



Office of Emergency Management

NEWSLETTER

Disasters can strike at any moment, with little notice.

Preparing yourself and your family for all types of emergencies is very important.

Why is it important?

Increasing your sense of security and peace of mind and knowing you will be ready in case of an emergency are invaluable. When an emergency strikes, knowing what to do can save time, property and most importantly, lives.

The three main priorities in emergency preparedness are:

- getting an emergency preparedness kit
- making a plan
- being informed

Make a plan today. Because your family may not be together when a disaster strikes, it is important to know which types of disasters could affect your area. Arrange how you will be able to contact one another and reconnect if separated. Establish a family meeting place that's familiar and easy to find.

**KNOW
PLAN
PREPARE**





Step 1: Put together a plan by discussing these 4 questions with your family, friends, or household to start your emergency plan.

1. How will we receive emergency alerts and warnings?
2. What is my shelter plan? (Where will we shelter?)
3. What is our evacuation route?
4. What is my family/household communication plan?

Step 2: Consider specific needs in your household.

As you prepare your plan, tailor your plans and supplies to your specific daily living needs and responsibilities. Discuss your needs and responsibilities and how people in the network can assist each other with communication, care of children, business, and pets, or specific needs, such as the operation of durable medical equipment.

Create a personal network for specific areas where you need assistance. Keep in mind some of these factors when developing your plan:

- Different ages of members within your household
- Responsibilities for assisting others
- Locations frequented
- Dietary needs
- Medical needs, including prescriptions and equipment
- Disabilities or access and functional needs including devices and equipment
- Languages spoken
- Cultural and religious considerations
- Pets or service animals
- Households with school-aged children



Step 3: Fill out a Family or Individual Emergency Plan

Being prepared for disasters starts at home. Everyone can be part of helping to prepare for emergencies. Young children and teens alike can be a part of the process. As a parent, guardian, or other family member, you have an important role to play when it comes to protecting the children in your life and helping them be prepared in case disaster strikes.



Step 4: Practice your plan with your family/household

- Sit down with your family and talk about how each of you would respond during a disaster
- Hold a fire drill each time you change the batteries in your smoke detector -- two times a year during daylight savings time.



To learn more, visit the ready.gov website: <https://www.ready.gov>
Or contact Michael Feravolo, Coordinator – Emergency Management 973-972-4668
Email: feravomr@uhnj.org