

# News Release



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## Charleston County Observes April as National 9-1-1 Education Month

*The County joins with other national public safety leaders to promote 9-1-1 awareness and proper usage*

[Charleston County Consolidated 9-1-1 Center](#) is beginning a month-long campaign to help citizens better understand 9-1-1 services and the role it plays in ensuring effective and efficient emergency response in times of crisis. Various governmental agencies, including the United States Congress and the [National Emergency Number Association \(NENA\)](#), a leading public safety association, have also recognized April as National 9-1-1 Education Month. Collectively, these agencies are encouraging the media, the 9-1-1 community, the wireless industry, and public information providers to engage in 9-1-1 awareness and education activities.

As consumers utilize new ways of communicating, 9-1-1 education takes on an increased importance for everyone, especially children, teens, and parents. "Communications technology continues to change so we too must change the way we operate in order to receive 9-1-1 messages from any device the public is using," said Jim Lake, Director of the Charleston County Consolidated 9-1-1 Center.

[Charleston County](#) will be promoting 9-1-1 education through the media, [Facebook page](#), [Twitter account](#), emails, and presentations.

"For forty years, 9-1-1 has served as the vital link between the American public and emergency services," said NENA CEO, Brian Fontes. "Public education and awareness initiatives throughout the years have contributed in large measure to the incredible and ongoing success of the emergency communications system as a whole. It is our hope that all groups interested in promoting and enhancing the safety and welfare of the public will help deliver critical 9-1-1 messages this month."

NENA has also made a number of public safety educational resources available for the media, 9-1-1 professionals, public educators, and citizens via its [National 9-1-1 Education Month webpage](#), including an E-Brochure entitled *Making 9-1-1 Work for YOU!*. The brochure is designed to provide essential information to the general public, children, teens, and parents about the 9-1-1 system and emergency response.

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- Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ChasCountyGov>
- Like us on Facebook (main County site): <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753>
  - *Board of Elections and Voter Registration*: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Board-of-Elections-and-Voter-Registration/103895809694986>
  - *Consolidated 9-1-1 Center's Public Education Program*: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753#!/pages/Charleston-County-Consolidated-9-1-1-Center-Public-Education-Program/186965438015227>
  - *Economic Development*: <https://www.facebook.com/CharlestonCountyED>

- *Emergency Management Department.* <http://www.facebook.com/EMDChasCo>
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- *Zoning and Planning Department.* <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753#!/pages/Charleston-County-Zoning-Planning-Department/549596221765813>
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- See us on You Tube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/charlestoncountygov>
- Watch County Council meetings online <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/charleston-county-government>



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