Emergency Preparedness

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What is Emergency Preparedness?

- An attempt to get ready for something you have little control over.

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Consider the types of emergencies for the area you live in.

- Weather related: hurricanes, tornados, severe thunderstorms, flooding, etc.
- Train derailment
- Chemical spill or explosion
- Active shooter
- Bomb threat
- Prolonged power outages
- Oil rig fire/explosion and or gas leak
- Extreme heat
- Extreme cold
- Out of control grass/house fire

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What does Emergency preparedness planning entail?

- Thinking ahead – planning
- Some work on your part.
- BEING INFORMED!
- Taking control of what you can.
- Sign up for CodeRed (all DeWitt County Residents)
- Civic Ready (city of Cuero residents only)
- Register with 211 – STEAR – South Texas Emergency Assistance Registry
  - Not a guarantee of assistance
  - Must be done yearly

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How do you take control?

- Plan and communicate.
- Make a family plan.
  - Shelter in place
  - Stay with family out of town
  - Where to meet family
  - Evacuate
- Gather documents and make copies.
- Pack personal items.
- List of medications, doctors and medical information.
- Consider special needs.

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How do you take control?

- Prepare in Advance
- Make sure you have up to date copies of important documents and you medication list
- Pack comfortable clothing
- Evaluate your insurance coverage.
- Make a list of things to do at home to protect the structure and inside contents.
- Cut, label and store boards to cover your windows
- Purchase a generator??
- Store items gathered in a special place and update them yearly.

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Your preparedness activity depends on your plan.
What is your plan?

What is your plan and what are you planning for?

- **This will dictate what you need to do.**
  - Evacuate and stay with family
  - Evacuate and stay where???
  - Hotels – Do you have a list of hotels? What if they have no room? What is plan B?
  - Shelters (low cots)
  - How are you going to get there?
  - Evacuation routes maybe jammed – so prepare for delays and minor vehicle issues
  - Cash

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What is your plan and what are you planning for?

- Do you have everything ready to take with you in a dedicated space? So you can leave at a moments notice.
- Do you have enough medicine for at least 1 week?
- Do you have extra oxygen tanks
- Paper maps in case of detours or change of plans
- What do you need to do at home before you leave?
- Do you have a pet you need to make arrangements for?
- Turn off gas, electric, unplug appliances, ???
- Prepare a check off list for yourself

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All plans require some of the same steps.

You cannot
control everything
but control what you can
and by doing so,
you are better prepared for any situation.

Plan to be self-sustaining for 7 days.

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Have everything you need for 7 days.

- **(Pack your go bag first thing in the morning – one now and one for EP)**
  - Food
  - Water
  - Medicine
  - Shelter
  - Comfortable Clothing
  - Documents
  - Toilet paper
  - Baby wipes
  - Non-perishable food and a can opener
  - Special needs – hearing aids, walkers, incontinent supplies, etc.

- Flashlight & extra batteries
- Communication – weather radio & extra batteries
- Water purification tablets (optional)
- Elderly, Infant & toddler special needs
- Activities to keep you busy
- Fill car with gas
- Have cash
- Etc.

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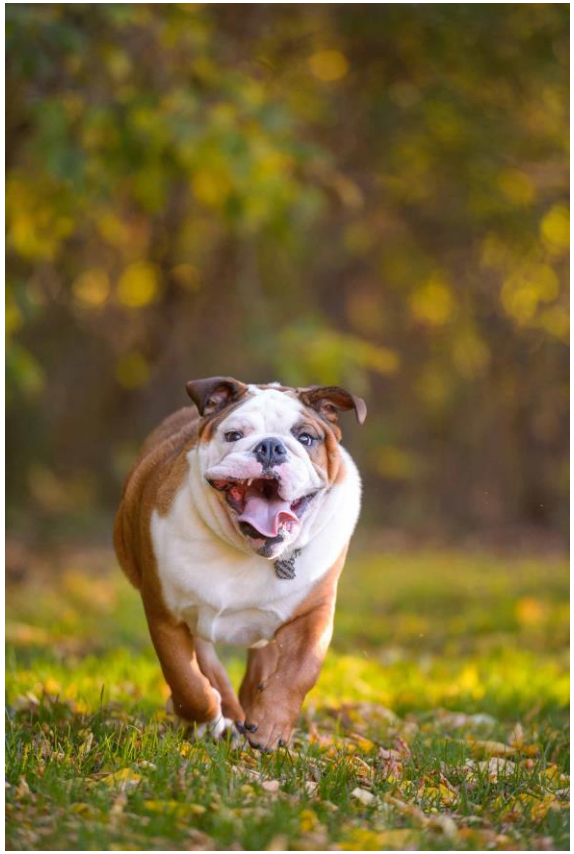
Service animals or personal pet Emergency Kit

- A week supply of food, water and medicine
- Feeding dishes
- Bedding/blankets
- Collar, harness & leash
- Carrier
- Toys
- Medical/shot records
- Etc.



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Shelters will not house pets.

- Can they go with you?
- Where will they stay – kennel them with a vet?
- Will the hotel allow pets??

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What does shelter in Place mean and what do I need to do?

- Staying where you are
- Cover your mouth and nose
- Lock your doors and windows
- Sealing your home – Thick plastic and duck tape
- Turning off the air, fan, A/c, heat, etc…
- Taking shelter in a room free of windows
- Take water and activities with you
- It may be hours before the all clear

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