

## EMERGENCY PLANNING

**“Now’s the Time. Resolve to be Ready in 2009**

**By Erin Streater, Director, Ready Campaign**

Planning is a daily part of our routine. We plan our holiday activities, weekend activities and grocery store visits. We plan our children’s schedules and daily tasks. And, without a doubt, endless lists often follow. There is one particular list that deserves to be checked twice – and it’s not your holiday shopping list! We’re talking about reviewing your emergency preparedness checklist and developing an emergency preparedness plan for your family.

As the new year is here, the Department of Homeland Security’s Ready Campaign is encouraging everyone to **Resolve to be Ready in 2009**. While nearly 50% of Americans make New Year’s Eve resolutions, very few manage to keep them, but this is one resolution that can be easy to keep with Ready’s three simple steps:

1. Get an emergency supply kit;
2. Make a family emergency plan; and
3. Be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur in your area and their appropriate responses.

The Ready Campaign encourages you to take a few extra minutes at the beginning of this new year to plan in case of an emergency. Consider the following questions: Have you spoken to your children’s schools about their shelter-in-place and/or evacuation plans? Do you know the evacuation plan at work? If your cell phone was inoperable how would you get in touch with your family? Do you have a family meeting place and an out-of-town contact? These are just a few of the questions you should consider as you are developing your emergency plan.

Free preparedness resources, such as a Family Emergency Plan template and an Emergency Supply Kit Checklist are just a click away at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov). The Ready website also has a special section for kids, ages 8-12 (Ready Kids) and a section for small to medium sized businesses (Ready Business). Be sure to check it out—print out your emergency plan template and emergency supply kit list and begin planning with your family today.

Emergencies will happen, but taking action now can help us minimize the impact they will have on our lives. **Remember:**

**Now’s the Time. Resolve to be Ready in 2009!**

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### SHARING PLANS & COMMUNICATING IN ADVANCE IS A GREAT STRATEGY!!!

Talk to your neighbors about how you can work together in the event of an emergency! Who has any specialized equipment such as a generator, or expertise such as medical knowledge which might be helpful in an emergency? Who will check on elderly or disabled neighbors? You will be better prepared to safely re-unite your family and loved ones during an emergency if you think ahead and communicate with others in advance. For more information on suggested kit items visit [www.cityofhubbard.org](http://www.cityofhubbard.org).

**Knowledge and preparation are your best defense and are your responsibility! For more information on EMERGENCY PLANNING, call 503.982.9429, or visit our website at [www.cityofhubbard.org](http://www.cityofhubbard.org).**



### ANOTHER \$25,000 SPECIAL CITY ALLOTMENT GRANT AWARDED TO THE CITY!!

Be on the look-out for further street improvements to take place along 3rd Street (between “D” & “F” Streets, and between “G” & “J” Streets)!! The Oregon Department of Transportation has officially notified the City that this project has been approved for construction in 2009!!

### TREES & STORM DAMAGE:

Wondering if your tree—damaged by a winter storm—can be saved? Visit [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org) Per the City’s Municipal Code, please give public works a call at (503) 982-9429 before you do any tree removal and/or trimming so that we may confirm that the tree(s) in question are not in the City right-of-way.

### IS THERE FLUORIDE IN YOUR WATER?

For those of you wondering whether your child needs a fluoride supplement or not, you can let your child’s pediatrician know that the water here in Hubbard does contain a trace amount of fluoride which occurs naturally at <0.1 mg/l (last tested in May 1996). **Fluoride is not added to your water.**

### PUBLIC WORKS IS CURRENTLY REVIEWING THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE CITY’S DESIGN STANDARDS UPDATE.

We look forward to completing this project and uploading the updated standards onto our website by March, 2009.

### STUDIES SHOW

that dripping faucets and leaking account for as much as 14% of all indoor water use, equivalent to 10 gallons per person of water lost per day. Now is a good time to check for inside leaks. To use your water meter to check for leaks, start by turning off all faucets and water-using appliances and make sure no one else uses water during your testing period. Next take a reading on your water meter, wait approximately 30 minutes, and then take a second reading. If the dial has moved, you most likely have a leak somewhere inside your home or business.



**UNTIL NEXT TIME . . .**

*Hubbard Public Works*