

Prepared & Protected: Emergency Readiness for Families



Disasters can strike at any moment, with little notice. To protect your home and family, it's important to have a plan in place. Whether it's a flood, hurricane, power outage, fire, or another type of emergency, planning ahead can make a huge difference in your family's safety and your peace of mind.

Family Emergency Plans

A strong family emergency plan requires four key steps: establishing local meeting locations, assigning family roles, setting a communication plan, and building an accessible 72-hour disaster kit. You should practice this plan with your household at least twice per year.

Establishing Meeting Places

If a disaster or emergency strikes while your family is separated, designate two specific meeting points:

Near Your Home: A safe, easily identifiable spot right outside your house for sudden emergencies like a fire.

Outside Your Neighborhood: A landmark or relative's house a safe distance away if it's not safe to return home.

Set a Communication Strategy

Out-of-Town Contact: Choose a friend or relative living outside your state. In a disaster, it's often easier to make a long-distance call than a local one; have all family members check in with this contact.

Write It Down: Keep physical copies of important phone numbers, emails, etc. and keep medical information in your wallet or child's backpack.

Local Alerts: Ensure you're registered for local warnings through your city or county's emergency notification systems.

Build a 72-Hour "Go Bag" and Stay-at Home Kit

Prepare a kit for sheltering in place for at least three days, as well as an easily transportable "go bag" in case of sudden evacuation. Core essentials include:

Water: 1 gallon per person, per day

Food: non-perishable items and a manual can opener.

Health & Safety: First aid kit, extra prescription medications, flashlights, extra batteries, battery powered radio.

Documents: Hard copies or encrypted digital copies of IDs, insurance policies, and bank records in a waterproof container.

Family Specific Needs: Infant formula, diapers, pet food, and comfort items for children.

Know Your Evacuation Routes

Familiarize yourself with multiple routes of your neighborhood and city in case main roads are blocked. Plan where you will stay—a hotel, friend's house, etc.—in case of an emergency.



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