



Bath Township Emergency Handbook

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Plan ... Prepare ... Be Informed

This handbook will help you and your family.

PLAN for an emergency.

Complete the Family Information forms.

- Designate a regular place for your Family Information forms that is easily accessible for your family and others who will need access to the information it contains. (above the refrigerator)
 - When placing the photographs in the information section, please note the age and date of the photograph. Periodically insert a more current photo.
 - Write in pencil so you can make changes later.
 - In the contact section, designate an out-of-state relative as the disaster contact. Inform all family members that everyone needs to check in with them and be sure everyone has their telephone number memorized, in their phone address book, and/or in their wallet.
 - Make a sketch of the floor plan of your home. Show the location of where to shut off all utilities. Note the locations of your essential supplies and equipment for an emergency so others can help you get what you need.
-
- **PREPARE** your home, supplies, and equipment for an emergency by assembling emergency kits outlined in this handbook.
 - **BE INFORMED** on what to do for the emergencies most likely to occur in our area.

Emergency Services and Resources

While there is an extensive collection of information within this handbook, it is by no means exhaustive. Use this handbook to guide your family in their preparedness, and amend the contents as needed.

Customize your handbook. Fill in emergency phone numbers and references in the designated pages; add more information as your family needs change. Make extra copies of pages as needed, such as giving a copy of the contents to family members or a neighbor.

Other tips:

Much of the information contained in this booklet was gathered from FEMA, Red Cross, and Ready.Gov. Look into these agencies for more information, and tailor your emergency plan to your home and your family.

Check Ready.Ohio.Gov for information.

Sign up for the Summit County Emergency Notification System (Reverse Alert) to receive alerts about emergencies. Visit ReverseAlert.net.

Join NextDoor.com to receive neighborhood information and news.

Sign up for alerts from your children's schools.

Follow local emergency services and the National Weather Service on social media.

Bath Community Services:

'We Care' program- Contact the Bath Township Police Department to arrange. They will check daily on senior citizens who live in their homes.

House Check- Contact the Bath Township Police Department to arrange regular checks of your home while you are away.

Knox Box Program- Contact the Bath Township Fire Department for details on how to leave a secured key to your home for emergency personnel.

Blood Pressure Check- Stop by the Bath Township Fire Department and have an EMT check your blood pressure.

Smoke Detector Check- The Bath Township Fire Department can make sure your smoke detectors are properly installed and in working order.

Vial of Life Program/ Yellow Dot Program- Packets of information to store on your fridge or in your car for emergency personnel to access for medical information.

Unused Drug Drop-Off Box- Dispose of unused medication safely in the Bath Center Parking Lot. Keep the medication out of children's and teen's hands and out of the environment. Bath residents may dispose of used needles as detailed in the Solid Waste sections of the township website, please verify safe disposal procedures with your physician or pharmacist.

***Disclaimer:** Decisions about what to do in a community or family emergency are the sole responsibility of the family or household members associated therewith. Bath Township, its trustees, employees, of affiliated entities are not responsible for any damages or injury to person or property resulting from information included or omitted from this emergency handbook.*

If there is an emergency situation, call 911!

If you're not sure whether the situation is a true emergency, call 911 and the 911 operator will determine the level of help you need.

When you call 911, be prepared to answer the call-taker's questions, which may include:

- The location of the emergency, including the street address
- The phone number you are calling from
- The nature of the emergency
- Details about the emergency, such as a physical description of a person who may have committed a crime, a description of any fire that may be burning, or a description of injuries or symptoms being experienced by a person having a medical emergency

If you call from a cell phone, 911 operators may have your location, but it is not always specific enough to dispatch rescue personnel quickly. Make sure you state your location right away and provide the operator with your phone number in case you are disconnected.

Remember, the 911 operator's questions are important to get the right kind of help to you quickly.

Be prepared to follow any instructions the 911 operator gives you. Many 911 centers can tell you exactly what to do in an emergency until help arrives, such as providing step-by-step instructions to aid someone who is choking or needs first aid or CPR.

Finally, do not hang up until the 911 operator instructs you to.

If you dial 911 by mistake, or if a child in your home dials 911 when no emergency exists, do not hang up—that could make 911 officials think that an emergency exists, and possibly send responders to your location. Instead, simply explain to the 911 operator what happened.

If you are sure the situation does not warrant emergency assistance but you still need help, call the numbers below.

Non-Emergency Police- **330-666-3736**

Non-Emergency Fire- **330-666-3738**

Poison control- **1 (800) 222-1222**

Family Preparedness Checklist

Meet with your family today and discuss why you need a preparedness plan. Explain the dangers of fire, flood, wind, earthquakes and other relevant disaster situations to children. Explain to children not to be alarmed, but to be prepared. Use this checklist to prepare your family.

1. Complete the Family Information forms on pages 5-10 in this handbook.
2. Make your house plan - mark the locations of utilities and emergency supplies.
3. Plan for an evacuation -list the most important items to take with you.
4. Teach older children how and when to turn off all utilities.
5. Evaluate your home security and plan how to improve it.
6. Check and rotate emergency water supplies. Have supplies to purify unsafe water.
8. Take inventory of your food storage and make a plan to increase it.
9. Check and rotate your emergency "Go Kit." Store where it is easily accessible.
10. Check and rotate items in your First Aid Kit.
11. Take a First Aid Class: Learn CPR. Take a COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) class. The Bath Township Fire Department offers some first aid courses. The American Red Cross website has a searchable database of CPR classes, <http://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/cpr/cpr-training>.
12. Make plans for emergency cooking, heating, and lighting.
13. Prepare a sanitation kit see page XX for ideas.
14. Check and recharge fire extinguishers if necessary.
15. Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors two times per year. Replace units or batteries as needed. You may wish to contact the Bath Township Fire Department, which offers home consultations regarding safe smoke detector placement.
16. Bolt down water heaters, tall shelves and appliances *before* an earthquake.
17. Prepare financially by staying out of debt and saving for the future.
18. Replace batteries in emergency radios and lights twice per year.
19. *Review your Emergency Plan with your family!*

Family Information Form
Individual Household Information
Review and update annually

Address

Primary Phone

Adult Household Members	Date of Birth	Work Phone	Cell Phone
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
Children's Name	Date of Birth		Cell Phone
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Family meeting place outside the home (example: the mailbox)	
Family meeting place outside the neighborhood (example: grandma's house, entry of school)	
Local Emergency Contact- Name	Address
Cell Phone	
Home Phone	
Work Phone	
Non-Local Emergency Contact- Name	Address
Cell Phone	
Other Medical Insurance	Preferred Pharmacy
Signed	Date

Family Information Form

Family Member Information

Complete information on all family members/pets.

Make copies & attach current photographs.

Name	Birth Date
Cell #	Gender
Age	Height
Weight	Hair Color
Eye Color	School/Employer
Allergies/Medical Condition	Medications
Name	Birth Date
Cell #	Gender
Age	Height
Weight	Hair Color
Eye Color	School/Employer
Allergies/Medical Condition	Medications
Name	Birth Date
Cell #	Gender
Age	Height
Weight	Hair Color
Eye Color	School/Employer
Allergies/Medical Condition	Medications
Name	Birth Date
Cell #	Gender
Age	Height
Weight	Hair Color
Eye Color	School/Employer
Allergies/Medical Condition	Medications

Family Information Form

House Plan

It is important for every member of the family to know where important locations and routes are. In case of fire or emergency, evacuation routes are vital. Plan ahead so all family members know how to get out of the house and where to go.

Not all family members are familiar with utility valves and shut-offs that are located in the house. It is also important to know where important papers, emergency supplies and other important resources are stored. Identify the location of all smoke alarms and when batteries should be changed. Include primary and alternate routes of evacuation in the plan from all locations in the house.

