



Renton City News

September is National Preparedness Month. Be Ready in Renton.

Prepare before an emergency strikes

By Deborah Needham

We all know disasters happen. Where we quibble is over how many days we should plan for surviving on our own. Even if emergency responders had magical powers, there just aren't enough of them to be everywhere and the roads might be undrivable.

So, guess what? You could be eating out of your emergency kit by the light of a glow stick for days. We aren't anticipating a never-ending zombie apocalypse, but your preparedness target is a lot longer than we used to recommend.

Remember the good ol' days of being prepared for three days? That's fine, if you're talking about a wind storm or a minor snow fall, but that won't cut it after a big disaster. The website makeitthrough.org has raised the bar: 7-10 days is the new goal thanks to the Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake risk. The Red Cross goes even further and says plan for up to two weeks. TWO WEEKS? Okay, so do what you can, and let comfort be your guide. If you want to live off of your fat stores, that's up to you. But please don't take a chance with pets, children, or other vulnerable individuals.

Another news flash: you may find yourself in an information blackout during a disaster if you haven't planned ahead. You may not be able to answer a text from a loved one for hours or days. Landlines may be out and cell towers will definitely be overloaded.

That's where a communication plan comes in. Decide where you are going to meet if you can't communicate. Designate



an out-of-area contact that requires a long-distance call—those circuits are sometimes still working even when the local ones are toast. Hint: don't store that number only in your cell phone. Batteries die. Carry it in your wallet.

Here's the scoop on where to get emergency information that you can share with others:

- Bookmark the city's website, rentonwa.gov, to find out about serious hazards, location of shelters, major road closures, food and water distribution, sewer system status, etc. You know, important stuff.
- Sign up for alerts for your phone and/or email at www.kingcounty.gov/ALERT. It's FREE!
- Find the location of your low-tech Neighborhood Information Center (most Renton School District schools have one of these bulletin boards at their main entrance) and go there for info when all those high tech capabilities come crashing down and nothing's on the Internet.

- Follow the smokin' hot, fresh Renton Emergency Management social media posts on Facebook, Twitter and Nextdoor, then share them widely.
- Get a NOAA Weather Radio, preferably the programmable kind that will let you choose the specific alerts to receive (conventional TV and radio are typically slower to turn around the information).

Share the message with others. Shout if from the rooftops, wave your arms, gesture wildly, share it on social media—whatever it takes to help others understand the dangers and what they can do to be safe. If you really want to get their attention, put on your superhero cape and tights and snap a selfie to go along with it. That may be all it takes to save a life.

Deborah Needham, MA, CEM®, is the City of Renton's Emergency Management Director



FALL SHRED-A-THON AND FOOD DRIVE

Renton Police Department hosts their Fall Shred-a-thon and food drive on Saturday, September 30, in the Sam's Club parking lot next to city hall. Individuals are allowed up to five boxes (approximately 15"x10") from 9 a.m. to noon, or until the truck is full. Donations of canned goods will be accepted and distributed to the Renton Food Bank. More information is online at rentonwa.gov/shredathon or by calling 425-430-7519.

Neighborhood event grants available

Just because the calendar reads September, that doesn't mean there isn't time remaining for your recognized neighborhood to hold a get-together.

In fact, more than 20 Renton recognized neighborhoods have events scheduled over the next two months.

Neighborhood get-togethers are excellent ways to bring neighbors together and develop stronger relationships. Renton neighborhoods have held Halloween parties, holiday photo booths, winter celebrations, and sports watching parties. Others have used the grant money to buy refreshments to reward a group of volunteers who cleaned up a common area.

No matter the method, if your goal is to bring neighborhoods together, the city's Neighborhoods Program is here to help.

Renton's neighborhood programs have funds available for events and can help with the planning. Information on obtaining a grant is available by contacting the City of Renton Neighborhood Program, 425-430-6595 or neighborhoodprogram@rentonwa.gov.



Unity March & Rally September 28



Join city and community leaders for the second Renton Unity March & Rally on Thursday, September 28, at Piazza Park (233 Burnett Ave. S.), from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

The theme of the march is "We are stronger together." This is a partnership between the City of Renton, Renton Police Department, and the Renton African-American Pastoral Group (RAAP).

