



City of Medford

Working for You

Continuous Improvement ~ Customer Service

National PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Begin preparing today and stay with it. Becoming better prepared will help you to be self-reliant in a disaster.

Make a plan. Have a personal and family emergency plan for home, work, school, and when traveling. Include contact information for local family members, emergency resources, and an out-of-state emergency contact. Create an evacuation plan for your home, including what to do if you can't leave or can't return, and how to contact your immediate family and others who rely on you. Don't forget to plan for your domestic animals.

Have a kit. You may start small, but work toward building a kit to make you self-sufficient for at least 14 days. Water, food and protection from the elements are the most important necessities. Other items can make an emergency less traumatic. Prepare kits for yourself, dependents, and pets. Consider a kit for home, work/school, and your car.

Keep informed. Know how to obtain warnings, official instructions, weather information and how to respond in an emergency. Have a portable radio, ideally solar or hand-cranked, and be sure to follow any official instructions received.

If you'd like to receive emergency information on a mobile device, sign up for the Citizen Alert program. Find a link on our homepage at www.readymedford.org. All landline phone numbers will receive emergency alerts automatically.

Get involved. Learn important skills such as first aid or CPR and how to shut off your household utilities when necessary. Consider attending the City's free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training offered at various times throughout the year. Volunteer to help prepare your neighborhood, workplace, and community.

Becoming better prepared doesn't take a lot of time or money and it's important to become self-reliant in a disaster.

For more information, visit the City's Emergency Management homepage at www.readymedford.org.

Handy Items for Your Kit

- First aid kit
- Blankets
- Battery-powered clock
- Flashlights
- Battery-powered radio
- Extra batteries
- Matches
- Money (including coins)
- List of insurance policy numbers
- Fire extinguisher
- Trash bags
- Medications/vitamins
- Copies of prescriptions
- Extra eye glasses
- Hearing aid batteries
- Cooking stove with fuel
- Heavy gloves
- Duct tape
- Sturdy shoes
- Ax, shovel, broom
- Pliers, wrench, pry bar
- Household bleach
- Map to identify excavation routes/shelter
- Diapers, baby formula
- Pet food, leash
- Vaccination records
- Hygiene products
- Warm set of clothes

September 2015



Message from the Medford Police Department

Crosswalk Safety

The City of Medford Police Department (MPD) has received various questions, comments and concerns regarding crosswalks within the city.

According to Oregon Revised Statute 801.220, a crosswalk exists at any public road intersection, whether marked or unmarked. Crosswalks may also exist at other locations along the roadway, such as mid-block; however marking the crosswalk is required in these locations.

Advantages of Crosswalks

“Marking” a crosswalk can be a significant way to improve pedestrian safety and make it easier to cross the roadway. Appropriately marked crosswalks help prevent pedestrian-vehicle crashes. Although crashes are relatively rare, the risk of injury is high – and at speeds of 30 mph or more, severe injury is almost a certainty.

Crosswalks can typically be found at:

- Traffic signals, stop signs, and flashing pedestrian signals
Marked crosswalks are used to direct pedestrians to the property crossing location and prevent motor vehicle traffic from blocking the pedestrian path.
- School Zones
At signalized locations, marked crosswalks are used to designate the safest locations for school children to cross.

Disadvantages of Crosswalks

Various studies suggest marked crosswalks at uncontrolled locations are not as safe as leaving the crossing unmarked, increased traffic volumes and multi-lane roadways are associated with higher pedestrian-vehicle crash rates at these marked crosswalks, and marking crosswalks alone does not improve pedestrian safety.

In addition to using study results, traffic calming techniques such as pedestrian islands, curb extensions and warning devices have been shown to encourage appropriate driving speeds and improve pedestrian safety at crossings. Enhanced marking and advanced stop lines may reduce multiple threat crashes (multiple threat crashes occur when one lane stops and the second lane in the same direction does not).

Allowing a proliferation of marked crosswalks may reduce the overall effectiveness of crosswalks, so it is important to make sure they are placed correctly.

Crosswalks in Medford

The City of Medford carefully considers the installation of marked crosswalks. Because the above studies indicate crosswalk safety is improved with traffic calming or warning devices installed, such as a rapid flashing beacon, the City prefers to include these in an installation plan.

As a reminder, Oregon law stipulates that a crosswalk is implied and exists at every intersection, regardless of whether it is marked. Drivers are required to stop and remain stopped if a pedestrian is occupying the crosswalk in the driver’s lane of travel or the lane adjacent to their lane. Medford Police Department uses grant funds to conduct enforcement operations at crosswalks to ensure pedestrian right-of-way laws are followed. Historically these operations occur in marked crosswalks, but enforcement operations can occur at unmarked crosswalks as well. The overall goal is to increase pedestrian safety through compliance from drivers.

For more information regarding Medford Police Department’s efforts to promote pedestrian safety, please contact Sergeant Don Lane at the Medford Police Department at (541) 774-2292.