There are three important steps to prepare for natural disasters or other emergencies:

BE INFORMED, MAKE A PLAN, BUILD A KIT

BE INFORMED

In order to prepare, you need to know about the types of emergencies or disasters that are likely to happen in your area and think about how they could affect you or your family.

Be informed about natural disasters such as earthquakes, fires, floods, tornadoes, tsunamis, and others. Find out about the emergencies that can affect the area where you live. Be aware of other possible emergencies such as power outages, disease outbreaks, or acts of violence. Know how to get information during an emergency, from TV, radio, websites, or social media. Make sure that someone in your family knows basic First Aid and CPR. Learn what you should do before, during, and after a disaster to keep your family safe.

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By planning in advance, you will be better prepared for whatever happens during an emergency. Make a Family Emergency Plan. Think about where you will go in an emergency if your home is not safe or if your family is separated. Think about how you will get in touch with your family members to let them know you are alright. Practice your plan so everyone in your family knows what to do when a disaster strikes.

Family Emergency Plan

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Emergency meeting locations	Address/Location	Phone/e-mail
Outside your house		
Neighborhood meeting place		
Alternate meeting place		
Family contact information	Name/Address/Location	Phone/e-mail
Parent (at work)		
Parent (at work)		
Grandparent/other guardian		
Children	School Name/Address	Phone
Care provider		
Other important numbers		
Nearby relative/family contact		

Police:	Fire:	Ambulance	:
Emergency Services	Name/Address		Phone
Hospital			
Family Doctor			
Pediatrician			
Pharmacy			
Veterinarian (for pets)			

Make sure every family member has a copy of the plan, and store a copy in your family emergency kit.





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BUILD A KIT

Every family should have a basic emergency kit with the supplies listed here. Keep the kit somewhere where you can easily get to it during an emergency.

Water – you should have one gallon per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
Food - at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
First aid kit
Flashlight and extra batteries
Radio (Battery or hand crank) and a NOAA Weather Radio with extra batteries
Whistle - to signal for help
Dust mask - to help filter contaminated air
Plastic sheeting and duct tape - to shelter-in-place
Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties - for personal sanitation
Wrench or pliers - to turn off utilities
Can opener - if kit contains canned food
Local maps

Additional items that you may want to include in your kit:

Extra clothes, Medicine, Cash, Pet Food and extra water for pets, Sleeping bag and blanket for each person, Towels, Fire Extinguisher, Cooking/food supplies (plates, cups, utensils), Candles, Matches, Important documents (insurance policies, identification, etc.), paper and pencil, books, games, cards or other activities.



