EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS POINTER

JANUARY 2022

PLAN FOR THE NEW YEAR

It's January again, which means it's time to plan for the new year. As part of your planning efforts, make sure to update or create an <u>emergency communication plan</u> with your household. You never know what you will be doing or where you will be when a disaster occurs. Having an emergency communication plan will help you get in contact with those you love or need most. Consider the following when updating or creating an emergency communication plan:

Household Information

Start by writing down the home address and then list those who reside in the household along with their phone numbers, email addresses, pertinent medical information, social media handles, and other important details.

Outside Information

Include the names, phone numbers, email addresses, websites, and emergency hotlines of any school, childcare facility, workplace, or other location those in the household typically spend time.

Important Numbers

Incorporate a list of vital services to contact before or after a disaster, including the Police Department, Fire Department, Emergency Medical Services, Poison Control, Hospitals, Doctors, Dentists,

Veterinarians, Pharmacies, Medical Insurance, Homeowner/Rental Insurance, Car Insurance, Disaster Insurances, and Alternate/Accessible Transportation Services.

Emergency Meeting Places

As part of an emergency communication plan, the household should determine various meeting places they can go during an emergency. Consider the following:

Indoor: Designate a few locations within the home that can be used to shelter in place from exterior hazards.

In the Neighborhood: Select a nearby location that the household can evacuate to in the event a hazard is present within the home.

Outside the Neighborhood: Choose a location the household can convene if they're not home and can't get back home because of the hazard.

Out of Town: Pick a location the household can meet if all other meeting places are unavailable and an evacuation order is in place.

Getting in Contact

Getting in contact may be difficult during a large scale disaster because phone service may be disrupted or unavailable altogether. For a better chance of getting through to someone, text them rather than call them. Having an out of state contact is important in this regard because long distance phone service might still be available when local service is not.

Now You're Ready

CLICK HERE TO CREATE AN EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PLAN



