

GET AHEAD OF WHAT'S AHEAD.

TEXAS
READY

Be Informed. Make a Plan. Build a Kit. #TexasReady

In Texas, natural and man-made disasters can happen anytime and anywhere. While all disasters are unpredictable, you don't have to be unprepared.



BE INFORMED

Whether a natural or man-made disaster, know the potential hazards that are near you and how to best prepare.

- Check your weather apps, local TV news, and radio stations for emergency weather information.
- Know the difference between a watch and a warning. A watch means dangerous conditions are possible. A warning means dangerous conditions are about to happen; seek shelter now.
- Be informed about risks around the community such as industrial plants, transport routes for hazardous materials and more.



MAKE A PLAN

Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it's important to make a plan and practice in advance.

- **Emergency Contacts:** People to call to help you reunite with your family and stay informed about your situation.
- **Meeting Places:** Places near home and/or out-of-town to meet up with your family if you're separated or cannot return to your home.
- **Evacuation Plan:** If you are told to leave home, know possible evacuation routes and how to turn off your home's utilities.
- **Children:** Make sure they know the plan and emergency contacts.
- **Elderly and People with Functional and Access Needs:** Plan for the health and safety needs of these individuals.
- **Pets:** Make sure you have what you need to keep track of and care for your pet.

Once you have a plan, practice it. Involve your family so they know what to do, where to meet and whom to contact, and how.



BUILD A KIT

Gather and prepare supplies that your family and pets will need if you must evacuate or shelter-in-place.

Evacuation Bag:

Consider packing the following items in an easy to carry container such as a backpack. You'll need to pack items you will not have access to in a shelter or alternate location.

- **Water bottle and snacks** (for travel needs)
- **Medications**
- **Passport, driver's license, or other government-issued ID**
- **Important documents** (medical insurance cards, birth certificates, other documents not easily replaced)
- **Flashlight**
- **Batteries**
- **Toothbrush/toothpaste**
- **Road map (if driving)**
- **Pet collar and leash**
- **Photos of family members** (for identification purposes)
- **Essential clothing**

Shelter-in-Place Supplies:

To shelter in place, build your kit to survive for up to 72 hours. It may take rescuers 3 days to reach you. Consider keeping the following items on hand in a sturdy, waterproof container. Be sure to review your shelter-in-place kit at least once a year to replace expired items.

- **Non-perishable food**
- **Water**
- **Pet food**
- **Manual can opener**
- **Toilet paper**
- **Bleach**
- **Medications**
- **First aid kit**

Texas Department of State
Health Services



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