

DISASTER READY

Simple Ways to Prepare

5 Easy Steps

- ✓ WEATHER RADIO
- ✓ COMMUNICATIONS PLAN
- ✓ SUPPLIES
- ✓ SPECIAL NEEDS
- ✓ PRACTICE

Think Disaster Can't Happen Here?

Disasters in Ozaukee & Washington Counties in the past few years



Tornado
2006



Flood
2008
2010



Blizzard
2008
2011



Fire
2010



Heat
2010
2011
2012
Drought
2012



Health
2009
2010
2011
2012

THINK ABOUT THIS

Being ready means taking a few easy steps NOW to protect your family in case something bad happens later. Put together your emergency supply kits, create a family emergency plan, learn some easy tips and practice!

You've heard it all before. But have you done anything about preparing yet?

This publication provides the tools and encouragement you need and is brought to you by emergency response professionals--specifically with the folks of Ozaukee and Washington Counties in mind.

What if you knew that at exactly 1:45 pm tomorrow you would hear your weather radio blast a warning for severe thunderstorms with a possible tornado heading your way. The power would go out, and you only had a few short minutes to gather your family, get to the basement and have everything needed to survive on your own until help arrived.

How would you react?

What would you do first?

Would you know what to take with you?

Could you easily get your hands on needed supplies? Important documents? Medicine?

We never know when disasters will strike or what form they will take. We DO know we can learn from past emergencies and do what it takes to protect our families and bounce back.

Let's get started!

1 out of 5 (20%) Wisconsin households are READY to deal with a disaster or other emergency.

What about yours?

Wisconsin Preparedness Survey

Get a NOAA Weather Radio

NOAA means National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Think of a NOAA weather radio as being like a smoke detector that warns you of severe weather and hazardous conditions heading your way.



Every family and business needs one.

The National Weather Service, broadcasts through the NOAA weather radio 24-hours a day. The broadcasts are the news and information source for

weather forecasts, watches, and warnings. It provides the location of the warnings, Amber Alerts and emergency instructions.

Six Great Reasons to get a NOAA weather radio right now:

- 1) It can **save your life!** Advance warning gives you more time to react and get to shelter.
- 2) The alert signal can **wake you up** in the middle of the night. (Think the Joplin tornado)
- 3) It can give **added security.** The battery back-up system means you won't miss a warning because of power outages.
- 4) Weather Radios are relatively **inexpensive** and easily **available** at most hardware and electronic stores.
- 5) They're **portable!** Weather radios are **ideal to take along** when you are enjoying the outdoors.

6) They have **great features** like Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) technology, which allows you to program your radio to remain quiet and in stand-by mode until a warning directly affects your county.

Consider Special Needs

Your weather radio can be adapted for people with functional needs such as the visually or hearing impaired to include such features as:

- Flashing light
- Bed shaker
- Siren

You'll be very glad you bought one!

For more information on the NOAA Weather Radio go to the National Weather Service website at: www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr

"Disasters and emergencies can and do happen in Wisconsin, whether it's tornados, weather extremes, chemical spills, etc. Being a prepared citizen with a plan and a kit and knowledge of available resources empowers you to keep yourself and your loved ones as safe as possible should anything ever happen. When you're prepared, you'll be that much more ready to respond to the disaster, recover from short term effects, and mitigate long term risks, making you an asset to your community as well. And taking on the responsibility to be prepared is not only empowering – it can mean the difference between life and death."

*Amy Donahue,
Healthcare Partners of
Ozaukee County*

Create a Communications Plan

Your family may not be together when disaster strikes.

It's important to plan places where your family will meet - one on your block, one in your town, one farther away.

Plan how you'll contact one another and what you'll do in different situations.

Think about members of your family who aren't living at home – college, vacation, grandma. How will these people find you?

Share these plans with every member of your family.

Quiz each other. Make up situations. Talk about your plans at supper!

