## FACT SHEET: FAMILY EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

## PREPARE

Having a family emergency supply kit is one of the first steps in being prepared for a disaster. Recent events have shown it can take up to three days before help starts to
arrive. During a larger disaster, help may not arrive for up to seven (7) days.
A good supply kit will help your family stay safe and healthy.

## BEFORE AN EMERGENCY

## Design the kit with your family

Your family is unique. Your kit should be too. Consider the following as you create your kit:

- 1 gallon of water, per person, per day for 3-7 days
- Foods that don't require refrigeration, cooking or special preparation (canned food, freeze-dried foods) - remember special dietary foods (allergies, infants) \& don't forget a can opener
- Portable, battery-operated radio or tv with extra batteries
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Sanitation and hygiene items (moist towelettes and toilet paper, disinfecting wipes)
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Extra clothing-keep a change of clothes and outdoor garments
- Prescription medications, eye glasses, contacts \& contact solution, hearing aid batteries, etc.
- Pet supplies-additional water, food, medicines
- Duct tape \& plastic sheeting (if you are ordered to shelter in place)
- Cash currency \& coins
- First Aid kit
- Utility shut-off tool or crescent wrench/pliers
- Digital copy of important documents and records

For more ideas, visit the American Red Cross site: redcross.org

## WHEN YOUR KIT IS DONE

- Keep the kit in a place you can get to it such as a closet or pantry. It should be in a cool, dry place, away of sunlight and varying temperatures. - Inventory your kit and keep track of any expiration dates.


## REMEMBER

THIS IS YOUR KIT: Keep your family's needs in mind when gathering supplies will greatly pay off during an emergency.

A kit DOES NOT have to be expensive: start by gathering items you already own before purchasing additional supplies.

