

How to Get Ready NOW...

Preparing Your Family

• Develop a Family Plan to include:

- A list of contact names and numbers
- Two Emergency Supply Kits
 - One to stay in place
 - One To Go Kit
- Mapped out evacuation routes
- Instructions on how to shelter in place

- Plan in advance what you will do in an emergency
 - Meet with your family
 - Talk about the types of emergencies that may affect your family and develop plans of action for each
 - Think about the places your family spends their time and investigate their emergency plans (e.g. home, work, school, recreational activities)

- Be aware of the types of disasters that can occur so you can better prepare
- Conduct fire and emergency drills
- Take first aid and CPR classes
- Make sure all family members understand the plan and what to do should they need to use it
- Practice and maintain your plan

 Develop a family communications plan

- Each family member will contact the same friend or relative
- Teach all family members the contact number
- Provide coins or prepaid phone cards
- Designate an out of state contact- may be easier to reach in an emergency

- How will you find your family and where will you go if you are required to evacuate?
 - Choose several destinations in different directions so that you will have options
 - Keep gas tank at least one half full at all times
 - Plan alternative paths to each site



...can strike at any time. ...may be produced by a natural event. ...may be caused by a terrorist event. ...can occur during times when your family is not together. ...should be considered and planned for in advance.

• Possible Natural Disasters:

- Droughts
- Wildfires
- Severe storms, tornadoes
- Floods
- Earthquakes
- Blizzards and ice storms
- Prolonged power outages
- Pandemic flu

• Possible terrorist events:

- Biological event
 - Anthrax
 - Smallpox
- Chemical event
- Radiological event
- Nuclear event

 Efforts to strengthen security and decrease vulnerability to terrorist threats are happening at all levels of government- federal, state and local

- Yours and your family's preparedness efforts start with you
 - With a little planning and common sense you will be better prepared for the unexpected

- Government disaster plans will start as quickly as possible, but relief workers can't reach everyone right away.
- Disaster may force you out of your neighborhood or confine you to your home.
- Be prepared to make it on your own for at least 3 days 2 weeks.

Everyone should have a plan... Basic supplies:

Water

- One gallon per person (or pet) per day for drinking and sanitation
- Replace stored water and food every 6 months.

Food

- Store at least a 3 day supply of nonperishable foods
- Pick foods that you and your family like (comfort foods)

Food

- Avoid salty foods that will make you thirsty
- Pick high energy foods
- Pick foods that don't require heating or cooling

• Examples of Food to Include:

- Protein bars
- Fruit bars
- Dry cereal
- Granola
- Canned foods- meats, vegetables, fruits
- Juices, pasteurized milk
- Peanut butter
- Dried fruit
- Nuts
- Crackers

o Warmth

- Power may be out and your family may be without heat
- Ensure each family member has the following items
 - Jackets and coats
 - Long pants and long sleeve shirts
 - Sturdy shoes
 - Hats and gloves

 A sleeping bag or blanket for each person and a means for protecting pets.

- Example of a basic Emergency Supply Kit:
 - Water- one gallon per person and pet per day
 - Food- 3 day supply of non-perishable food
 - Battery-powered radio with extra batteries or a crank radio
 - Flashlight and extra batteries

- First aid kit
- Whistle- to signal for help
- Dust mask or cotton T-shirt- to help filter the air
- Moist towelettes
- Wrench or pliers- to turn off the utilities
- Manual can opener
- Eating utensils and cups

- Garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Utility knife
- Local map
- Soap
- Feminine hygiene products
- Heavy plastic or tarp
- Duct tape
- Toilet paper

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush per person
- Hand sanitizer
- Water resistant matches or butane lighter
- Scissors
- Extra cash
- Personal identification
- Plastic re-sealable bags to store important documents

• Consider your family's special needs:

- Diapers
- Baby food
- Bottles and formula
- Prescription medicines
- Pet foods
- Comfort items
- Books, paper, pens
- Forms of entertainment

- Extra pair of glasses
- Any special items for elderly or disabled family members
- Important family documents kept in waterproof containers

- Store supplies in containers that are sturdy and easy to move
 - Trash containers
 - Duffle bags
 - Back packs
- Make two kits
 - One with everything your family needs to stay in place and make it on your own
 - Smaller, lighter one to take with you if your family has to leave home

• Decide whether to stay in place or evacuate

- Plan for both possibilities
- Use common sense and available information
- Watch TV, listen to radio, check Internet often for official instructions as they become available