Keep a copy of your family communications plan in your emergency supply kits - at home, at work and in your car. Record information for each family member, and be sure to update at least once a year:

- Name
- Date of birth
- Social Security number
- Medical information, including prescriptions

- (don't forget glasses prescriptions)
- Current photo
- Cell phone number
- Email address
- Possible locations they might be – at work, with friends, church – all with emergency numbers, addresses and the organization's evacuation location!
- Don't forget to add a page for your pets! - Photos, vet records, kennel, and emergency numbers

Your Home

- Home address
- Home phone
- Emergency contacts for the family and their relationships to you – Remember first responders call these ICE (in case of emergency) Label them that way!

Meeting Places

- Neighborhood meeting place – on your block
- Town meeting place
- Out-of-town contact name with phone numbers and email address

Other Important Phone Numbers

Make note of all your important contacts, phone numbers, policy numbers, and other essential information. Enter these numbers into your cell phone too.

- Non-emergency numbers for police, fire and sheriff
- Doctor, dentist
- Pharmacist
- Medical insurance
- Homeowner's/rental insurance
- Veterinarian/kennel

Download blank templates you can use at www.ready.wi.gov

Get Every Member of the Family Involved in the Planning!



Keep this information with your emergency supply kit or share with a neighbor

A Few Practical Tips

Practice!

Have your family actually live off your 3 days of stored food. Nothing teaches us the gaps in the planning like real life!



Get every member of the family involved in preparing!

Figure out...

Who is in charge of Fluffy?



Don't forget to put cash in your kit!

Remember, ATM's and credit/debit cards will not work during a power outage. Small bills only.

Save your most precious memories

Photographs, sound clips, your wedding bouquet, your child's first picture?

Take some steps now to save what you love.

Be picky –

- Use technology - a CD of images and sound clips
- Store copies with loved ones far away and you store theirs!
- Protect what you save – waterproof bags



Back-up water supply

Remember, your hot water heater is an extra source of clean drinking water.

Pack sturdy shoes

to walk in debris or long distances in evacuation.



Gather Your Supplies

72 HOUR EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

Start thinking about the basics of survival – fresh water, food, safety, warmth, sanitation and clean air. Plan for a minimum of 72 hours living without electricity or other conveniences.

Family Kit Essentials

- Battery-powered NOAA Weather Radio and a commercial radio or hand crank radio
- Water (1 gallon per person per day for 3 days)
- Food that does not need electricity for storage or preparation
- Manual can opener (if kit contains canned food)
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person
- First aid kit and emergency medical reference manual
- Prescription medications and eyewear
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels, moist towelettes, garbage bags and ties
- Complete change of clothing, including a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, socks and sturdy shoes
- Cash in small bills or traveler's checks, and change
- Copies of important family documents, such as insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container – see full list below!
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper (When diluted nine parts water to one part bleach it can be used to disinfect.)
- Dust mask (to help filter contaminated air) and plastic sheeting/duct tape (to shelter

where you are)

- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children
- Local maps
- Paper and pencil
- Fire Extinguisher
- Whistle to signal for help



Remember:

Rotate supplies out of your supply kit regularly to keep water, food and batteries fresh.



"We encourage everyone to be prepared to sustain themselves and their families for at least 72 hours. In some situations, it may take days to restore utilities and mobilize response assets from out of the affected area."

Rob Schmid,
Washington County
Emergency Coordinator

PET EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

Your pet is an important member of your family and needs special consideration.

You can assemble a pet kit, and develop a pet care buddy system.

Make plans. Keep in mind that what's best for you is typically what's best for your animals.

Kit Contents:

- Proper identification – licenses, tags
- Current photos taken of you with your pet in case you need to prove ownership
- Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and/or carriers to transport pets safely and ensure that your animals can't escape
- Familiar pet beds and toys to comfort your pet
- Care instructions for the animal
- Medications
- Vaccination and veterinary records and the name and



number of your veterinarian in case you have to board your pet

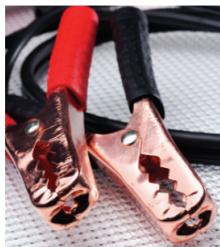
- 3 day supply of pet food & water
- Sanitation supplies – cat litter, baggies, etc.

Keep items in an accessible place and store them in sturdy containers that can be carried easily.

CAR EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

Don't let severe weather or other emergencies catch you off guard!

