



Fox Island *Ready*

Fox Island Emergency Preparedness
is a Standing Committee of FICRA

FOX ISLAND FAMILY EMERGENCY MANUAL

Revised 4/21/24

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Once that Fox Island individuals/families become aware of the potential for catastrophic conditions like wildfires or major earthquakes that could interrupt basic functions on Fox Island, (electricity, water, ability to escape, or use of the bridge) and put them at risk, they should conclude that it's time to take action on emergency preparation and response.

This emergency preparation and response manual has been created by FICRA's Fox Island Emergency Preparedness (FIEP) for all Fox Island families - especially those families in neighborhoods that DO NOT have Block Coordinators. Families should keep this binder readily available as a guide in preparing for, and responding to, major emergencies. Your very survival may depend on your being prepared as advised here.

Start by going to The Plan in Section 2, page 2a & 2b for an overview of Fox Island's Emergency Preparedness system.

Good news. FIEP now has a website, fi-ready.org, that has a wealth of information for families to build their preparation and response plans to deal with a catastrophe.

NOTICE

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS VOLUNTEERS AND FOX ISLAND RESIDENTS

FIEP is a volunteer organization.

Fox Island's Emergency Preparedness (FIEP) Team is under the purview of the FICRA Building Trust (FICRA) a non-profit entity under the laws of the State of Washington. FICRA's Board of Directors is ultimately responsible for approving the charter for FIEP and for the actions of FIEP. FIEP is protected by FICRA's 501(c)3 status and FICRA's insurance. The FIEP Team has developed this manual and website (fi-ready.org) to facilitate and assist Fox Island residents in preparing for, and responding to, a major catastrophe.

The FICRA Building Trust is not a government agency.

Volunteers of FIEP, without compensation, or the expectation of compensation, will render emergency assistance, or participate in the rendering of such emergency assistance as FIEP determines the need. The FICRA Building Trust provides these recommendations and the assistance to Fox Island residents based on the advice from Pierce County Department of Emergency Management and other County, State, and Federal government agencies. The FICRA Building Trust accepts no responsibility to provide materials, services, or direction to, Fox Island residents.

Please understand - even with the preparation and response work that has been done by the FIEP Team, every family needs to plan to be YOYO (you're on your own) in a major event.

The FIEP emergency assistance is not a hospital, not a source of food, nor a hotel. This plan is absolutely dependent on individual family preparation in the form of 30 days' supply of food and meds plus storage of water and fuel.

Further, It may take hours, a day, or more, to get the FIEP Response Team and the Emergency Operations Center (Nichols Community Center) up and running (see the organization chart). For example, the EP Response Team will work to provide first aid and triage at the Nichols Community Center (NCC), but that may be less than needed depending on volunteers available and the extent of medical help needed.

Section 1

WHAT TO DO in A Major Earthquake Emergency

(See page 2 for wildfire scenario)

1. **CONFIRM THE EMERGENCY** by checking your phone & e-mail for PC Alert advisory, PulsePoint (if you have it), and/or, tuning in FM 89.9, or 105.7 to get the latest information on Fox Island. Or, go to [FacebookFoxIslandFICRA](#)
2. **SECURE YOUR FAMILY AND HOME SITUATION.** (see page 3)
3. **If your neighborhood DOES NOT have a Block Coordinator (BC), CHECK YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD** to see if anyone is in need of medical help (elderly and infirm should be first priority). If you **DO** have a Block Coordinator, help that person.
4. Once you have a feel for the needs in your neighborhood, the Emergency Response organization can be advised by texting to (253) 459-5588. If you **DO** have a BC, your BC will report for you.

Note that texting the Emergency Response group will not have results immediately as those personnel will be getting the response system up and running. The response organization's first action will be to log your text message. The Response Group will then, if you have indicated a need, contact you (or your BC) by texting you or visiting you at your home, or the address you leave on your communication.

