

How to Create a Disaster Plan for Your Family

- Discuss what type of natural disasters and emergency events could happen in your area.

- Pick two places to meet:
 - 1) Right outside of your home in case of a sudden emergency like a fire.

 - 2) Outside of your neighborhood in case you cannot return home. Make sure everyone knows the address and phone number of the location.

- Ask an out-of-state friend to be your family contact. After a disaster it is often easier to call long distance. Other family members should call this person and tell them where they are. Everyone must know the out-of-state person's contact information.

- Discuss what to do in the event of an evacuation.

- Plan ahead for the care of your animals.



A Guide to Emergency Preparedness



A Quality of Life City

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About the City's Emergency Preparedness

The City of Hurst has in place an Emergency Management Plan to coordinate the efforts of City personnel in the event of an emergency or natural disaster. This plan not only calls for activating an Emergency Operations Center, but also appoints an Emergency Operations Coordinator to oversee actions undertaken in response to an emergency situation. This plan was updated again in 2001 to account for terrorism and biological events.

Coordination with Other Agencies

The City of Hurst also has in place several agreements to receive mutual aid for emergency related services from other communities in times of need. Hurst also continues to communicate regularly with other local, state and federal agencies involved in providing law enforcement and fire protection and emergency medical response services.

What to do in the Event of an Emergency

There are several things you should do in the event of a natural disaster or emergency.

U *Stay Calm*

Do not panic. Try to assess the situation and think about what steps can be taken to stay safe or avoid further injury.

U *Check the Scene*

Pay attention to the surrounding environment to see whether you are safe, and if anyone around you is in need of medical attention. If you feel you are in danger, get to a safe location as soon as you can.

U *Give and Get Help*

If you or others are injured, call 911 immediately. Provide all available information to the dispatcher including whether or not the danger still exists.

U *Listen for Announcements*

Listen to local radio and television stations for news alerts. Also listen for emergency sirens located in your area.

Tips for Responding to Different Types of Emergencies

Thunderstorms

- Get indoors or in a vehicle immediately.
- Stay away from trees and power lines.
- Do not use phones, televisions or computers that could carry lightning into your home.

Floods

- Move to higher ground immediately.
- Never drive through flood waters.
- Use a battery-powered radio to listen for updates.

Tornadoes

- Seek shelter in a structure.
- Move to a basement or to a room or hallway in the center of the building.
- Stay away from windows and doors.
- Do not stay in a car or trailer.
- If there is no shelter, lie flat in a low area. Be aware of rising water.

Terrorism

- Report suspicious activity to the law enforcement authorities immediately.
- If you receive a suspicious looking package, do not open it.
- If you live or work near the scene of a chemical event, stay where you are, close your doors and windows, turn off you heating/air conditioning systems, and listen for updates from local authorities.
- Always be alert and aware of your surroundings.