

How Ready are You?

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Good emergency planning involves getting informed and getting your family prepared now.

Get Prepared: *Plan for the unexpected..*

- Have a stay plan. For some emergencies, staying in your home (and sheltering-in-place) is the best plan.
- Have a go plan. Follow instructions from public safety officials when leaving (evacuating) your home or neighborhood is the best plan.
- Unique situations and special needs plan. If your household includes people with disabilities or special medical needs, careful planning will be necessary. Plan ways to handle different emergencies in high rise buildings or a moving vehicle.
- It may be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call across town, so an out-of-town contact may be in a better position to communicate among separated family members.
- You may also want to inquire about emergency plans at places where your family spends time: work, daycare and school. If no plans exist, consider volunteering to help create one.
- Determine in advance where you will take shelter in case of a tornado warning:
 - Storm cellars or basements provide the best protection.
 - If underground shelter is not available, go into an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor possible.
 - In a high-rise building, go to a small interior room or hallway on the lowest floor possible.
 - Stay away from windows, doors and outside walls. Go to the center of the room. Stay away from corners because they attract debris.
 - A vehicle, trailer or mobile home does not provide good protection. Plan to go quickly to a building with a strong foundation, if possible.
 - If shelter is not available, lie flat in a ditch or other low-lying area. Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You are safer in a low, flat location.
 - Plan to stay in the shelter location until the danger has passed.
- Find out how to keep food safe during and after an emergency by visiting www.FoodSafety.gov.

Make a Kit

Water: This is the most important item in your kit. Put one gallon of water for each household member per day for drinking and personal care. You may need additional water for pets and cleaning. **Food:** Store at least a 3-day supply of non-perishable food. **First Aid:** A well-stocked first aid kit will allow household members to treat minor injuries, such as cuts or burns, which may occur during an emergency. **Clean Air and Warmth:** Along with food and water, clean air and warmth are the most basic needs that must be met for all household members. **Additional Supplies:** Other supplies might include cooking items, equipment such as flashlights and portable

radio, and personal care and sanitation items. **Unique Family Needs:** Certain members of your household, such as infants, seniors and pets, will require special items to meet their needs.

For detailed information on how you can get ready www.codeready.org