

Maintain Your Readiness

- Quiz your family on plans regularly.
- Conduct fire and emergency evacuation drills.
- Evaluate your disaster supply kit every six months. Replace stored food and water as necessary. Rotate clothing for seasonal needs or changes in size.
- Follow instructions for fire extinguisher maintenance.
- Test smoke detectors monthly and change the batteries annually.

IF DISASTER STRIKES

- Keep food in a dry, cool spot, dark if possible.
- Remain calm and patient. Put your plan into action.
- Check for injuries. Give first aid and get help for seriously injured people.
- Listen to your battery-powered radio for news and instructions.
- Check for damage in your home:
 - Use flashlights. Do not light matches or turn on electrical switches if you suspect damage.
 - Sniff for gas leaks, starting at the water heater. If you smell gas or suspect a leak, turn off the main gas valve, open windows, and get everyone outside quickly. (You will need a professional to turn gas back on.)
 - Shut off any other damaged utilities.
 - Clean up spilled medicines, bleaches, gasoline, and other flammable liquids immediately.
- Confine or secure your pets.
- Call your family contact — do not use the telephone again unless it is a life threatening emergency.
- Check on your neighbors, especially elderly or disabled persons.
- Make sure you have an adequate water supply in case service is cut off.
- Stay away from downed power lines.

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