Are You Prepared?

Be Ready West Virginia! ...Just in Case
Personal Preparedness in America: Findings from the 2012 FEMA National Survey

• 45% of citizens are familiar with local warning systems and alerts
• 43% have made an emergency plan
• 52% have emergency supplies stored in their home
Anything can happen at any time. Being ready ahead of a disaster is the most critical action you can take to protect the things that matter most:

...your family, your home, your pets, yourselves and your business!

WV’s 2016 June Severe Storms
Flooding, Landslides & Mudslides

2012 Derecho Storm
WV Statewide power outages
1st Responders: ONLY 1% of population

- Fire Department
- Law Enforcement
- Emergency Medical Services
- Emergency Managers
Blocked/Limited Access

Limited Man Power & Resources

Addressing More Critical Needs
Utilities & Critical Services

- Electric
- Gas
- Water
- Medical
- Banking
What is Emergency Management and Response?

Levels of Response

- **Local**: County Emergency Management Agencies
- **State**: West Virginia Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (WVDHSEM)
- **Federal**: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Volunteer Agencies

- [American Red Cross](#)
- [West Virginia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster](#)
- [CERT Community Emergency Response Team](#)
HOW?
TAKE ACTION NOW!
4 Steps to be Prepared

Be informed  Make a plan
Build a kit  Be involved
Step 1: Be Informed

Know Area Hazards

Chemical & Industrial Hazards

Severe Storms

Flood

Power Outage
Step 1: Be Informed

- How will you be informed of important information before, during, and after an emergency?
  - Emergency Alerts
  - Radio/television
  - Social Media
  - Mobile Apps

KC Ready App
Step 1: Be Informed

Download Emergency Mobile Apps

- Receive alerts from the National Weather Service for up to five locations.
- Get safety reminders, read tips to survive natural disasters, and customize your emergency checklist.
- Locate open shelters and where to talk to FEMA in person (or on the phone).
- Upload and share your disaster photos to help first responders.
Seasonal Weather Hazards

Fall

Winter

Spring

Summer
# Hazardous Weather Alerts

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| **Warning** | • Pose a threat to life or property.  
  • Occurring, imminent or likely.  
  • Need to take protective ACTION. |
| **Watch**    | • Possible occurrence.  
  • Location or timing is still uncertain. |
| **Advisory** | • Less serious conditions.  
  • Occurring, imminent or likely. |
Severe Weather Warnings

- Stay indoors on lowest floor
- Close shades/curtains
- Wear loose light clothing, wide rim hat
- Drink plenty of water
- Avoid Caffeine
- Check on vulnerable neighbors – the elderly, ill, disabled, or have special needs
Severe Weather Warnings

- Secure outdoor objects
- Stay indoors
- Close doors, windows and curtains
- Stay away from glass
- Power outages, possible
- Unplug electronic equipment
- Fallen trees and moving debris
Power Outage Prep Tips

• Extra batteries
• Full Gas Tank
• Unplug Electronic equipment
• Alternate charging methods for phones/devices
• Back-up plan for power dependent medical equipment.
• Food Safety ---- *keeping doors closed, food will stay safe 4 hours Frig & 48 hours in freezer.*
• Learn to use alternative heat sources safely.
Severe Weather Hacks (*Tips!*)

Let there be Light!

DIY Air Conditioning!

Protect your head in a storm!

Turn AAA batteries into AA!
Severe Weather Warnings

- Stay Indoors - Pets too!
- Minimize travel.
- Alternative heating source – wood, propane...
- Store extra food, water & blankets
- Supplies: Shovel, salt, scrapper, gloves, etc.
Winter Weather Hacks *(Tips!)*
Flood Facts

Turn around, Don’t Drown!

Move to Higher Ground!

VS

Home Insurance Policy

National Flood Insurance Plan (NFIP)
Step 1: Be Informed

On-line Resources

West Virginia Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management
Step 2: Make a Plan

Family Communications Plan
Have the following information written down:

• Family contacts
• Emergency Contacts (in-state & out-of-state points of contact)
• Designated meeting places (in town & out of town)
• School and Work information
• Medical Contacts
• Medications and allergies
• Insurance (medical & home/rental)
• Special considerations

Create an ICE (In Case of Emergency) Contact

Share your plan with your family and friends!
Step 2: Make a Plan

Make plans for different hazards:

- Flash Flood Area
- Emergency Evacuation Route
- Severe Weather Shelter-In-Place

Share your plan with your family and friends!
Step 3: Build a Kit

**Contents:**

- Radio: *crank or battery powered*
- Flashlight & batteries
- First Aid Kit
- Wrench//Pliers
- Local maps
- Medical, Insurance and Bank account information
- Paper towels, moist wipes, garbage bags & ties
- Cash, check book
- Can opener
- Whistle
- Filter/Dust mask

**Have a 3-day supply of:**

- Non-perishable food
- Water: *1-gallon/person/day including children*
- Medications & medical equipment
- Pet supplies
- Baby supplies
- Other special Needs
• Kits for different locations:
  • Home
  • Car
  • Work
  • Go-kit (evacuation)

• Update your kits:
  • For different hazards
  • Once or twice a year
Step 4: Be Involved

Volunteer: Help with Disaster Response & Recovery

- Volunteer West Virginia
- WV VOAD - Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster
- Red Cross
- Long Term Recovery Groups
- CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)
  Contact Gina Namay for information 304-558-0111.
Step 4: Be Involved

Prepare with Your Family & Community:

Participate in Emergency Training or Planning:

- Conduct a Fire Drill
- Take CPR, 1st Aid, Fire extinguisher training
- Invite local 1st Responder to talk about safety
- Create an emergency call down list

...with your family, neighborhood, school, youth group or faith-based organization.
Questions?

To learn more about emergency preparedness and other actions you can take to protect you and your loved ones visit our website at www.ready.wv.gov

Be Informed. Make a plan. Make a Kit. Be involved.