Regardless of the emergency situation or hazard anticipated, one of the best things you can do is to make a plan and prepare your family beforehand.

Create a Family Disaster Plan

- **Gather information.**
  - □ What disasters or hazards are most likely in your community? For your home?
  - □ How would you be warned?
  - □ How should you prepare for each?

- **Know the warning signals for your area.**
  - □ Learn the warning systems for your community.
  - □ Be sure you can hear or see the appropriate warning from your home.

- **Obtain insurance for your family and home.**
  - □ Check your homeowners insurance.
  - □ Get additional coverage for situations that may not be covered.

- **Stay alert for emergency broadcasts.**
  - □ Emergency Alert System broadcasts (radio, TV)
  - □ NOAA weather radio alerts
  - □ News sources – radio, television, internet

- **Choose a post-hazard meeting place for your family.**
  - □ A safe distance from your home for sudden emergencies (e.g., fire).
  - □ Outside your neighborhood in case you can’t return home.
  - □ Learn where area evacuation shelters are located.

- **Make a family communication plan.**
  - □ Know how you will contact each other if you are at work, school or other location.
  - □ Have an out-of-state friend or relative serve as an emergency contact for everyone to call.
  - □ Keep a list of emergency phone numbers, including neighborhood contacts.
  - □ Give emergency numbers to all family members and post by every phone.

- **Make a family emergency supply kit.**
  - □ You may need to survive on your own temporarily until you can get assistance.
  - □ Prepare a kit with 3 or more days of supplies (food, water, clothing).

- **Share the above information with your family.**
  - □ Meet with all members of your household.
  - □ Discuss the types of hazards that could occur.
  - □ Discuss your family’s plan.
  - □ Practice your plans.

- **Plan how you and your neighbors could work together during a disaster.**
  - □ Create a neighborhood communication plan.
  - □ Help neighbors who have special needs, such as elderly or disabled persons.
  - □ Make plans for child care in case parents cannot get home.
  - □ Learn plans for your work, children’s schools, or other locations.

- **Don’t forget to include plans for your pets.**

Family Emergency Plan Situations

- **Shelter-in-place**
  - □ Take immediate shelter wherever you are – home, work, school or in between – rather than entering into a hazardous situation.
  - □ Used for situations such as severe storms, winter weather, biological emergencies.
  - □ Time will vary; few hours to several days.

- **Evacuation**
  - □ Leaving your current location and seeking shelter at a safer place.
  - □ For situations such as flood or chemical accidents.
  - □ Time will vary; days, weeks - it may be never for some situations (e.g., flood).

For More Information

- **Ready America (FEMA)**
  Guidebook to help you prepare for emergency situations.

- **National Weather Service**
  Current hazardous weather threats for your location.

- **NOAA Radio Channels for your Area**
  [http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/nwrbro.htm](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/nwrbro.htm)

- **Safe and Well Website (American Red Cross)**
  Online registry to let family members know you are safe after a disaster situation.
  [http://disastersafe.redcross.org](http://disastersafe.redcross.org)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>Insurance Agent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>Homeowner’s Insurance Policy</td>
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|                               | Company:  
|                               | Policy Number:                                  |
| Ambulance                     | Flood Insurance Policy                          |
|                               | Company:  
|                               | Policy Number:                                  |
| County Emergency Management Office | Wind and/or Hail Insurance Policy               |
|                               | Company:  
|                               | Policy Number:                                  |
| Neighbors                     | Disaster Hotline                                |
| Out of State Contact          | Cooperative Extension Service                  |
| American Red Cross            | Veterinarian                                    |
| Power Company                 | Animal Shelter or Pet Friendly Hotel            |
| Gas Company                   |                                                 |
| Water Company                 |                                                 |
| County Public Health Department |                                             |
| Poison Control Center         |                                                 |

For more information and resources, see [www.Prep4AgThreats.org](http://www.Prep4AgThreats.org)