



# CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (OEM)

2023 Annual Report Snapshot

## What is emergency management?

Emergency management seeks to promote safer communities by reducing the vulnerability to hazards. This is completed through mitigation efforts, preparedness actions, response to and recover from disasters.

### BE INFORMED

Sign up for the **free** Grand Rapids Emergency Alert System and receive notifications on evacuation notices, water boil alerts, weather warnings, and more!

SCAN ME



[grandrapidsmi.gov/emergencyalerts](https://grandrapidsmi.gov/emergencyalerts)

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### Accomplishments



- Facilitated multiple training exercises in partnership with public safety agencies and external stakeholders to include GRCC, Calvin University and Haviland Enterprises, Inc., focusing on response to active threats and hazardous materials incidents.
- Activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in response to the August 24-26, 2023, Michigan Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding.
- Established a community emergency response volunteer program (CERT) to enhance community readiness through disaster preparedness education and advanced skills training. Currently, we have 37 volunteers and *counting!*



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## Accomplishments (cont'd):



- Hired an Emergency Management Specialist to focus on public outreach and education.
- Developed Facility Emergency Action Plans for all city-owned facilities, including Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) for all City parks that have a pool and/or host major community programs. City of Grand Rapids Parks and Recreation staff received training on the EAPs thereafter.
- Hired a consultant to perform a Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA), to develop a Stakeholder Preparedness Report and a Community Preparedness Report for the City of Grand Rapids.

## Coming Soon:



**Your voice matters!** Share your perspective on our community's level of preparedness to disasters and threats by attending our community workshops beginning Winter 2024. We will be focusing on the impacts to vulnerable and disadvantaged populations, building resiliency and preparedness to climate change, and better understanding the equity challenges the City of Grand Rapids faces when being ready for disasters. As a result, this data will help the Office of Emergency Management invest in closing any gaps in a sustainable and strategic manner.



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