



2014 National Preparedness Month - September 2014

"Let us honor the strength our people show in times of adversity by preparing ourselves, our neighbors, our schools and our workplaces before disaster strikes."

~ President Barack Obama

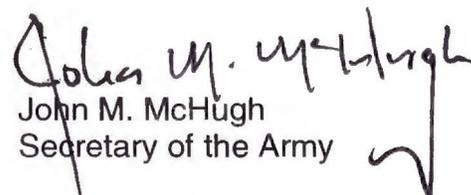
This September marks the eleventh annual observance of National Preparedness Month. Through the years, our Army has shown that by fostering a culture of preparedness we can make great strides in strengthening our ability to prepare for, mitigate, prevent, respond to and recover from the effects of natural or man-made disasters. From national disasters to violence in the workplace, the quick responses by our installations demonstrate the value of timely planning and partnership building with surrounding jurisdictions.

In order to ensure our Army stands ready to support the American people and our communities, we will continue to work in concert with the Department of Homeland Security and Federal Emergency Management Agency. Our collective efforts will enable us to respond appropriately in times of crisis. To reinforce individual responsibility for preparedness, we encourage everyone to participate in the National Preparedness Month and National Day of Action on September 30, 2014. We also urge everyone to "pledge to prepare" by applying the Ready Army tenets: *be informed, make a plan, build a kit and get involved*. Participate in "America's Prepareathon!" and visit the Ready Army website (<http://www.acsim.army.mil/readyarmy/>) to find out more on the actions you can take to support emergency preparedness and resilience. Your efforts have made a tremendously positive impact in the past, and your continued participation in preparedness activities will posture the Army to better serve America in the future.

Responsibility for the safety and resiliency of our Army lies with each Soldier, Family and Civilian. Our commitment to national safety extends beyond our ranks and into our communities. Again, during this year's observance of National Preparedness Month, we encourage leaders to promote an atmosphere of local hazard identification, risk mitigation and all-hazard planning. Army Strong!


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Sergeant Major of the Army


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