

OEM CHRONICLE

A monthly newsletter brought to you by the Boone County Office of Emergency Management

prepper

[prep-per]-noun.

self-reliant individual; survivalist

September is National Preparedness Month so it is our month to shine. The Boone County Ready campaign guides all who live, work, study, play and shop in Boone County through the 4 steps of preparedness. In addition, our website offers the tools to complete these 4 steps for little to no cost. Not all materials available in-house are included on the website yet but all online materials are also available as hard copies for free to citizens upon request.

Step 1: Be Informed

The easiest way to start your preparedness journey is by being informed. Text SMART911 to 67283 to receive a link to download the Smart911 App or [create a safety profile online](#). Boone County Ready is powered by Smart911; this is how you can create a safety profile and opt-in for emergency alerts and notifications.

Step 2: Build a Kit

Have an emergency kit in your car and house in case you must shelter in place or a 'go-bag' ready in case you must evacuate quickly. Many items are available at the dollar store and several items are things that you have already they just need to be gathered into one place. [Review the kit checklist today!](#)

Step 3: Make a Plan

Know what you will do when a disaster or emergency strikes, who you will contact, and where you will meet. [Use our template to help you develop a plan for your household.](#)

Step 4: Get Involved

Getting involved in preparedness could be volunteering with a [local organization](#) to get to know more people and create more connections, or it could mean [becoming CPR Certified](#), [taking the CERT Basic Training](#), [discussing preparedness with community organizations](#), or practicing your plan with your household regularly.

#BooneCountyReady
ready.boonemo.org

Employee Highlight: Christy Johnson

Christy has been an employee of Boone County for 11 years. She has been instrumental in aiding the Treasurer's Office and other offices within the County during the ongoing financial and payroll systems upgrade, developed a receipt system that improved workflow and streamlined the audit trail for many County departments, and stepped into the interim Treasurer position during the transition with no hesitations.

During her time with the County, Christy has kept up her tradition of making hundreds of holiday ornaments, (some very creatively designed) for County employees. Christy considers the needs of others above hers at all times, has cooked meals for co-workers on medical leave, and has uniquely recognized colleagues' birthdays over the years.

Christy's kindness, patience, and team-player commitment to Boone County make her very deserving of Employee of the Quarter.



Happening soon...

September 1st, 4pm—8pm, [2nd Annual Boone County Ready Festival at Albert Oakland Park](#)

September 7th, 12pm, [Outdoor Warning Siren Test](#)

September 8th, 6:30pm—8pm, [CERT Meeting](#) at the Emergency Communications Center

September 9th, 9am—2pm, [Boone County Ready Community Outreach Event](#) at Columbia Mall

September 13th, 9am—4pm, [Faithful Readiness Workshop](#) at Woodcrest Chapel

September 16th, 9am—2pm: [Active & Aging](#) in Columbia Mall

September 21st, 6pm—8pm, [Family Fun Fest](#) at Albert Oakland Park

Looking ahead...

October 5th, 12pm, [Outdoor Warning Siren Test](#)

October 13th, 6:30pm—8pm, [CERT Meeting](#) at the Emergency Communications Center

October 8th—9th: [Hartsburg Pumpkin Fest](#)

October 15th, 1pm -5pm, [Yappy Hour](#) in Twin Lakes Recreation Area

Do It Thing

Each month complete ONE of the suggested activities from this section and by the end of the year—you will be better prepared for emergency and disaster.

September Goal:

[Make sure everyone in your household can receive, understand, & act on information received during an emergency.](#)

Suggested Activities:

1. [Opt-in for Boone County Ready Alerts powered by Smart911](#)
2. [Subscribe to the OEM Chronicle](#)
3. [Purchase & program a weather radio](#)
4. [Determine your household's out-of-state contact](#)

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BOONE COUNTY Ready Festival

The Boone County Office of Emergency Management (BCOEM) is hosting the 2nd Annual Boone County Ready Festival on Thursday, September 1st from 4pm—8pm at Albert Oakland Park to kick-off National Preparedness Month!

The Festival kicks off at 4pm. Attendees are encouraged to arrive early if possible because the first 150 households will be able to take home one free emergency kit thanks to Schneider Electric. Show up early and look for their booth at the event entrance to grab a kit for your household! We have 4 different raffle booths this year, which are notated on the event map. Stop by each of these booths to earn raffle tickets! Our first raffle drawing will be at 5:30pm. We will welcome the Columbia Fire Department's Color Guard to the stage at 6pm and then announce the winner of this year's Tom S. Hurley Public Safety Service Award. After that we will have ANOTHER raffle drawing! To wrap up the event, we will be rockin' out to Kody Lucas & Missouri's Most Wanted from 6:30pm—7:30pm thanks in part to the support of EquipmentShare. We hope to see you all at the event and look forward to sharing the excitement and fun of preparedness with you and your families.

Thank you to our sponsors at Schneider Electric, MPIX, Columbia Insurance Group, Van Matre Law Firm, Boone Electric, Central Bank of Boone County, and Boone Supported Living who helped to make this event possible!

Partner Spotlight

The OEM is hosting the 2nd annual Boone County Ready Festival on September 1st from 4pm—8pm at Albert Oakland Park.

Schneider Electric of Columbia has stepped up to be a Boone County Ready Hero sponsor for the event and will have a booth at the event entrance where they will be handing out one emergency kit to the first 150 households.



Schneider's **purpose is to empower all to make the most of our energy and resources**, bridging progress and sustainability for all. At Schneider, they call this **Life Is On**.

They believe access to energy and digital is a basic human right. Our generation is facing a tectonic shift in energy transition and industrial revolution catalyzed by accelerated digitization in a **more electric world**. Electricity is the most efficient and best vector for decarbonization; combined with circular economy approach, we will achieve **climate-positive impact** as part of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**.

[Learn more about a career at Schneider Electric by visiting their careers page.](#)

So Long, Farewell

Please join us in saying farewell to Elizabeth Thompson who will be leaving our office September 2nd to work with the State Emergency Management Agency as our Region F Coordinator.

Elizabeth has been with the OEM since 2016, when the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) was built, something she says is one of her career highlights. She served as the Training & Exercise Specialist from 2016—2021 and from 2021 to present as the Planning & Preparedness Specialist. Elizabeth says what she will miss most about working at OEM is the people and is looking forward to continuing to working with us in a different capacity.

In her new role, Elizabeth looks forward to working with Region F partners in an expanded capacity and develop her professional skill set in new areas.

We wish you the best, Elizabeth and look forward to continuing to work with you in your new role as Region F's Coordinator!

It's not if, it's when

In the EM world, we often say this. It's not a matter of IF it'll happen, it's a matter of WHEN it'll happen. As emergency managers we want to foster collaboration in our community and build resilience but ultimately it's up to you, yes you, to prepare your household. We've got the tools for you. Will you use them before it's too late?

I've got no news stories for you this month unfortunately, time did not allow for doing much either than finishing up preparations for the Boone County Ready Festival. Speaking of, I hope to see you there! If you are interested in participating next year either as a vendor booth or sponsor please reach out to me.

Happy Prepping!

Hannah

2145 County Dr., Columbia, MO, 65202

Phone: 573-554-7912

E-mail: HWichern@boonecountymo.org