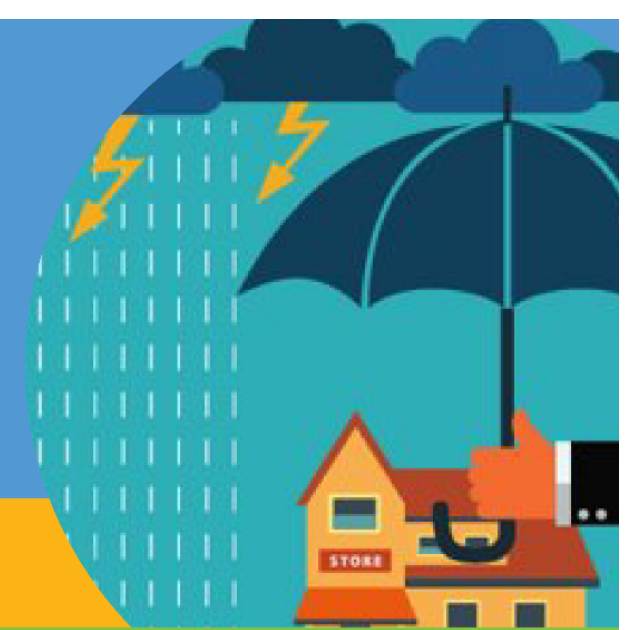


# SESSION 4 DISASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

# Be Flood Smart

## Flood Education Virtual Sessions



JUNE 6, JUNE 13, JUNE 20, JUNE 27, 2024

### DETAILS

#### DATE

Virtual Thursdays  
June 6-27, 2024

#### 12PM-1PM SESSIONS

[Click here to register via Zoom](#)

#### 6 PM SESSION

[Click here to register via Zoom](#)

#### COST

Free of Charge

The Department of the Environment will host virtual community flood education sessions to give residents the opportunity to interact with staff and partners. This four-session series will run weekly on Thursdays between June 6–June 27. It will focus on the topics of rainfall and stormwater runoff, flood risk reduction, flood insurance and disaster recovery. As we prepare for the start of hurricane season, this flood education series will equip residents with information and resources to: improve understanding of how and where floods occur, share techniques and practical measures for flood risk reduction, and prepare for disaster response and recovery. It will also provide the opportunity to interact with an insurance specialist regarding flood insurance coverage.

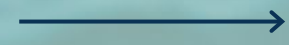
SESSION 1	SESSION 2	SESSION 3	SESSION 4
Thursday, June 6 12pm-1pm	Thursday, June 13 12pm-1pm & 6pm-7pm	Thursday, June 20 12pm-1pm	Thursday, June 27 12pm-1pm
Watershed and Flood Basics, Where Flooding Occurs	Flood Risk Reduction Measures – Residential Drainage, Green Infrastructure Practices and CIP Projects	Transfer Your Flood Risk, Purchase Flood Insurance	Disaster Response and Recovery



# Disaster RESPONSE & RECOVERY



Ashley Morris  
PREPAREDNESS AND OUTREACH MANAGER



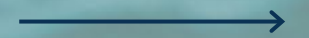
# Introduction:

## ABOUT ME

- Local-level Emergency Management
  - TX, VA, and MD
- Preparedness/Outreach Section
  - Emergency Plans
  - Community Engagement
- Public Information and Messaging
- CERT and Community Outreach



Ashley  
Morris



# What is EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT?



- Disaster Managers
  - Prepare
  - Respond
  - Recover
  - Mitigate

Prepare: Develop plans, policy, checklists

Respond: Coordinate with partners

Recover: Apply for aid and provide resources

Mitigate: Remedy vulnerabilities for disaster





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County Role  
DURING  
DISASTERS

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# COUNTY CONTROLLED DURING DISASTER



**EMERGENCY  
EVACUATION  
ROUTE**

## Safety of Residents

- Information/Actions to Take
- Provision of Resources
- Closure of Areas



## Public Property

- County Property Damage
- County Infrastructure/Systems
  - Roads, Utilities, etc.



## OUTAGE ALERT

The City of Atlanta is currently experiencing outages on various customer-facing applications, including some that customers may use to pay bills or access court-related information. Our @ATL\_AIM team is working diligently with support from Microsoft to resolve this issue. atlanta.gov remains accessible. We will post any updates we receive them. Thank you for your patience.

## Continuity of Services

- Emergency Services System
- Transportation
- Maintenance of Government Structure



# DISASTER RESPONSE

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## Be Flood Smart Series

# FLOODSTEPS TO TAKE NOW

1. Know hazard risk of home:

- Floodplain

2. Have 3 ways to receive alerts

3. Plan safe place to shelter in home, at work, and on road

4. Plan evacuation locations to stay in town, county, state, and out of state

- Short term and long term

5. Prepare home:

- Drains, gutters, trim trees, seals, hurricane shutters, etc.



