



Yadkin County Fire Marshal's Office



September

Prevention Bulletin

2025

XX



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

The life you've built is worth protecting. Prepare for disasters to create a lasting legacy for you and your family.



Talking about bad things that could happen like a disaster or emergency isn't always easy. We may think we're protecting the people we love by avoiding these conversations, but they are important to start taking steps to get ready and stay safe. Starting a conversation today can help you and your family to take more actions to prepare. By taking simple steps, you can build your preparedness at your own pace:

- Set aside a time when everyone is calm and relaxed.
- It may help to hold the discussions over a set time period, so decisions aren't rushed, and people feel more comfortable talking about the topic.
- Talk about steps you've taken to prepare and encourage others to ask questions about preparedness actions that might work for them.

- Assess your needs. If you have medications that need refrigeration, rely on mobility or assistive devices or have a pet you'll need to understand how these variables will factor into what you'll need to stay safe in a disaster or emergency.
- Make a plan. Once you assess your needs, you can tailor your plans to make sure your needs are met. This can include building a kit that includes extra medication, having a way to store medications in an emergency and planning for your pets or service animals. If you're an older adult or work with and support older adult communities visit [Ready.gov/older-adults](https://www.ready.gov/older-adults) and [Ready.gov/es/adultos-mayores](https://www.ready.gov/es/adultos-mayores) for resources.
- Engage your support network. Reaching out to family, friends and neighbors can help you build a support network that can support you before, during and after a disaster or emergency. Share each aspect of your emergency plan with everyone in your group, including a friend or relative in another area who would not be impacted by the same emergency who can help if necessary. Make sure everyone knows how you plan to evacuate your home or workplace and where you will go in case of a disaster. Make sure that someone in your personal support network has an extra key to your home and knows where you keep your emergency supplies. Practice your plan with those who have agreed to be part of your personal support network.

Learn more by visiting [www.Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov)



ARE YOU PREPARED?



HURRICANE ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Eyeing the Storm

The Atlantic hurricane season is **June to November**, with the **peak season** from **mid-August to late October**.

On average there are six hurricanes, three of which are categorized as "major", each year. History provides important examples of the potentially dangerous impact hurricanes can have and the need to be prepared.



PREPARE FOR THE STORM



Charge all phones and communication devices.



Unplug all electronics and move them as high as possible.



If recommended by utilities or emergency officials, **turn off breakers to avoid power surges**.



WEATHER THE STORM



Stay indoors during hurricanes and away from windows and glass.



Never operate a portable generator inside your home.



Never connect a generator directly into your homes wiring unless a transfer switch has been installed.



Always use GFCIs in areas where **water and electricity** may come in contact.



RECOVER FROM THE STORM



Do not use electrical equipment and electronics, including receptacles, that have been **submerged in water**.



Have a **qualified electrician** inspect any water damaged electrical equipment and electronics.



Stay away from downed power lines. If you encounter a downed power line, stay at least **35 feet** away and do not touch the line or anything that may be in contact with the line.

HURRICANE CATEGORIES

CATEGORY 1

74-95 MPH Winds
Some Damage



Potential **roof damage**.



Large tree branches may snap, shallow-rooted trees may fall.



Damage to utility poles and power lines. **Outages may last** few to several days.

CATEGORY 2

96-110 MPH Winds
Extensive Damage



Potential **major roof damage**.



Shallow-rooted trees will be snapped or unrooted.



Power outages for **several days to weeks**.

CATEGORY 3

111-129 MPH Winds
Devastating Damage



Major home damage.



Many trees will be snapped or unrooted.



Electricity and water may be **unavailable for several days to weeks**.

CATEGORY 4

130-156 MPH Winds
Catastrophic Damage



Severe home damage.



Most trees will be snapped or unrooted and utility poles downed.



Power outages for **weeks to possibly months**.

CATEGORY 5

>156 MPH Winds
Catastrophic Damage



High percentage of framed homes will be destroyed.



Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas.



Power outages for **weeks to possibly months**.

