



City of Mercer Island, Washington

Proclamation

WHEREAS, post-disaster studies have shown that individuals and communities with strong neighborly ties have higher survival rates and faster recoveries after a disaster.

Mercer Island joins communities across the county in preparing together with their neighbors this September for National Preparedness Month.

The City encourages all Islanders to prepare with their neighbors through these steps:

1. Take the first step, meet your neighbors.

Building trust before a disaster makes it easier to ask for help (and to offer it) when it's needed most.

2. Know who you can turn to nearby.

During major disasters, first responders including fire, EMS, and law enforcement response may be delayed. Your neighbors will be your quickest source of help after a disaster.

3. Answer the questions: "Who depends on you? Who do you depend on?"

Identify those in your neighborhood may be able to help with pets, childcare, or if you live alone and could use an extra hand during an emergency.

4. Know your neighborhood's hazards.

Understand the hazards Mercer Island may be vulnerable to by visiting www.mercerisland.gov/emergencyprep.

To help the community prepare for emergencies of all kinds, the City provides training and volunteer opportunities including Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training, Map Your Neighborhood, emergency preparedness presentations, and more.

Islanders can learn more about emergency preparedness training opportunities at www.mercerisland.gov/emergencyprep.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, David Rosenbaum, Mayor of the City of Mercer Island, do hereby proclaim September 2026 as

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

and encourage all Mercer Island residents and businesses to commit to being prepared for 7- to 14-days following a disaster.

APPROVED, this 1st day of September 2026

David Rosenbaum, Mayor

Proclamation No. 394