

September 2015

Emergency Preparedness Pointers

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

DON'T WAIT. COMMUNICATE.
MAKE YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN TODAY.



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH!



AMERICA'S
PrepareAthon!

Ready

Disasters can occur at a moment's notice and during the most inopportune times. Often times, disasters strike during the middle of the day when your family is separated by work, school, and other activities. With school starting and the transition into a new season, this is the perfect time to create or update your emergency communications plan. Having an emergency communications plan in place is critical to know how you will contact one another during a disaster, as well as what you will be doing for the duration of the disaster. These steps will help you create an emergency communications plan specific to you.

Write Out Your Plan

It is important that your emergency communications plan is written down for everyone in your home. Letting a designated person outside your area know you are okay during a disaster is the best way to get in touch with your family when you are not together. Regularly check the information in your plan to ensure all information is correct and current. Your mobile phone will not always be accessible; this is why it is best to have this information written down for each individual. Below is the information needed in every emergency communications plan:

- ☎ Out-of-State Contact including name, phone number(s), and email
- ☎ Name, date of birth, social security number, and important medical information for each member of your household
- ☎ Address and phone number(s) of where you and your household spends the most time, including home, schools, places of work, and other frequently visited places, as well as your designated evacuation location
- ☎ Name, phone number(s), and policy number(s) of insurance information including medical, homeowners, and automobile



For more information on how to make a plan and to access a printable communications plan template, visit <https://adacounty.id.gov/Portals/Accem/Doc/PDF/familycommplan.pdf>



Social Media as a Preparedness Tool



Disasters can prohibit you from being able to call or text from a mobile or landline phone. Social media apps and websites are a great alternative to get in contact with family and friends as well as receive disaster information, updates, and alerts. Several local, state, and federal agencies and partners use social media as a medium to inform the public before, during, and after a disaster.

ACEM is on Facebook and Twitter

Ada County Emergency Management now has both Twitter and Facebook accounts to regularly provide preparedness and disaster information to the public. We encourage you to share this information with family and friends in order to make our community a safer and more resilient place to live.

- ▶ Follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/adacountyem> or @adacountyem
- ▶ Like our page on Facebook at www.facebook.com/adacountyem



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