

Emergency Preparedness

Many people are concerned about the possibility of a disaster. You can take steps now to prepare for an emergency and cope if an emergency does happen. In a disaster, local officials and relief workers cannot reach everyone immediately. Help may not arrive for hours or in several cases, days. If a disaster strikes the community, you might not have access to food, water or electricity for some time. You should have emergency kits for your home, office, school and vehicle. Here are some steps you can take to help you and your family stay safe and healthy during a disaster.

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES KIT

- WATER – one gallon per person per day for drinking water and sanitation. Store a 3-day supply.
- FOOD – Ready to eat foods, canned juices, comfort type foods that are easy to prepare without cooking. Store a 3-day supply
- PETS – Don't forget to store 3-day supply of your pet food
- Utensils – A mess kit, paper plates, cups, plastic utensils and paper towels
- Batteries – Make sure you have all the sizes you will need
- Flashlights for every member of the family
- Battery powered or crank radio
- Fully stocked first aid kit
- Non-prescription medication, contact lenses and denture needs
- Whistle to signal for help
- Manual can opener
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for sanitation
- Personal hygiene items
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape
- Coat, gloves, hats and boots for each family member
- Complete change of clothing (weather appropriate) for each family member
- Sleeping bag or warm blankets for each member of the family
- Matches in waterproof container
- Cash and change
- Passports, bank and credit card account numbers and companies
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies
- Entertainment such as books, puzzles, battery operated music device

This kit should be modified to meet the personal needs of your family. Re-think your kit at least once a year so that they are safe to use when needed.