- Insurance coverage
  - Purchase flood insurance
- Inventory belongings
- Check coverage annually
- Legal documents
- Waterproof container
- Cloud and Digital Storage
  - Paper Copies/Back-Ups



## FLOOD WATCH



A Flood Watch is issued when **flooding is possible.**

Stay tuned to trusted news sources and be ready to seek higher ground.

**Be Prepared.**



weather.gov

## FLOOD WARNING

**GO!**

A Flood Warning is issued when **flooding is happening or about to happen.**

Move to higher ground immediately! Never drive or walk through flood waters.

**Take Action!**

## MONITOR THE WEATHER

- Check the weather forecast daily
  - National Weather Service
- # Have 3 Ways to Receive Weather Info
  - Alert Systems
  - NOAA Weather Radio

## WATCH VS WARNING

- WATCH: WATCH for Later
- WARNING: Take Action NOW
- EMERGENCY: Severe Threat to Human Life in Large Metro Area

## FLOODING TYPES

- River Flooding:
  - Water Sources | Steady
- Flash Flooding:
  - Urban Streets | Fast | Out of Floodplains

Be Flood Smart Series

Stay Away From  
Floodwaters!



Turn Around  
Don't  
Drown!



# FLOOD SAFETY ACTIONS

- Seek Your Safe Place
  - High Ground
  - Heed Evacuation Orders
  - Attic/Roof: Tools to Cut Through
- Avoid Floodwaters
  - Turn Around, Don't Drown!
  - Waters are toxic
  - Roadways may be eroded
  - Electrical risk

# EVACUATION RESPONSE

- Evacuation
  - Know possible routes ahead of time
    - How many ways out?
    - Floodplain and Flood Risk?
  - Have go bag ready to grab and take
  - Have car with fuel
  - Evacuate when told!
  - Know school's evacuation plan
- Four Plans:
  - Out of State, In State, Hotel, Gov Shelter



• Go When Told

• Take Supplies



# Example: RESPONSE

- Activate the EOC
- Manage Disaster Response
- Manage Disaster Resources
- Coordinate Agency Partners
- Communication
- Send Alerts
- Plan Evacuations
- Open Shelters
- Document Response



- Disaster Response • EOC Management





# DISASTER RECOVERY

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# WHY PLAN FOR RECOVERY?

- Planning for recovery is NOT planning for failure.
- Why plan for something that might never happen?



# RECOVERY

- Disaster recovery and recovery planning may be viewed as a separate process; however, it is the collective effort of all phases
  - Recovery: return community to a state of normalcy or pre-event
  - Recovery starts during response



# RECOVERY: MORE THAN REBUILDING

- Recovery used to be focused on pre-impact and level of function over building back better
  - Recovery should make sure the community is gaining resilience after impact





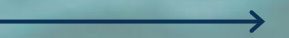
# COMMON RECOVERY CHALLENGES:

- Social and psychological needs (social fabric)
- Housing
- Economy
- Environment
- Public Infrastructure (water, sewer, roads/bridges, power grid)

