

# HOME EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR YOUR HOME AND FAMILY

Human-made & natural disasters have continued to grow in frequency and severity since the 1950s.<sup>1</sup> Possible disasters include:

- Hurricanes
- Floods
- Blizzards
- Fires
- Wildfires
- Earthquakes
- Tornadoes
- Derechoes (Inland Hurricanes)
- Thunderstorms
- Transportation Incidents
- Land/Mud Slides
- Wind Storms
- Polar Vortexes
- Power Outages
- Water Contamination
- Pandemics
- Droughts
- Structure/Infrastructure Failure
- Acts of Terrorism
- Heat Waves
- Hazardous Material Spills

Being prepared for all of these events reduces the potential for loss of life and property and reduces the burden on emergency personnel and essential workers. Whether you and your family must evacuate, lock down or shelter in place, having plans and necessary resources may be the key to survival.

The website Ready.gov has materials that can help your family plan for disasters by assisting with evacuation routes, communication plans, connecting to alert and warning systems, special needs planning, preparedness for kids, pets and home.

Life ALWAYS comes before property, however having plans and materials on the ready if any of your home is damaged can save time and money. Plywood to cover broken windows and skylights, tarps for roofs and plastic coverings along with nails and fasteners will be hard to come by after disaster strikes, especially if the disaster has affected a large area.

Cleaning up your home and neighborhood after disasters can be very dangerous and permanent injury and illness can occur when rushing to get back to normal. When cleaning out flooded properties always disconnect any electrical source before entering any standing water and wear a N-95 respirator to limit exposures to mold and other toxic substances.

When operating a chainsaw, it is important to have proper training, experience and personal protective equipment including chaps, gloves and face protection.

Don't lift heavy soaked items that weigh over 50 by yourself and always test the weight by rocking an item before lifting. Two or more person lifting is best for heavy items.

<sup>1</sup>Banholzer S., Kossin J., Donner S. The Impact of Climate Change on Natural Disasters. In: Zommers Z., Singh A., editors. Reducing Disaster: Early Warning Systems for Climate Change. Springer Science & Business Media; Dordrecht, The Netherlands: 2014.



# PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Non-Perishable Food (7-10 days /family member)   | Backpacks                      |
| Water (1 gallon /day for each person)            | Extra Clothing                 |
| Water Purification Tablets                       | Gloves                         |
| Containers/Cups/Utensils/Can Opener              | Eye Goggles                    |
| Waterproof Matches                               | Blankets                       |
| Weather Radio/Two Way Radios                     | Sleeping Bag                   |
| Rain/Snow Gear                                   | Medications (10 day supply)    |
| Flashlight/LED lanterns                          | Glasses/Contacts               |
| Power Banks/Chargers                             | Shampoo/Soap                   |
| First-Aid Kit                                    | Toothpaste/Brush               |
| Batteries  | Comb/Brush                     |
| Whistle  | Deodorant                      |
| Masks/Respirators                                | Sunscreen/Aloe Vera            |
| Toilet Paper/Wipes                               | Feminine Hygiene Products      |
| Hand Sanitizer/Cleaners                          | Baby Formula, Bottles, Diapers |
| Towels   | Baby Wipes, Rash Cream         |
| Garbage Bags                                     | Cash                           |
| Plastic Ties                                     | Shovel                         |
| Copies of Insurance, Banking & Medical Documents | Flares                         |
| Emergency Contact Information                    | Jumper Cables                  |
| Plywood for Windows                              | Glow Sticks                    |
| Duct Tape  | Extra Gasoline                 |
| Plastic Sheeting                                 | Generator                      |
| Tools/Nails/Fasteners                            | Fire Extinguisher              |
| Maps   | Books/Games/Activities         |



Emergency planning for pets is a part of being a responsible pet owner.

Some hotels and shelters will not accept pets or will only accept pets that have their required shots.

Keep microchipping devices activated and have a picture of you with your pet so that you can find them if separated.

Have someone who can take care of your pet if you are at work or out during an emergency.

Have carriers, collars and harnesses/leashes for each pet.

Have kits for your pets which include, food, water, medicine, grooming supplies, litter or bags, toys, treats and bedding.

**For more information and resources visit:**

**[www.cseany.org/safety](http://www.cseany.org/safety)**



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***The life you save could be YOUR OWN.***



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