The unpredictability of disasters is one reason why all Arizonans regardless of where they live in the state need to make a plan, build a go kit, be informed and inspire others.

Even though disasters don't occur as often in Arizona as they do in many other states, don't put off getting prepared.

Emergency preparedness, prevention, response, recovery and mitigation are the shared responsibility of the Whole Community, including federal, state, tribal, and local governments; non-governmental, nonprofit and faith-based organizations; private sector businesses; and communities, families and individuals.

Each member of the Whole Community has a responsibility to every other member to know what to do and where to go in case of an emergency.

This brochure was created to reassure Arizonans of their ability to prepare for all hazards, and to help them take ownership of their personal and family preparedness. Your efforts now can make all the difference if/when disaster strikes. Visit the Arizona Emergency Information Network (AzEIN) at <a href="mailto:ein.az.gov">ein.az.gov</a> for more information on local and state hazards, and suggestions on how to prepare for them.



Ready, Set, Go! is a program adopted by the Arizona Sheriffs to educate residents on proactive measures to take before an emergency and actions to follow when communities are threatened. The three steps encourage

Arizonans to get READY by preparing now for what threatens their community, be SET by maintaining awareness of significant danger and to GO!, evacuate immediately when the danger is current and lifethreatening. Residents are encouraged to register with county emergency notification systems. Visit <a href="ein.az.gov">ein.az.gov</a> and search <a href="ready-set-go">ready-set-go</a> for more information.

The Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA) coordinates the State's emergency preparedness, response and recovery efforts with the Whole Community to reduce the impact of emergencies and disasters on people and property.





ein.az.gov

Arizona Emergency Information Network (AzEIN)

The State of Arizona's official source for emergency updates, preparedness advice and hazards information, and related resources.

**Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs** 

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Disasters and emergencies can create a situation where it may take first responders a few hours to several days to reach you. In such extreme cases, it's important that Arizonans have an emergency communication plan, a disaster supplies kit, and know where and how to get reliable information.

Emergency preparedness is as much about having confidence in your ability to prepare as it is about making preparations. You don't need to invest all your free time or spend a lot of money to prepare. There are small steps you can take, questions you can ask, and free resources-like this brochure--you can download to help you make a plan, build a kit, be informed and inspire others.



# make a plan

Preparedness starts with a plan; a playbook that describes where you or your family will go and how you'll communicate in an Emergency. Involve the entire household in making and practicing your Family Emergency Communication Plan.

Work together to locate two (2) emergency meeting places, make a list of important phone numbers and identify an Out-of-Town Contact.

An Out-of-Town Contact is a family friend or relative who lives outside the immediate area - preferably in another state - and can facilitate communication between family members in an emergency. If you don't have an Out-of-Town Contact, take time to call or text a friend or relative. Ask them to be your family's contact. Offer to be theirs in return.

In Case of Emergency
Emergency Contact: Telephone:
Out-of-State Contact: Telephone:
Neighborhood Meeting Place:Address:
Dial 9-1-1- in a life threatening medical emergency.



## build a go kit

An emergency go kit should contain enough supplies to support your family for at least 72 hours. Build a go kit that includes nonperishable food and potable water, and provides for the needs of your family, including children and sick individuals. Other recommended items include:

eyeglasses	insurance and financial)
☐ flashlight(s) and batteries	☐ cash
☐ first aid kit	$\square$ cell phone and charger
☐ battery-powered/hand-	☐ manual can opener
crank radio	☐ Family Emergency
<ul><li>personal hygiene items</li></ul>	Communication Plan

Nothing is as important as having clean water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene. Estimate at least 1 gallon of water per person, per day. Children, pregnant women, and pets require additional water. Consider the seasons - pack more water for the summer months.

#### Do the Math



Sometimes circumstances necessitate the immediate evacuation of homes, neighborhoods and entire communities. When time is of the essence, grab your Go Kit and the 5 P's of immediate evacuation:

- » People and pets (pet supplies, records)
- » Papers (copies of important documents)
- » Prescriptions (medications, medical devices)
- » Priceless items (family photos, valuables)
- » Personal needs (cell phone, clothing)

### be informed

The more you know about your community, the better prepared you'll be to respond. Learn the emergency plan for your child's school, your work, local hazards and emergency plans.



Be informed of current events and forecasts. Monitor local news and weather coverage, bookmark official government sources like <u>ein.az.gov</u>.

Several counties and tribes use emergency notification systems to warn residents of severe weather and to send alerts. Contact your local emergency management office to register. If you own a mobile phone, double check that the Wireless Emergency Alerts feature is turned on.

### **Know How to Communicate**

It may be easier to send and receive text messages or post a "safe and well" message to social media, than to make a phone call after an emergency. Some mobile phones allow users to create contact groups. If possible, make an "In Case of Emergency" group that includes family members and your Out-of-Town Contact.



# inspire others

Be a positive preparedness example. Look for opportunities to include others in your preparations. For example, you and a friend could join a local Community Emergency Response Team or enroll the family in a basic first aid course.

### Pay it Forward

Share what you've learned about emergency preparedness with friends, family, neighbors and coworkers. Email an electronic copy of this brochure to anyone who would benefit from learning more about personal and family preparedness. View this document online at <a href="mailto:ein.az.gov">ein.az.gov</a> then select Publications on the Resources menu.