Got unwanted stuff? Clean Sweep it

Clean Sweep, a collaboration between the city and Republic Services, allows single-family residential customers to dispose of unwanted items for free.

Republic Services garbage customers in Renton can schedule a one-time pickup, consisting of up to 10 32-gallon units. Each unit cannot exceed 65 pounds and must be less than three feet in length on each side. Two bulky items, such as mattresses, sofas or chairs, will also be accepted. Hazardous waste, liquid waste, and items that can be recycled will not be accepted. Examples include

appliances, electronics, yard waste, and construction materials.

Clean Sweep runs from September 1 to December 29. For more information and to schedule your pickup, visit rentonwa.gov/cleansweep.





WORK FOR THE CITY OF RENTON

The City of Renton embraces a diverse and inclusive workforce. The city prides itself on promoting collaboration and teamwork in a positive environment while providing high-quality services to the community. Find out more at rentonwa.gov/jobs.

Renton news is just a click away

The edition of *Renton CityNews* you have in your hands is just one of the many ways you can keep informed on happenings in the city.

This Week from the Mayor contains Mayor Denis Law's thoughts on issues facing the city as well as his passion for the work being done to make Renton a great place to live, work, play, and learn.

Byte of Renton is published every two weeks and highlights city news and events.

To subscribe, go to rentonwa.gov/newsletters or text "This Week" or "Byte" to 468-311.



The city is also well represented on social media, with accounts on Facebook (@cityofrenton), Twitter (@cityofrenton), Instagram, Nextdoor, and YouTube. All sites are regularly updated with city news, event information, and items of interest to Renton residents.

Renton hosts inaugural Miss Asia Washington pageant

The first-ever Miss Asia Washington beauty pageant will be held in Renton on September 16 and 17 at the IKEA Performing Arts Center.

The pageant will include a number of women-oriented activities and culminates with the crowning of Miss Asia Washington.

The event will also include the annual Miss India Washington beauty pageant, which is being held in Renton for the first time.

More information about the pageants can be found at ravishingwomen.org.

Language Line assists citizens

To provide better customer service to our residents for whom English is not their primary language, the city uses Language Line, a telephone interpretation service.

City employees can use this service when assisting customers either on the phone or in person.

The service is also available to visitors to city hall.



RENTON FEATURED

Multicultural Festival celebrates Renton's diversity

Renton is one of the state's, and the country's, most diverse cities. The depth of that diversity will be on display during the second annual Renton Multicultural Festival.

For two days members of our community will proudly share their heritage through music, dance, art, and story. There will be Filipino dancers, Chinese Lion dancers, Taiko drummers, a Mariachi band, and martial arts

demonstrations. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in activities and other multicultural experiences. There will also be community booths and food trucks.



The festival opens on September 22 at Carco Theatre with Performances Through Art, from 7 to 10 p.m. On Saturday, September 23, it moves downtown to the Renton Pavilion Event Center and adjacent Piazza Park from 3 to 7 p.m.

The Renton Multicultural Festival is presented by the city in partnership with the Mayor's Inclusion Task Force and several local community groups and organizations. There's something for the whole family and admission is free. More information on the festival is online at rentonwa.gov/rentonfestival.



SOUTH ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS

Renton will host films from the 12th Tasveer South Asian Film Festival (TSAFF) October 14–15 at Carco Theatre. The festival will screen over 45 films from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and their diasporas worldwide. TSAFF will also include three gala celebrations, 30 filmmaker visits, youth and family events, a symposium at the University of Washington, and a 2-day master film class with visiting Nepali filmmaker Subarna Thapa. More details are at tasveer.org.

Out in the Community

Renton Farmers Market

TUESDAYS, THRU SEPT. 26, 3–7 P.M.

Piazza Park, Third & Burnett

Fresh produce, entertainment, food, and more!

Labor Day

SEPTEMBER 4

City of Renton offices closed.

Renton Recycle Day

SEPTEMBER 9, 9 A.M.–3 P.M.

Renton Technical College, 3000 NE Fourth St.

Recycle large and hard-to-recycle items in the north parking lot. 425-430-7398

National Day of Service

SEPTEMBER 9, 9–11:30 A.M.