• Sheltering In place:

- Plan where you will go in your home or workplace in the event of an emergency
 - Interior room
 - Few windows and doors
- Seal all windows, doors and air vents with plastic sheeting and duct tape
- Turn off AC/Heat unit
- Take your emergency supply kit, radio and pets with you

Evacuating:

- Take emergency supply kit
- Take pets
- Check on your neighbors
- Lock your home
- Post a note letting others know when you left and where you are going
- Use travel routes specified by the authorities

 Work with your community and talk with your neighbors

- Who will check on the elderly and disabled
- Who can care for children if parents are unable to get home
- Identify neighbors with special skills (e.g. nurses, physicians)

- Make sure that your child's school or daycare has an emergency response plan and that you know what it is
 - How will they communicate with parents?
 - Do they store emergency supplies?
 - Where will they go if they are required to evacuate?

 Does your employer have an emergency plan?

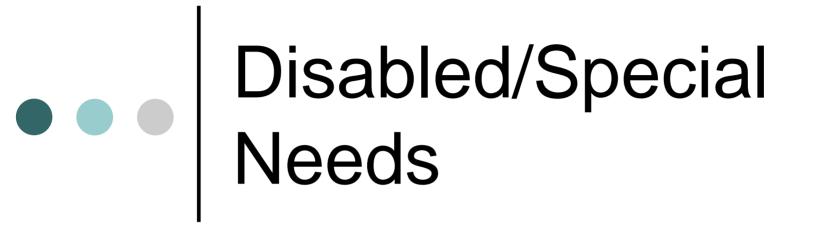
- What would you do if you could not go home?
- Are there emergency supplies and food for employees if they must shelter in place?

• Remember:

- Being prepared and ready to respond to emergencies begins with you
- Planning in advance is an important part of being prepared
- There are no limits as to how you and your family prepare and train to respond to emergencies

• Get ready NOW

- If required to implement your emergency plan:
 - Be calm
 - Be patient
 - Think before you act
 - Make every effort to obtain and follow instructions received from authorities managing the emergency.



Everyone should have a plan...Disabled/Special Needs

- Create a support network to help in an emergency
- Tell these people where you keep your emergency supplies
- Give one member a key to your house or apartment

• Wear medical alert tags

Everyone should have a plan...Disabled/Special Needs

- If you are dialysis dependent, know the location and availability of more than one facility
- Show others how to operate your wheelchair
- Know the size and weight of your wheelchair and whether or not it's collapsible

Everyone should have a plan...Disabled/Special Needs

- Have a list of the style and serial numbers of your medical devices
- Have medical insurance and Medicare cards
- Have a list of doctors, relatives or friends who should be called if you are hurt or ill

Everyone should have a plan...Disabled/Special Needs

• Additional supplies for your Emergency Supply Kit:

- A week supply of medications
- A complete list of your medications and dosages
- A list of your allergies
- Extra eyeglasses
- Extra hearing aid batteries
- Extra wheelchair batteries

Everyone should have a plan...Disabled/Special Needs

Oxygen

- Nasal cannulas
- Disposable dressings
- Catheters
- Electrical backup for medical equipment

Children

Everyone should have a plan...Children

- Children may become fearful when emergencies interrupt their routine
- Children look to adults for help and tips on how to respond to emergencies
- In emergencies, children fear:
 - The event will happen again
 - Someone will be hurt or killed
 - They will be separated from the family or left alone

• Everyone should have a plan...Children

• To reduce a child's fear:

- Be calm as you explain the situation
 - Get down to eye level
 - Tell them what you know
 - Tell them what might happen next
- Keep the family together if possible
 - Bring the children when you look for housing or assistance

• Everyone should have a plan...Children

 Encourage children to talk about the disaster and ask questions

- Encourage them to talk about their feelings
- Listen to them
- Include the entire family in the discussion whenever possible

• Everyone should have a plan...Children

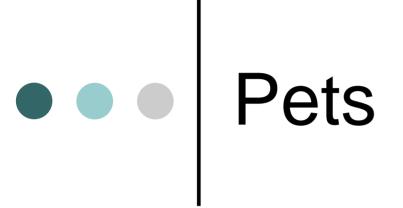
• Include children in recovery activities:

- Give them chores to do
- Make them feel part of the process
- Reinforce that everything will be all right