According to the **Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety**, homes built to **modern building codes fare much better** than homes built to older codes. **Make sure your home is up to code.**

Please **share this free** resource to save lives



Additional severe weather safety information is available at www.esfi.org.



www.facebook.com/ESFI.org



www.twitter.com/ESFIdotorg



www.youtube.com/user/esfidotorg



GET READY!

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS for People with Disabilities and Activity Limitations



The best way to deal with disasters is to learn about and think through the challenges you may face if you could not use your home or your personal belongings. Some emergency situations require that you evacuate your home with little or no warning and move to a shelter or a designated site. By planning ahead, you can make sure you are ready to leave home with your most essential items, on a few moments notice.

Create a Personal Support Network

A personal support network, or self-help team, can help you prepare for a disaster. Your network should include people you know and trust and who can check on you within minutes to see if you need help. Neighbors are often the closest and most available contacts in an emergency. At home, work, school, or in the community, your support team should help you identify and secure resources and assess your needs before, during, and after a disaster. To be better prepared to help you, your network members should have copies of your personal disaster preparation plan for your home, your emergency contact list, and your medical information list. Do not rely on just one person, have at least three people trained in your network. Be ready to give brief, clear, specific instructions and directions to rescue personnel or write them down on note cards with supplies. Remember to keep copies of your contact lists with you to assist in your rescue and care following a disaster. Label your vital equipment with your name and contact information, as well as specific operating instructions. Be sure to instruct members of your network on how to operate and maintain your equipment.

Personal Disaster Preparation

Make an emergency information list that includes:

- Medical and emergency contact information;
- Emergency out-of-state contacts, outside the potential disaster area;
- Names and numbers of everyone in your network; and

Make a medical information list that includes:

- Medical provider information, including your doctor's name and number and your insurance policy information and numbers. Attach copies of prescriptions, insurance cards and related information to your medical lists.
- Medications and dosages being taken—remember to update this information.
- Specific medical conditions.
- Physical limitations.
- Adaptive equipment and vendors' phone numbers.
- Allergies or sensitivities.

Emergency Preparedness Kits

Basic Emergency Supplies Kit

Make an emergency supplies kit that contains your basic emergency supplies for your home, as well as your personal needs supplies.

First Aid Kit

Assemble a first aid kit that includes any and all medical supplies you need on a daily basis. Include a first aid textbook.

Disability Related Supplies and Other Equipment

List the specific supplies and equipment you may need. Be sure to note where you store these items and operation and maintenance instructions. Disability related supplies should be part of your basic supplies kit as well as part of your "go kit."

Portable "Go Kit"

Get a drawstring bag, a pouch with lots of pockets, a fanny pack, or a small backpack and keep it within reach, by your chair, wheelchair, scooter, or other assistive device. Your "Go Kit" should include a copy of your emergency and medical information and your support network contact information and doctors. Include a small flashlight; a whistle or noise maker; water; extra medication and copies of your prescriptions; an extra pair of glasses; a hearing aid; a pad and pencil or other writing device; and a pair of heavy work gloves for protection from glass and other debris.

Resources

Emergency Evacuation Preparedness Guide: A Guide for People with Disabilities and Other Activity Limitations. This guide helps people with disabilities better prepare for large or small-scale emergencies. www.cdihp.org/evacuation/toc.html

Emergency Preparedness: Taking Responsibility for Your Safety. Tips for People with Disabilities and Activity Limitations. Tip sheets focus on earthquake safety; however they are useful for all types of disaster preparedness for people with disabilities. www.lacoa.org/PDF/ESP%2006/ESP%20Disabilities%20Guide%20FINAL%202006.pdf

Disaster Preparedness for People with Disabilities. Booklet created by FEMA and the American Red Cross providing information for people with disabilities and activity limitations. www.redcross.org/services/disaster/0,1082,0_603_,00.html



GET READY!

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS for Owners of Pets and Service Animals

Every disaster plan must include your pets. If you know disaster is imminent, bring your pet inside immediately. Get your animals under control as quickly as possible, either using a leash or by putting them in a pet carrier.

