



NEW YEAR'S EDITION

A Year Later: United in Remembrance and Resilience

On this one-year anniversary of the Palisades Fire, we pause to remember what was lost and to honor the strength shown in its aftermath. We hold in mind the lives lost and disrupted, the homes and landscapes forever changed, and the quiet grief that lingers long after the smoke cleared.

We also recognize the courage of first responders, neighbors, and volunteers who stood together under impossible conditions -- protecting lives, offering shelter, and rebuilding with care. Their actions remind us that community is not just a shared place, but a shared responsibility.

May this time be one of remembrance, gratitude, and resolve: to care for one another, to respect the land, and to carry forward the lessons learned with humility and hope.

RESOLVE TO BE READY THIS NEW YEAR



[Sign up for NotifyLA](#)



[Host a RYLAN Workshop](#)



[Make an emergency plan](#)



[Create a "go bag"](#)



[Learn evacuation routes](#)



[Prepare a portable "go bag" for each car](#)



[Choose a safe place to meet](#)



[Learn basic first aid, CPR & other safety skills](#)



Establish an out-of-town contact



Plan for your specific situation



Don't forget your chargers

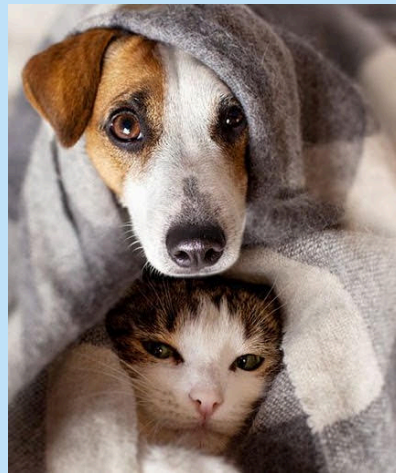


Inventory & document your property.

Resolve to be Ready

Planning with Pets and Service Animals

- Take a current photo of you and your pet together in case you get separated during a disaster.
- Search online today for local pet-friendly evacuation locations in case you need to evacuate.
- Update your pet's microchip registration info so you can be contacted if your pet gets lost in a disaster.
- Put your name and contact information on your pet's ID tag in case you're separated in an emergency.
- Remember to include your pets in your family's emergency plans.



Preparedness

Ready Your LA Neighborhood

The Ready Your LA Neighborhood (RYLAN) Workshop provides the tools to prepare and organize your neighborhood to respond together in that first hour after a disaster to reduce injuries, protect your property and the environment, and most importantly, to save lives.

- This **free** workshop is 90 minutes or less and can be held virtually or in person.
- EMD will provide the material needed for you to run this workshop with your closest neighbors. Depending on the size of your area, this may mean your full apartment building or just your closest 5-7 houses.
- You may choose to facilitate the workshop yourself, or EMD staff can do so upon request.

Ready Your LA Neighborhood

Ready Your LA Business

The workbook guides you through the easy steps you can do today to protect your employees' lives, your livelihood, and your years of hard work. The **Ready Your LA Business** Workbook is an all-in-one planning tool, designed for busy owners like you.

- Take steps to secure your business premises
- Plan shelter-in-place locations, evacuation routes and other safety protocols
- Onboard, train, and form an emergency response team with your employees
- Collaborate with your immediate community to develop a neighborhood plan

Ready Your LA Business



Emergency Financial First Aid Kit



Four Simple Steps to Financial Preparedness

1. Assess and Compile:

- Gather your important financial documents and contacts.
- Use the checklists to understand the documentation that you should collect.
- If you do not have an original version of a document, contact the appropriate company or agency to obtain a copy.
- If you receive paper checks for any of your Federal benefits, consider enrolling in automatic benefits through Go Direct (www.Fiscal.Treasury.gov/GoDirect/).
- If you receive paper checks from your employer, consider requesting direct deposit or prepaid debit

2. Review:

- Review your insurance policies and financial paperwork to be sure that they are still accurate and current.
- If you own a home or a car, ensure that your homeowner's and auto insurance coverage is enough to support you in an emergency.
- If you rent, ensure that your lease reflects your current rent and verify that your renter's insurance is up-to-date.
- Visit the [California Department of Insurance](#) for additional tips on homeowners and renters insurance.