Everyone should have a plan...Children

• Create a mini kit for children to supplement main emergency kit:

- Several favorite books
- Crayons and paper
- Several favorite small toys/stuffed animals
- Favorite pillow or blanket
- Family and pet pictures



- In the event of evacuation, do not leave the pets behind
- Have a prearranged place to evacuate your pets if you cannot take them with you
- Contact motels outside your immediate area to check on pet policies
- Find a hotel/motel that accepts pets at http://www.petswelcome.com

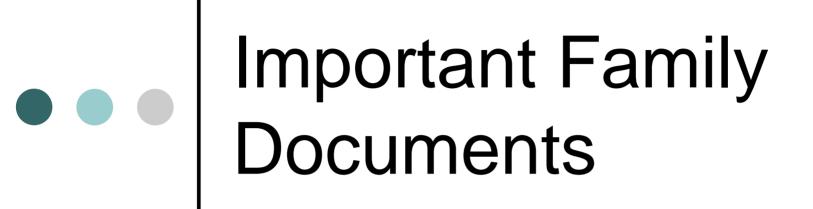
 Ask motels if "no pet" policies are waived in event of emergencies

- Ask your veterinarian about sheltering your pet in the event of emergency
- Ask friends or relatives outside your area if they could shelter your pets
- Keep a list of "pet friendly" places including phone numbers in your emergency kit

- Owners of large animals such as horses or cattle should prepare an emergency plan in conjunction with your veterinarian
- Snakes may be transported in pillowcase but moved to more secure housing as soon as possible
- Birds, lizards, small mammals should be transported in cage or carrier—keep a small mister in kit depending on weather
- Keep all pets current on vaccinations

- Prepare a mini kit for your pets to include:
 - Medications and medical records
 - Sturdy leashes, harnesses and/or carriers
 - Current photos of your pets- in case they get lost
 - Food, water, bowls

- Cat litter pan
- Information on:
 - Feeding schedules
 - Medical conditions
 - Behavior problems
 - Veterinarian
- Pet beds and toys



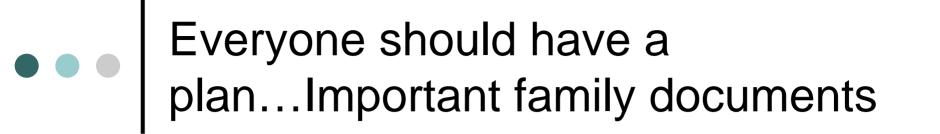
• Everyone should have a plan...Important family documents

• Will, insurance policies, contracts, deeds, stocks

• Passports, social security cards, immunization records

• Bank and credit card account numbers

• Inventory of valuable household goods



• Important phone numbers

 Family records such as births and marriages

Personal Workplace

Everyone should have a plan...Personal Workplace

- You might be confined for several hours or over night, consider the need for:
 - Emergency Supply Kit for work
 - Food
 - Enough for one day (3 meals)
 - Requires no refrigeration, preparation or cooking
 - Requires little or no water
 - Water
 - At least one gallon
 - More if on medications that require water or increase thirst

Everyone should have a plan...Personal Workplace

Medications:

- Include non-prescription medications like pain relievers or antacids
- Include a 3 day supply of prescription medications
- Ask a doctor or pharmacist how your medication should be stored

Everyone should have a plan...Personal Workplace

- Change of clothes and footware
- Personal hygiene items
 - Toothbrush and paste
 - Comb/brush
 - Soap
 - Contact lens supplies
 - Feminine supplies

• Start preparing today:

- Buy a few emergency supply kit items at a time
- Gradually buy food items and gallons of water to build up your supply
- Create a family communication plan
- Create a plan for sheltering in place
- Identify multiple evacuation routes
- Practice your plans with your family

- Information sheets are available at the following websites to assist you with your planning:
 - American Red Cross: Food and Water in an Emergency http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/foodwtr. html
 - Department of Homeland Security Family Emergency
 <u>Plan</u>
 <u>http://www.ready.gov/america/makeaplan/index.html</u>
 - Department of Homeland Security Sheltering in Place
 <u>http://www.ready.gov/america/makeaplan/stayingput.html</u>
 - Department of Homeland Security Evacuation Plan
 <u>http://www.ready.gov/america/makeaplan/evacuating.html</u>





o http://www.redcross.org

o http://www.ready.gov

o http://www.bt.cdc.gov