Disasters often strike suddenly, while you are away from home. You can improve your pet's chances for safety if you leave him/her inside, with collars and identification tags, when you go out. Consider an arrangement with a trusted neighbor who would be willing to evacuate your pets in your absence. Make sure the person knows your animals, can locate your emergency supplies, and has a key to your home. Provide him or her with instructions and phone numbers on how to reach you.

Keep your animal's license and identification current. Keep up-to-date identification on your pets at all times. Use a properly fitting collar with an identification tag. Consider using a microchip for identification, but make sure local shelters have microchip scanners.

Keep current color photographs of your pet, showing any distinguishing markings, with your emergency supplies.

If you evacuate, take your pet.

Your animal's best protection is to be with you. Remember, taking your pet with you requires special planning.

Locate a safe place for your pets before disaster strikes. Evacuation shelters generally do not accept animals for public health and safety reasons. Service animals, on the other hand, are allowed to accompany their owners to an emergency shelter. Call hotels and motels in your immediate area and a reasonable distance from home to see if they will accept pets and under what conditions. Also, contact local boarding kennels and veterinary



hospitals with boarding facilities. Ask friends and family members whether they will provide foster care for your pets.

NOTE: Animal shelters will provide temporary foster care for owned pets in times of disaster, but this should be considered only as a last resort.

Emergency Supplies Kit

Assemble a portable pet emergency supplies kit to provide for your pet's needs for seven days. Pack the supplies in a carry case, in case you evacuate. Include the following:

- Medications and medical records, including vaccination records (stored in a water proof container) and a first aid kit. Name and telephone number of your veterinarian. List medical conditions and special considerations.
- Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and carriers to transport pets safely and ensure that your animals can't escape.
- Current photos of your pets in case they get lost.
- Food, portable water, bowls, cat litter and pan, and can opener.
- Plastic bags/paper towels for disposing of animal waste.
- Favorite toys and pet beds with kennel or carrying case.
- Maintain a list of emergency contact numbers in the kit.

Even with a disaster plan in place, pets and their owners can sometimes run into trouble, or a disaster can exceed local resources. Visit the Humane Society of the United States for more information, www.hsus.org.



GET READY! FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so plan how you will contact one another and review what you will do in different situations. Keep a copy of this plan in your emergency supplies kit, or another secure place where you can access it in the event of a disaster.

Out-of-Town Contact _____ Phone Number _____
Email _____ Phone Number _____

Fill out the following information for each family member and keep it up to date.

Name _____ Social Security Number _____
Date of Birth _____ Important Medical Info _____

Name _____ Social Security Number _____
Date of Birth _____ Important Medical Info _____

Name _____ Social Security Number _____
Date of Birth _____ Important Medical Info _____

Name _____ Social Security Number _____
Date of Birth _____ Important Medical Info _____

Name _____ Social Security Number _____
Date of Birth _____ Important Medical Info _____

Name _____ Social Security Number _____
Date of Birth _____ Important Medical Info _____

Where to go in an emergency. Write down where your family spends the most time: work, school and other places you frequent. Schools, daycare providers, workplaces, and apartment buildings should all site-specific emergency plans.

Home

Address _____
Phone Number _____
Neighborhood Meeting Place _____
Regional Meeting Place _____

School

Address _____
Phone Number _____
Evacuation Location _____

School

Address _____
Phone Number _____
Evacuation Location _____

Work

Address _____
Phone Number _____
Evacuation Location _____

Work

Address _____
Phone Number _____
Evacuation Location _____

Other place you frequent

Address _____
Phone Number _____
Evacuation Location _____

Other place you frequent

Address _____
Phone Number _____
Evacuation Location _____

Pet Information

Name _____
Description _____
License # _____

Important Information	Name	Phone #	Policy#
Doctor(s)	_____	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____	_____
Pharmacist	_____	_____	_____
Medical Insurance	_____	_____	_____
Homeowners/Rental Insurance	_____	_____	_____
Veterinarian/Kennel (for pets)	_____	_____	_____
Dial 911 for emergencies	Police Non-Emergency Phone Number _____		



GET READY!

FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

Every family member should carry a copy of this important information:

Other Important Phone Numbers and Info

FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

Emergency Contact: _____
Phone: _____
Out of Town Contact: _____
Phone: _____
Neighborhood Meeting Place: _____
Phone: _____
Dial 911 for Emergencies!

< FOLD
HERE >

Other Important Phone Numbers and Info

FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

Emergency Contact: _____
Phone: _____
Out of Town Contact: _____
Phone: _____
Neighborhood Meeting Place: _____
Phone: _____
Dial 911 for Emergencies!

Other Important Phone Numbers and Info

FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

Emergency Contact: _____
Phone: _____
Out of Town Contact: _____
Phone: _____
Neighborhood Meeting Place: _____
Phone: _____
Dial 911 for Emergencies!

< FOLD
HERE >

Other Important Phone Numbers and Info

FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

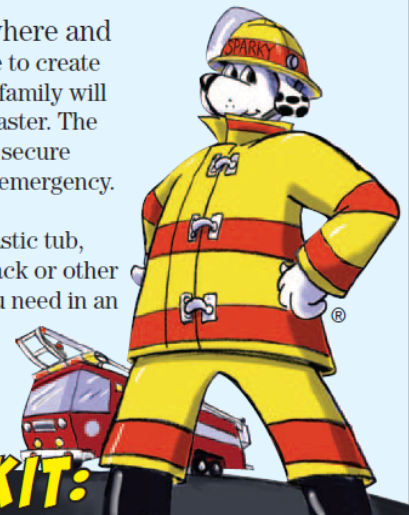
Emergency Contact: _____
Phone: _____
Out of Town Contact: _____
Phone: _____
Neighborhood Meeting Place: _____
Phone: _____
Dial 911 for Emergencies!



GET READY!

Disasters can happen anywhere and at any time. By taking the time to create an emergency supplies kit, your family will be prepared in the event of a disaster. The kit also helps children feel more secure knowing it is there in case of an emergency.

The supplies can be kept in a plastic tub, small suitcase, trash can, backpack or other container. To learn what else you need in an emergency supplies kit, go to www.ready.gov.



Sparky® is a registered trademark of the NFPA.

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES KIT:

- ☐ Water – one gallon per person per day for drinking and sanitation — store 3-day supply
- ☐ Ready-to-eat food, canned juices, comfort/stress foods — at least a 3-day supply
- ☐ Battery-powered or hand-cranked radio and a NOAA weather radio, and extra batteries for both
- ☐ Flashlights and extra batteries
- ☐ First aid kit
- ☐ Non-prescription drugs such as pain reliever, anti-diarrhea medication, antacid, laxative
- ☐ Prescription medications, contact lenses and supplies, denture needs
- ☐ Whistle to signal for help
- ☐ Infant formula and diapers, if you have an infant
- ☐ Water and pet food if you have pets
- ☐ Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- ☐ Dust mask or cotton t-shirt to filter the air
- ☐ Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- ☐ Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- ☐ Can opener for food
- ☐ Aluminum foil
- ☐ A jacket or coat, hat and gloves
- ☐ A complete change of clothing including long pants, long sleeve shirt, and sturdy shoes stored in a waterproof container.
- ☐ Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person
- ☐ Rain gear
- ☐ Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils
- ☐ Cash or traveler's checks, change
- ☐ Paper towels
- ☐ Tent
- ☐ Compass
- ☐ Matches in a waterproof container
- ☐ Signal flare
- ☐ Paper, pencil
- ☐ Personal hygiene items
- ☐ Soap
- ☐ Disinfectant and household chlorine bleach
- ☐ Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container. Remember to include emergency contact numbers.
- ☐ Passport, bank account numbers, credit card account numbers and companies
- ☐ Books, games puzzles, portable music device

NOTE: Replace food every six months. Re-think your kit and family needs once a year. Replace batteries and update clothes, etc.

