



Now's the Time, Resolve to be Ready in 2009

On New Year's Eve, nearly 50 percent of Americans made at least one resolution as they looked toward 2009. The Fire District of Sun City West, Sun City West Sheriff's Posse, Recreation Centers of Sun City West, Sun City West Foundation, Interfaith Community Care, together with PORA wants to encourage our community members to make preparing for an emergency a resolution that is both important and easy to keep. The above mentioned organizations have formed a Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee (SEPC) and will work together throughout 2009 to help prepare your family, home, and business for all types of emergencies including natural and manmade disasters.

The *Ready* Campaign and the S.E.P.C. encourages you to take a few extra minutes at the beginning of this new year to plan in case of an emergency. Consider the following questions: If you work or volunteer, do you know the evacuation plan at your workplace?; Do you know if you can still use your home telephone if your electricity is out?; If your cell phone was inoperable how would you get in touch with your family?; Do you have a family meeting place and an out-of-town contact?; Do you know what goes in an emergency supply kit? These are just a few of the questions you should consider as you are developing your emergency plan.

This is the first of a monthly series of informational articles intended to help everyone take the steps to be prepared and answer some important safety and emergency preparedness questions. Tips will include how to prepare an emergency supply kit, how to make an emergency plan, how to be informed about different types of emergencies in our area and their appropriate responses, and emergency preparedness tips for families, workplaces, and communities.

Emergencies will happen, but taking action now can help us minimize the impact they will have on our lives. Wishing you a happy and safe New Year, and remember, Now's the Time. Resolve to Be Ready in 2009.