You never know when you may become stranded in your vehicle and be forced to wait until help arrives. You can stay safe and comfortable by keeping a few essential items in your vehicle to help you "weather the storm". Be sure to adapt your emergency supply kit when the seasons change to make sure you have the right supplies when you need them!



BASIC KIT

- Bottled water to stay hydrated
- Non-perishable snacks
- Cell phone charger
- Emergency signs to post in the window

- Jumper cables
- Tire gauge
- Foam tire sealant
- Reflective emergency triangles
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First-aid kit
- Multi-purpose utility tool
- Duct tape
- Rags, gloves

ADD FOR SUMMER KIT

- Extra water
- Sunscreen
- Sunshade for window
- Rain poncho

ADD FOR WINTER KIT

- Extra high-calorie snacks
- Blankets
- Pocket hand-warmers
- Extra warm gloves
- Ice scraper
- Kitty litter (for traction)
- Snow shovel

Place all your items in a sturdy container or duffel bag. Make sure to secure your kit and other supplies safely in your vehicle to avoid UFO's should you have to slam on the brakes suddenly (unidentified flying objects).

COPY YOUR IMPORTANT PAPERS

How long would it take you to find your insurance policies, bank records or birth certificates to keep them safe and available?

Having copies of these documents on hand through a disaster will help you get back on track if your possessions are damaged or you're forced to relocate after a storm.

You can either photocopy your documents and keep as hard copies or scan them and store electronically on a jump drive or DVD.

For added protection, store your important documents in large plastic bags or other waterproof containers. Keep a set of copies stored in a separate location such as a bank safety deposit box.

Information to store:

- Insurance cards, policy information
- Mortgages, leases, titles
- Medical records, prescriptions
- Wills, powers of attorney
- Financial statements, loan papers, tax returns
- Birth certificates, Social Security cards, passports
- School, employment and military records
- List of user names, passwords and codes, computer backup
- Extra house and car keys
- Inventory of possessions with estimated values

NOTE: An up-to-date inventory is a valuable resource to have when dealing with disaster related loss or destruction of your property. Photographs and videos should be included in your inventory. Keep your inventory current and in a safe place. A safe place is usually another location or a safety deposit box.

During disaster, keep all receipts, work estimates and photos together. Don't lose out on FEMA assistance or insurance claims because of sloppy recordkeeping!

YOU MIGHT HAVE TO SHELTER IN PLACE

One of the instructions you may be given in an emergency where hazardous materials may have been released is to shelter-in-place. This is a precaution to keep you safe while remaining indoors. (This is not the same thing as going to a shelter in case of a storm.)

Shelter-in-place means selecting a small, interior room, with no or few windows, and taking refuge there. It does not mean sealing off your entire home.

Why You Might Need to Shelter-in-Place:

Chemical, biological, or radiological contaminants may be released accidentally or intentionally into the environment. Should this occur, information will be provided by local authorities on television and radio stations on how to protect you and your family.

Because information will most likely be provided on television and radio, it is important to keep a TV or radio on, even during the workday. The important thing is for you to follow instructions of local authorities and know what to do if they advise you to shelter-in-place.

How to Shelter-in-Place at Home

Close and lock all windows and exterior doors. If you are told there is danger of explosion, close the window shades, blinds, or curtains.

Turn off all fans, heating and air conditioning systems.

Close the fireplace damper.

Get your 72 Hour Emergency Supply Kit and make sure the radio is working.

Go to an interior room without windows that's above ground level. In the case of a chemical threat, an above-ground location is preferable because some chemicals are heavier than air, and may seep into basements even if the windows are closed.

Bring your pets with you, and be sure to bring additional food and water supplies for them.

It is ideal to have a hard-wired telephone in the room you select. Call your emergency contact and have the phone available if you need to report a life-threatening condition. Cellular telephone equipment may be overwhelmed or damaged during an emergency.

Use duct tape and plastic sheeting (heavier than food wrap) to seal all cracks around the door and any vents into the room.

Remain in place until you receive further instructions through the emergency alert system.

Keep this information with your emergency supply kit or share with a neighbor

GRAB AND GO KIT

Need to evacuate quickly? Grab this personalized mini version of the 72 Hour Emergency Supply Kit and head out the door!

