

Ready to put your Family Emergency Plan into action? As you begin the process, here are some general tips that will help you and your family in any weather emergency. Familiarize yourself with the emergency action plans at your school or workplace and identify the appropriate officials and emergency management agencies in your area, with contact information and phone numbers in case you need assistance after a storm.

Take photographs of your valuables and store them in a fire and waterproof safe. Also use the safe to store important documents such as birth certificates, ownership documentation for cars and boats, Social Security cards, insurance policies and wills.



Subscribe to local emergency alert services. Many communities now have systems that will send text alerts or e-mails to let you know about various emergency situations.

Make sure you have a portable radio, preferably a NOAA Weather Radio, for weather alerts and updates.



Download free American Red Cross mobile apps to get life-saving preparedness information in the palm of your hand before and during emergencies.

Always have one or more up-to-date fire extinguishers and be sure everyone knows where they are kept and how to use them.



Download The Weather Channel app and visit weather.com for accurate and up-to-the minute severe weather reports in your community.



Locate and mark where utility switches and valves are in your home so they can be turned off in an emergency.

At least one member of your household should be trained in first aid and CPR/AED.

Check your homeowner's insurance to confirm your coverage in case your home is damaged or destroyed.



Conserve your cell phone battery by reducing the brightness of your screen, placing your phone in airplane mode, and closing apps you are not using.

If you smell gas or hear a blowing or hissing noise, open a window or get everyone out quickly. Turn off the gas, using the outside main valve, if you can, and call the gas company from a neighbor's home.

**Stay ahead of the storm. For critical safety and weather information, download the free app from The Weather Channel today!**

