



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

Preparing for emergencies doesn't have to be time-consuming or expensive. Follow these tips from ReadyDC to prepare now:

General Preparedness

- Develop an emergency communications plan with important contact information for you and your family that can be shared with neighbors or close friends.
- Sign up for free email or text alerts from District officials on weather, traffic, public safety, and more with AlertDC: alert.dc.gov.
- Review free ReadyDC resources available in the District's 6 languages: ready.dc.gov/resources.

Health and Medical

While the first thing you may think about when preparing for emergencies is food, flashlights, or family photos, it's important you don't forget about:

- Collecting medical insurance cards and physician contact information to save valuable time if you need emergency care.
- Having at least a week's supply of your medications along with a list of all your prescriptions, dosages, and allergies.
- If you or someone you care for has a disability, make sure you have plan for needed equipment, such as a wheelchair or other assistive devices.

Critical Infrastructure

- Before a storm arrives, check gutters and downspouts to make sure they're clear of debris.
- During a water emergency, it's critical to understand the different advisories that may be issued. Visit dcwater.com to learn more about drinking water advisories.
- When possible, store at least one gallon of water per person for several days for drinking and sanitation use during an emergency.

Insurance and Storm Recovery

Severe weather and flooding can happen anywhere, at any time. It's critical to know how to keep yourself and your family, home, or business safe and prepared.

- Flood insurance is a great way to protect your home or business. You can learn more about how to purchase insurance at disb.dc.gov/flood.
- Create a home inventory for insurance purposes by capturing images of your home and emailing your information to yourself for easy access.
- Store physical copies of your insurance policies and keep electronic copies in your email or digital cloud.