Assume you will be away from home for 3 days. Think of the kind of supplies you absolutely must have and then plan accordingly.

A backpack or duffel makes a perfect "Go Kit" and is also a great place to store your family communication plan, personal items and an initial supply of food and water.

Make sure each family member has a "Go Kit" of their own for their personal items like medication, glasses, water and snacks, a change of clothing and entertainment items.

Put together several kits so you'll always be ready.

At Home

- Keep this kit in a designated place and have it ready in case you must leave your home quickly

At Work

- Be sure to include comfortable walking shoes at your workplace in case an evacuation requires walking long distances

In the Car

- Plan to stay with your vehicle in case you are stranded.
- This kit should contain food, water, first aid supplies, flares, jumper cables, a blanket and other seasonal supplies related to the weather conditions

All Kit Essentials:

- List of your Emergency Contacts, including a phone number for an out-of-state contact

- Photocopy of personal identification (driver's license, state ID, etc.)
- Three-day supply of medications or copies of your prescriptions
- List of personal medical information and medications, including any drug and/or food allergies
- Bottles of water and snacks (that will not spoil)
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First Aid Kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Small amount of cash, including coins for payphones
- Extra set of keys to house, car, etc.
- Personal hygiene and toiletry products including hand sanitizer
- Moist towelettes and assorted sizes of re-sealable plastic zipper bags and garbage bags (for storing food, waste, etc.)
- Change of clothes with socks and undergarments
- Any other items you need on a daily basis
- Small battery-powered radio with extra batteries
- Dust mask/goggles/gloves



YOUR CELL PHONE AS A SAFETY TOOL

Cell phone technology continues to improve with more and more people switching to them as their primary home phone. Take advantage of your cell phone's unique features to make it your #1 safety tool in emergencies.

Program "In Case of Emergency" (ICE) contacts into your cell phone so emergency personnel can contact those people for you if you are unable to use your phone.

Let your ICE contacts know that they are programmed into your phone and inform them of any medical issues or other special needs you may have.

Subscribe to text alert services from local or state governments to receive alerts in the event of a disaster. Parents should sign up for their school district emergency alert system.

Program numbers for your pharmacy, doctor and other important contacts from your family communications plan into your cell phone.

Store photos of your family members and pets in case you get separated.

WIRELESS EMERGENCY ALERTS

Local and State Emergency Officials and the National Weather Service will soon have another tool for alerting the public to dangerous conditions - called Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA).

The system will be capable of issuing an alert to cell phones for emergencies such as Amber Alerts for child abduction, local emergencies requiring evacuation or immediate action and Presidential Alerts during a national emergency.

These emergency alerts will be activated by cell towers, so if you are driving through an alerted area, you will automatically see the message on your cell phone.

Watch for activation of this service in 2012. Check with your service provider to find out if your phone is WEA-capable and be sure to sign up for all alerts.



Plan for Special Needs

IF YOUR FAMILY HAS	TAKE THESE EXTRA STEPS...
Infants or Toddlers	Diapers, wipes, plastic bags for soiled items, extra clothing, familiar toys, potty chair, baby food
Older Children	Pastimes, favorite and comforting toys and stuffed animals
Older Family Members - Seniors	Make sure someone knows about all routine medical treatments and how to use any life-saving equipment.
Visually impaired	Will need their special equipment. May need to be led to safety.
Hearing impaired	Will need their special equipment and extra batteries. May need to make special arrangements to receive warnings.
Mobility impaired	Will need their special equipment. May need special assistance to get to a shelter.
Service Animal	Could become confused or disoriented in a disaster. Needs to be with familiar people. Remember a Pet Supply Kit.
People with special dietary needs	Should take special precautions to have an adequate emergency food supply. Make sure the diet is printed out.
People with medical conditions	Should know the location and availability of more than one facility if dependent on a dialysis machine or other life-sustaining equipment or treatment. Register with Emergency Management if using a device requiring electricity.
People with cognitive disabilities	May need help responding to emergencies and getting to a shelter.
People with dementia	Should be registered in the Alzheimer's Association Safe Return Program.
Non-English speaking persons	May need assistance planning for and responding to emergencies. Seek specific language planning tools. They exist on fema.gov Community and cultural groups may be able to help keep people informed.

