives away water keys to participants.






Training

Ready Together: The Basics of Emergency Preparedness for You, Your Family & Your Neighborhood

- HSEM debuted a new community resource in September with in-person course on emergency preparedness. The community can learn from experts about the 4 steps of preparedness: make a plan, build a kit, know your neighbors, and stay informed.
- We are offering quarterly training in 2024.
- To register, go to ReadyCentralTexas.org and visit our education and training section.

Ready Together
The Basics of **Emergency Preparedness**
for You, Your Family & Your Neighborhood

Classroom Training
Thursday, Sep. 28th | 6-8 p.m.
Montopolis Recreation & Community Center
1200 Montopolis Dr., Austin, TX

Sign up: 
<https://publicinput.com/readytogether>

Free & Open to the Public

Get Ready Central Texas

Created in Partnership with: Austin Watershed Protection Department | Ascension Seton | Austin Fire Dept. Go Austin Vamos Austin (GAVA) | City of Austin Office of Resilience | University of Texas Medical Reserve Corps
Interpretation services available in Spanish and ASL. Request another language interpreter by calling 3-1-1 no later than five days before the event.



Training



Senior Level Training

- HSEM has coordinated training for senior leadership, including elected officials. These trainings include the Winter Weather Tabletop Exercise and Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) in College Station.



Community Partners

- Ascension Seton Emergency Response Team provides information on affordable go bag kits.
- Universities, community organizations, & disability rights groups to give us feedback on our resources.
- Working with partners allows us to share our alerts to the community faster.
- Community partners give us the opportunity to hear what resources neighborhoods need.





Preparedness

It's critical to have enough supplies and resources to be self-sufficient for seven days.

FEMA recommends having supplies for at least 3 days. City of Austin recommends **7 days**, because winter storms in Central Texas can take longer to recover from.



