

BEFORE AN EMERGENCY STRIKES

Create an Emergency Plan

Schedule a family meeting to discuss the dangers of possible emergency events



Discuss how you and your family will respond to each possible emergency

Discuss what to do in case of power outages or personal injuries

Draw a floor plan of your home and mark two escape routes from each room

Choose an out-of-state friend or relative whom all family members will call if separated during an emergency



Pick two meeting places - one near your home and one outside your neighborhood in case you cannot return home after an emergency

Keep family records in a water- and fireproof safe

Watches and Warnings

Knowing the difference between watches and warnings can help save lives, whether it is tornadoes or winter weather



WATCH

Possibility of concerning weather

Stay alert and check regularly for weather updates

WARNING



Weather is imminent

In the case of a tornado, take shelter immediately

With winter weather, limit travel

If there is a flood warning, stay away from flood waters and head for higher ground if necessary

Prepare a Disaster Supply Kit

Utility service may be disrupted in an emergency. Preparing disaster supply kits in advance can save precious time in the event you must evacuate or go without utilities for an extended period.



3-day supply of water
1 gallon per person per day



3- to 5- day supply of nonperishable food



Change of clothing, rain gear, and sturdy shoes



Blankets, bedding, or sleeping bags



First aid kit and prescription medications



Extra pair of glasses or contact lenses and solution



Special items for infants, elderly, or disabled



Battery-powered radio, flashlight, and extra batteries

GO KIT



Store items for a 'go' kit in an easy-to-carry bag

Keep in a car or in the garage

HOME KIT

Store in a plastic tub or garbage can



Keep in your home's safest place where you will take shelter

Identify Your Safest Place

Before an emergency strikes, take time to identify your safest place at home, at work, and at school.

