

# Developing a Family Disaster Plan

## Action

Take care of utilities

## Suggestions

- Locate and show all adults where and how to shut off main utility valves for water, gas electricity.
- Install smoke detectors on each floor, especially near bedrooms; test and replace batteries once a year.
- Teach family members how to use fire extinguishers and show them where they are kept. Test extinguishers once a year.

## Action

Be a good neighbor

## Suggestions

- Meet with your neighbors to plan how to work together in case of an emergency.
- Know your neighbors' special needs or skills, such as medical or technical.
- Make plans for each other's children in case a parent is not able to get home.

Contact **Oklahoma Volunteers In Mission** for information on all of these programs and more.

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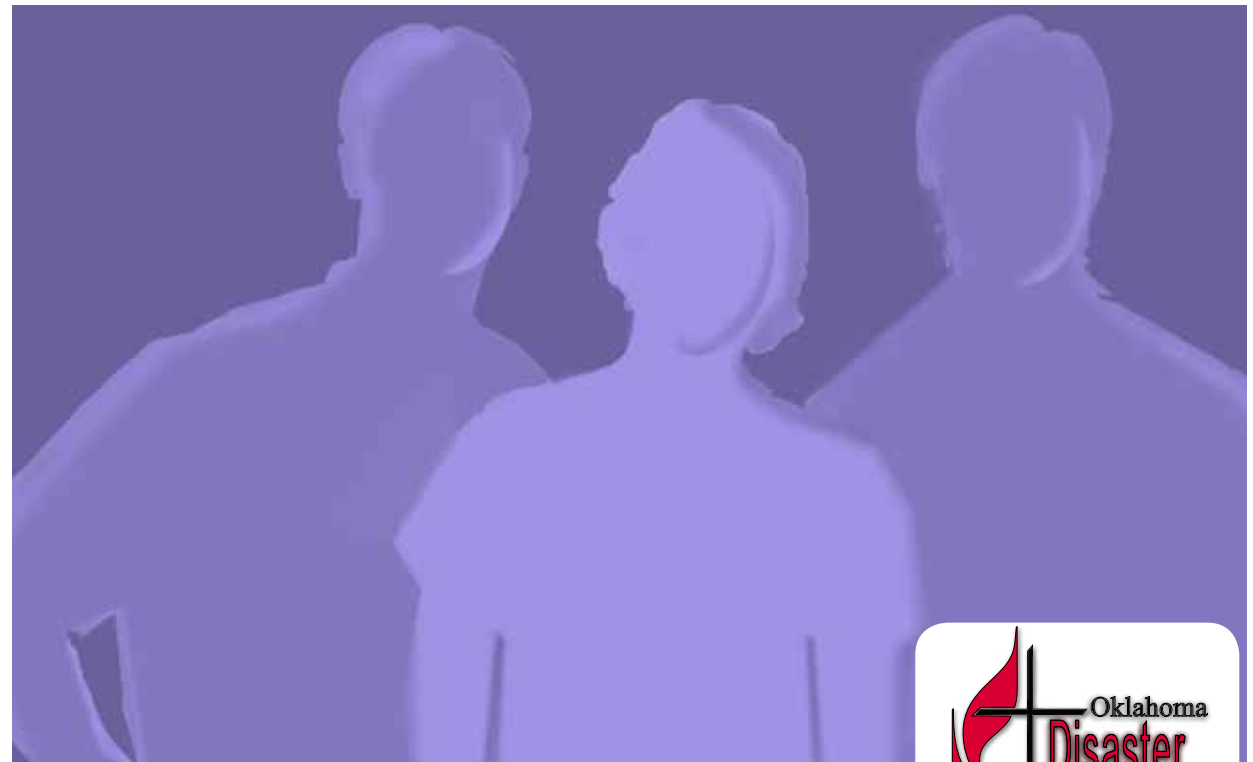
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# Developing a Family Disaster Plan

Prior to a disaster, you and your family members should prepare a response plan that addresses specifically what you will do during a disaster event.





# Developing a Family Disaster Plan

In this brochure are some action plans to help you and your family develop a plan to use in the case of an emergency event.

## Action

Educate yourself and your family

## Suggestions

- ✓ Talk to your local emergency management agencies and the American Red Cross chapter about:
  - Types of disasters likely to affect the community and how to prepare for them
  - Community warning systems and evacuation plans
  - Animal care during and after a disaster
  - Taking responsibility for elderly and disabled persons
  - Disaster plans at work places, schools, daycare centers, or other places where your family spends time
- ✓ Be sure you have adequate insurance coverage.
- ✓ Conduct a home hazard hunt to identify anything that can move, fall, break, or cause a fire.
- ✓ Take a Red Cross first aid and CPR class.

## Action

Create a family plan and practice it

## Suggestions

- ✓ Identify "safe rooms" or shelter areas for violent weather and earthquakes.
- ✓ Determine the best escape routes out of the safe rooms/shelter areas.

- ✓ Pick two places to meet in case you cannot return to your home: one spot just outside your home and another outside the neighborhood.
- ✓ Discuss what to do in an evacuation and how to care for your pets.
- ✓ Teach young children how and when to dial 911 and what to say.
- ✓ Post all emergency numbers by every phone.
- ✓ Hold fire and emergency evacuation drills periodically (every six months) with all members of the family.
- ✓ Quiz family members periodically, (children every six months), on procedures and contact information.
- ✓ Store originals of important family documents in a safe deposit box.
- ✓ Create a contact list:
  - Identify an out of state relative or friend as a family contact in case family members are in separate locations at the time of disaster. Be sure work and school offices have this number on file.

## Action

Store adequate supplies

## Suggestions

- ✓ Store supplies in a sturdy, pest-free container and place in an accessible location
  - Water for 3-5 days (one gallon per-person-per-day, in a plastic container). Mark date of storage on container, and replace every three months.
  - Non-perishable foods for 3-5 days, including pet food if applicable. Replace every six months.
  - Manual can opener
  - Flashlights with extra batteries
  - Extra pair of prescription eyeglass, contact lenses (and cleaning solution)
  - Battery-operated radio or T.V. and extra batteries
  - Prescription drugs that are used regularly
  - First-aid kit
  - Extra set of car keys
  - One blanket or sleeping bag per person
  - Information (style, serial number, etc.) on critical medical devices (respirator, pacemaker, etc.)
  - Small amount of cash and a credit card
  - Children's toys games books pictures etc.
  - Extra battery for cell phone
  - Sanitation supplies
  - Special items for infants/elderly/disabled
  - One change of clothing and footwear per person

## Action

Create a home exit plan and evacuation box

## Suggestions

- ✓ Create basic floor plan of home and clearly mark exits to be used for emergencies. Post in each room.
- ✓ Create an evacuation box to "grab and go" in a waterproof container.

### Include:

- Small amount of cash
- Irreplaceable photos/back-up of digital files
- Written inventory of valuable possessions (updated annually)
- Insurance policy numbers and company phone numbers
- Copies of other important family or home documents and contact list
- Copies of prescriptions
- Copies of important legal documents deeds
  - ◇ wills
  - ◇ birth certificates
  - ◇ immunization records
  - ◇ first two pages of prior two years' tax returns, etc.

*Original documents should be kept in a safe deposit box.*