

Risk Assessment

ASSESS YOUR NEEDS AND MAKE A PLAN

Natural disasters can happen at any time around the globe and can be different depending on where you live. To best prepare for when a disaster strikes it is important to have the right information about your unique needs. Completing a needs assessment can help you understand the risks in the region you live in, your family's specific needs and how to make a plan.

IDENTIFY POSSIBLE RISKS AND EMERGENCIES IN YOUR REGION

Natural hazards appear in many different forms. Knowing the risks in the area you live will help you make a more specific plan for you and your family. Evaluate your risk level for natural disasters of all kinds:

Types of Natural Hazards	Risk Level (None, Low, Moderate, or High)	How can I reduce my risk?
Floods		
Hurricanes		
Thunderstorms and Lightening		
Tomadoes		
Winter Storms and Extreme Cold		
Extreme Heat		
Earthquakes		
Volcanoes		
Landslides and Debris Flow		
Tsunamis		
Fires		
Wildfires		

MAKE A PLAN

Your family may not be together if a natural disaster hits, so you should know how to contact one another in case of emergencies. Follow the steps below with your family/household members to build your plan:

1. Put together a plan by talking to your family or household about your emergency plan. Some questions to talk about:

How will I get emergency alerts and warnings?

Record how you will get alerts and warnings below:

What is my shelter plan?

Record your shelter plan in the space below:

What is my evacuation route?

Record your evacuation route in the space below:

What is my family/household communication plan?

Record your communication plan in the space below:

2. Take account of unique household needs – your emergency plan should include all members of the household and be specific to your daily living needs and responsibilities

As you plan, consider some of these factors:

- ✓ Ages of members in your household (infants, school-aged children, seniors)
- ✓ Responsibilities for assisting others
- ✓ Dietary needs
- ✓ Medical needs, including prescriptions and medical equipment
- ✓ Disabilities or access and functional needs including devices and equipment
- ✓ Languages spoken
- ✓ Cultural and religious considerations
- ✓ Pets or service animals

3. Fill out a Household Emergency Plan

➤ **COLLECT**

Create a paper copy of the contact information for your family and other important people/offices, such as medical facilities, doctors, schools, or service providers

➤ **SHARE**

Make sure everyone carries a copy in his or her backpack, purse or wallet. You should also post a copy in a central location in your home, such as your refrigerator

➤ **PRACTICE**

Bring your household together to practice your plan

4. Practice your plan!

Make sure all family/household members know and understand the plan.



Family Communications Plan	Other Important Phone Numbers & Information
Contact Name: Telephone:	Work Information:
Out-of-Town Contact Name: Telephone:	School Information:
Neighborhood Meeting Place: Meeting Place Telephone:	Medical Contacts & Information: