

Basic Readiness Steps

Ready Georgia asks that all Georgia households follow three simple steps to getting their families and homes ready for at least 72 hours following emergencies: prepare a kit of emergency supplies, create an emergency communications plan and stay informed about potential threats and their appropriate responses.

Prepare a Ready Kit of Basic Emergency Supplies:

- Water: at least one gallon per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food: at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Manual can opener: if kit contains canned food
- Radio: battery-powered or hand crank NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle: to signal for help
- Face mask: to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter in place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties: for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers: to turn off utilities
- Local maps: in case you need to evacuate

Create an Emergency Communications Plan:

- Create a list of important phone numbers for schools, offices, home and emergency services.
- Identify an out-of town contact all family members can call during or after an emergency. It might be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call in town, so an out-of-town contact is in a better position to communicate among separated family members.
- Identify a neighborhood spot where family members can meet if separated during a disaster.
- Identify a meeting place away from your home in case your neighborhood is not accessible.
- Map out evacuation routes and always keep at least a fourth of a tank of gas in your car.
- Know your insurance policies and whether your home is in a flood zone.

Stay Informed about Potential Threats:

- Find out what types of disasters could occur in your area and their appropriate responses.
- Learn your community's warning signals and evacuation plans.
- Familiarize yourself with the terms that are used to identify emergencies, such as advisories, watches, warnings and threat levels.
- Monitor NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, television and the Internet.
- Follow instructions of local, state and federal officials before, during and after emergencies.