My Personal Pack Checklist

Have children create their personal pack. Have them include things like their favorite book or stuffed animal. These familiar things will help keep them comfortable during an emergency.

- ✓ Change of clothes
- ✓ Blanket
- ✓ Books
- ✓ Favorite toy
- ✓ Paper, pencils and crayons



Road Safety Tips During Fall Harvest

- Slow down immediately when you see farm equipment ahead of you on the road. Farm equipment isn't very fast, think 15-20 mph on the road on average perhaps. If you are driving 55 mph, you are covering around 80 feet per second; it won't take very long to be right on top of a slow-moving vehicle.
- Be patient and wait to safely pass farm equipment. Unsafe passing was one of the primary factors of a lot of our motor vehicle accidents we responded to in the fall.
- Along those same lines, be careful when approaching on-coming farm equipment. Oncoming vehicles might not be as patient as you are and pull out suddenly to pass the farm equipment—right into your path.
- Farm equipment often has to make wide turns, so be aware of that and help out by being patient and giving them room to turn.
- Since some of the equipment is fairly wide, you may still have to edge out on the other side of the road, further than normal; even though growers are very good at getting over as far as they safely can to let you by. Road shoulders can be notoriously tricky; they are even more challenging when the ground is as wet.
- Harvest seems to amplify deer movement both day and night. Watch your speed and scan your surroundings for them as you drive.



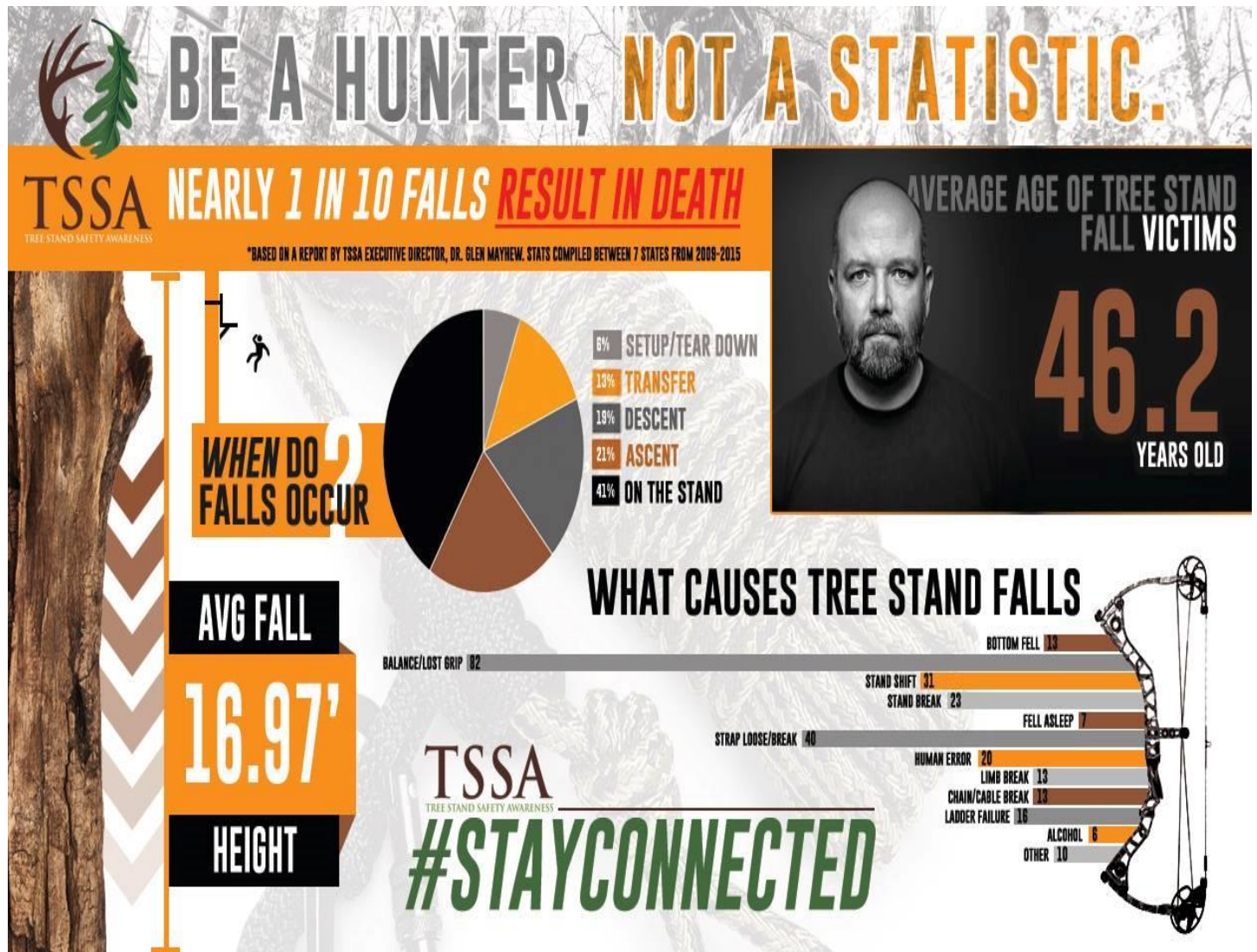
Do you know anyone who has been injured or killed by falling from a tree stand? Sadly, chances are you do because falls from tree stands are the No.1 cause of injury and death for deer hunters. That's why it's so important to take precautionary measures to ensure you remain safe throughout your time in the stand.