Draw a simple floor plan of each floor of your home.

The following should be prominently identified on the floor plan:

- Evacuation routes
- Tornado shelter areas
- Gas/fuel source shut-off
Water source shut-off
- Septic shut-off
Electricity shut-off
Security Alarms
- Emergency Supplies
- First Aid Kits

Keep a floor plan for each level of the house attached to your emergency handbook.

Designate an outside meeting place in case of fire or carbon monoxide emergency. All members of the family should know where to meet to ensure everyone escaped the home safely.

Designate a second location with a trusted individual outside of the neighborhood in case the house or property is inaccessible. This way, all family members would be able to find or contact one another.

Family Information Form

How Does Your Home Measure Against Burglary?

DOORS

I.	Are all outside doors made of solid core wood or metal and at least 1-3/4" in thickness
2.	Are the locks on all your outside doors either the "deadbolt" or "jimmy-proof" type?
3.	Are your door locks at least 40" from a window or a thin wood panel that could be broken out by a burglar?
4.	Do you have a wide angle viewer (peep hole) on all exterior doors so you can identify the person at the door?
5.	Do the exterior doors have heavy duty strike plates securely mounted with screws long enough to go through the door frame and into the wall?
6.	Can all of your doors (main, basement, porch, French, balcony, patio, etc.) be securely locked?
7.	Is your sliding glass door secure? (Place a strong piece of wood in the track, drill a hole through the inside frame and insert a nail to prevent sliding, or install locks)
8.	Do the doors to your basement exterior have locks?
9.	Are all your locks in good repair?
10.	Do you know everyone who has a key to your house?
II.	Did you get all the keys from the previous owners of your house?

WINDOWS

12.	Are your window locks properly and securely mounted?
13.	Do you keep your windows locked when they are shut?
14.	Do you use locks that allow you to lock a window that is partially open?
15.	Are you as careful about locking basement windows as you are about locking main floor windows?
16.	Have you made it more difficult for the burglar by locking up ladders, avoiding placement of trellises that can be used as a ladder or similar aids for

GARAGE/STORAGE SHED

17.	Do you lock your garage and/or storage shed at night?
18.	Do you lock your garage and/or storage shed when you are away from home?
19.	Do you have good, secure locks on all garage and/or storage-shed doors and windows?
20.	Do you lock your car and take the keys out, even when parked in your garage?

Family Information Form

Neighborhood Groups

Get to know your neighbors! Include their address and phone numbers, as well as all family member names.

Family Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Names:

Family Information Form:

Neighborhood Information

Exchange this information with your closest neighbors

Family Address & Phone #	Those Living at Home	Emergency Contacts & Special Instructions	
Name: Address: Home Phone: Work Phone: Cell Phone:	Adults: Children: Pets:	Emergency Contacts:	Phone Numbers:
		Special Instructions:	

Family Address & Phone #	Those Living at Home	Emergency Contacts & Special Instructions	
Name: Address: Home Phone: Work Phone: Cell Phone:	Adults: Children: Pets:	Emergency Contacts:	Phone Numbers:
		Special Instructions:	

Family Address & Phone #	Those Living at Home	Emergency Contacts & Special Instructions	
Name: Address: Home Phone: Work Phone: Cell Phone:	Adults: Children: Pets:	Emergency Contacts:	Phone Numbers:
		Special Instructions:	

EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLISTS

Emergency Preparedness Kit

The following emergency preparedness kit should be kept cool, dry, and readily accessible for rapid exit. It could be stored in easy-to-carry backpacks, duffle bags suitcases, or 5 gallon buckets. Include a master list on the top of each kit with date prepared. A copy of this page with checkmarks or notes works well.

Water and Food for 3 days

1 gallon per person per day
Water Purification Tablets or chlorine bleach
(see Page ## for water purification and storage)

3-Day Food Supply

Baby Food - Baby Cereal - Formula - Juice
Beef Jerky - Canned Meats/Tuna/Spam
Candy - Hard Candy, Lollipops, Gum
Canned Fruits / Vegetables / Juice
Canned Foods / Chili, Pork & Beans, Ravioli, Soup,
Spaghetti, Stew
Cereals (Oatmeal, Cracked Wheat)
Crackers - Cookies
Dry Soup Mix - Ramen Noodles
Dried Fruits - Raisins, Trail Mix, Fruit Roll-Ups
Granola Bars - Peanuts, Trail Mix
MREs (Meals Ready to Eat)
Peanut Butter, Jelly, Honey
Powdered Milk / Cocoa Mix

Sanitation Kit (Store in 5 or 6 gallon bucket)

One 5 or 6 gallon bucket with tight fitting lid, snap on
type toilet seat with lid.
12 plastic liners (garbage bags)
4 pairs of rubber gloves
2 rolls of toilet paper
Disinfectant
Bottle of Hydrogen Peroxide
One box of Baking Soda
One ½ gallon of white vinegar
One roll paper towels
One pkg. baby wipes
One 2 liter bottle of water
One 6 or 10 gallon container with tight fitting lid
Old newspapers for wrapping garbage
Two to three spray bottles
Feminine hygiene items

Clothing / Bedding

1 Space Blanket Per Person
Sweatshirt
Waterproof Gloves
Infant's clothing, Pacifiers, Blankets
Disposable Diapers
Underwear
Underwear
Boots or sturdy shoes
2 Pair Socks (at least 1 wool)
1 Change of Clothes
1 Wool/Fleece Blanket or 1 Sleeping Bag/Person

Cooking / Heating

Aluminum Foil
Backpack Stove
Candles - 2 large
Can Opener - Manual
Dish Soap, dish cloth, towel
Knife
Matches in Foil or Waterproof Container
Pan for Cooking/Washing
Metal Cup - Pan, Can or Small Tin Pail
Paper Plates, Cups, Napkins, Plastic Utensils
Spoon & Fork - Metal for Mixing

Hygiene

Comb & Brush
Deodorant
Lotion
Feminine Hygiene Needs
Lip Balm, Chap Stick, Blistex, Tube of Vaseline
Nail Clippers, Nail File
Shaving Supplies
Shampoo
Small Mirror
Soap (liquid preferred; a soap bar needs a container)
Toothbrush / Toothpaste
Washcloth / Towel

Continued on next page

Other

First Aid Kit (refer to Page 13)
Insect Repellant / Sun Screen
Money (Coins, small bills, credit card)
Safety Pins, Needle, Thread, Scissors, Buttons
Extra Glasses
Extra Set of Car Keys
Essential Documents (refer to Page 15)

Stress / Morale Boosters

Books and magazines
Scriptures / Religious Materials
Small Games, Crossword Puzzles, Cards
Paper, Pencils, Crayons, paper, activity books

Pet kit (also refer to page 19)

Pet bed, blanket, or towels
Pet food
Water
Dishes for food and water
Medications
Veterinary records with vaccination information
Litter box or dog refuse bags
Leash and/or pet carriers
Any other item your pet regularly needs or uses
Ensure your pet has proper identification tags at all times

Car Emergency Kit (refer to Page 16)

Infants' and children's needs

(see also page 17 for more instructions)

Their own bag & labeled with their name and date of birth

Disposable Diapers (36-48 minimum)*
Disposable Wet Wipes*
Plastic Garbage Bags*
Changes of Clothes*
Multiple Pairs of Pajamas
Two Blankets
Hat, Gloves, Socks
Infant Formula (may be needed to supplement nursing babies)
Instant Baby Cereal
Canned Food/Juices (must be consumed at one meal to prevent spoilage)
Teething Biscuits & Orajel
Sterilized Water / Also Pedialyte

Equipment

Work Gloves
Adjustable Wrench-Hammer- Pocketknife
Battery powered radio & extra batteries
Very small fire extinguisher
Flashlight & extra batteries
Folding Shovel
Plastic sheets – 2 9' x 12' (shelter, ground cloth, water collection
Rope (¼" x 26')
Duct tape
Tent & tarp (for shelter)
Whistle 1/person

Plastic bottles (Label with Name)
Disposable Bottle Liners
Extra Nipples
Bib
Plastic Spoon & Bowl
Pacifier (Label with name)
Safety Pins
Baby Powder
Baby Oil
Diaper Rash Medication
Children's Tylenol
Assorted Toys (label with name)

Senior, non-English and other populations with special needs

(see also page 18 for more instructions)

Extra batteries for hearing aids, wheel chairs, extra oxygen, and extra eyeglasses as needed.