5. Continue to help your neighborhood help itself using the resources you have identified in Section 2, Preparation.

WHAT TO DO in A Major Wildfire Emergency

(see page 1 for earthquake type scenario)

- 1. CONFIRM THE EMERGENCY** by checking your phone & e-mail for PC Alert advisory, PulsePoint (if you have it), and/or, tuning in FM 89.9, or 105.7 to get the latest information on Fox Island. Or, go to [Facebook.com/FoxIslandFICRA](https://www.facebook.com/FoxIslandFICRA). Getting accurate information is critically important because escape routes may be limited and knowledge of fire location will be needed.
- 2. SECURE YOUR FAMILY AND HOME SITUATION.** (see Page 3)
- 3. If your neighborhood DOES NOT have a Block Coordinator (BC), try to advise those around you (as you see fit because time to enable your escape may be critical). The elderly, infirm, pets, and children are particularly vulnerable.**
- 4. Leave your home using the map for escape routes on Page 4 (or the Fox Island map in the Appendix if you've already marked it up) to locate and mark the fire, and, to pick a route of escape.**
- 5. Once the fire situation is under control and permission is given to return to your residence, you can continue to help your neighborhood help itself in recovery using the resources you have identified in Section 2, Preparation.**

Individual Family Response in an Emergency

Fox Island Meeting Site: _____

Off-island Meeting Site: _____

Off-Island/Out of State Contact: _____

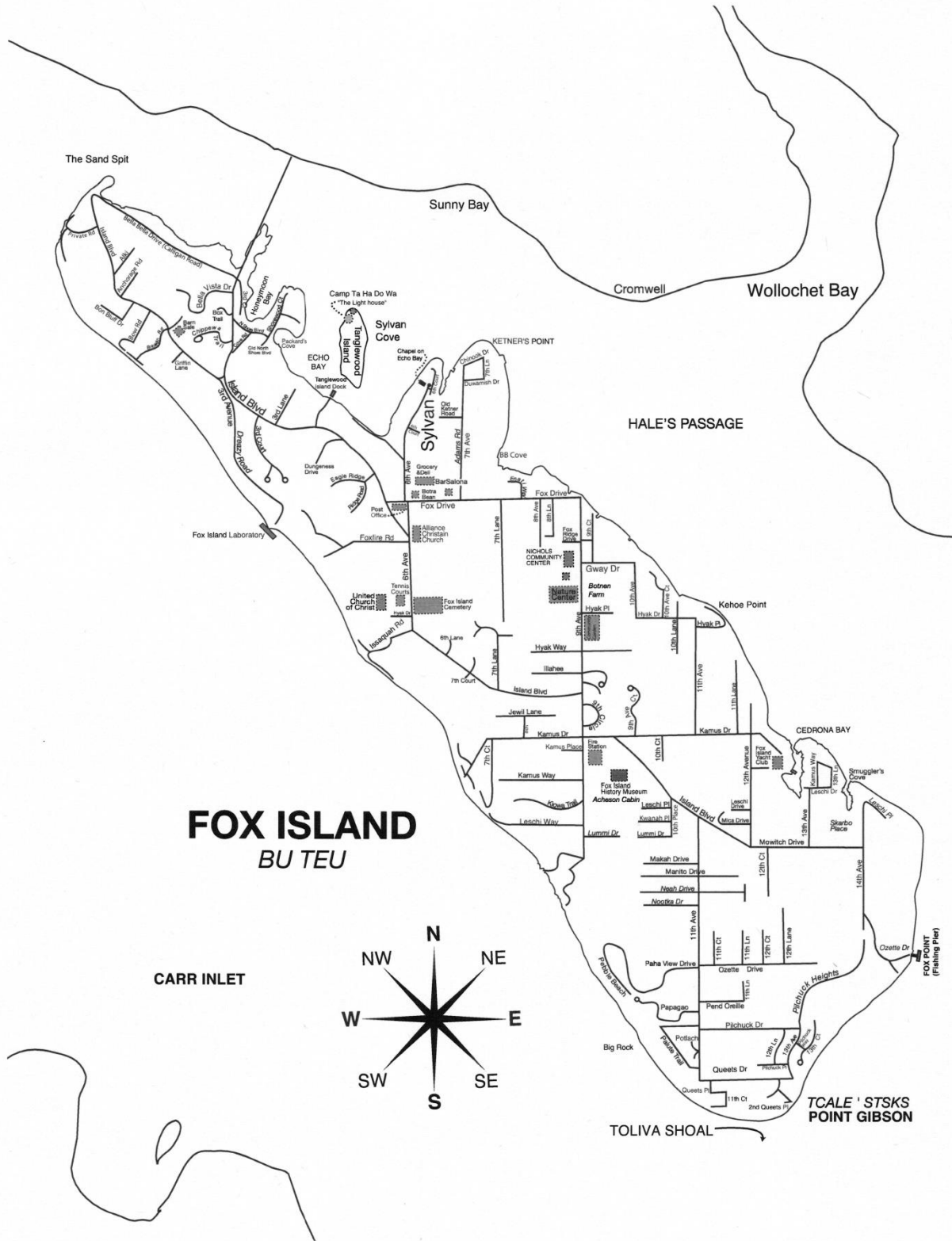
Their Text Number and email: _____

Important Numbers during an Emergency:

