

Emergency Information

The following checklists are useful guides for stocking up on basic items and preparing for emergencies. Although local officials do all they can to help, it is really up to you when it comes to the comfort and safety of your household. Making preparations now can make all the difference. In the event of disaster, it may be too late.

When there is time to warn the public before an emergency, generally a weather related emergency, local radio and television stations will broadcast advisory information. Two frequent advisories are called "Watches" and "Warnings." The definitions of these two advisories are:

Watch: Hazardous conditions are developing but have not reached the warning stage. Stay tuned to your radio or television for further instructions.

Warning: An emergency is actually occurring or is about to occur. Follow emergency instructions broadcast over your radio or television.

Before Disaster Strikes:

Prepare a home survival kit ready for use in emergencies

Include basic first aid supplies and prescriptions. (Check with family physician)

Stock nonperishable food items for at least a 7-day supply for the entire household. Don't forget pets.

Select foods your family likes to eat. Store in a cool dry area.

Plan in advance where to locate household members in case they are separated.

Store important documents and valuables in protective packaging where they can be available to move.

Keep the car gas tank at least 3/4 full.

When Disaster Strikes:

DO ...Stay tuned to a local radio or TV station for news, official weather information and emergency instructions.

DO ...Secure your home. Lock doors and windows. Know where to locate electrical, water and gas service sources if advised to turn off utilities. Secure or store objects that may cause damage or injury.

DON'T... USE THE TELEPHONE. Leave lines open for emergency calls only. Overloading circuits slows down the entire phone system.

DON'T... TOUCH DOWNED POWER LINES or objects in contact. Severe shock or worse can result. Always assume that power lines are live.

DON'T... USE ELEVATORS. Power outages shut down elevator systems, often trapping occupants. Use stairways instead.

DON'T... GO SIGHTSEEING. Cooperate with local officials. For your own safety, never enter high risk areas.

DON'T... SPREAD RUMORS. Get the facts from official sources.

DON'T... CALL 911 FOR INFORMATION. Use this number for emergencies only!!!

Checklists: It is important to have these kits prepared prior to any emergency and stored for easy access and removal.

Home Survival Checklist:

- Portable radio
- Extra batteries
- Flashlight
- Credit Cards/ Cash
- Matches
- First Aid Kit with Manual
- Medications/ Prescription glasses
- 7-day non-perishable food supply/baby food
- Ice chest
- Containers of water (one gallon per person per day)
- Games, books, toys, camera
- Important papers
- Fire extinguisher
- Tool kit, gloves
- Wrench to turn off gas/water
- Sleeping bags or blankets
- Personal toilet articles, sanitary needs, diapers, etc.
- Change of clothing for each household member
- Fuel for stoves or lanterns
- Masking tape for windows & glass doors
- Extra pet food
- Chlorine bleach or water purification tablets, follow directions on package
- Sanitation kit
- Clock (wind-up or battery)

Sanitation Kit Checklist:

- + Plastic garbage can with lid
- + Shovel
- + Plastic bag liners
- + Toilet paper
- + Disinfectant/Deodorizer

Important Documents Checklist:

Insurance policies
Birth and marriage certificates
Home inventory
Bank records
Military discharge papers
Licenses
Medical/immunization records
Social Security card/papers
Passport
Religious records
Credit cards
Title/deeds
Wills
Family pictures
Other personal records

First Aid Kit Checklist:

- + Adhesive tape
- + Sterile gauze pads
- + Antiseptic wipes
- + Pain reliever (and prescribed medications)
- + Adhesive bandages, assorted sizes
- + Triangular bandages
- + Cough mixture
- + Diarrhea medication
- + First aid book
- + Flexible gauze
- + Instant cold pack
- + Scissors
- + Soap
- + Splint material

- + 1 pkg. paper tissues
- + Thermometer
- + Tweezers
- + Container to hold first aid items
- + Other desired items

Supplies for preparing meals in an emergency:

- Kitchen knife and necessary cooking utensils
- Disposable plates, forks, spoons and knives
- Disposable hot and cold cups
- Paper napkins or towels
- Non-electric can opener
- Trash bags
- Sterno heater or camp stove with a 7-day fuel supply
- Matches in waterproof containers
- Heavy duty aluminum foil
- Other utensils available at home
- Additional water in containers if food preparation requires water

Supplies for preparing an automobile emergency kit:

- » Battery powered radio with extra batteries
- » Flashlight with extra batteries
- » Blanket
- » Booster cables
- » Fire extinguisher (5 lb., A-B-C Type)
- » First aid kit with manual
- » Bottled water (1 gallon/person) and non-perishable, high energy foods
- » Maps & flares
- » Shovel
- » Tire repair kit and pump

For more information on emergency kits visit <http://www.ready.gov/>.
Para más información en juegos de emergencia visita <http://www.listo.gov/>.