List the style & serial numbers of medical devices such as pacemakers

Seven day supply of all medications with a list of dosages

Food supply for special dietary needs

I.D. card/bracelet with personal information that also alerts emergency aid providers with important info
(hearing impairment needs, primary language, etc.)

Medical and First Aid Supply Kit

Make certain Medical and First Aid Kits contain all prescribed/frequently used medicines.

***Replenish and update twice per year**

Bandaging

Ace bandages, assorted sizes
2", 3" 4" gauze rolls
Sterile dressing assorted sizes
1" tape, cloth, plastic or paper
Band-aid, a variety including:
 Assorted sizes of strips
 Butterfly bandages
 Extra-large
 Fingertip/Knuckle
Sanitary napkins, individually packed
Super glue for wound closure
Triangular bandages

Colds

Antihistamine, decongestants
Cold medicine of choice
Cough lozenges and/or syrup
Vitamin C and others as desired

Disinfectants

Alcohol
Alcohol preps individually wrapped
Gel hand sanitizer, waterless
Hydrogen peroxide
Bar soap
Water purification tablets

Eye Care

Lubricating eye drops
Eye wash solution to flush the eye
Contact lens solutions
Ophthalmic antibiotic ointment -RX only

Gastrointestinal Relief

Antacids, liquid or tablets
Anti-nausea, i.e. Dramamine
Diarrhea medicine, i.e. Imodium
Glycerine suppositories
Laxative*
Pepto Bismol and/or Alka-Seltzer

Insect bites and stings

Baking soda*
Benadryl for allergic reactions
Calamine or Caladryl lotion

Ointments

Petroleum jelly
KY jelly, water-soluble
Zinc oxide*
Triple antibiotic ointment (Neosporin)

Pain Relief

Aspirin & non-aspirin pain reliever*
Earache, toothache drops
Prescribed medicines, Tylenol drops for babies

Skin Rashes-Allergic reactions

Antihistamine tablets & syrup
Benadryl or Caladryl
Hydrocortisone cream
Prescribed medicines

Miscellaneous

Favorite home remedies
First aid manual
CPR Instructions
Lip balm
Insect repellent
Personal medications and equipment, i.e.
 insulin, and syringes, heart meds, etc.
Sun screen and block

Tools and Equipment

Container - tackle box, plastic box, etc.
Collapsible drink cup, paper cups
Dental floss
Gloves, heavy-duty work or latex
Instant ice pack
Matches, waterproof container
Medicine dropper, dose cups
Q-tips
Penlight, batteries
Pocket knife, sharp
Pocket mask, other barrier device to use in CPR
Scissors
Bandage and waterproof tape
Sewing needles, thread, safety pins
Splinting materials
Thermometer
Tongue depressors (many uses)
Tweezers

Essential Documents

To be prepared for emergencies, there are some important financial and legal documents you need to keep in a safe place where you or your heirs can get them. Sometimes a copy does not have the same validity as the original.

- Living Wills *
- Powers of Attorney *
- Medical Powers of Attorney *
- Wills and Trusts *
- Titles and Deeds *
- Birth certificates *
- Adoption Decrees
- Naturalization Records *
- Marriage License *
- Child Custody *
- Passports
- Military, Veteran papers
- Social Security
- Driver's License
- ID Cards
- Certificates for stocks, bonds, investments
- Insurance policies (Life, home, auto)
- List of health and medical information
- List of financial investment information including account numbers
- Important contact information (Family, friends, doctors, attorney, insurance)
- Household inventory documentation
- Mortgage
- Genealogy, pictures, and family history
- Handy list of Emergency phone numbers

**It is necessary to have the original or a certified copy*

This information could be put on a disk or CD.

CAUTION! This information must be safeguarded and protected. In the wrong hands, this information makes identity theft very easy.

Other Emergency Kits

Not all items are mandatory but all are useful!

Office Emergency Kit

Keep a backpack or tote bag under your desk for any emergency use. You could be stranded at your office for several days.

Plan for at least 72 hours of supplies.

Blanket, flat sheet, pillow or sleeping bag
Change of clothes, underwear, socks, sturdy shoes
Coat or jacket, hat, gloves
First aid kit
Flashlight & extra batteries
Food, non- perishable
Hygiene trial-size supplies

- lotions, soaps
- shampoo, conditioner
- toothpaste, toothbrush
- mouthwash
- toothpicks

List of family names and telephone #'s
Medications
Sweet hard candy
Towel, washcloth
Water in clear bottles
Whistle with lanyard to hang around neck

Car Survival Kit

Bag of sand or rock salt
Blankets or sleeping bag
Bottled water (2 Liter)
Candles
Cell phone charger
Car tool kit

- pliers
- screw driver
- hatchet
- folding shovel
- wire saw
- nails
- twine
- Wire
- tape
- file

Always maintain at least a half tank of gas!

Clothes, including boots, socks, hat, etc.
Compass
Fire extinguisher (standard class ABC)
First aid kit and manual
Flashlight & extra batteries
Fold up stove & fuel tablets
Food - non perishable
Gloves (work gloves & rubber disposable gloves)
Ice scraper for winter season
Jumper cables
Map
Matches
Mirror
Paper, pencils
Pre-moistened towels
Portable radio & batteries
Reflectors, flares
Rope
Sewing kit
Short rubber hose for siphoning
Space blanket
Tissues
Tow rope
Waterproof matches
Whistle
Zip lock bag

Preparing for Emergency Care of Infants and Children

The most critical aspect of infant care during emergencies is sanitation*. Infants, by nature, become soiled and dirty frequently, thus providing excellent breeding grounds for disease-causing bacteria which may infect not only the infant but also adults that come in contact.

*For proper sanitation, it is important that you store a sufficient supply of disposable diapers, wipes, and garbage bags. Change infants regularly and keep them clean. Dispose of the soiled diapers in garbage bags and keep them tightly sealed to prevent spread of disease. Wash hands often. Emergency diapering needs may be met by lining plastic pants with a scrap of cloth, tissue, paper towels, or other absorbent material.

Before the emergency, young children can help prepare and store supplies. Teach them about the warning sounds (smoke alarms, sirens, etc. in your home & neighborhood) Young children should memorize family name, address, and phone number as early as possible. Preschool aged children can participate in Safety Town, a summer program offered by the Bath Township Police Department, which helps children understand safety and emergency preparedness.

Children need extra reassurance. Take time to hold, cuddle, talk and listen to them. Encourage them to talk about their feelings. Keep them with the rest of the family. Be prepared to sing songs, play simple games or read with them.

Households with children should understand the school's plans and where the children will stay safe if adult family members need to shelter offsite or other locations until the immediate hazard is over.

Preparing for Emergency Care of Senior Citizens and those with Specialized Health Needs

Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing should make sure that they can receive emergency alerts and warnings in an accessible form.

