

Ada County Emergency Management Emergency Preparedness Pointer

September 2017



NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Hurricane Harvey's catastrophic impact on the Houston, TX region will be felt for years to come. The record breaking 50+ inches of rain left thousands of people stranded anywhere from several hours to several days before being rescued. Hurricane Harvey is a reminder for each and every one of us to plan ahead before a disaster. With the transition into fall and school beginning again, this is a great time to create a plan or review your existing plan. Having the resources ahead of time can save precious time and help you sustain your family until help arrives. Including the needs of those with access and functional needs in your plan is critical. A key aspect of an emergency plan is having enough cash to support your family if you evacuate. Provided below are several tips on how you can be financially prepared for a disaster.

Disaster Proof Your Finances

Keep cash on hand: You should have a hidden supply of cash in small denominations in your 72 hour kit. The total amount needed depends on how many people are being supported.

Have a list of account numbers: In a secured container, keep an up-to-date list of credit and debit card numbers, bank accounts mortgage accounts and car loans along with contact information.

Flood/Fire proof documents: The container holding your documents should be a waterproof, fire safe box.

Electronic Alternatives: Smart phones or tablets can store copies of the documents and lists through a variety of apps and software products. Make sure that all of the electronic storage is kept in a password protected format.

Share the responsibility: Make sure more than one person in the

household has cash, a credit/debit card, and a checkbook. If you are separated and unable to reach one another each will have to care for themselves until conditions change.

Designate an emergency only credit card: If possible, have a credit card that is strictly for emergency use. It should have enough credit to purchase food and other needed supplies for a week.

Ada County Emergency Management has a comprehensive list of what you need to include in your 72-hour kits and family disaster plans. You can view the list on our website at: <https://adacounty.id.gov/acem/Emergency-Preparedness-Guide>



Ada County Emergency Management
7200 Barrister Drive ♦ Boise, ID. 83704 ♦ (208) 577-4750 ♦ FAX (208) 577-4759
HOME PAGE: www.adaprep.id.gov ♦ E-MAIL: mjeffries@adaweb.net



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2017 Disasters Don't Plan Ahead.
YOU CAN.