Name	Phone	Address	Comment

Fox Island Family Emergency Preparation

Map for escape routes



Section 2

FOX ISLAND RESIDENT PREPARATION RESPONSIBILITIES

1. **Sign up for Pierce County Alert** to receive advisory information on an emergency that could impact you.
<https://www.piercecountywa.gov/921/Pierce-County-ALERT>. Have a handy battery radio set to FM 89.9 or 105.7 for KGHP information. Consider getting the PulsePoint app, too, for accurate incident location.
2. **If you have a Block Coordinator*** confirm the information needed for making contact with you in an emergency.
3. **Be prepared with a minimum of 30 days of food, meds, and keep your water and fuel inventories up.** See the Bucket List in the Appendix for help on this.
4. **Make a plan** for contacting and for meeting your family members in an emergency (use the Fox Island Bridge being out of service as your base case). Use the form Section 1, Page 3.
5. **Install a File of Life pocket** onto your refrigerator so any emergency response personnel can be aware of important health info on family members. Keep your “HELP/OK” sign readily available, too.
6. **Read The Plan**, which describes the Fox Island Emergency Response Team’s assistance process in a major emergency. The Plan, updated and sent to you annually, goes into Section 2, pages 2a and 2b of this manual.
7. **Go to our website fi-ready.org** for a wealth of information and resources on preparation.

* To see if you have a Block Coordinator, go to fi-ready.org and click on the [Block Coordinator tab](#) and click on the picture there showing the blocks with coordinators. Don’t have one? Read the options there.

FICRA BUILDING TRUST'S
FOX ISLAND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN
'THE PLAN' - 2024 UPDATE r-2

BACKGROUND: The Fox Island Emergency Preparedness (FIEP) Team and the Emergency Response Plan (THE PLAN) was conceived in 2013 over concern that the Fox Island Bridge might be rendered impassable by an event like a major earthquake. Studies subsequently extended concerns to our being prepared to deal with wildfires, heavy freezes and catastrophic windstorms. The Team has worked with government and non-government sources to develop this Plan which covers both preparations to deal with emergency situations, and, responding to them.

THE FOUNDATION OF THE PLAN IS INDIVIDUAL FAMILY PREPAREDNESS. All residents should know that government emergency services response to an emergency could be delayed, or not be forthcoming at all, depending on the scale of an event. Also, your Emergency Response Team has no food, nor water, and will need some time, maybe days for some functions, to assemble its volunteers to implement response assistance. That means YOYO (you're on your own) for an undetermined period of time – hence the recommendation for each family having **30 days of food and meds, and as much water as can be stored.** We have also learned about the importance of neighborhood preparedness and response to a catastrophic event. **Having neighborhoods working as units is now recognized as an important step to help us survive an extended isolation.**

So you can see that surviving a major catastrophe is very much dependent on you.

On our new **Emergency Planning website (FI-Ready.org)**, you will find links to videos on preparation, to maps of Fox Island showing the coverage of Block Coordinators on the island (Take a look to see if your neighborhood has its Block Coordinator, and who your Coordinator is). Also there are instructions on signing up for PC Alert - an important connection you can set up for government alerting you of, and advising you of, the status of things during, an emergency.

COMPONENTS OF THE PLAN

-SELF SUFFICIENCY – Our Fox Island Family Emergency Manual and new website (fi-ready.org) have a wealth of information to help individual families develop their preparation for, and response to, a major incident. Every family should have a manual which can be requested for delivery at our website: fi-ready.org.

-NEIGHBORHOOD TEAMS – We have developed manuals for the neighborhood Block Coordinators as quick guides for reacting to an emergency and preparing their neighborhood residents to work as a team. The Block Coordinator program is a high priority for acquiring volunteers.

-COMMUNICATION TEAM – Communication is one of the most important elements of managing emergency response. We now have the Fox Island Amateur Radio Club with over 30 members. We are working to get more certified amateur radio operators to participate in emergency response. We are continuing to improve the communication system hardware so the Communications Center at the Nichols Community Center EOC (Emergency Operations Center) will be optimized for island coverage and contact with the authorities. We have established alternative means of communication as well to help ensure the rapid establishment and operation of the emergency response organization.

-MEDICAL TEAM – Fox Island has several medical professionals (physicians, PA's, NPA's, etc) that have volunteered to participate in an emergency. We also have storage of medical triage equipment on-island in multiple locations, to ensure supplies are available for use at the Nichols Community Center medical triage room and field deployment.