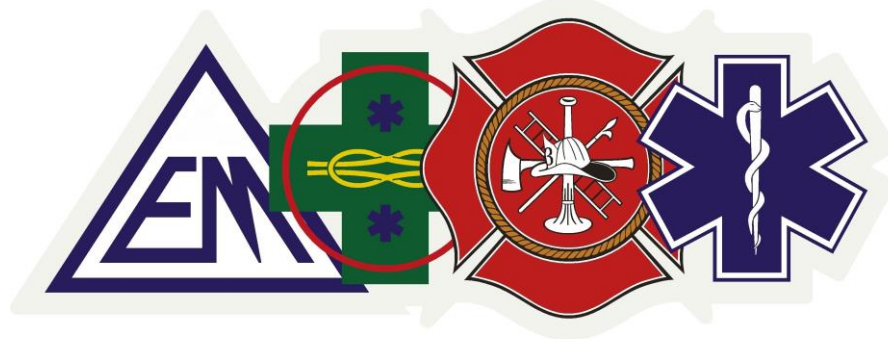
The [Tree Stand Safety Awareness Foundation \(TSSA\)](http://www.tssa.org)

has designated September as Tree Stand Safety Awareness Month, since September is the month that most hunters start heading back to the woods to cut trails and hang stands in preparation for the hunting season.

- In an effort to keep hunters safe this season, the TSSA has designed an educational campaign called the “ABC’s of Tree Stand Safety” to serve as the building blocks to the awareness campaign. If you perform these three simple steps, you can virtually eliminate your risk of falling to the ground, as the majority of falls occur outside the stand.
- **Always remove and inspect your equipment**
- **Buckle on your full-body harness**
- **Connect to the tree before your feet leave the ground**



YADKIN COUNTY



EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Yadkin County Fire Marshal's Office is proud to serve the citizens of Yadkin County by promoting the importance of fire safety through education, inspections, and investigations. The Fire Marshal's Office functions under the direction of the emergency services director.

The Fire Marshal's Office is responsible for various duties, which include:

- County Fire Inspection Program
- Fire / arson investigations
- Budget preparation
- Coordination between county government and county fire departments
- Fire prevention programs
- Response to emergency situations

Ricky Leonard, Fire Marshal

Phone: 336-849-7915

Email: RLeonard@yadkincountync.gov

Emergency: 9-1-1

Disclaimer: Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy, currency and completeness of the information, Yadkin County Fire Marshal's Office (YCFMO) does not guarantee, warrant, represent or undertake that the information provided is correct, accurate or current. YCFO is not liable for any loss, claim or demand arising directly or indirectly from any use or reliance upon the information