Make a Plan



Build a Kit



**Know your
Neighbors**

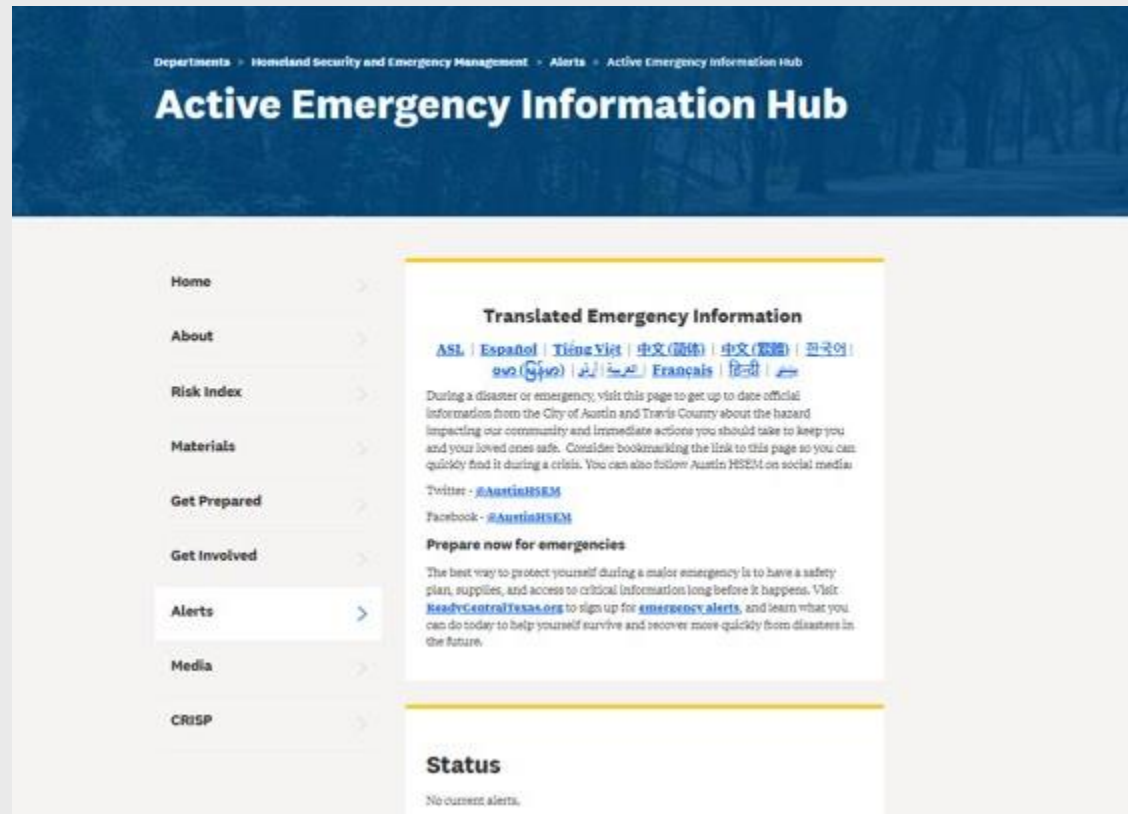


Stay Informed



Staying Informed

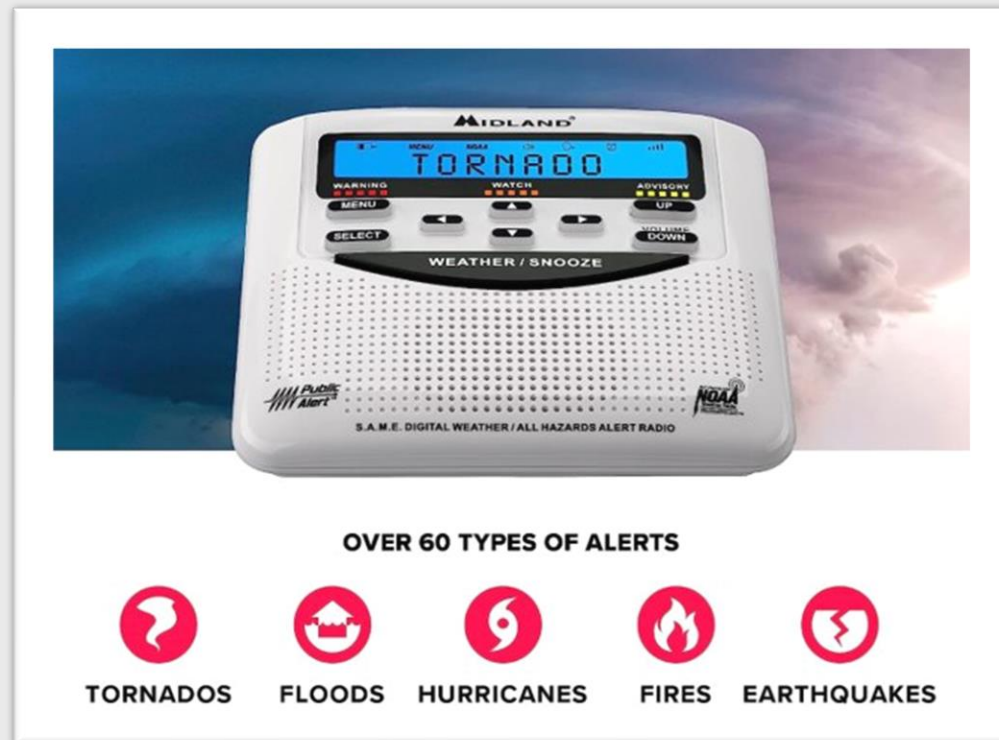
- When to call 9-1-1, 3-1-1, 2-1-1, 9-8-8
 - *What are the differences between the numbers?*
- ReadyCentralTexas.org
- austintexas.gov/alerts
- WarnCentralTexas.org





Staying Informed

- Accessible Hazard Alert System (AHAS)
- State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR)
- Local News
- Weather radio





www.austintexas.gov/hsem