



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Yavapai County COAD Cancels 2026 Preparedness Expo to Prioritize Member Capacity and Community Service

Decision redirects organizational capacity toward essential services, disaster readiness and partner support

YAVAPAI COUNTY, Ariz. - The Yavapai County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (YCCOAD) has canceled the 2026 Preparedness Expo previously scheduled for Friday, October 9, at Cliff Castle Casino in Camp Verde, Arizona.

No replacement date has been scheduled.

The decision follows an assessment of confirmed participation and the current capacity of YCCOAD member organizations and community partners. The assessment found that continuing with the Expo would require additional commitments from organizations that are already managing substantial operational demands.

Many of these organizations are balancing staffing and volunteer limitations, funding pressures, extensive community outreach schedules, and the daily responsibility of providing essential services throughout Yavapai County. They must also preserve the personnel, resources, and readiness needed to support the community when emergencies and disasters occur.

YCCOAD's mission is to strengthen cooperation, coordination, communication, and collaboration so that community needs can be met efficiently throughout preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. At this time, adding another large outreach obligation would not be the most effective way to support that mission or the organizations carrying it forward.

"Our members serve the community every day while also maintaining the ability to respond when disasters occur," Heather Vinson of the Yavapai County COAD Board stated. "Canceling the Expo allows us to respect current capacity, support the well-being of employees and volunteers, and focus our shared effort where it can provide the greatest value."

The YCCOAD recognizes that sustainable organizations are an essential part of community preparedness. Protecting the well-being and operational capacity of staff and volunteers helps ensure that member organizations can continue their everyday work and remain available during emergencies.

YCCOAD will redirect its efforts toward practical member support, including better coordination of regional outreach schedules, shared preparedness materials, reduced duplication of effort, and opportunities for organizations to remain visible without requiring staff or volunteers to attend every community event.

The Board sincerely appreciates the organizations, volunteers, partners, and community members who contributed time, planning, materials, and support to the 2026 Expo. That work remains valuable and will help inform future preparedness outreach and collaboration across Yavapai County.

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EVENT STATUS

Event	2nd Annual Yavapai County Preparedness Expo
Status	CANCELED
Original Date	Friday, October 9, 2026
Original Location	Cliff Castle Casino - Camp Verde, Arizona
Replacement Date	None scheduled

For more information and future YCCOAD updates, visit the Yavapai County Community Organizations Active in Disaster website at <https://yavapai-coad.org/>.

ABOUT YCCOAD

The Yavapai County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (YCCOAD) brings together community organizations, government agencies, nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations, volunteer groups, emergency response partners, and other community resources to strengthen coordination and preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts throughout Yavapai County.

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