-SHELTER TEAM – We have an off-site storage facility with cots and bedding available to temporary shelters (the Heart Church and United Church of Christ). However, we have no food stored for those shelters.

- NEIGHORHOOD WATCH (EMERGENCY PATROL) – Some of our Neighborhood Watch volunteers will be scanning neighborhoods in an emergency and relaying neighborhood information/needs to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). They will also help provide emergency transport.

-MARINE TEAM - The Fox Island Yacht Club is working with us to coordinate the use of volunteer boaters for emergency medical evacuations and other marine transport.

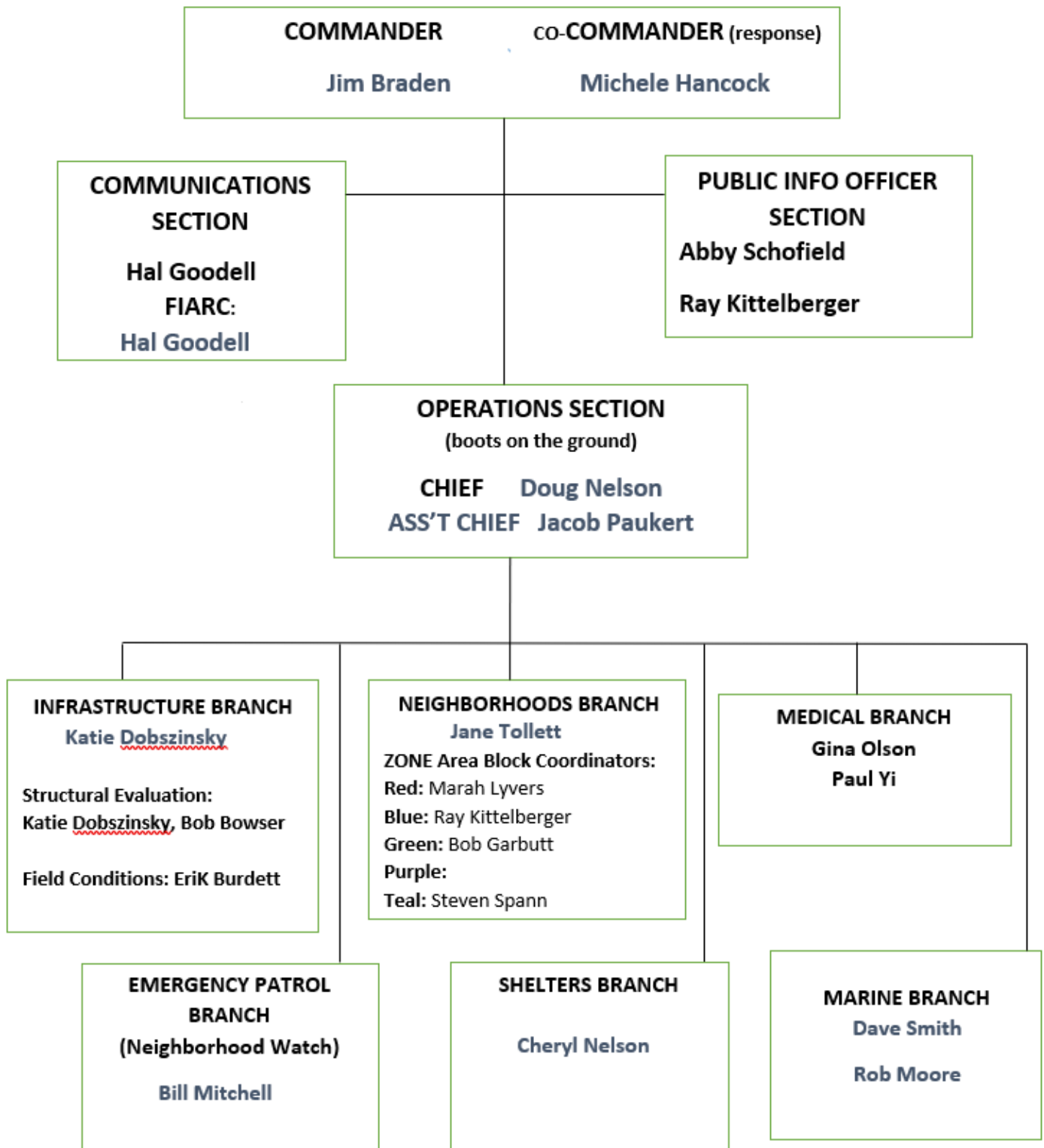
-INFRASTRUCTURE TEAM – We are fortunate to have resident licensed Civil Engineers to evaluate structures before entering, post-event. We have volunteers for clearing roads and posting 'danger zones', and we are partnered with Fox Island Mutual Water Association on water delivery.

