

PLAN AHEAD FOR A NATURAL DISASTER

Tasks You Can Accomplish Now To Be Better Prepared

- Create an Emergency Shopping List Saved on Your Phone
 - Include things the stores sell out of quickly: bottled water, bread, milk, eggs, granola bars, packaged snacks, drinks, peanut butter, etc.
 - Add items your family enjoys eating and would want during a disaster that you might forget if you are stressed, upset or panicked.
 - Include pet food. If you need to make an emergency shopping list for just the pet store, do this too.
 - Keep adding items to this list as you think of them. Batteries, grill lighter, dish soap, hand soap, band aids, tampons, cleaning supplies, etc.
- Keep a Small Amount of Cash at Home in Bills \$20 or Smaller - Preferably in Fives and Ones
 - Stores without power cannot process credit card payments but many will still take cash. Some stores will lose internet before power.
 - Cash allows you to purchase eggs, gasoline, fire wood or other items from neighbors if necessary.
- Maintain a Functional First Aid Kit with Plenty of Band Aids, Gauze, Self-Adhering Wrap and Ointments
 - During disasters, 911 is for life-threatening emergencies only and hospitals are overflowing. You must tend to minor injuries at home.
- Take Pictures of Your Home Exterior, Interior and Possessions for Insurance
 - Email these pictures to yourself, keep in a cloud or on a thumb drive with important documents.
- Keep Important Documents in a Binder (instead of just loose files) for Grab & Go Evacuations
- If Possible, Have Extra Prescriptions Filled or Keep a Minimum 10 Day Supply
- Organize Your Pantry, Rotate Items and Keep One Extra of Your Family's Favorite Foods
- Keep Paper Towels, Plates, Bowls, Plastic Cups, Disposable Cutlery Plus a Supply of Trash Bags On-Hand
 - Use if tap water stops, becomes contaminated, if there is a boil ban or if you run out of dish soap. Paper bowls are more useful than plates.
- Clean Out a Bathroom Cabinet. Tuck Away One Pack of Emergency Toilet Paper
- Store water. Rotate Bottled Water or Buy A Large Water Storage Container You Refresh Yearly
- If You Own a Grill, Buy and Keep Full an Extra Propane Tank, a Grill Lighter and/or Bag of Charcoal + Fluid
 - If your grill connects to your house gas line, still keep an extra propane tank. Gas services later shut off when electric governors lose power.
- Keep Trees Trimmed Yearly and Remove Dying Trees Promptly. Falling Trees Knock Out Power and Kill.
- Have a Pair of Sturdy Work Gloves for Every Family Member for After-Storm Clean Up
- Rotate Fresh Packs of AA, AAA and 9 Volt Batteries, Always Keeping Some On-Hand
 - Extended power outs drain the batteries in smoke detectors, which will begin to chirp incessantly. Have 9 volts.