Your strong leadership is key in raising the importance of individual and community readiness that supports a comprehensive tribal emergency management system. Individual preparedness and community preparedness are both essential to protect the people and natural resources of your tribe or village. Good planning now can decrease fear, reduce losses, and speed recovery efforts.

After preparing your community for possible emergencies, take the next step and get involved with Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT). CERT educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Go to www.citzencorps.gov/cert/ for more information and to get involved.

For more details about disaster planning, visit ready.gov or call 1-800-BE-READY

Ready Indian Country
Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.

IS YOUR TRIBE READY?

Prepare For Emergencies In Tribal Nations

Ready Indian Country
Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.

www.ready.gov

photo by Rose Whitehair

Ready Indian Country Join the Campaign!

Ready Indian Country is FEMA's campaign to encourage tribal communities and Alaska Native villages to prepare for disasters. Is your tribe on board? Ready Indian Country asks households to do three key things:

- Make a family communications plan
- Get an emergency supply kit
- Be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur, the appropriate responses, and where to get vital information during emergencies

At ready.gov you will find posters, brochures, and public service announcements that you can use to increase awareness throughout your tribe or village. You can also access additional resources that help businesses to be prepared and help educate children. You and your tribe can lead the way with awareness, outreach, and critical information.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What is the status of your tribe's or village's emergency management system?
2. Which tribal leaders and staff members have taken FEMA training courses? Is additional training needed?
3. What steps are being taken to educate tribal families and businesses about the need to prepare for emergencies?
4. Are coordination agreements with state and regional authorities in place and up to date? Does the tribe need an emergency mitigation plan or a FEMA-tribal agreement?
5. Do tribal leaders regularly discuss emergency preparedness issues?
6. What is your community's preparedness outreach strategy?

Go to www.ready.gov for links, materials, and resources

Protect your Tribe with No-Cost Training

FEMA provides no-cost training for tribal leaders, emergency planners, first responders, and others. The following courses are offered at FEMA's Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD.

- **Emergency Management Framework for Tribal Governments (E580) provides a basic understanding of emergency management principles and how those principles can be used to help develop and implement emergency management systems.**
- **Emergency Management Operations for Tribal Governments (E581) helps tribal officials develop organizational structures, operational procedures, and resources for effective emergency management operations.**
- **Mitigation for Tribal Officials (E344) covers FEMA's disaster mitigation programs, tribal mitigation opportunities, and examples of mitigation success.**

FEMA also offers an array of additional online and field courses for emergency planners, first responders, school administrators, and others who may play a role in your tribe's emergency response. Information and registration for all courses is found at http://training.fema.gov.

Your Tribal Liaison

There is a FEMA Tribal Liaison for each region of Indian Country. A Tribal Liaison will be part of the response team if a federally declared disaster impacts your tribe or village. Tribal Liaisons are a great resource and can answer questions and provide technical assistance. They are the informational gateway to FEMA programs and funding opportunities to support disaster mitigation and emergency planning. Tribal Liaisons can be reached through FEMA's Intergovernmental Affairs office. Please email ready@dhs.gov for specific information.

THINK ABOUT THIS

The time is now to review your tribe's or village's emergency communications plans. Although Internet access may be unreliable in many tribal areas, cell phone coverage is common. Consider setting up a tribal Twitter account and encouraging tribal members to become followers. They can connect their account to their cell phone and receive text updates. Along with local radio and television (if available), Twitter may prove very useful for communicating timely messages.