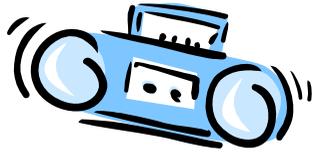


Get Information



- ❑ Know your home's vulnerability to severe events like flooding, high wind, snow or ice.
- ❑ Know how to get information before, during and after a local disaster.
- ❑ Register to receive emergency alerts from your local government. In Prince William County you can register at www.pwcgov.org/pwcan.
- ❑ Listen to the radio or television and follow instructions from local officials during actual events.

Service Animals and Pets

Service animals are allowed in hotels or motels and American Red Cross shelters.



However, these places cannot care for your animal. When you leave your home, remember to take a collar, harness, identification tags, vaccination records, medications, veterinarian contact and food for your service animal with you.



Pets, unlike service animals, will only be allowed in designated, pet-friendly shelters. Check with the shelter before bringing your pet.

Remember to take a collar, leash, muzzle, food, water, identification tags, immunization records, any medications and a carrier or cage if you have to evacuate your home.

Disaster Planning Checklist

It's impossible to predict where you, your family, your friends or your personal care attendants will be when a disaster strikes. You could be forced to evacuate or confined to your home. Local officials will be responding to the scene but they may not be able to reach everyone right away. You are the best person to determine what you need and plan for your safety. Prepare in advance with your family and care attendants to assess your needs and develop your preparedness plan.

Resources: There are many on-line resources for information on disaster preparedness.

Prince William County: www.pwcgov.org

Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.fema.gov

Department of Homeland Security: www.ready.gov

Red Cross: www.redcross.org and www.prepare.org

National Organization on Disability: www.nod.org/emergency

The National Center on Emergency Planning for People with Disabilities:

www.disabilitypreparedness.org



**Prince William County
Citizen Corps Council
Fall 2006**

Make a Plan

- Speak up for yourself. Determine what you are able to do for yourself and what assistance you may need before, during and after a disaster. Consider your personal care, service animals, special equipment you depend on and transportation needs.
- Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones and make sure your children know how and when to call 911.
- Identify and practice at least two escape routes. Identify the safest areas in your home if you are told to stay inside.
- Meet with your family or caregiver and choose a meeting place and check-in location where you can make contact after a disaster.
- Determine an alternate place to stay during a disaster. For example, a hotel, neighbor's house, friend or relative's home or an emergency shelter.
- Identify other people you can contact for assistance in case your primary contact is unavailable.
- Have an out-of-state friend as a family contact so all your family members have a single point of contact.
- Practice how to quickly explain either orally or in writing to people the best way to guide or move you and your adaptive equipment, safely and quickly.
- If you have a communication disability, make sure your emergency information list notes the best way to communicate with you. This may be by writing notes, pointing to letters, words or pictures, or finding a quiet place with no distractions.
- Label medical equipment you use and attach instructions for use.



- Prepare a written list of medications, how to take them and where they are kept so others helping can make sure they go with the person.
- Keep a fully charged cell phone with extra battery on hand.
- Use a weather radio. Select one that is programmable and has a built-in back up battery.
- Install at least one smoke alarm on each level of your home outside sleeping areas. If you are deaf or have hearing loss, install a system that has flashing strobe lights to get your attention.
- If you have a fire extinguisher, make sure that you know how to use it.
- Keep cash on hand—preferably in small bills, as well as credit cards, checkbook and ATM card.
- Take pictures or video of your home and the contents for insurance purposes.
- Make copies of important documents and keep them in a waterproof container (birth certificate, passport, license, insurance information, and proof of address).
- Keep your vehicle's fuel tank at least half-full.
- If possible, buy a generator and fuel to run it. Place it outside in a well-ventilated area. Consider buying a carbon monoxide alarm too.
- Write out instructions on how to turn off electricity, gas, and water if authorities tell you to turn them off. Remember, you'll need a professional to turn the gas back on. Make sure you have a wrench or pliers to turn off utilities, if needed.
- Check your insurance coverage—flood damage may require special coverage.



Stock A Disaster Supply Kit

Store important items in a portable container that is easy to get to. Plan on having enough supplies to support your household for at least three days. Check and replace supplies at least once a year.

- Non-perishable food and drinking water (one gallon per person per day).
- First aid kit and manual.
- Essential medications including prescriptions. Keep at least a two-week supply of essential medications with you at all times. Work with your doctor to get extra supplies of medications and extra copies of prescriptions. Include a list with the prescription name, dosage, frequency, doctor, pharmacist and where the medication is kept. If medications need to be refrigerated, keep a cooler with an ice pack with your kit.
- Medical equipment and assistive devices along with extra batteries and chargers (glasses, hearing aides, catheters, communication devices, canes, walkers). Label each with your name and contact information.
- Battery-powered radio, television and flashlight, plus extra batteries.
- NOAA weather radio.
- Extra clothing and blankets.
- Special items for infants, elderly, family members with disabilities or pets.
- Disinfectant and household bleach.
- Spare car keys along with local, state and regional maps.
- Whistle or signal flare.
- Matches or lighter in a water-proof container.
- Sanitation and hygiene items, including soap, denture care, absorbent pads, etc.
- A copy of your emergency contact information including names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of your support network members, service providers, family, friends, and people who can provide assistance with evacuation.