MORE GOOD STUFF

Learn more about planning for specific types of emergencies that can occur in Wisconsin.

Ready Wisconsin is your go-to source for downloadable tools, templates, and current information.

Want to be inspired? Check out the tornado survivor stories on their website at www.ready.wi.gov



For local information in your county, contact:

**Ozaukee County
Emergency Management**
(262) 284-8397
www.co.ozaukee.wi.us

**Washington County
Emergency Management**
(262) 335-4399
www.co.washington.wi.us

YOU MIGHT HAVE TO EVACUATE QUICKLY

Sometimes you have no choice but to leave your home in a disaster. Planning for this possibility NOW can save your life later.

An emergency evacuation plan has two parts: evacuation from your home and evacuation from your neighborhood. An evacuation plan for your home is useful not only for disasters, but also for fires or other incidents in your home.

Evacuation from your home

First draw a diagram of the layout of your home. Points to note when creating an evacuation plan for your home are:

- At least 2 escape routes from each room.

- Mark the locations of any escape ladders, or other special equipment.

- Mark the locations of fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, first aid kits, disaster 72 hour kit. Mark the locations of the shut-offs for gas, water, and electricity.

- For people with medical conditions or disabilities, mark their location as well as the location of any special equipment they will immediately need.

Evacuation from your neighborhood

If local authorities ask you to leave your home, they have a good reason!

Get your "Grab and Go" emergency supply kit and stay tuned to your radio for official news and information.

Do exactly as instructed. You will be told where to go and the safest route.

Realize that if you choose to stay in your home after an evacuation has been ordered—YOU'RE ON

YOUR OWN! You cannot necessarily rely on emergency response professionals to come and rescue you later.

Note: If you or someone you know is not able to leave your home because of transportation or medical issues, contact the authorities immediately!

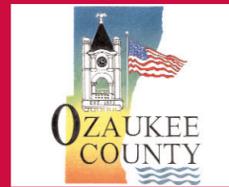
Follow these guidelines and stay safe:

- Evacuate immediately if told to do so.
- Take your "Grab and Go" disaster supply kit.
- Listen to your battery-powered radio and follow the instructions of local emergency officials. Connect with your out-of-town contact and let them know what is going on and that you are leaving your home.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants and sturdy shoes so you can be protected as much as possible.
- Take your pets with you; do not leave them behind. Because pets may not be permitted in some public shelters, follow your plan on where you decided to take your pet in an emergency. You may be instructed by officials where to go if you have pets.
- Lock your home. If time permits, turn off power.
- Use the travel routes specified by local authorities—don't use shortcuts because certain areas may be impassable or dangerous.
- Stay away from downed power lines.

Keep in mind that after a disaster, first responders and other emergency personnel are stretched to the limit. Your cooperation goes a long way to helping get the community back on its feet!

