

ALL-HAZARDS' PLANNING & PROTECTION

Disasters happen anytime and anywhere. And when a disaster strikes, you may not have much time to respond.

A highway spill of hazardous material could mean instant evacuation.

A winter storm could confine your family at home. A blizzard, flood, hurricane or any other disaster could cut off basic services-gas, water, electricity and telephones-for days.

Here in Coastal Maine, the hazards identified, which citizens should prepare and plan for are:

- HURRICANES
- WINTER STORMS
- COASTAL FLOODING
- COASTAL EROSION/LANDSLIDE
- HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SPILL
- POWER FAILURE
- DAM FAILURE
- FIRE

Although not a complete list of all hazards, preparing for these will also help you and your family prepare for other events which might occur.

Throughout this pamphlet will be guidance on how you, the individual, can plan to lessen the effects these events might have on you, your family and property.

TOPICS INCLUDED ARE:

- CREATING AN EMERGENCY PLAN
- A DISASTER SUPPLY KIT
- EMERGENCY CAR KIT
- EMERGENCY CHECKLIST
- IN-PLACE SHELTERING
- IF YOU NEED TO EVACUATE
- WEATHER TIPS AND TERMS

CREATING AN EMERGENCY PLAN

- Discuss the types of disasters that are most likely to happen. Explain what to do in each case.
- Pick two places to meet:
 1. Right outside your house in case of a sudden emergency, like a fire.
 2. Outside your neighborhood in case you can't return home. Everyone must know the address and phone number.
- Ask an out-of-state friend to be your "family contact." After a disaster, it's often easier to call long distance. Other family members should call this person and tell them where they are. Everyone must know your contact's phone number.
- Prepare a disaster supply kit.
- Discuss what to do in an evacuation. Plan how to take care of your pets. They are not allowed in emergency shelters due to health regulations.
- Learn about your community's warning signals: what they sound like and what you should do when you hear them.



- Listen to battery powered radio for weather updates and stay informed.

- Next, find out about the disaster plans at your workplace, your children's school or daycare center and other places where your family spends time.

Practice and maintain your plan and question your kids every six months so they remember what to do

IF DISASTER STRIKES
Remain calm and patient. Put your plan into action

A DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

Assemble supplies you might need in an evacuation. Store them in an easy-to-carry container such as a backpack or duffel bag.

Include:

A three day supply of water (one gallon per person per day) Replace every three months.

Non-perishable foods and a non-electric can opener. Rotate supply every six months.

One change of clothing, rain gear and footwear per person, and blankets and sleeping bags.

A first aid kit and prescription medications.

An extra pair of glasses.

Emergency tools including a battery-powered radio, flashlight and plenty of extra batteries

An extra set of car keys and credit cards, cash or travelers checks.

Sanitation supplies.

Special items for infants, elderly or disabled family members.

Keep important family documents in a waterproof container.

EMERGENCY CAR KIT

Keep a smaller version of above kit in the trunk of your car in addition to the following:

Booster cables, fire extinguisher (5lb., A-B-C type), first aid manual, maps, shovel, flares and tire repair kit and pump.

EMERGENCY CHECKLIST

- Post emergency telephone numbers near telephone.
- Teach children how and when to call 911.
- Show each family member how and when to turn off the water, gas and electricity at the main switches.
- Teach each member of the family how to use the fire extinguisher(ABC type), and show them where it's kept.
- Install smoke detectors on each level of your home.
- Conduct a home hazard hunt. Anything that can move, fall, break or cause a fire is a home hazard.
- Stock emergency supplies and assemble a Disaster Supply Kit.
- Take a Red Cross first aid and CPR class.
- Determine the best escape routes from your home. Have two ways out of each room.
- Find the safe spots in your home for each type of disaster.



IN-PLACE SHELTERING
(for a hazardous materials incident)

PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

The decision to shelter in-place may be made by the Incident Commander at the scene if there is an immediate, life-threatening situation or by the chief elected official with advice and counsel from emergency forces in the field.

Persons advised to shelter in-place should observe the following basic steps:

- Go inside, close and lock all windows and doors.
- Shut off air conditioners, fans and heating systems, etc. to minimize intake of external air.
- Confine your activities to one smaller pre-selected room that contains your kit.
- Seal room by covering doors and windows with pre-cut plastic sheets, taping edges and place damp towels on doorjambes to minimize the intake of external air.
- Listen to a battery powered radio for bulletins on the incident and wait for the safety ALL CLEAR before venturing outside.

IF YOU NEED TO EVACUATE

Evacuate immediately if told to do so

- Listen to a battery powered radio for the location of emergency shelters. Follow the instructions of local officials.
- Wear protective clothing and sturdy shoes.
- Take your Disaster Supply Kit.
- Lock your house.
- Use travel routes specified by local officials- Don't use shortcuts because certain areas may be impassable or dangerous.

If you have time...

- Shut off water, gas and electricity before leaving, if instructed to do so.
- Post a note telling others when you left and where you are going.
- Make arrangements for your pets.

WEATHER SAFETY TIPS/TERMS TO KNOW
Knox County is in National Weather Service Reporting Zone 27.



Hurricane Watch- Hurricane conditions are a real possibility for the area.
Warning-A hurricane expected for the area within 24 hours.
BEGIN PRECAUTIONARY ACTION AT ONCE.

Follow your emergency plan and add the following:
Clear your yard of loose objects.
Move your boat to safe harbor and moor securely.
Do not stay with boat.
Shutter or board all windows and secure double-door entrances.
Plan your evacuation route, know where to go, and fill car's gas tank.



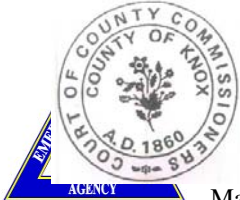
Severe Winter storm watch- Severe winter storm conditions are a real possibility for the area.
Severe Winter Storm Warning- Severe winter weather conditions are *imminent*.

EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST:
County of Knox
Emergency Fire/Police/Ambulance 911
If not sure it's an emergency 593-9132
Administrative Calls:

Knox County EMA	594-5155
Knox RCC	594-0677
Knox SO	594-0429
State Police	1-800-452-4664
HazMat Spill reporting- National Response Center	1-800-424-8802
<u>Find & Insert Your Town Information</u>	
EMA Director	
Fire Dept.	
Ambulance	
Law Enforcement	

For more information on emergency planning and preparedness, please contact your local emergency management director or the County EMA director:

KNOX COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
62 Union Street- Rockland, ME 04841
TEL: 594-5155, FAX: 594-0450



Many pamphlets on a variety of topics are available upon request, which discuss individual disasters in more detail.

The mission of emergency management is to protect the lives and property of the citizens and visitors of Knox County by ensuring mitigation of, preparations for, response to, and recovery from, the effects of natural and man-made disasters, consistent with resources provided.

YOUR FAMILY EMERGENCY



A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO EMERGENCY AWARENESS
(Revised May 2006)