



Office of Emergency Management



Cuyahoga County  
Together We Thrive

# At-A-Glance Family Emergency Plan

Your family may not be together when a disaster occurs so it is important to make plans in advance. An excellent way to get your family involved in planning is to dedicate a few hours for everyone to gather supplies and assemble kits together. This provides a great opportunity to discuss what everyone will do during an emergency. The time together will allow you to develop your emergency plans, discuss special needs, and plan for your pets. Here are some tips to help prepare your family for an emergency.

## Develop a plan for your family at home...

- Successful emergency plans should include all family members.
- For evacuation, draw a floor plan of your home and identify two escape routes from each room.
- Learn how to turn off all home utilities at the main switches, or valves
- Share your emergency plan with friends or relatives in another area who would not be impacted by the same emergency and can help.
- Plan how you will contact your family and what to do in different situations.
- Have a list of family, friends, and others who you can contact for assistance.
- Make sure everyone knows how you will evacuate your home or workplace and where you will go in case of a disaster.



## Did You Know?

Did you know, all schools are required to have emergency evacuation plans.

For additional information in preparing a family emergency plan, go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

Sources: U.S. Federal  
Emergency Management Agency

## Develop a Family Communications Plan...

- Have a list of family members, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses.
- In a disaster phone lines maybe overloaded so be patient. Consider communicating via text, e-mail, or use social media in the event of an emergency.
- Stay informed about recent events and know what types of emergencies are likely to occur.
- Get a NOAA Weather Radio to receive weather alerts, warnings and updates.
- Complete a family contact card with pertinent information for each family member. Make sure each family member has a copy of their card.



A Preparedness Resource from  
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