SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September is recognized as National Preparedness Month which serves as a reminder that we all must take action to prepare, now and throughout the year, for the types of emergencies that could affect us where we live, work and visit.

Launched January 2008, Ready Georgia is a statewide campaign supported by the Georgia Emergency Management & Homeland Security Agency aimed at motivating Georgians to take action to prepare for a disaster. GEMHSA coordinates the state’s preparedness, response and recovery efforts to disasters.

Georgia has seen an incredibly broad range of weather — everything from tornadoes to hurricanes with the occasional ice storm and even an earthquake. Additional concerns are house fires, public health emergencies, terrorism and wildfires.

What can you do to prepare?

• stay informed about disasters
• come up with a disaster plan
• create your own ready kit
• support community preparedness
• have a plan for pets

Access the 2016 National Preparedness Month Social Media Toolkit on the Ready Campaign website. There, you’ll find preparedness messages to share with family, friends, and colleagues. You’ll also find additional resources such as graphics, instructional videos, and public service announcements to support preparedness in your community.

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For more information visit ready.ga.gov or cobbcounty.org/ema.

CERT training

If you missed the deadline for the latest county offering of Community Emergency Response Team training, you can sign up for training through Kennesaw State University. CERT is a critical program that helps residents make their communities safer, more prepared, and more resilient when incidents occur. CERT is a nationwide training program supported by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. KSU’s Department of Public Safety and the Office of Emergency Management actively supports the expansion of CERT training at both the Kennesaw and Marietta Campuses. Kennesaw State is one of only three universities in the State of Georgia to have a federally-recognized CERT team.

CERT training consists of a 21 hour training course than can be taken through the Center for University Learning at Kennesaw State. This training is open to students, faculty, and staff as well as others from the surrounding community. Courses are taught each semester on campus by the Office of Emergency Management and supporting personnel and agencies.

CERT Training includes:

• Disaster Preparedness
• CERT Organization
• Disaster Medical Operations I
• Disaster Medical Operations II
• Fire Safety and Utility Controls
• Light Search and Rescue Operations
• Disaster Psychology
• Terrorism and CERT
• A skills review and Disaster Simulation

For a copy of the Fall 2016 CERT Training Schedule, click here.

For more information visit cert@kennesaw.edu or go to www.ksulearning.com/cert.
CobbLinc’s new buses, improved routes make getting to Cumberland, downtown easier and faster

Cobb County transit riders will enjoy better service to the Cumberland region and downtown Atlanta on CobbLinc beginning Thursday, Sept. 6.

The county’s bus service, recently rebranded CobbLinc, is adding a new route 25 from the Cumberland area to MARTA’s Hamilton E. Holmes rail station and updating routes 10 and 20.

Today’s announcement includes expanded coverage, improved safety and a quicker ride for commuters using CobbLinc. All are part of a Cobb transit improvement plan reflected in the new CobbLinc branding.

“We want CobbLinc to be the preferred transportation option for the citizens of Cobb County, wherever they need to go,” said CobbLinc Director Vida Covington. “We have added 35 new, WiFi-equipped buses this year. With our new and updated routes, CobbLinc is providing better access for more people than ever before.”

For more information visit cobbcounty.org/cct.

Be a poll worker for Cobb county

The Cobb County Board of Elections is looking for poll workers for the November 8, 2016 General Election. A poll worker must be a U.S. Citizen, a Cobb County resident or an employee of Cobb County government, at least 16 years of age, able to read, write, and speak English, and not have any felony conviction in the last 10 years. Starting pay for Poll Worker Clerks is $115 for Election Day, $30 for the mandatory 4 hour training class, and $15 for setting up the poll on the Monday prior to the election.

If you would like to apply, or to obtain a brochure with more information, go to www.CobbElections.org.

CCPD wants your input

In an effort to ensure our police department is meeting the needs of the community, International Association of Chiefs of Police staff is working with Cobb Police Department staff to conduct a comprehensive operational assessment of the department.

IACP staff is interested in hearing positive comments, as well as constructive feedback and suggestions to improve the department.

You can participate in the process through an online survey which is available through Sept. 19 at surveymonkey.com/r/COBBCODPS

2017 Budget

Public Hearings on the 2017 budget will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 9 a.m. and Tuesday, Sept. 27 at 7 pm.

The Board of Commissioners will vote to approve the budget on Tuesday, Sept. 27, following the final public hearing.

For more information visit cobbcounty.org.