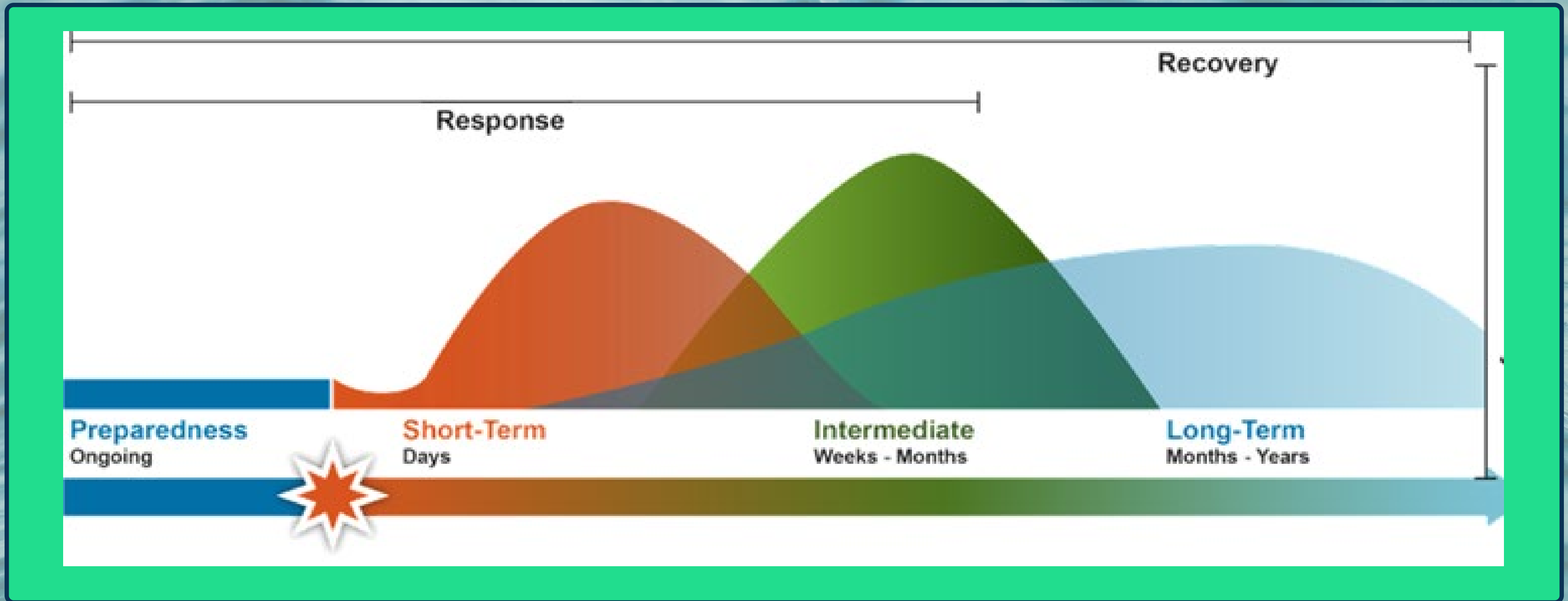


# ALL RECOVERY IS DIFFERENT

- It's difficult to determine recovery needs as some may be unique and situationally-dependent
  - HOWEVER:
    - Partnerships are key
    - Partnerships are multi-layered
    - EX: Walmart, Sam's Club, and Hurricane Laura Recovery Efforts



# RECOVERY SPECTRUM



- Short-Term ; Intermediate ; Long-Term



# RECOVERY SPECTRUM

## Short-term:

### *Human Services*

- Unmet emergency needs (food, water, shelter)

