

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION



**UNDERSTAND**

**PREPARE**

**ENGAGE**

**SUPPLY KITS**



## A key part of preparedness

It may be hard to imagine the absence of conveniences, such as going to the store to buy food or supplies, getting fresh drinking water from the faucet or turning up the heat by simply adjusting the thermostat. However, during and after an emergency, we may not be able to do those things — and many others we take for granted. That's why it's important to create disaster supply kits to continue meeting basic needs for yourself, your family and your pets during and after an emergency.

While it can be overwhelming to think of everything that might be needed during and after different emergency events, don't overthink it. Start by identifying the basic needs of you and your family. Do you have enough drinking water? What about non-perishable food? Extra blankets? Essentially, what things are needed to be safe and comfortable during and after an emergency?

## Plan for different needs

Disaster supply kits should match every family's specific needs. Beyond water, non-perishable food, and blankets, think about including items like sanitation and personal hygiene items, a first aid kit, flashlights and extra batteries, extra cash, and portable cell phone chargers, to name a few. It's important to have enough supplies to sustain your family **for up to 72 hours** after an emergency.

## Think beyond the usual

When gathering supplies, think about any special needs your family may have and plan for those. For example, if members of your family require medication, don't forget to have it, along with any needed medical supplies or prescription information, on hand. If you have babies or toddlers in your family, don't forget to include supplies such as diapers, bottles and formula.

Disaster supply kits should enable you to safely shelter-in-place or be ready to take with you if ordered to evacuate.

## A plan for pets

Don't leave pets out of emergency planning! Assemble your pet's disaster supply kit to include food, water, bowls, leashes, carriers and any necessary medications and identifying information, like their name and behavior patterns. Also, try to keep your pet's vaccinations current and include copies of those records in your emergency kit.

While we like to think we'll be able to stay with our pets during and after an emergency, in certain situations like evacuations, that may not be possible. However, you can make the separation and reunification process much less stressful by knowing a safe place to take your pet during an emergency. These locations can include a designated emergency shelter location, such as a veterinarian or kennel, or a trusted friend. Be sure to take pictures of your pets and consider getting them microchipped to increase the odds of finding and identifying them if they get lost.

**Learn more and download our Emergency Preparedness Guide at [www.weldoem.com](http://www.weldoem.com)**