

## NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September is National Preparedness Month. This annual observance raises awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time.

There are many ways to prepare for disaster, from learning lifesaving skills like CPR to verifying that your insurance covers any hazards you may face. This month, take practical safety steps to better protect your family, like making a plan and building a kit.

As you make your plan, identify specific needs for household members (dietary, mobility, medical, etc.); update important contact numbers; examine where to go should you need to evacuate; and consider how to adjust your plan based on the types of disasters that are most likely to happen locally.

Every household's disaster preparedness kit will be slightly different to address people's specific needs and preferences, such as the type of non-perishable food included. There are also some things that should be in every kit, like flashlights, a battery-operated radio, hand sanitizer, cash and a first aid kit.

Be proactive as you prepare. Here are five things you can do this month to enhance your preparedness.

- Make a complete inventory of your property and include recent photos.
- Find the shut-off valve for the main water line that enters your house and ensure it is operational. Make repairs if needed.
- Learn how to use a fire extinguisher and identify two ways out of every room in your house.
- Cut weak branches and trees that could fall on your house and keep shrubbery trimmed. Clear yard debris away from your house, including stuff stuck in gutters.
- Practice your plan with your family.

Learn more in our Step-by-Step Prep Guide at [Talgov.com/PREP](https://Talgov.com/PREP) or at [ready.gov](https://ready.gov).



## Sustainability Tip

Windows can be a significant source of energy waste. Window shades, shutters and awnings can provide an extra layer of insulation between your home and external temperatures year-round.

## CITY SECURES FEDERAL FUNDING FOR STARMETRO



At the national level, Tallahassee's value and bright future have been recognized with newly awarded federal funding for StarMetro.

Grant support of more than \$20 million from the Federal Transit Administration will help StarMetro develop essential battery electric charging infrastructure, add eight new battery electric buses to the fleet and develop a workforce training program to maintain the fleet.

A \$15 million RAISE grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation will support construction of the Southside Transit Center, enhancing access to public transportation as the City continues to grow safe, sustainable and reliable transportation for all.

This combined funding is pivotal to help StarMetro bring transformative projects to fruition & drive opportunities for our community. Stay engaged at [Talgov.com/StarMetro](https://Talgov.com/StarMetro).

# SKIP THE LINE

Why wait in the queue online or in person when you can access and manage your City of Tallahassee Utilities account online from anywhere? By signing into your account via [Talgov.com/Login](http://Talgov.com/Login), you can view and pay your bill; start, stop or transfer utilities; make a service request; and more.



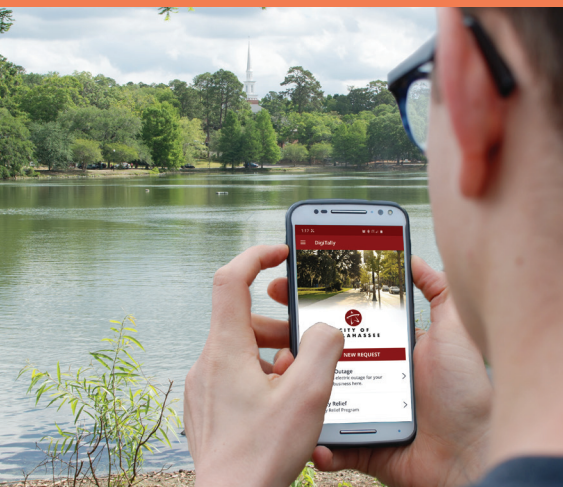
## BIKE SAFETY THE BIKE BOX



While traveling around downtown Tallahassee, you may notice bright green squares near the crosswalk at some intersections. These are bike boxes. They are designed to create a safe location for cyclists and reduce bike and vehicle collisions. A driver's job is simple – stop behind the white line. Cyclists stop in the green bike box, and pedestrians use the crosswalk. To learn more about bike boxes, visit [Talgov.com/Traffic](http://Talgov.com/Traffic).

## SAVE THE DATE

The City's twice-yearly Cash for Trash event returns on Saturday, Oct. 21. It will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the City's Community Beautification and Waste Management facility, located at 2727 Municipal Way. Citizens can dispose of large bulky items, household hazardous waste, automobile tires (four per customer) and electronic items. As a thank you, participating City residential utility customers with an active garbage service account will receive a \$5 credit toward their utility bill. Please bring your City utility bill with you. For more information, visit [Talgov.com/YOU](http://Talgov.com/YOU).



# SEE. SNAP. SEND.

## DigiTally

Reporting issues is simple. If you see a pothole, broken street light or graffiti, just snap a photo and hit send!

DOWNLOAD THE FREE APP



For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquiries, please call 850-891-4968 or visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

[TALGOV.com](http://TALGOV.com)      @CityofTLH

Insight is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related items of interest. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the City's ADA/Title VI Coordinator at least two business days prior to the event at 850-661-3235 or [Kathleen.Wright@Talgov.com](mailto:Kathleen.Wright@Talgov.com). For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance notice.



## MEETINGS IN OCTOBER

Visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com) for the current list of Tallahassee City Commission, Community Redevelopment Agency, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meetings and workshops. Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information and view the current meeting agendas online at [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com). Follow @CityofTLH on Twitter for City news.