Individuals who require accessible transportation should work with their local paratransit and disability service providers to make an emergency plan.

People without vehicles should know local plans for public transportation and may need to make arrangements for transportation from local government, organizations or others.

People with service animals should work with local emergency management to ensure that their service dog will be admitted to shelters with them during emergencies (as required by law) and should make sure their plan kit supplies include food and other items for their service animal.

People who require power for medical or other assistive devices should consider how they will maintain the use of these devices if there is a loss of power. Keep extra batteries for small devices (hearing aids, cell phones for example) and consider obtaining and learning how to use a generator for home use and carrying a charger when away from home, especially when loss of power may jeopardize health or safety.

Teach those who may need to assist you how to operate necessary equipment.

Arrange for family, friends, neighbors, and emergency agencies to check on you to ensure your safety.

Preparing for Emergency Care of Pets

If you must evacuate, if possible, do not leave your pets behind.

With the exception of service animals, pets are not typically permitted in emergency shelters for health reasons. Find out before a disaster which local hotels and motels allow pets, and where pet boarding facilities are located. Be sure to look outside of your local area. Call your local emergency management office or animal shelter for further information.

Larger Animals

If you have large animals, such as horses, farm animals, or cattle, prepare before emergency situations.

Have a plan and evacuation route from your property. Know where to obtain vehicles and trailers needed for transporting and supporting each type of animal.

In case evacuation is not possible, animal owners must decide whether to move large animals to shelter or turn them outside. This decision should be based on the disaster type, quality and location of shelter, and risks associated with keeping an animal outside versus moving them.

All animals should have some form of identification.

Water Treatment and Storage

Water Storage

We can only live without water for a few days.

- Minimum 1 gallon per person per day : ½ gal to drink* + ½ gal for food prep & sanitation
- *Children, elderly, sick, nursing mothers, those who are physically exerting themselves will need more water
- Store minimum of 1 weeks' worth of water, however it is recommended to store enough for 1 month or more
- Enemies of water storage
 - Sunlight
 - Temperature extremes
 - Contamination

Requirements for storing water safely

- Clean water storage containers with tight lid
- Clean water
- Must be sealed from air, organisms, pests and debris

Filling Considerations

- Use a drinking water hose
- Don't "re-treat" municipal water
- Treat well or other ground water *before storing*
- Fill to just overflowing

Storage Considerations

- Keep it cool & dark
- Vary container sizes
- Do not store directly on the concrete
- Do not use old milk jugs
- Only use repurposed containers for non-drinking water
- Consider emptying & refilling needs
- Check yearly
- Not necessary to rotate yearly, but will keep a fresher taste

Additional Information

Stored water goes flat after 2-3 weeks. Aerate the water by pouring it between two containers.

Immediately after a major disaster, prevent contamination of in-home plumbing by shutting off the main incoming water valve. If water from the tap looks cloudy or has an unpleasant odor, don't take a chance. **PURIFY BEFORE USING.**

Clearly label and date all storage containers, especially those reused from other products.

Consider canned soups, juice from canned fruits and vegetables, ice cube trays, bottled soft drinks, bottled juice etc. as sources of liquid.

How to Purify Water in an Emergency

1. **PRE-FILTER** - to get out the sand, mud and debris
Filter through cloth, cotton, a t-shirt
Allow particles to settle to the bottom or collect at the top to be skimmed off
Prolongs the life of your filter
2. **BOIL** vigorously for 5 minutes
3. **DISINFECT** the water by adding unscented household bleach (8.25% sodium hypochlorite). Stir and let stand for 30 minutes. If the water does not have a slight bleach odor, repeat the dosage and let stand 15 minutes. Use fresh bleach.

Amount of Water	Clear Water	Cloudy Water
1 quart	2 drops	4 drops
1 gallon	6 drops	12 drops
2 gallons	1/8 teaspoon	1/4 teaspoon
8 gallons	1/2 teaspoon	1 teaspoon

OTHER DISINFECTION METHODS

- ◆ Iodine: Use 2% Tincture of Iodine to purify small amounts of water. Add 5 drops per quart of clear water. Let stand 30 min.
 - *Pregnant or nursing women, people with shellfish allergies or people with thyroid problems should not drink water with Iodine. Consult your doctor.*
 - Iodine - Follow directions
 - Susceptible to heat, light and moisture
 - 4 year shelf life in unopened bottle, 1 year in opened bottle
 - Do not use longer than a few weeks straight - short term emergency use only
- ◆ Water Purification tablets (Halizone or potable water.) Different types of tablets are available online, at drug stores or sporting goods stores. Follow the manufacturer's directions. Do not use tablets that are yellowish in color or have a strong odor. Don't use products that are past expiration dates.
- ◆ Water purification straws, filters, and home systems can also be purchased.

NOTE: Fuel and other chemical releases/spills are common during flood events. Water contaminated with fuel or toxic chemicals will NOT be made safe by boiling or disinfection, so until you have had your water tested, use bottled water or another safe supply of water. There is no effective way for home decontamination of water which contains radioactive or chemical contamination.

Special Considerations for Wells and private water systems

Private water systems can become contaminated in a number of different ways: bacteria, wastewater from malfunctioning septic systems, fuel spills, chemicals seeping into the ground, etc. Regular testing, capping/sealing and regular maintenance to your private water system can greatly reduce the potential for damage and contamination from floods, earthquakes or other disasters.

Dug, bored and other wells less than 50 feet deep are more likely to be contaminated, even if damage is not apparent. If you suspect that your well may be contaminated, contact the Summit County Health Department. Working on a well following a natural disaster is complicated and can be hazardous. People have died from asphyxiation or electrocution in well pits. Always be cautious and contact highly skilled electricians or well contractors to repair or sanitize your private water system.

Electrical power outages will impact your private water system. Under normal operation an electric water pump draws groundwater from the well and maintains the water pressure within the storage tank and piping. Pressurization forms a physical barrier that protects the drinking water against the entrance of contaminants. During a power outage private water system will lose pressure if faucets are opened. As a result, disease-causing organisms can find their way into the water system. The water can become contaminated without any noticeable change in taste, odor, or clarity. During extended power outages, it is important to refrain from opening faucets, taking showers or flushing toilets. While the water system may have several gallons of water in storage, using it while the power is out depressurizes the system.

Food Storage

Use storage areas that are well ventilated, cool, dark, dry and clean. Expanded storage could include such items as meats, fruits and vegetables, (canned, bottled, frozen, dehydrated, pickled or smoked). Also include spices, flavorings, cornstarch, baking powder, soda, and yeast.

These basic items should be considered for storage. They provide adequate calories, protein, vitamins and minerals while having a longer storage life.

The Basics

- Grains (Wheat, flour, rice, corn, oatmeal, pasta)- Variable storage life
- Legumes (dry beans, peas, lentils)- 6-8 Year storage life
- Sugar, honey, salt- 20+ year storage life
- Oil (shortening, butter, mayonnaise, peanut butter)- 2 + year storage life

Begin with the basics that are life sustaining and store well for long periods of time. Then add other foods for variety, interest and personal preference.

Consider your family's likes and dislikes, allergies and needs when deciding what to store.

Successful storage depends on several factors:

- Quality of products - obtain top grade food products when possible.
- Proper Containers - use heavy plastic, metal or glass with tight fitting lids.
- Storage areas - easy access, dark, cool, dry, free from rodents, insects/other pests.
- Temperature - food stores best at 40-60 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Variety - provides better nutrition and avoids appetite fatigue.
- Rotation - date and rotate to minimize loss of food value and flavor, prevent spoilage.
- Inventory - Maintain a record of items used and added to.