### *Debris/Infrastructure*

- Clearing roadways

### *Assessing Damage*

- Assess impacts, costs

## Intermediate:

### *Emotional/Psychological*

- Support networks for ongoing care

### *Recovery 'one-stop' Centers*

- Individual assistance

### *Public Health*

- Temp. facilities & surveillance

## Long-term

### *Housing*

- Develop permanent solutions

### *Business*

- Economic revitalization

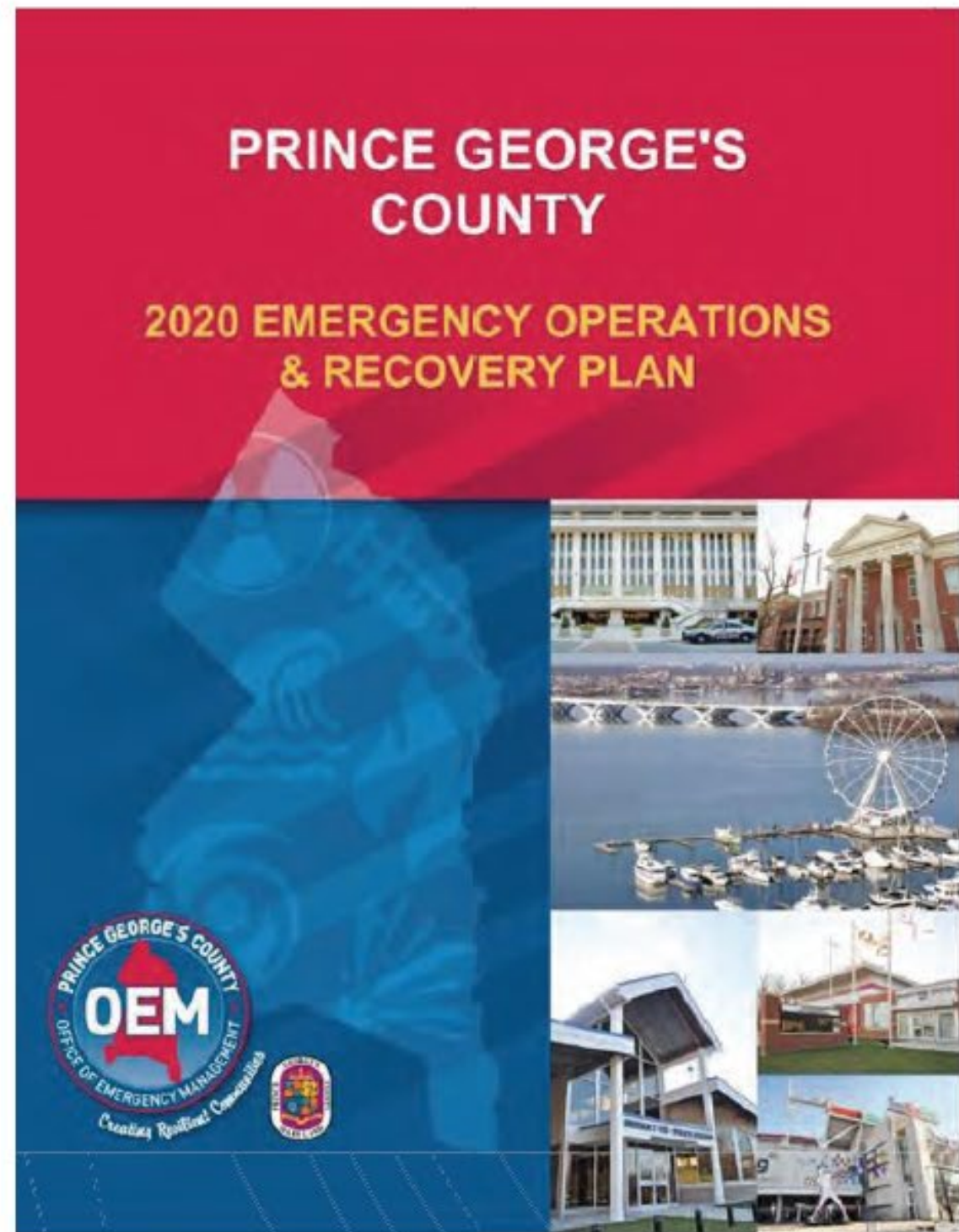
### *Mitigation Activities*

- Implement mitigation strategies

# RECOVERY IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

## Recovery in Prince George's County

- The County's Basic Recovery Plan informs how the County will ORGANIZE its recovery effort, who will lead various aspects of recovery, the responsibilities for those involved. It is a framework for Recovery operations.
- This document is not a specific redevelopment or community restoration plan for any part of the County. Recovery strategies will need to be created depending upon the needs of the incident or disaster with COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.



# INDIVIDUAL RECOVERY

- Includes:
  - Preparedness actions and response
  - Available resources in community
  - Insurance
  - Access and functional needs
  - Other considerations



# MENTAL HEALTH IN RECOVERY

- Mental health capabilities and resources are critical for recovery and resilience:
  - PTSD
  - Cardiovascular
  - Musculoskeletal
  - Anxiety
  - Depression
  - Substance Abuse



# RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS

- Disasters can impact for weeks, months, or years:
  - Eating or sleeping too much or too little
  - Withdrawing from people or hobbies
  - Having low or no energy
  - Unexplained aches and pains
  - Feeling helpless or hopeless
  - Excessive smoking, drinking, and drugs






# EASING DISASTER-RELATED STRESS

- Talk with someone about your feelings:
  - Anger, sorrow, guilt and other emotions even though it is difficult
  - Do not hold yourself responsible for what happened
  - Focus on physical and emotional healing by healthy eating, rest, exercise, relaxation, and meditation.



# PERSONAL DISASTER RECOVERY CONSIDERATIONS

- Evacuated: Return only when authorities say it is safe
- Stay alert for extended rainfall and subsequent flooding potential
- Caring for Yourself and Loved Ones
  - Pay attention to how you and your loved ones are experiencing and handling stress
- Returning Home Safely
  - Inspect your home's structure and utilities and systems after
  - Take pictures of home damage, both of the buildings, and contents for insurance purposes
  - Don't just repair home - build stronger. 

# PERSONAL DISASTER RECOVERY

- Through pre-planning, you can minimize the stress of the unknown
- Consider an inventory of belongings
  - Take photos
  - Use an app and go room by room
- Home inventory is a list of possessions - from major appliances and home systems to clothes and shoes in closet.



# FLOODSTEPS TO TAKE DURING AND AFTER FLOOD

## Avoid Unsafe Conditions:

- Floodwaters
- Damaged neighborhood
- Until cleared by officials
- Wires down

## Start recovery process:

- Contact Insurance
  - Start Claims
- Take Damage Photos
- Clean up home ASAP
- OEM cannot muck homes
- Visit recovery centers
- Pick up debris and follow sorting instructions



## During Response:

- Help Neighbors
- Inform loved ones that you are safe (text/social media)
- Seek medical care if needed
  - Mental healthcare



let's prepare  
together





# QUESTIONS

We are also interested in your feedback  
Please use the chat feature to tell us-

What prompted you to join us this afternoon?  
What other topics would you like us to cover?

