

# FLASH

cards



DISASTER SAFETY

# Disaster Safety Basics

All areas of the U.S. are at risk from some type of disaster whether catastrophic like flooding or every day like a house fire. Families can make a difference by taking steps to be ready for disasters of any kind.

## Have a Disaster Plan

- Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet, i.e. your child's school, a neighbor's home or a public place of business or worship.
- Establish an out-of-state contact, so all family members have a single point of contact, and identify at least two means of contact (telephone, email, etc.).
- Family members with disabilities or the elderly may require additional assistance in a disaster. See the "People with Disabilities" FLASH Card for tips.
- Create an evacuation or shelter-in-place plan for your pets. Additional tips available on the "Pet Safety" FLASH Card.
- Post emergency telephone numbers by your landline telephones, in your smart phone, on the refrigerator or family bulletin board, in your wallet or purse and in children's book bags or backpacks.
- Teach children how and when to call 911.

## Build a Disaster Kit

- Stock nonperishable emergency supplies and a disaster supply kit with these items: WATER – at least one gallon per person per day for three days; NONPERISHABLE FOOD – a three to seven day per person supply; CAN OPENER; BLANKETS, PILLOWS & OTHER BEDDING; CLOTHING; FIRST AID KIT; MEDICINES; SPECIAL ITEMS FOR BABIES OR THE ELDERLY; TOILETRIES; MOIST WIPES; GARBAGE BAGS and PLASTIC TIES – for personal sanitation; FLASHLIGHT; RADIO – Battery operated and NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio; CASH; EXTRA SET OF KEYS; TOYS, BOOKS & GAMES; SCANS OR COPIES OF IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS; TOOLS; VEHICLES WITH FULL GAS TANKS; PET CARE ITEMS; DUST MASK, DUCT TAPE AND PLASTIC SHEETING; LOCAL MAPS; FIRE EXTINGUISHER and HOUSEHOLD CHLORINE BLEACH and MEDICINE DROPPER – When diluted nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.

## Stay Aware

- Purchase and monitor NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio or visit [www.flashweatheralerts.org](http://www.flashweatheralerts.org) to download a severe weather alerts App for your iOS or Android powered device.

Protect your home in a **FLASH** with the  
Federal Alliance for Safe Homes!

[www.flash.org](http://www.flash.org) ■ toll-free 1-877-221-SAFE