

PREPARING AND PLANNING FOR DISASTERS

Knowing what actions to take before, during, and after a disaster strikes can help protect yourself, your loved ones, and your home.

Disaster Planning Checklist

- Emergency Supply Kit.** Have basic emergency supplies available, including:
 - Flashlights and batteries
 - Battery-powered or hand-crank NOAA weather radio
 - Whistle
 - First aid kit
 - Non-perishable food and bottled water (be sure to include infant formula and pet food, if needed)
 - Medications - prescription and non-prescription (pain relievers, anti-diarrhea, etc.)
 - Cash
 - Blankets, clothing, and personal hygiene/toiletries
 - Masks, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes
 - Important documents saved electronically or stored in a waterproof container.
 - insurance cards or policies
 - Identification
 - bank-account information
 - pet vaccine records
 - Home inventory list or use the [NAIC home inventory app](#)
- Emergency Power.** You may be without power for days or weeks following a disaster. Whenever possible, be prepared with:
 - A portable or standby generator
 - Extra fuel for your generator and/or your vehicle if evacuation is necessary
 - Battery power banks for your cell phones.
- Evacuation Plan.** You may need to evacuate to a safe location at a moment's notice. Be prepared by planning ahead:
 - Know what type of disaster you might face and how this will impact your route
 - Plan your route
 - Be sure to include alternate routes and transportation.
 - Know where you will go. Identify several emergency shelter locations, be sure each location will allow pets, if needed.
 - Download the [FEMA app](#) for a list of open shelters during active disasters in your local area

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- ❑ **Communication Plan.** Emergencies may occur while you are away from other family members. Plan how to communicate in a disaster.
 - ❑ Have phone numbers and email addresses written down
 - ❑ Be familiar with school and childcare emergency plans
 - ❑ Discuss emergency plans with your children and explain who could pick them up in an emergency
 - ❑ Identify out-of-town contacts. At times, long-distance calls or texts may work better because local lines may be overloaded or out of service. Identify someone outside of your area that can act as a central point of contact

- ❑ **Meeting and Shelter Locations.** Know where to go in different emergency situations.
 - ❑ Indoor. High wind emergencies such as tornadoes or hurricanes may mean that you need to shelter indoors. Key locations could include:
 - ❑ Small, windowless rooms such as closets or bathrooms
 - ❑ The lowest level of a building
 - ❑ Saferoom or storm shelter.
 - ❑ Outside your home. Fires, gas leaks, or other indoor emergencies may mean that you need to leave your home and gather outside. Easily recognizable and accessible spots could include:
 - ❑ A mailbox at the end of your driveway
 - ❑ A large tree on your property
 - ❑ Neighbor's house
 - ❑ Neighborhood Location. Some disasters may prevent you from returning home. These locations could include:
 - ❑ Library
 - ❑ Community Center
 - ❑ Family Friend's home
 - ❑ Out of Town. You may need to reunite if a disaster happens and you cannot return to your home or neighborhood. Be sure that everyone knows the address and how to get there.
 - ❑ A relative or friend's home
 - ❑ An emergency shelter location

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