



# Family & Home Preparedness Guide

Preparing your family & home now could save lives, time, and money when disaster hits.



## Basic Emergency Preparedness CHECKLIST

- Plenty of Drinking Water
  - 1 gallon per person per day (e.g., 12 gallons can cover a family of four for 3 days)
- Food you can eat without heating
  - Pre-cooked canned, dried, etc.
- Fire Extinguisher(s)
  - Check function every 6 months
- Smoke Detector(s)
  - Check batteries every 3 months
- Flashlights
  - Check batteries every 3 months
- NOAA Weather Radio
  - Check batteries every 3 months

Everyone at home knows where this is



## Why Should I Prepare Now?



- Emergencies can be stressful, and stress makes it harder to think clearly

- Taking time to mentally prepare now can help you respond faster in a real emergency



- It's easier to learn a new skill—like how to use a fire extinguisher—**before** there is a fire, when you are calm and not under time pressure





# Considerations for our Family Emergency Plan

## COMMUNICATION

- Everyone has each other's phone numbers memorized
- If we lose cell service in an emergency, we'll meet here:
  - In town: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Out of town: \_\_\_\_\_
- We completed Ready.gov's family communication plan: [ready.gov/plan-form](http://ready.gov/plan-form)

## EVACUATION

- Under what circumstances will we decide to leave?
- Where will we go?
  - Do we have somewhere to stay there?
  - Can we bring our pets there, or do we need to find somewhere else for our pets to stay?
- Do we have our supplies packed in case we need to leave in a hurry?

## SHELTERING

- Does everyone know where to go in a tornado?
- If the power goes out, do we have safe ways to stay warm?
- Would we have enough food and basic supplies if we had to shelter here for 2 weeks?

## OTHER SUPPLIES

- Prescription medications
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Clean change of clothing
- Pet food (if you have pets)
- Important documents (birth & marriage certificates, home deed, insurance policies, etc.)