

Fact Sheet



ReadyPA CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

Launched in September 2008, ReadyPA is a statewide campaign supported by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) aimed at motivating Pennsylvanians to take action to prepare for a disaster.

ReadyPA, tailored after the proven national *Ready* campaign created by The Advertising Council and U.S. Department of Homeland Security in 2003, focuses on educating citizens so that they are better prepared for disasters. The campaign is supported by Pennsylvania Citizen Corps, Pennsylvania Department of Health and volunteer organizations, and seeks to coordinate a cohesive statewide program and a call to action regarding emergency preparedness.

ReadyPA encourages all Pennsylvanians to: Be Informed, Be Prepared and Be Involved. For more information, visit www.readypa.org.

BE INFORMED

- ✓ Pennsylvania is prone to a wide variety of both man-made and natural disasters including floods, fires, winter storms, hazardous material accidents, tropical storms, tornadoes and windstorms. While you can't control natural disasters or other emergencies, you can learn about these threats and how to react to them, which will enable you to make better decisions in the event of an emergency.
- ✓ To learn more about potential disasters in Pennsylvania and how to respond to them, visit www.readypa.org.

BE PREPARED

- ✓ Once you know about the different disasters that can affect your community, it's time to take the next steps by making a kit with emergency supplies and a plan for you and your family.
- ✓ **Make a Plan.** Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so plan how you will contact one another and what you will do in different situations. Consider a plan where each family member calls or emails an out-of-town relative or friend so he or she can take roll call during an emergency. Assign a designated meeting place so members of your family will know where to meet each other if you are not in the same place. By creating this plan together, all members of your family will know how to react in the event of an emergency, how to get in touch with one another and where to meet. ReadyPA has created a Family Emergency Plan

template that is available for download at www.readypa.org. You can also request a copy of the plan be sent to you via mail on the site.

- ✓ **Get a Kit.** In the event of an emergency, you should be prepared to make it on your own for at least three days. Although there are many things that might make you more comfortable, think about the essential things first, including food and water.
 - Recommended supplies to include in a basic kit:
 - Water – one gallon per person per day, for drinking and sanitation
 - Food – at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
 - Cash – ATMs won't be working if there is no electricity
 - Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
 - Flashlight and extra batteries
 - First Aid kit
 - Whistle to signal for help
 - Filter mask or cotton t-shirt to help filter the air
 - Moist towelettes for sanitation
 - Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
 - Manual can opener for food
 - Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
 - Garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
 - Unique family needs, such as daily prescription medications, infant formula or diapers, pet supplies and important family documents
 - Also consider creating a smaller kit for your car. This “to-go” kit should be similar to the home kit, but also include blankets and/or warm clothing in the event of a winter storm. Your kits should be kept in an easy-to-carry container, such as a plastic storage bin, a backpack or a duffel bag.
 - Visit www.readypa.org for the full list of recommended supplies and more easy tips on creating a kit.

BE INVOLVED

- ✓ After preparing yourself and your family for possible disasters, get involved in preparing your community.
- ✓ Join Pennsylvania Citizen Corps, which actively involves citizens in making our communities and our state safer, stronger and better prepared. You can receive training in first aid and emergency skills, and volunteer to support local emergency responders, disaster relief and community safety. We all have a role to play in keeping our hometowns prepared in the event of a disaster. Citizen Corps works hard to help people prepare, train and volunteer in their communities.
- ✓ For more information on Pennsylvania Citizen Corps and how you can help prepare your community, go to www.readypa.org.

For more information, visit: www.readypa.org

Additional resources: www.pema.state.pa.us, www.homelandsecurity.state.pa.us,
www.ready.gov or www.health.state.pa.us