Waukesha County Dept. of Emergency Management: Businesses encouraged to make emergency preparedness plans

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Waukesha, Wisconsin – Waukesha County Emergency Management Coordinator Kathy Schwei is asking county businesses to act this month by taking preparedness measures. National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort sponsored by the US Department of Homeland Security to encourage Americans to do simple things to prepare themselves in the event of a disaster or emergency.

"Members of the private sector are important emergency preparedness partners," said Schwei. "Having emergency preparedness plans in place ensures that they can continue operations and can protect their employees during times of crisis."

The five steps businesses should follow in developing a preparedness program are Program Management, Planning, Implementation, Testing and Exercises, and Program Improvement. Information for businesses to develop emergency plans is available at www.ready.gov/business.

Employees and customers often look to organizations for leadership during a disaster. A plan is crucial to a successful recovery. FEMA tells us that only 40 percent of all businesses that encounter a disaster will persevere. Preparedness is the key to being in that 40 percent.

About the Waukesha County Office of Emergency Management

The Waukesha County Office of Emergency Management (WCEM) is a division of Waukesha County's Department of Emergency Preparedness. WCEM provides a comprehensive and integrated emergency management program designed to mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from the effects of natural and technological hazards which potentially impact the welfare, safety and health of all Waukesha County citizens.

For more information, head to www.waukeshacounty.gov/EmergencyManagement

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