

Arizona has a history with flooding and wildfire. In fact, each year over 1,500 wildfires occur statewide. And although most are caught early by firefighters, it's hard to know where the next big fire might spark. The unpredictability of disasters is one reason why *all* Arizonans need to **Make a Plan, Build a Kit, Be Informed** and **Inspire Others** regardless of where they live in the state.

Even though disasters don't occur as often in Arizona as they do in some other states, don't put off getting prepared. Though you may never need to evacuate your home or shelter in place because of an emergency, being prepared for one is peace of mind ... just in case.

"Whole Community is not about what you can do alone, but about what we can achieve together."

Emergency preparedness, prevention, response, recovery and mitigation is 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 when/if disaster strikes.

Visit the Arizona Emergency Information Network (AzEIN) at AzEIN.gov for more information on local and state hazards, and suggestions on how to prepare for them.

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, property and the environment.

Ready. Responsive. Reliable.
in service of the Whole Community



All-Hazard Emergency Preparedness



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Disasters and emergencies can create a situation where it could 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 and 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 and/or your family will go and how you'll communicate in an emergency.

Involve the whole household in making and practicing your Family 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 kit

An emergency kit contains enough supplies to support your family for at least 72 hours. Build a 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:

- prescription medications and eyeglasses
- flashlight(s) with extra batteries
- first aid kit
- battery-powered or hand-crank radio
- personal hygiene items
- important papers (e.g., insurance and financial)
- cash (e.g., small bills and coins)
- cell phone and charger
- manual can opener
- copy of your [Family Communication Plan](#)

Do the Math

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, pets require additional water. Consider the seasons too--pack more water for the summer months.

$$\square \times 3 = \square$$

The number of people in your household

The number of gallons of water needed per person for 3 days

The minimum number of gallons of water to set aside in case of emergency

Go Kits

Sometimes circumstances--for example, a sudden change in wind direction on a wildfire--necessitate the immediate evacuation of homes, neighborhoods and entire communities. When time is of the essence, be prepared with a *Go Kit* packed with the 5 Ps of *Immediate Evacuation*:

- **P**eople and pets (i.e., food, water and clothing)
- **P**apers (e.g., copies of important documents)
- **P**rescriptions (e.g., medical devices and glasses)
- **P**riceless items (e.g., family photos and valuables)
- **P**ersonal needs (e.g., cell phones)



be informed

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

Be informed of current events and forecasts. Monitor local news and weather coverage, bookmark official government sources like [AzEIN.gov](#), and sign up to receive emergency alerts.



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, doublecheck 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.

Teach family how to send group text messages and use social media to stay informed and communicate with family.

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 you might enroll the family in a basic first aid course.

Pay it Forward

Share what you've learned about emergency preparedness from this brochure with friends, family, neighbors and coworkers. Email an electronic copy of our brochure to anyone who would benefit from learning more about personal and family preparedness. Go to <http://go.usa.gov/cMs5T> to view and share the brochure online.