

The Ready Your LA Neighborhood (RYLAN) program is an initiative by the City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department (EMD) aimed at empowering residents to take proactive steps in disaster preparedness. The program provides the tools and knowledge needed to protect lives, reduce injury severity, minimize property damage, and safeguard the environment during emergencies. For more info: <https://ready.lacity.gov>

## Step 01: At Home:

Securing your household. More info can be found at <http://www.cert-la.com/EmergPrepBooklet.pdf>

### 1: Ensure Personal Safety

Use a helmet, sturdy shoes, and gloves to shield against debris and hazards. Keep these items handy.

### 2: Family Comes First

Look for injuries and make sure everyone is dressed safely and equipped for the situation.

### 3: Manage Utilities Safely

Shut off utilities if necessary, especially if you detect a gas leak. Once turned off, it can only be turned on by the City.

### 4: Secure Water Storage

Use your sinks and bathtub to store water for sanitation purposes, noting it may not be safe for drinking.

### 5: Help First Responders

Use "Help" or "OK" signs. Place them in a visible spot so neighbors and responders can identify your needs quickly.

### 6: Share Resources

Place fire extinguishers where neighbors can easily find and use them to control small fires.

## Step 02: Beyond Your Home:

Engaging with Your Neighborhood to Help Others. More info can be found at <https://ready.lacity.gov/>

After completing Steps 1 through 6, go to the designated Gathering Site for your neighborhood. This is a pre-arranged safe location where you and your neighbors will meet to coordinate the next steps in your disaster response.

Upon arriving at the predetermined Gathering Site, it's crucial to organize and deploy specific Response Teams to address immediate needs in the neighborhood. Here's how you can effectively form and manage these teams.

### Your Gathering Site Location:

Your Block Captain Will Assign this Location.

The Gathering Site is in a protected area that is easily seen. A central location such as an open space or community room, porch or carport would work well and protect you from the elements. Stay clear of power lines and damaged structures.

### Neighborhood Care Center

Your Block Captain Will Assign this Location.

A Neighborhood Care Center is inside someone's home. It is a place where children, those who are elderly, and those with access and functional needs can be brought so they are not alone and can be given care.

### Team 1: Communications

**Primary Role:** Monitor emergency communications and keep the neighborhood informed.

**Responsibilities:** Assign at least two people to listen to Emergency Alert AM/FM radio stations and/or monitor official social media channels for updates. They will relay critical info, such as evacuation orders, hazardous conditions, or resources available to the block. Keep a written log of all information received and share it with the Block Captain / Block Leadership.

### Team 2: Care & Sheltering

**Primary Role:** Assist vulnerable neighbors and set up a temporary shelter if needed.

**Responsibilities:** Check on individuals who may need special assistance, such as the elderly, disabled, or those with young children. If a shelter is required, this team will organize and manage a Neighborhood Care Center, ensuring those in need are cared for. This team should also assist in relocating neighbors to the Care Center and ensure they are comfortable and safe.

### Team 3: Utility & Safety

**Primary Role:** Identify and mitigate safety hazards within the neighborhood.

**Responsibilities:** Inspect the area for hazards such as downed power lines, gas leaks, or structural damage. Rope off dangerous areas and follow the property management's protocols for shutting off utilities. Always respond in pairs to ensure safety and report all findings back to the Block Captain / Block Leadership.

### Team 4: Neighbor Wellness

**Primary Role:** Check on every household to ensure the well-being of all neighbors.

**Responsibilities:** Conduct door-to-door checks, starting with households displaying a "Help" sign or those without any sign. Provide first aid if necessary and assist with any immediate needs. Mark each house with a taped "X" to indicate that it has been checked, and communicate your findings to the Block Captain / Block Leadership at the Gathering Site Location.

After all teams have reported back, assess whether there is a need for a Care Center or other ongoing support. If necessary, form a Care and Shelter Team to begin organizing these resources, ensuring that everyone in the neighborhood has the help they need during the recovery phase.