

Being prepared for an emergency is one of the smartest things you can do for your family. Who will ever forget the impact of the “Blizzard of 1996”, the 1998 F3 tornado, and Hurricane Sandy, for example?

How can I prepare?

Making an emergency preparedness plan and kit should be one of your first steps and is easier than you might think. A number of different agencies and organizations have created websites, pamphlets, and brochures to assist with your effort.

This pamphlet was created to summarize information obtained from these sources in order to prepare you and your family for anything nature could throw at you.

Township and Borough Offices
Fleetwood Borough - (610) 944-8220
Richmond Township - (610) 944-0348
Maidencreek Township - (610) 926-4920

Fire
Blandon Fire Company - (610) 926-2811
Fleetwood Fire Company - (610) 944-7676
Virginville Fire Company - (610) 562-8389
Walnuttown Fire Company - (610) 944-0590

Police
Fleetwood Police - (610) 944-7011
Northern Berks Police - (610) 926-2999

Hospitals
Lehigh Valley Hospital - (610) 402-8000
Reading Hospital - (610) 988-8000
St. Joseph Medical Center - (610) 378-2000

Emergency Management Agencies
Berks County Dept. of Emergency Services - (610) 374-4800
Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) - (717) 651-2001

Personal Contacts (Doctors, family, etc.)

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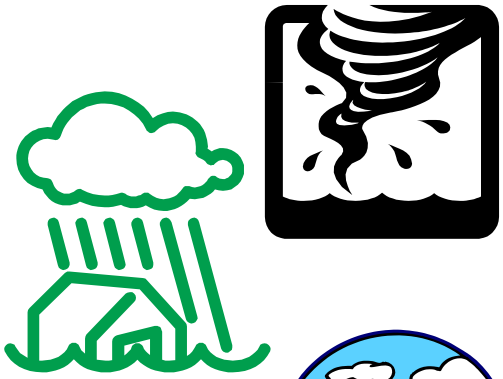
For more information about emergency preparedness, visit the following:
www.ready.gov
www.fema.gov
www.emergency.cdc.gov
www.readypa.org
www.pema.state.pa.us
www.redcross.org
www.alertnotification.com

Are you PREPARED?







Created as part of an Eagle Scout project

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Emergency Preparedness Plan

Every family should create an emergency preparedness plan. Your plan should be known by everyone in your family in the event you are separated.

1. Your plan should include contact information that is specific to you and your family. You should have the phone numbers of your doctors, local emergency services and hospitals, and family contacts that are out of state. You may want to make an emergency contact card that every family member carries that has these phone numbers.

2. Your plan should include evacuation routes. You should include routes for both your home and your town. When planning evacuation routes to leave your town, identify multiple ways to get out in case roads are closed. These evacuation routes should all lead to a specific meeting place.

3. Your plan should also consider whether any family members would require special assistance. You may need to discuss this with care providers or local emergency responders.

4. Another thing to consider is the level of gas in your vehicles. It is a good idea to always keep your gas tank filled above halfway because gas may not be available during an emergency.



Emergency Preparedness Kits

The plan would be useless if it is not accompanied by a kit that had all the materials you would need to keep your family safe and healthy in an emergency.

1. The Home Kit

The kit should be easily accessible and everyone in the house should know where it is. One suggestion for this kit is to use a labeled, waterproof, 5-gallon container or a large waterproof bag.

*A sample home kit has been created and can be found at the **Fleetwood Borough, Maidencreek Township,** and **Richmond Township offices** to serve as a model when making your own home kit.*

Your home kit should contain:

- Assorted batteries
- Can opener (non-electric)
- Duct tape
- Emergency reflective (space) blanket
- First aid kit (with prescriptions)
- Flashlight (handcrank or one with extra batteries)
- Garbage bags
- Glowsticks or candles
- Hand sanitizer
- Maps of the surrounding area
- Matches
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates, paper towels and utensils
- Paper and pencil
- Pet supplies
- Pocketknife or multi-purpose tool
- Portable water purification (iodine tablets, filter, UV)
- Rope
- Tarp
- Weather radio
- Whistle

2. Personal Items Kit

The personal items kit should be put together just before you are planning to evacuate your home. It should be customized to meet the needs of your family. It will contain all of your personal belongings that will go with you when you have to evacuate. Your personal items kit should contain:

- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Cash
- Cell phone (charged and bring charger)
- Extra car keys
- Extra clothing (including rain/cold weather gear)
- Extra eyeglasses or contacts
- Important documents (insurance, medical history, ID, etc.)
- Medications
- Non-perishable food and water for at least 3 days
- Personal hygiene products

To Be MORE Prepared

In order to be more prepared for an emergency you can increase your food and water supplies so they will last for 7-10 days. You should buy food that needs little to no cooking and no refrigeration. You should store these supplies in a dry, cool place and use the supplies before their expiration date and then replace what you use.

You can also have an outdoor grill with fuel and a fire escape ladder available for emergencies. Remember that you should be careful when using anything that burns fuel inside your home because it may create carbon monoxide, a deadly gas that can't be seen or smelled.