It's better to have food storage for a short period of time than none at all!

Communications

In a wide scale disaster or emergency, the most common means of communication will probably not work. If they do, you will be able to call out of State more easily than locally. Thus, all members of your family should know or have the number of an "out- of-state contact."

Telephones, cellular phones, and pagers will likely be unavailable or of little use for the first few days. Be sure to keep a cell phone charger in your car just in case.

Walkie-talkies or 2-way family radio service (FRS) radios, and CB radios may be very useful. You are likely to experience heavy usage and may not transmit in a timely manner. A supply of batteries is advisable.

Rechargeable batteries may be un-useable if there is no power. GMRS radios have a longer range - about 5 miles.

Amateur (HAM) Radio may be operational but operators must be licensed.

Summit County has an automated notification system, ReverseAlert, that operates as a reverse 911 system. It calls your published phone numbers to notify *you* of emergency situations. The system may not work if your telephone number is unlisted or blocked. You can register for this confidential service through the Summit County website. This system may repeat the same pre-recorded message two times. If your neighbors received a call to evacuate - it probably means you need to evacuate also!

Battery powered standard AM and FM radios will provide emergency alerts and messaging for our area. Radio may function when other forms of communication do not.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) Volunteers or runners may be used to communicate and coordinate response activity.

Sanitation

Sanitation becomes a real problem and can be the cause of disease during emergencies.

Wash your hands frequently!

Substitutes for cleansing without water include: Purell, rubbing alcohol, lotions containing alcohol, shaving lotion, face creams and lotions, towelettes (baby wipes, a wet washcloth).

Toilet with a bag: Remove the water from your toilet bowl and line it with 2 sturdy trash bags. When 1/2 full, remove the bag, tie it securely for disposal, and store in a covered trash can until disposal service is resumed.

Directions for Emergency Toilet:

1. Put two garbage bags as a liner in the 6-gallon bucket and snap on the toilet seat
2. Sprinkle 1 tablespoon of disinfectant in the bucket. The liquid will deodorize the toilet contents. Sprinkle some disinfectant on top after each usage.
3. The toilet is ready to use. Use toilet paper as usual.
4. Use baby wipes or hand sanitizer on hands after each use and dry hands with paper towels.
5. Replace the tight fitting lid after each use of the toilet. The key to disease control is to **KEEP THE LID TIGHTLY COVERED.**
6. When the bag is 1/3 to 1/2 full, carefully remove the first bag, tie it together and place it in the larger container. Use rubber gloves.
7. Replace liner so the bucket remains double bagged.

Disinfectant: when using bleach, use 1/4 cup bleach to 1 quart water. Other commercial disinfectants include HTH, or calcium hypochlorite, which is available at swimming pool supply stores, also portable toilet chemicals are available through recreational vehicle supply stores.

Waste Disposal: Never deposit waste or garbage on open ground. In times of emergency, the military procedure is to bury human waste in trenches 24"-30" deep and cover with a thin layer of lime. Garbage should be drained and wrapped in several thicknesses of old newspaper to absorb extra moisture. It then can be stored longer before developing unpleasant odors. A tight fitting lid is important to keep out flies. Other rubbish, trash that will not decompose, may need to be burned (with permission from local authorities).

Additional Disinfecting and Odor Control Supplies:

Some disinfectants: liquid chlorine bleach, Nilogel clean-up gel (Nilogel and Chlorinated Nilogel are designed to absorb, gel and deodorize liquid spills, vomit, urine and other accidents in one easy step.), Pine-Sol, powdered laundry soap, powdered chlorinated lime (available at a building supply store - can be used dry. Note: use chlorinated lime, not quick lime.)

Baking Soda: will help to control odor; it stops mold, fungus or mildew and is a natural whitener. (Baking soda also relieves heartburn, indigestion and it neutralizes acids in a sour stomach associated with diarrhea.- use 1 teaspoon of baking soda mixed with 2 cups of water and drink it down.)

Hydrogen Peroxide: put in a small spray bottle, no water added. To disinfect, just spray it on and wipe off. (Hydrogen Peroxide is also an antiseptic and a cleaning agent for minor cuts and abrasions. It can also be used as an oral rinse and gargle.)

White Distilled Vinegar: put in a small spray bottle, no water added. Studies show that vinegar kills 99 of bacteria, 82 of mold, and 80 of germs (viruses). To disinfect, just spray it on and wipe off.

Combining Vinegar & Hydrogen Peroxide: Spraying solutions of vinegar and hydrogen peroxide, one after the other, kills virtually all Salmonella, E. coli bacteria or heavily contaminated surfaces.

Utility Shut Off

Know how to shut off all your utilities and where the shut-offs are, inside and outside the home.

Private Energy (ex: propane, fuel oil, solar panels) Sources

Refer to owner's manual and know emergency shut-off procedures. If you have oil or gas equipment on your property, become familiar with the emergency protocol for well(s), pipeline(s), etc.

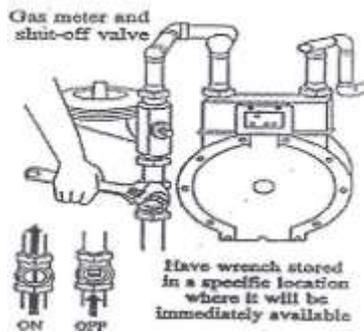
Private Water Systems, see page

Publicly Sourced Utilities

NATURAL GAS

Sniff for gas leaks. If you smell gas or there is significant structural damage to your home, turn off the gas.

The meter shut-off valve is located next to the meter. Use a wrench to turn the valve a quarter turn in either direction to the "off" position. Notify the gas company or 911 of the gas leak. *DO NOT* attempt to turn the gas back on.

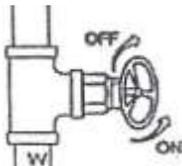


DO NOT TURN OFF THE GAS IF NO LEAK IS SUSPECTED.
If you turn off the gas, you will need a professional to turn it back on.

Depending on the severity of the emergency and the number of meters that have been turned off, you may have to wait some time for your gas service to be restored, even if there is no damage to the gas pipelines in your area.

WATER

Shut off the main water valve to keep contaminated water from entering the house. If there are water leaks in your home or between your home and the meter, the water valves should be turned off to maintain pressure.



Label your water main for quick identification

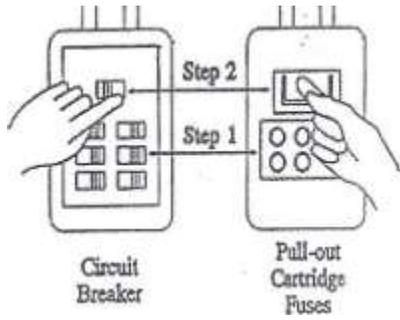
ELECTRICITY

If there are downed power lines **STAY AWAY. DO NOT TOUCH!** If you see or hear electrical sparking, **DO NOT TOUCH** or attempt to operate any electrical appliance or switches. If possible, locate the electrical service panel inside your home. Open the metal panel on the box and turn the switches to the "off" position or pull out the main fuse.

Utility Shut Off

ELECTRICITY (continued)

If you are unable to locate the internal service panel, or unable to get to it, find the electrical "meter" box on the outside of your house and turn the switch to "off".



