

# Emergency Preparedness Pointer

ADA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

September 2018

## Save For The Unexpected

September is National Preparedness Month which provides a great opportunity to check your financial preparedness. Recovering from a disaster is challenging for all income levels. Ensuring you have access to important personal records can help alleviate these issues in the post disaster world. Take the time now to gather and secure your financial, insurance, and medical documents to help you start the recovery process without delays. Follow these steps from [ready.gov](http://ready.gov) to better prepared yourself for the recovery process.



PREPARE NOW LEARN HOW

National Preparedness Month 2018

## 3 Steps to Financial Preparedness

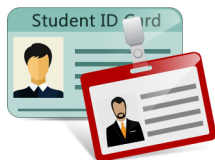
1. Gather financial and critical personal, household, and medical information.
2. Consider saving money in an emergency savings account that could be used in any crisis. Keep a small amount of cash at home in a safe place. It is important to have small bills on hand because ATM's and credit cards may not work during a disaster when you need to purchase necessary supplies, fuel, or food.
3. Obtain property (homeowners or renters), health, and life insurance if you do not have them. Review existing policies for the amount and extent of coverage to ensure that what you have in place is what is required for you and your family. Homeowners insurance does not typically cover flooding, so you may need to purchase flood insurance.

## Secure Your Critical Documents

It is important to keep your gathered personal information secure to prevent loss and theft in the post disaster world. Store the items listed below in a safe location such as a safety deposit box, an external drive, a cloud based online service, or secure mobile app to make it easy to access. However you decided to safeguard your information, [Ready.gov](http://Ready.gov) encourages you to include the following information:

### Household Identification

- ⇒ Photo ID to prove identity of household members
- ⇒ Birth certificate to maintain or re-establish contact with family members
- ⇒ Social security card to apply for federal disaster assistance
- ⇒ Military service ID
- ⇒ Pet ID tags



### Financial and Legal Documents

- ⇒ Housing payments to identify financial records
- ⇒ Insurance policies to re-establish financial accounts
- ⇒ Sources of income to maintain payments and credit
- ⇒ Tax statements to provide information for financial and legal providers and apply for disaster assistance

### Medical Records

- ⇒ Physician information to provide doctors with health information if medical care is needed
- ⇒ Copies of health insurance information to ensure existing care continues uninterrupted
- ⇒ Immunization records
- ⇒ Medications



**FEMA has an Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK) that includes templates and thorough lists of steps to take and items to include in your own EFFAK. The templates provided can be used in small or big emergencies. To view the EFFAK, [click here.](#)**



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