



Weather emergencies happen frequently—being prepared can make a big difference in the impact a serious weather emergency makes on you, your family, and your property.

- A personal emergency plan should consider several common problems you may face in any type of weather emergency.
- Prepare to lose your electricity—that is very likely to happen in many emergencies and the loss may last for hours or even for much longer.
- You will have no refrigeration and may be unable to cook, so you should have emergency food that doesn't require heating and adequate drinking water for a few days.
- Have a portable radio and emergency lighting charged and ready.

Keep cell phones ready so you can communicate if you are separated.

In case of a possible hurricane, blizzard, or flood, you will usually have sufficient time to prepare your home for the coming storm.

- You know best what type of damage is most likely depending on the predictions you hear about an impending storm.
- Do whatever is necessary to protect it before the storm hits.

Make sure your car has plenty of fuel and be ready to move your family to safety if it becomes necessary.

- Evacuate your family if you are ordered to do so—their lives are more important than trying to stay and protect your property.
- Have an emergency supply kit in your car at all times—just in case.
- Be aware of roads in your area that are most likely to be unusable in case of flooding or heavy snow and try to find safer routes.
- Never try to cross flooded roadways—you can't know for sure how deep the water is.

It is important to understand your company's emergency plans.

- Will they notify you if the company will be closed?—How?
- Are you expected to notify them if you are unable to get to work?—How?
- Are you an essential worker who must remain on duty during a weather emergency?

Prepare an advance list of important things to take with you.

- Sufficient indoor and outdoor clothing for a few days.
- Prescription medicines and important papers like insurance policies.

Discuss your emergency planning with your family—you may be separated so you need to be able to communicate.

- Make sure everyone has access to emergency phone numbers.
- Arrange for a designated location to meet if you can't return to your home.

Most weather emergencies are not life threatening if you are adequately prepared. Having a plan in place before it becomes necessary offers the best protection.