Alternative Heat, Light, Power Sources

- Fire Starters
- Matches (waterproof), butane lighters, flint and steel, charcoal starter.
- Fireplace, Open Flame (Campfire, Outside Fire Pit) - Suspend a Dutch oven over the heat by using a tripod, much like the early settlers did, or set the Dutch oven directly on the hot embers you have made in the fireplace or outside campfire.
- Wood Burning - Coal Stoves - Use frying pans or pots on top to cook your meal.
- Gas Camp Stoves (white gas, gas, kerosene, propane) - Two burners using white gas will operate 4 hours on 1 quart. Use outdoors only.
- Barbecue Grill (5 gallon tank of propane) - Stores well and is easy to use. *Use outside only.*
- Sterno - Works well for small quantities of food.
- Volcano - Outdoor cook stove that you can use with 2 Dutch ovens and charcoal. It is very fuel efficient, using about half of the charcoal you would use normally with your Dutch oven. A few briquettes can roast, fry, bake, etc.
- Dutch Ovens - A 10" Dutch oven with 6 or 7 briquettes on the lid and 5 or 6 underneath will cook a pot full of food. Use outdoors only.
- Hibachi - 4 or 5 charcoal briquettes in an 8"x8" Hibachi will generate enough heat to cook a simple meal. For outdoor use only.
- Charcoal Stove - Turn a # 10 can into a charcoal stove. Cut out top and bottom of the can. Punch holes around the top and bottom. Punch many holes in the lid and wire it about half way up the can. Place the charcoal on it to light. Use a sturdy piece of wire screening, or crisscross wire across the top to create a cooking rack.
- Flashlights - New batteries last 6 -7 hours of continuous use. Six-month old batteries last 5-6 hours.
- Candles - 3/4"x4" will burn approximately 2 hours.
- Coleman Mantle Lantern - 2 mantle lanterns will burn 5 hours on a quart of white gas.
- Kerosene Lantern - With a 1-inch wick it will burn 45 hours on 1 quart of kerosene.
- Light Sticks - the safest emergency light
- Generators - Excellent source of safe power, however, they use a great deal of fuel. Most run on gasoline burning ½ to 3 gallons per hour. Itemize energy requirements in order to select the appropriate size needed. Use the smallest size possible for less fuel needs. Operate generators in an open area with good ventilation. **DO NOT ATTACH** the generator to your house current without approved transfer switches. The electrical "back feed" can injure or even kill utility workers repairing the power lines. Large quantities of gasoline are dangerous to store.

First Aid Basics

Calling 9-1-1

Call 911 and give the following information:

- Exact location
- Caller's name
- What happened
- How many are involved
- Condition of victim
- What help is being given

Call 911 if the victim:

- Is or becomes unconscious
- Has trouble breathing
- Has chest pain or pressure
- Is bleeding severely
- Has seizures, severe headache, slurred speech
- Appears to have been overdosed or poisoned
- Has injuries to the head, neck, back

Call 911 if the situation involves

- Fire or explosion
- Downed electrical wires
- Swiftly moving or rapidly rising water
- Presence of poisonous gas

In addition, Emergency 911 dispatchers are trained and able to give patient care instructions while awaiting the ambulance. Stay calm and stay on the phone until they conclude the call upon the arrival of medical personnel.

Child & Baby CPR Basics

Although you hope you'll never use cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for a child or infant, it's important to know the steps so that you can help in the event of a cardiac or breathing emergency. And although you may have taken a class in child CPR, it's a good idea to keep the steps handy so that the information stays fresh in your memory. With this printable step-by-step guide, you can access the child and baby CPR steps anytime, anywhere. Simply print them up and place them in your car, your desk, your kitchen or with your other first aid supplies, then read over them from time to time to help maintain your skills.

Before Giving Child or Baby CPR

1. Check the scene and the child. Make sure the scene is safe, then tap the child on the shoulder and shout "Are you OK?" to ensure that he or she needs help.

For infants, flick the bottom of the foot to elicit a response.

2. **Call 911.** If child does not respond, ask a bystander to call 911, then administer approximately 2 minutes of care.

- If you're alone with the child or infant, administer 2 minutes of care, and then call 911.

- If the child or infant does respond, call 911 to report any life-threatening conditions and obtain consent to give care. Check the child from head to toe and ask questions to find out what happened.

3. Open the airway. With the child lying on his or her back, tilt the head back slightly and lift the chin.



4. Check for breathing. Listen carefully, for no more than 10 seconds, for sounds of breathing. (Occasional gasps aren't breathing.)

Infants typically have periodic breathing, so changes in breathing pattern are normal.

5. Deliver 2 rescue breaths if the child or infant isn't breathing. With the head tilted back slightly and the chin lifted, pinch the child's nose shut, make a complete seal by placing your mouth over the child's mouth and breathe into the child's mouth twice.



For infants, use your mouth to make a complete seal over the infant's mouth and nose, and then blow in for one second to make the chest clearly rise. Now, deliver two rescue breaths.

6. If the child or baby is unresponsive to the rescue breaths, begin CPR. (continue to next page).

Performing Child & Baby CPR

1. Kneel beside the child or baby.
-

2. Push hard, push fast.

-For children, place the heel of one hand on the center of the chest, then place the heel of the other hand on top of the first hand, and lace your fingers together. Deliver 30 quick compressions that are each about 2 inches deep.



-For infants, use 2 fingers to deliver 30 quick compressions that are each about 1.5 inches deep.



4. Give 2 rescue breaths (see previous Step 5).



5. Keep going. Continue these baby or child CPR steps until you see obvious signs of life, like breathing, or until an AED is ready to use, another trained responder or EMS professional is available to take over, you're too exhausted to continue, or the scene becomes unsafe.

CPR Basics ADULTS

Assess Responsiveness

If there is no response, **CALL 911** and return to the victim.



Airway

Tilt the head back. Lift the chin. Clear any objects from the mouth. Look, listen and feel for breathing.

Rescue Breathing

If NOT breathing normally, pinch nose and cover the mouth with yours and blow until you see the chest rise. Give 2 breaths. Each breath should take 2 seconds. Continue rescue breathing:

1 breath every 4 to 5 seconds, as long as pulse is present but person is not breathing.



Chest Compressions

If the victim is still not breathing normally, coughing or moving, begin chest compressions. Push down on the chest 1 to 2 inches 15 times right between the nipples. Pump at the rate of 100/minute, faster than once per second.

FOR ADULTS CONTINUE
WITH 22 BREATHS AND
15 PUMPS UNTIL HELP
ARRIVES

Note: This ratio is the same
for one-person & two-person
CPR. In two-person CPR the
person pumping the chest stops while the other
gives mouth-to-mouth breathing.



Choking

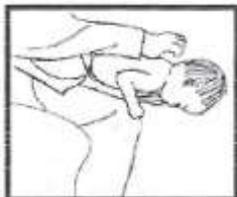
How to help clear an obstructed airway in a conscious adult or child.

INFANT

First aid for a Choking Conscious Infant
(less than 1 year old)

Step 1: Determine if the infant can cry or cough.

Step 2: Tip the baby face down on your forearm, supporting with your hand. Give 5 firm back blows between the shoulder blades with the heel of your hand.



If ineffective, turn the baby over and proceed...

Step 3: Give 5 chest thrusts with index and middle fingertips

Step 4: Repeat steps 2 & 3 above until effective or the infant becomes unconscious.

If the infant becomes unresponsive, perform CPR - if you see an object in the throat or mouth, remove it.

ADULT

First aid for a Choking Conscious Adult and children (1 - 8 years old)

Step 1: Ask, "Are you choking?" Maintain eye contact. Assume "YES" if victim cannot breathe, speak, gasp, cough or make high pitched sounds,



Step 2: Perform Heimlich Maneuver:

From behind victim:

- Wrap arms around victim's waist. Make a fist, thumb side down, and grasp with other hand on victim's stomach, just above navel.
- Press fist into stomach and give quick, inward and upward thrusts until object comes out or victim becomes unconscious.



A chest thrust may be used for markedly obese persons or in late stages of pregnancy.