If you have a life threatening emergency call 911

Non-Emergency Numbers



Emergency Management
262-284-8397

Sheriff 262-284-7172

POLICE

Cedarburg 262-375-7620

Fredonia 262-692-9125

Grafton 262-375-5320

Mequon 262-242-3500

Port Washington 262-284-2611

Saukville 262-284-0444

Thiensville 262-242-2100

FIRE

Belgium 262-285-3257

Cedarburg 262-375-7630

Fredonia 262-692-9973

Grafton 262-375-5314

Mequon 262-242-2530

Port Washington 262-284-2891

Saukville 262-284-5800

Thiensville 262-242-3393

Waubeka 262-692-2656

Health Department 262-284-8170

Poison Center 800-222-1222



Emergency Management
262-335-4399

Sheriff 262-335-4378

POLICE

Germantown 262-253-7780

Hartford 262-673-2600

Jackson 262-677-4949

Kewaskum 262-626-2323

Newburg 262-675-9360

Slinger 262-644-6441

Trenton 262-689-0661

West Bend 262-335-5016

FIRE

Allenton 262-629-5413

Boltonville 262-692-2231

Germantown 262-502-4701

Fillmore 262-692-2361

Hartford 262-673-8290

Jackson 262-677-3811

Kewaskum 262-626-2411

Kohlsville 262-629-5931

Newburg 262-675-6262

Richfield 262-628-1601

Slinger 262-644-5331

St. Lawrence 262-644-8529

West Bend 262-335-5054

Health Department 262-335-4462

Poison Center 800-222-1222

"Reduce the impact of disasters, save lives and prevent injuries by learning what to do in different situations, and develop and customize your plans for local hazards and the specific needs of household members including animals. Not only is it important to have a plan but equally important to exercise the plan. These resources can aid in your preparation."

**Paul Stephans,
Fire Chief, Hartford Fire and Rescue**

Ozaukee County Residents!

Register online to receive emergency notifications on all your mobile devices!
MyStateUSA.com



Keep this information with your emergency supply kit or share with a neighbor

• LISTEN
• ACT
• LIVE!

You did it. You programmed your weather radio, updated your family communication plan and restocked all your emergency supply kits at home, in your car and at the office. You even took extra training to learn CPR.

Now... You have to stay alert! Preparedness doesn't mean a thing if you don't pay attention and respond to the warnings!

When you hear the tornado siren outside or your weather radio begins to blare ... don't hesitate, TAKE COVER!

JOPLIN taught us well: May 22, 2011....one of the deadliest tornados in U.S. history struck Joplin, Missouri directly killing 159 people and injuring over 1,000. The massive EF-5 with winds over 200 mph hit the city of more than 50,000.

Despite the tornado warnings why were there so many deaths?

A National Weather Service study on the Joplin tornado revealed some important and frightening lessons for us all:

A majority of residents did not immediately seek shelter when tornado warnings were issued. People needed between two and nine risk signals or confirmations to take action and seek shelter. For example, if they heard the sirens going off they would look in the sky, then go to a TV to get information and then call a friend, etc.

The time it took between the warning and the search for confirmation of an emergency cost lives.

Pay attention and respond quickly to all warnings.

Don't use precious time to verify what the warning means. Don't assume a siren is just a test.

Even if nothing happens you can always call it a "practice drill".



 Practice Your Plan

Bravo! You've taken all the right steps to become disaster ready. But unless you and your family make a point to regularly test your plan and practice, the emergency supplies you collected will become just another pile of clutter in your home.

Try these tips from professional responders:

Put your practice drills on the calendar or you won't do them.

Update your communications plan, cell phone and important documents at least annually.

Rotate your emergency food supply and help your family get accustomed to your freeze dried goodies by incorporating them in your regular meal planning once a month.

Test your evacuation plan. Set a timer for 3 minutes and see how long it takes your family to get to your outside meeting spot with their grab and go kit.

Pretend there has been a hazardous materials spill and an alert has sounded to shelter-in-place. Use your 72 Hour Emergency Supply Kit to seal an interior

room and set up your living space.

Improve your skills by volunteering or taking additional disaster training offered by local organizations: i.e., VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster), The Salvation Army or American Red Cross.

Schedule regular drills to improve your response time and help you improve the contents of your emergency supply kits. Nothing teaches better than real life experience!

"One of the primary functions of emergency management is to assist citizens in how to prepare for, and actions to take in the event of a large scale incident or emergency such as a long term power outage, severe weather etc.

**Mark Owen,
Ozaukee County, Director, Division of
Emergency Management**

WHAT TO DO WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

First, take shelter immediately.

Remain calm and be patient.

Get your emergency plan out of your supply kit.

Listen to your radio or television for news and instructions. Follow the advice of local emergency officials.

If the disaster occurs near you, check for injuries. Give first aid and get help for seriously injured people.

If the disaster occurs near your home while you are there, check for damage using a flashlight. Do not light matches or candles or turn on electrical switches because of potential fire or explosion hazards.

Check for fires, fire hazards and other household hazards.

Sniff for gas leaks, starting at the water heater. If you smell gas or suspect a leak, turn off the main gas

valve, open windows, and get everyone outside quickly.

Shut off any other damaged utilities.

Confine or secure your pets.