Ten plus years into **THE PLAN** we are still learning. We are an operation respected by the authorities and are asked to make presentations to other communities on our program. We have secured, and spent, grants from the County and State for support materials. We will continue working to acquire resources as needed to improve our capability.

Volunteer?

And, of course, our response teams (Neighborhood, Communication, Medical, Shelter, Patrol, Marine, and Infrastructure) are always looking for more volunteers. Volunteering is easy. Go to our website, fi-ready.org (or FICRA'S ficra.org) where you will find a link for volunteering.

FICRA EMERGENCY PREPARATION/RESPONSE OVERALL ORGANIZATION



Jbdnejt4-20-2024

4 Carry your Emergency Plan Card with out-of-area contact

Use the Emergency Plan card to your left so you will have all your important information with you at all times. This is an essential step in being prepared for a disaster.

— Important note —

Choose an Out-of-Area Contact Person for your family who is far enough away that they won't be impacted by the same disaster and can share information back to separated family members by text or non-internet phone line.

5 Sign up for ALERTS

Pierce County ALERT is a free emergency notification system designed to alert residents and businesses in Pierce County of emergency events and other important notices.

Don't miss out. County Officials cannot send emergency alerts to your cell phone unless you register with Pierce County ALERT. Opt-in to Pierce County ALERT today. The easiest method is to visit the Pierce County website at www.piercecountywa.org/ALERT. Click the Pierce County ALERT button located on the website homepage.

For more information
253.798.6595

Emergency Resources



Pierce County
www.piercecountywa.org/PREPARE
253.798.6595

Disaster Ready Washington
www.disasterreadywashington.us

Federal Emergency Management Agency
www.Ready.gov
1.800.621.3362

American Red Cross Safe and Well
www.safeandwell.communityos.org



www.piercecountywa.org/PREPARE



www.facebook.com/PierceCountyDEM



253.798.6595



www.twitter.com/PierceCo

WHAT'S ON YOUR

BUCKET LIST?



Follow this 5-step plan now so you can act fast and respond quickly.

Keep essential supplies in an easy grab-n-go container.

Store it near an exit door in your home or in the trunk of your car.

Bucket List

Bucket List

PREPARE YOUR EMERGENCY KIT NOW.

1 Have your Grab-N-Go kit ready

For a quick evacuation, store the following supplies (for 2-3 days) in a 5-gallon bucket with lid or other container such as a back pack.

- Flashlight
- Cell phone charger
- Extra medications
- Map
- Water and non-perishable food
- Radio
- Toiletries
- First-aid-kit
- Trash bag
- Blanket
- Pocket knife
- Whistle
- Games and toys
- Individual family needs
- Change of clothes
- Extra set of keys
- Important documents
- Tarp and rope

2 Additional supplies

Expand your supplies to last for 14 days for all family members.

- +** **Add quantities:**
 - Water (1 gallon of water per day for cooking, drinking, and sanitation)
 - Food
 - Personal care items
 - Batteries
 - Trash bags
- +** **Add supplies:**
 - First aid kit and guide
 - Tools
 - Shelter in place kit (plastic sheeting and duct tape)
- 👍** **Nice to have:**
 - Tents and/or additional tarps
 - Cooking stove and fuel
 - Portable heater
 - Generator
- 🚗** **For your car:**
 - Car emergency equipment such as jumper cables, flashlight, flares, and "HELP" signs
 - Shovel and kitty litter or sand
 - Keep gas tank at least half full at all times!
- 🐾** **For your animals:**
 - Food and water
 - Leash and tags
 - Photo
 - Medications

3 Know what to do in a disaster

- ✓ Drop, Cover, & Hold during an earthquake!
- ✓ Check for damaged utility lines. ONLY shut off gas if you detect a gas leak. Evacuate, leave doors open, then report to authorities
- ✓ Shut off water at house to protect your supply from a negative drain
- ✓ Check for injuries and give first aid
- ✓ Only call 9-1-1 for serious injuries or life threatening situations
- ✓ Check on your neighbors
- ✓ Monitor TV, radio, and social media for emergency information
- ✓ Save some cash, low denominations, in case credit or debit cards cannot be used