3. Safeguard:

- Store paper and electronic copies of all files in safe locations.
- Consider storing paper copies of important documents at home in a fireproof and waterproof box or safe, in a bank safe deposit box, or with a trusted friend or relative. If you are using a safe deposit box, you may want to ask your bank or check state laws to confirm who can and cannot access the safe deposit box if the owner dies or cannot access it themselves due to illness.
- For electronic copies of important documents, store them in a password-protected format on a removable flash or external hard drive in your fireproof and waterproof box or safe. You can also consider using a secure offsite storage service.
- For more steps on how to address your financial needs after a disaster, visit the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau at: www.ConsumerFinance.gov/HurricaneFinancialToolkit

4. Update:

- Revisit and update your Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK) regularly. Updates are especially important when significant changes in your life occur.

Suggested times when you should review your EFFAK:

- During tax preparation time
- At the start or end of daylight savings time
- Around your birthday
- At the start of a new year

Honoring Dr. King Through Service and Preparedness

The Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, held on Monday, January 19th of this new year, reminds us that community strength is built through preparation, cooperation, and action -- especially in times of crisis. Service, in this sense, means ensuring that people are not left alone when emergencies occur.

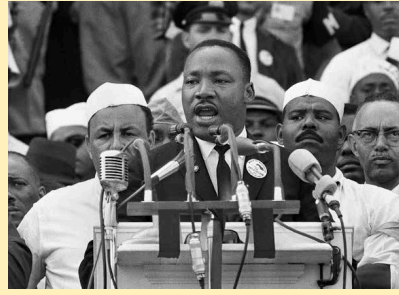
The Emergency Network of Los Angeles (ENLA) lives this commitment every day by helping neighborhoods prepare for disasters and respond effectively when they happen. ENLA was especially active in the aftermath of the Palisades Fire, supporting coordination efforts, sharing timely information, and helping residents navigate the immediate challenges of response and recovery.

Through training, planning, and on-the-ground support, ENLA strengthens local capacity so communities are better equipped before the next emergency, not just after one. This work reflects Dr. King's belief that service is not symbolic, but practical, sustained, and rooted in care for others.

By investing in preparedness and standing with communities in their most difficult moments, ENLA honors the true spirit of the Day of Service.

[L.A. Works MLK Day Volunteer Festival](#)

[Emergency Network of Los Angeles](#)



Emergency Network Los Angeles

(ENLA) was founded in March 1996, two years after the devastating Northridge Earthquake, in order to formally organize the Los Angeles County Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD). **ENLA** is a California nonprofit under IRS section 501(c) (3).

ENLA's mission is to enhance the capacity of nonprofits, community and faith-based organizations, government agencies, and the private sector in managing emergencies as they foster the "four C's" of emergency management: **cooperation, communication, coordination, and collaboration.**

32nd Anniversary of the Northridge Earthquake



The 1994 Northridge Earthquake occurred on January 17th at 4:31 a.m. centered in the San Fernando Valley area of the City of Los Angeles. This 6.7 magnitude event was felt across much of Southern California with reports that shaking was felt as far as San Diego, Turlock, Las Vegas, and Ensenada. At the time, its peak ground velocity was the fastest recorded to date.

At least 57 deaths were immediately attributed to the early morning quake -- and it's considered likely that more would have lost their lives had it occurred during waking hours and not on a work holiday for many (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day). Northridge became one of the most costly natural disasters in history with an estimated \$35 billion in damage.

In the aftermath, a reality emerged: homes and buildings standing side-by-side had different outcomes. Some stood undamaged, while others shifted off their foundation with dramatic structural damage. These contrasts have taught us critical lessons about design, preparedness and the importance of resilience. These lessons continue to shape how we plan, build, and protect our communities today.

[Emergency.LACity.gov](https://www.lacity.gov/emergency)



Emergency Management Department (EMD)

City of Los Angeles

[Emergency.LACity.gov](https://www.lacity.gov/emergency)

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