

Considerations for Response Personnel During Emergency Situations:

- Lack of preparedness at home will impact your ability to do your job effectively and safely.
- Your family members will likely have to survive on their own without your help to make important decisions.
- Preparing with your family ahead of time will reduce stress and uncertainty for all of you in the event of an emergency.
- Families where both parents are responders and single parents may have special considerations. You may need to have a support network that can care for your children, pets, property, dependents, or those with access and functional needs. You should also notify your supervisor of your family's special situation.
- Communications with your loved ones may be difficult.
- You may be working in very stressful conditions for extended periods of time.
- You may be required to work extra shifts without knowing your family's condition or location.
- You may not know the condition of your home or other property.

Considerations for Response Personnel's Agencies When Planning for Emergency Situations:

- Members may not respond if they are unsure of the safety of their families.
- Agencies should determine disaster policies and clearly communicate them to members so there is a clear understanding of what will occur.
- Past experience and recent studies have enforced the importance of organization-sponsored programs for their members.

The Ready Responder Program has been created specifically for emergency response personnel and their agencies.

Responders serve a critical role in emergency operations whether preserving lives, protecting property, or providing other essential services. When plans are in place to support the families of response personnel during emergencies, responders can turn their full attention to the life-saving missions that support the community. Ensure the safety and comfort of your family. Take care of them while you take care of your community.

Preparing Makes Sense ready.gov/responder

Work with your agency, co-workers, neighbors, relatives, and friends to improve your ability to care for your loved ones when you can't be with them. Before going out to secure the homeland, take a few minutes to ensure you have secured your family and your home. Make your personal and family readiness plans. As you know, when every second counts, being prepared makes all the difference.



Planning now can make a big difference in ensuring the safety and well-being of you and the ones you love.

Don't delay. Prepare your family.



FEMA

The Ready Responder program was collaboratively developed in partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of Infrastructure Protection, National Protection and Preparedness Directorate, and FEMA.

Who takes care of your family while you take care of your community?



You do.



Ready Responder

Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.®

ready.gov/responder

Make a Plan

You and your family may be separated when disaster strikes, and you may be away from your family for an extended period of time while you do your job. Plan in advance to make sure your family is well prepared by making an emergency plan now.



of transportation out of your area. Take your emergency supply kit with you and lock the house when you leave.

4. Understand School and Workplace Emergency Plans.

Talk to your children's schools and family member's workplaces about their disaster planning. Find out how they will communicate with families during an emergency.

5. Remember to Plan for Your Pets.

Talk with neighbors to see if they can care for your pets and animals until you are able to return home. Take pets with you if you are told to evacuate, but have alternate plans if going to a public shelters as pets may not be allowed inside.

6. Make Plans for those with Access and Functional Needs.

Keep in mind they may need special assistance, medications, durable medical equipment, consumable medical supplies, a service animal, communications tools, transportation and more during an emergency. Detailed planning information is available at ready.gov.

7. Create a Support Network of Co-workers and Neighbors.

You, your co-workers and neighbors can help each other. Caring for pets until owners are able to return home, looking in on elderly family members, helping children evacuate when parents are unable to get home to help them - having someone else able to assist if you can't be there puts everyone's mind more at ease. Make sure you and your network participants exchange contact information and put it on your emergency contact list.

8. Practice makes perfect.

Practice your plan, regularly check that everyone remembers the meeting point and the family's emergency contact. Keep all contact information up to date.

Be a Ready Responder
Get a kit. Make a plan. Be informed.

Make Your Kit

When assembling your kit, start with the basic survival needs of water, food, clean air, and warmth for at least three days.



Remember to include:

- Water, 1 gallon/person/day for 3 days
- Non-perishable food (incl. baby formula, pet food)
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio, extra batteries
- Flashlight and/or glow sticks
- First aid kit, first aid book
- Whistle/strobe light to signal for help
- Prescription/over-the-counter medications, glasses
- Portable waterproof/fireproof container with important documents (e.g., insurance policies, birth certificates, bank statements, and medical records), cash/change/traveler's checks, and local maps
- Sleeping bag/blanket for each person
- Weather-appropriate clothing (long-sleeved shirt, long pants, sturdy shoes)
- Bleach and medicine dropper to use as a disinfectant (9 parts water/1 part bleach), or to treat water in an emergency (16 drops non-scented bleach/gallon of water)
- Dust mask, plastic sheeting/duct tape
- Personal hygiene items, moist towelettes, antibacterial wipes, feminine supplies, diapers
- Utensils, manual can opener, paper cups, plates, paper towels, garbage bags
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Fire extinguisher
- Books, games, puzzles, activities for children