Volunteer as we remember 9/11 through a national day of service and remembrance.

Register: rentonwa.gov/volunteer.

Contact: Teresa Nishi, 425-430-6694, tnishi@rentonwa.gov

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

TUESDAYS, SEPT. 12–OCT. 24, 6–9 P.M.

Renton Fire Station #14, 1900 Lind Ave. SW

Learn the skills you need to take care of yourself and your community in an emergency.

Details: rentonwa.gov/cert

Pop-Up Downtown

SEPTEMBER 15, 4–8 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 16, 12–8 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 17, 12–5 P.M.

Pop-Up Central, 913 S. Third St.

Pop-up parklets, artisan vendors, live music, and community art.

Pooch Plunge

SEPTEMBER 16, 9 A.M.–2 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 17, 10 A.M.–2 P.M.

Henry Moses Aquatic Center,

1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy.

Let your dog frolic in the pool or float the lazy river.

Register: rentonwa.gov/cybersignup

Renton Comic-Con

SEPTEMBER 16–17

Renton Pavilion Event Center, 233 Burnett Ave. S.

Celebrate comic books, films, art, video games, technology, and more.

Renton Multicultural Festival

SEPTEMBER 22, 7–10 P.M.

Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Hwy.

Day 1: “Performances Through Art” Join your neighbors in a celebration of Renton’s diversity.

SEPTEMBER 23, 3–7 P.M.

Pavilion Event Center, 233 Burnett Ave. S.

Day 2: Renton celebrates its diversity through music, dance, art, food, and interactive games.

Citizen Police Academy

SEPT. 27–DEC. 6, 6:30–8:30 P.M.

City Hall, 1055 S. Grady Way

Learn police operations, units, divisions, procedures, and protocols. Register: rentonwa.gov/citizensacademy/

Ladies Team Invitational

SEPTEMBER 28, 9 A.M.

Maplewood GC, 4050 SE Maple Valley Hwy.

2-Lady Best Ball. \$170 per team. Shotgun start.

Must have verified USGA handicap. 425-430-6800

Renton Unity March & Rally

SEPTEMBER 28, 3–4:30 P.M.

Piazza Park, Third & Burnett

Gather at Piazza Park and march with city staff, police, RAAP, and community leaders.

Fall Shred-a-Thon

SEPTEMBER 30, 9 A.M.–12 P.M.

Sam’s Club parking lot, 901 S. Grady Way

Canned food donations accepted.

rentonwa.gov/shredathon or call 425-430-7519

Bark in the Park (inaugural)

OCTOBER 7, 10 A.M.–2 P.M.

Cedar River Dog Park, 1500 Houser Way S.

Agility area, vendor booths, adoptions, pet licensing, and more. Pets must be leashed, licensed, and well-behaved.

Fall Green and Clean

OCTOBER 14, 8:30–11:30 A.M.

Philip Arnold Park, 720 Jones Ave. S.

Volunteer opportunity to help maintain a park for all to enjoy. Register: 425-430-6700 or

rentonwa.gov/cybersignup (#60443)

Truck-or-Treating

OCTOBER 20, 6–7:30 P.M.

Community Center, 1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy.

A uniquely Renton trick-or-treating experience.

Register: rentonwa.gov/cybersignup

City Contacts

General Information 425-430-6400

Mayor 425-430-6500

City Council 425-430-6501

Chief Admin. Officer 425-430-6500

Administrative Svcs 425-430-6868

City Attorney 425-430-6480

City Clerk 425-430-6510

Code Enforcement 425-430-7373

Community & Economic Development 425-430-6575

Community Services 425-430-6600

Emergency Mgmt 425-430-7041

Graffiti Reporting 425-430-7373

Human Resources & Risk Management 425-430-7650

Municipal Court Judge ... 425-430-6550

Police (non-emergency) ... 425-430-7500 or epolice.rentonwa.gov

Public Works 425-430-7394

Reg. Fire Authority 425-271-7900

Street/Water/Sewer Maintenance 425-430-7400

Utility Billing 425-430-6852

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EMERGENCY 911

Non-Emergency 425-235-2121

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The City of Renton provides reasonable accommodation upon request.

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rentonwa.gov

RentonCityNews@rentonwa.gov