If the adult or child becomes unresponsive, perform CPR - if you see an object in the throat or mouth, remove it.



Be Informed, Know What To Do In The Case Of...

Evacuation

- If you are asked to evacuate, please do so as quickly as possible.
- If you have neighbors or elderly family in the area, call to ensure they are aware of the evacuation and
- Wear protective clothing and sturdy shoes.
- Take your emergency kit. You may be given a few minutes to gather some extra things. Plan ahead so you know what is most important to take with you. Think about things that are irreplaceable, such as journals, family photos, scrapbooks, family heirlooms, or other such items.
- Leash or cage your pets and take them with you. If you do not have a carrier for smaller animals, like cats, a cloth pillowcase can work to keep them contained and calm. Most shelters will not accept pets, so look into nearby places that accept pets in case of emergency. Take a pet emergency kit with you, with food, water, and other items they may need.
- Lock all doors and windows. Make sure all appliances are turned off.
- Leave a message as to where you have gone and which family members are with you.
- Follow given evacuation routes.
- Check in to the Evacuation Center, and let them know if you will be going to another location.
- Do not return home until local authorities say that it is safe to do so.

Power Outage

Before

Know the location of the electrical fuse box and circuit breaker.

Have emergency supplies (see Emergency kit on page ##):

During

- Unplug all major appliances. When the power comes on, the power surge could ruin appliances.
- Report any downed power lines to the electric company.
- Do not open the refrigerator and freezer doors.
- In case of long-term power failure in the winter:
 - Leave for a location with power or stay in your home.
 - If you stay, it is easier to heat one room than the whole house.
 - However, be careful of pipes freezing in unheated rooms.
 - Winterize your home to protect your pipes from freezing.
 - Shut off the main water line
 - Drain all the water from your pipes at the lowest faucet. Flush all toilets so there is no water left in them.
 - Turn off the gas to the water heater and drain it.
 - Pour one cup of antifreeze in all drains, toilet bowls and toilet tanks.

Power Outage - After

- When the power comes on, plug in appliances one by one to prevent overloading the system.
- Turn the water back on. Be sure all taps are turned off first.
- Check the food in the refrigerator/freezer. If the door is not opened, food in the refrigerator should stay cold up to 6 hours. Foods "*warmer than refrigeration*" temperatures more than 2 hours should be discarded. If food from the freezer is still as cold as refrigerator temperatures, it can be eaten, but do not re-freeze. Meat that still has ice crystals can safely be re-frozen. If meat is thawed and "*refrigeration cold*" it can be cooked and eaten or re-frozen. In a well-filled freezer, food will have ice crystals for about 3 days.

Fire

Prevention

- Practice fire-resistant housekeeping; discard rubbish, trash, oily rags in metal cans outside home. Use proper size fuses, replace frayed cords, and don't overload electrical outlets.
- Store flammable liquids in a safe place and in tightly closed appropriate containers.
- Maintain smoke detectors and fire extinguishers in working order.
- Keep garden hose near the faucet, especially in the winter when fire danger is the greatest.
- Keep oak brush, weeds, etc. cut back at least 30 feet from the house.

Basic Fire Safety

- Keep an escape route between you and the fire.
- Point the fire extinguisher at the base of the fire in a sweeping motion.
- If your clothes catch on fire: STOP, DROP, and ROLL.
- ESCAPE. GET OUT FAST! Have two ways out of every room. Don't stop to dress, gather pets, valuables or toys. Smoke and toxic gasses rise and can kill you in minutes. Crawl on your hands and knees. Take short, small breaths. Cover mouth with a cloth if possible. If a door is hot, do not open it. Keep doors and windows closed.
- ONCE YOU'RE OUT, DO NOT GO BACK IN!

Electrical Fires

- Be sure to shut off the electricity first, and then put out the flames with an extinguisher, water or other fire retardant. If you can't shut off the electricity, do not use water on an electrical fire.

Oil, Grease, Gasoline Fire

- Smother the flames. Use your fire extinguisher, a pot lid, bread board, salt, baking soda, or earth. *DO NOT USE WATER!*

Gas Fire

- Shut off the gas supply. Use a fire extinguisher, sand, or earth.

Be Informed, Know What To Do In The Case Of..

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

The most common symptoms of Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisoning are headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain, confusion, and loss of consciousness.

If you suspect you or others may have CO poisoning, get out of your home and call 911. Open windows and doors for ventilation.

- Install a battery-operated or battery back-up CO detector in your home and check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall.
- Have your heating system, water heater, and any other gas, oil, or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.
- Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors.
- If you smell an odor from your gas refrigerator have an expert service it.
- When you buy gas equipment, buy only equipment carrying the seal of a national testing agency, such as Underwriters' Laboratories.
- Make sure your gas appliances are vented properly.
- Have your chimney checked or cleaned every year.
- Never patch a vent pipe with tape, gum, or unapproved materials.
- Never use a gas range or oven for heating.
- Never burn charcoal indoors.
- Never use a portable gas camp stove indoors.
- Never use a generator inside your home, basement, or garage or less than 20 feet from any window, door, or vent.

Animals

- If you see an injured or trapped animal, call your local police, veterinarian, or Summit County animal control, (330) 643-2845. Do not approach or corner wild animals.

Animal carcasses can present serious health risks, do not handle. Contact Summit County animal control, (330) 643-2845 to troubleshoot solutions.

Be Informed, Know What To Do In The Case Of...

Chemical Emergencies

On The Scene

- If you witness a chemical emergency, stay clear of the chemical and vapors or smoke. CALL 911.
- If you are in a vehicle, close the windows, turn off the air systems, and leave the area.

Notification

Orders to "evacuate" or "shelter-in-place" may be given if there is a threat to the community.

You may be notified by:

- A reverse 911 system with a pre-recorded message
- A knock on the door by uniformed fire or police personnel or by Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers
- An announcement by loud speaker from an official police or fire department vehicle
- The Emergency Alert System on TV or Radio
- Sirens
- Neighborhood block captain

If your neighbors tell you they received notification to evacuate, it probably applies to you too.

If you are requested to evacuate, directions may be provided for safe routes to follow. Go to a designated shelter to check in, and then you may go to another safe location (home of a relative or friend, motel, etc.)

Shelter In-Place

This is a method of protecting yourself, family, and small pets from the effects of a released chemical.

- Bring pets inside.
- Go inside, close and lock all doors and windows to the outside.
- Turn off all heating/air conditioning systems and switch vents to the "closed" position.
- Close all fire place dampers.
- Go to one room and:
 - Choose a room with a bathroom attached, if possible.
 - Seal all windows, doors, and vents with plastic sheeting, wax paper, or other material and tape. Include spaces around pipes.
 - Place damp towels under doorways
 - Close the drapes/shades over windows and stay away from the windows.
 - Use a basement room only as a last resort. Some chemicals are heavier than air and may seep into basements.
- Remain in place until you are told by police or fire personnel or through radio/TV broadcasts that it is safe to leave.
- When the chemical emergency is over, open all doors and windows for ventilation.