Call your family contact—do not use the telephone again unless it is a life-threatening emergency.

If you can do so safely, check on your neighbors, especially those who are elderly or disabled.

Be prepared to evacuate if necessary.

If ordered to shelter-in-place, move to the interior room of your house per your emergency plan.

Having a plan in place will help you to stay calm, reduce your anxiety because you know what to do and keep everyone safe.

COMMUNICATING DURING A DISASTER

Immediately following a disaster, everyone takes to the phone to call people. They want to find out what is going on, report their status, find family members, report their damage, connect!! Cell phone systems are overwhelmed. Land lines can be down due to storm damage. 9-1-1 is swamped.

Using 9-1-1
ONLY call 9-1-1 if you have a life-threatening emergency.

Other Alternatives
If your area offers 2-1-1 service or another information system, call that number for non-emergencies.

In Ozaukee and Washington Counties, non-emergency phone numbers are in this publication.

Non-Emergency Communications
Use text messaging, e-mail, or social media on your cell phone to avoid tying up voice networks.

Data-based services like texts and emails are less likely to experience network congestion.

Use social media to post your status to let family and friends know you are okay.

In addition to Facebook and Twitter, you can use resources such as the American Red Cross's Safe and Well program (www.redcross.org/safeandwell).

General Guidelines
Keep all phone calls brief. If you need to use a phone, try to convey only vital information to emergency personnel and/or family.

If you are unsuccessful in completing a call using your cell phone, wait ten seconds before redialing to help reduce network congestion.

Conserve your cell phone battery - reduce the brightness of your screen, place your phone in airplane mode, and close all apps you are not using that draw power.

DON'T use your mobile device to watch streaming videos, download music or videos, or play video games. These make the problem worse. Emergency calls can't get through!

Dial 2-1-1

It is a simple way to connect people in need with human services. Simply by dialing 2-1-1, people are linked to information about local resources, from both government and nonprofit organizations.

Impact Milwaukee serves both Ozaukee and Washington Counties. Available at: www.impactinc.org/impact-2-1-1

VOLUNTEER

IT TAKES A LOT OF HANDS TO HELP A COMMUNITY RECOVER FROM A DISASTER! YOURS ARE NEEDED!

Register as an emergency response volunteer! YOU can be of great help – in your neighborhood, at your church, in your community!

EVERY skill, talent and commitment of volunteers makes our community more resilient, more able to respond and get back to normal. **IT TAKES ALL OF US!**

There are so many ways to volunteer, and all of them matter.

Your neighborhood. Your community. Your state. Your country.

One hour, one day, one year and anything in between!

You can register with your county Volunteer Center.

You can register with an emergency response agency like American Red Cross and The Salvation Army. You can help at your church or local food pantry.

You can extend what you love to do in everyday volunteering to emergency response with organizations like the Humane Society and the Health Department.

It's easy to get started – visit one of these volunteer websites or call the organizations. **Please connect TODAY!**

WASHINGTON COUNTY

- Volunteer Center of Washington County
www.volunteernow.net 262-338-8256
- Washington County Health Department
www.co.washington.wi.us 262-335-4462
- Washington County Humane Society
www.washingtoncountyhumane.org
262-677-4388
- American Red Cross, Washington County
www.redcrossinsewis.org/get-involved
262-334-5687
- The Salvation Army
www.usc.salvationarmy.org/serviceextension
800-264-6412



OZAUKEE COUNTY

- Volunteer Center of Ozaukee County
www.volunteerozaukee.org
262-377-1616
- Ozaukee County Public Health Department
www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/publichealth
262-284-8170
- Wisconsin Humane Society, Ozaukee Campus
www.ozaukeehumane.org
262-377-7580
- American Red Cross, Ozaukee County
www.redcrossinsewis.org/get-involved
414-342-8680
- The Salvation Army
www.usc.salvationarmy.org/serviceextension
800-264-6412

Disaster Ready is a joint project of the following partners:



Office of Emergency Management



of Washington County



Washington County Citizen Corps



Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office, Emergency Management



Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster of Ozaukee County



Ready Wisconsin

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Keep this information with your emergency supply kit or share with a neighbor