

## COULD YOU AND YOUR FAMILY TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER FOR AT LEAST THREE DAYS?

In an emergency, government services and utilities may be impacted and you should have food, water and emergency supplies on hand for at least three days.

### BE AWARE

The District is vulnerable to a variety of hazards including hurricanes, floods, winter storms, power outages, acts of terrorism and others. Each of these hazards presents different challenges, so you and your family need to be prepared.

Would you know what to do to prepare for a hurricane or winter storm? What if there was an active shooter at your workplace? Be aware of the risks so you can be better prepared.

To learn more about the possible threats facing our area, visit [Ready.DC.gov](http://Ready.DC.gov).

### PROTECT YOUR FAMILY BEFORE AN EMERGENCY:

- Understand which hazards are most likely to occur in the District.
- Be aware of your surroundings wherever you go.
- Report any suspicious or unusual circumstances to authorities.

### HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER AN EMERGENCY:

Emergencies and disasters can strike anyone, anytime and anywhere. They can happen quickly and without warning. You may have to leave your neighborhood or shelter in your home for several days. It is vital you understand what different disasters could mean for you. This guide features tips you can use to prepare and stay safe.

This document was prepared under a grant from FEMA's Grants Programs Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Points of view or opinions expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of FEMA's Grants Programs Directorate or the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.



## GET READY, DC!

KEEPING YOUR FAMILY SAFE  
BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER  
AN EMERGENCY



### CONNECT WITH US:

2720 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20032  
Phone: (202) 727.6161  
Fax: (202) 715.7288  
TTY: (202) 730.0488  
[hsema.info@dc.gov](mailto:hsema.info@dc.gov)





## MAKE A PLAN

When disaster strikes, your family members will have different needs: You must account for anything from diapers and formula to motorized wheelchairs or specialized medical devices. Plan now, so you are ready if the time ever comes.

- Family: [Ready.DC.gov/family](https://www.readydc.gov/family)
- Pets: [Ready.DC.gov/pets](https://www.readydc.gov/pets)
- Seniors: [Ready.DC.gov/seniors](https://www.readydc.gov/seniors)
- Persons with Disabilities and Access and Functional Needs: [Ready.DC.gov/DAFN](https://www.readydc.gov/DAFN)
- And don't forget your House or Home: [Ready.DC.gov/home](https://www.readydc.gov/home)

**Disasters can strike at any time. Everyone in your family should know what to do and where to meet if an emergency occurs.**

Having a plan is perhaps the most important way you can help yourself and your family in the case of a disaster or emergency, or in preparation for one of the many special events hosted in the District.

## BUILD A KIT

Part of your planning process should be to make an emergency kit. Having this kit ready can save valuable time in the event that you and your family need to evacuate. Your emergency kit is like a toolbox, equipping you with all of the supplies and information you need in the short-term.

**Having a kit ready now can save you valuable time in the event of an emergency.**

Your emergency kit should be placed in a sturdy container large enough to hold all your supplies, but be easy to carry; consider a backpack or wheeled suitcase.

The kit should contain essential items, such as: a three-day supply of water and food, flashlight, first aid kit, battery powered radio, medications or prescriptions, a change of clothes, a few tools, copies of important documents, your family's contact information (phone numbers, email, etc.) and any special items. Although this list is not comprehensive, it will give you an idea of where to begin.

For the complete checklist visit [Ready.DC.gov/kit](https://www.readydc.gov/kit).

## STAY INFORMED

Before, during and after a disaster, tune in to the following resources for the most up-to-date, local information from the District Government:

**Go to [Ready.DC.gov](https://www.readydc.gov) for more info!**

- Sign up for AlertDC: Visit [Alertdc.dc.gov](https://www.alertdc.dc.gov) to sign up to receive alerts through email or text messaging/SMS on your cell phone.
- Download the free HSEMA app: Available for iPhones/iPads and Android devices through the Apple App or GooglePlay Stores, this app ensures no matter where you are or what you're doing, you'll be prepared.
- Listen to the radio: Tune in to local radio stations which will broadcast official information and instructions from the District Government.
- Watch local TV news: Tune in to cable channels 13, 16 or your local news station for alerts and updates.
- Follow HSEMA on social media: Check us out on Twitter at [@DC\\_HSEMA](https://twitter.com/DC_HSEMA) and like us on Facebook at [facebook.com/HSEMACDC/](https://www.facebook.com/HSEMACDC/).