Weather Issues & Emergencies

Winter Preparedness

- Ensure your home is properly insulated
- Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows
- Install storm windows or cover windows with plastic from the inside
- Prevent pipes from freezing
 - Insulate any water lines that run along outer walls
 - In extreme cold, run your taps so they drip continuously
 - Keep indoor temperatures warm
- Service and maintain your snow-removal equipment
- Have your chimney inspected regularly
- Remove any tree branches that could fall in severe weather
- When snow or ice buildup on your roof, have it removed
 - Use a snow roof rake with a long arm
 - Hire a snow removal contractor
- Heat your home safely
 - Ensure all heaters and fireplaces are properly ventilated
 - Service and maintain your heating systems regularly
 - Keep all objects at least three feet from a space heater or heating system
 - Never cover a space heater
 - Never place a space heater near water
 - Never place a space heater on furniture
 - Avoid using extension cords to plug in your space heater
 - Do not use a space heater if the cord is damaged
 - Install CO detectors
 - Keep a fire extinguisher on hand

Winter driving

- Keep informed about weather and road conditions
- Do not travel in low visibility conditions or on ice covered roads
- Take your cell phone
- Let someone know your destination, expected route, and expected arrival time
- Ensure you have emergency supplies in your car
- Always dress for the weather outside, even if the car is heated
- Do not pour water on your windshield
- Keep your car maintained

Weather Issues & Emergencies

Blizzards

- Stay indoors as much as possible
- If you need to go outdoors, wear proper clothing and stay dry
- Keep any outdoor trips brief
- Avoid exertion in cold weather

If you are trapped in a car by a blizzard:

- Stay in the vehicle. Do not attempt to walk out. Disorientation occurs quickly in blowing, drifting snow.
- Avoid overexertion from trying to push the car out or shoveling heavy drifts.
- Run the motor only about 10 minutes each hour for heat and only with a rear window slightly open for ventilation. Be cautious of carbon monoxide poisoning; make sure the exhaust pipe does not become blocked with snow.
- Make yourself visible: raise the hood, tie bright cloth to the antenna.
- Keep winter coats, shoes, blankets, gloves, water, matches, and a candle in a tin can in your car. (see page ## Emergency Car Kit)

Frost Bite

To prevent frostbite, limit outdoor activity in cold weather and protect any exposed skin

Signs of frostbite:

- Redness or pain in skin
- a white or grayish-yellow skin area
- skin that feels unusually firm or waxy
- numbness

Seek medical attention- If immediate medical care is not available:

- Get into a warm room as soon as possible
- Unless absolutely necessary, do not walk on frostbitten feet or toes
- Immerse the affected area in warm—not hot!—water
- Warm the affected area using body heat
- Do not rub the frostbitten area with snow
- Do not massage it at all
- Don't use a heating pad, heat lamp, or the heat of a stove, fireplace, or radiator for warming.
- Affected areas are numb and can be easily burned, so be very careful

These procedures are not substitutes for proper medical care- seek medical attention as soon as possible!

Weather Issues & Emergencies

Hypothermia

Hypothermia is most likely at very cold temperatures, but it can occur even at cool temperatures (above 40°F) if a person becomes chilled from rain, sweat, or submersion in cold water.

Victims of hypothermia are often

- Babies sleeping in cold bedrooms
- Elderly people with inadequate food, clothing, or heating
- People who remain outdoors for long periods of time
- People who are under the influence of drugs or alcohol

Warnings signs of hypothermia:

Adults:

- shivering, exhaustion
- confusion, fumbling hands
- memory loss, slurred speech
- drowsiness

Infants:

- bright red, cold skin
- very low energy

If you notice any of these signs, get medical attention immediately. Especially if a person's temperature is at or below 95° F.

If medical care is not available, begin warming the person, as follows:

- If the person is unconscious and seems not to have a pulse or be breathing, provide CPR while warming them. Resuscitation may be possible.
- Get the victim into a warm room or shelter.
- Remove any wet clothing
- Warm the center of the body first
 - Use an electric blanket, skin-to-skin contact under loose, dry layers of blankets, clothing, towels, or sheets
- Give the person warm beverages- not alcoholic beverages
 - Never attempt to give liquids to a person who is unconscious
- Keep the person dry and wrapped in a warm blanket, including the head and neck

Get medical attention as soon as possible!

Weather Issues & Emergencies

High Winds

Before

- Secure objects such as outdoor furniture, tools, trash cans, etc.
- Have emergency supplies: water, food, first aid, etc.
- Listen to the radio for weather updates.
- Be prepared to board or tape up windows.

During

- Take shelter in center hallways, closets or basement areas away from windows.
- Avoid areas where flying objects may hit you.

After

- Clean up any debris
- Call emergency services for any downed power lines or dangerous situations
- Windows: use duct tape and plastic to mend if cracked; plywood to board up if broken.

Thunder & Lightning

Indoors

- Stay away from open doors, windows, fireplaces.
- Close the curtains to protect you from shattered glass.
- Don't use electrical equipment (hair dryers, electric blankets, etc) during the storm.
- Don't use the telephone except for emergency.
- Lightning may strike telephone lines.

Outdoors

- Don't use metal objects (lawn mowers, fishing rods, golf clubs.) Remove metal cleated golf shoes.
- Get out of the water and off of small boats.
- Avoid being the highest object in any area. Do not stand on a hilltop, in an open field, on the beach, or in a boat on the water. Do not stand under a tree.
- Rubber-soled shoes and rubber tires DO NOT provide protection from lightning. However, the steel frame of a hard topped vehicle provides increased protection if you are not touching metal. Although you may be injured if lightning strikes your car, you are much safer inside a vehicle than outside.
- If you feel an electrical charge (your hair stands on end or skin tingles) drop to the ground in a crouched position with hands on knees and your head between them. DO NOT lie flat on the ground.

First Aid

- Persons struck by lightning receive a severe electrical shock and may be burned where the lightning entered and left the body, but they can be handled safely. They carry no electrical charge.
- Persons can possibly be revived by prompt mouth to mouth resuscitation, cardiac massage and prolonged artificial respiration.

Weather Issues & Emergencies

Tornadoes

- Know the terms-
 - Tornado Watch- Tornadoes are possible. Remain alert and listen to news and weather reports.
 - Tornado Warning- A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter immediately!
- Watch for tornado danger signs- dark, greenish sky, large hail, large, dark, low-lying cloud, loud roar, similar to a freight train.
- Determine places to seek shelter, such as a basement or storm cellar. If an underground shelter is not available, identify an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor. Stay away from windows and open spaces.
- Keep an eye out for designated shelters if you are in a public building. If you are in a high-rise building, go to a small interior room or hallway on the lowest possible floor.
- If you are in a vehicle or mobile home, try to find a sturdy nearby building or storm shelter.
- If caught outside with no possible shelter, lie flat in a ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands. Watch for flooding or flying debris.
- After a tornado, watch out for broken glass and downed power lines. Use caution when entering possibly damaged buildings.

Floods

Before

- Find out if your residence is in a probable flood area. Make a plan what to do and where to go.
- Store emergency supplies: water, food, first aid, medications, documents, radio, flashlights, etc.
- Listen to the radio or TV for changing weather conditions.
- Bring outdoor furniture, grills, etc. inside or tie them down securely.
- Place sandbags, lumber, plastic sheeting, etc. in strategic places. (Sandbags should be stacked away from the building far enough to avoid damaging the walls.)
- Make sure vehicles have at least a half tank of gas at all times in case of evacuation.
- Prepare for evacuation.
- Move valuables and emergency supplies to an upper floor or as high as possible.

During

- Stay calm.
- If there is time, disconnect all gas and electric appliances. Shut off the main water valve to keep contaminated water from entering the house.
- Shut off the power at the main breaker.
- Remember, if you shut off the gas, a professional will have to come and turn it back on.
- Listen for further instructions on the emergency frequency of your radio.

After

- Do not return home until local authorities say that it is safe.
- Check your home carefully for structural damage, gas leaks and downed electrical wires.
- Don't use electrical appliances that have been flooded until repaired.
- Don't use food that has been contaminated by flood waters. Flood water carries contaminants & disease.
- Don't drink water until authorities say it is safe to do so.
- Clean everything. Throw out all wet food, medicines, and cosmetics.