

Hello Neighbor,

As we all know, these are some quickly changing times we live in. This is a reminder from your community that we can never be too prepared. There are always threats that need to be considered, should it be fire, problems with the power grid, or some other external or natural disaster. The best way to make it successfully through some such event is to be adequately prepared before it happens. Preparing and practicing with your family will set you up for success and make any such event less scary should it arise. There are great resources available online to guide you and your family through what is needed in the event of a true disaster or a small bump in the road. Now is the time to prepare. Attached are links and some sample checklists of items that are typically needed. Of course every family is different with unique wants and needs, so please use these lists as guides and use them to your advantage to get your plans in place.

In addition to national resources, Madison county has a program called Code Red that alerts you to local issues as they arise. With CodeRED, state and local agencies can deliver geo-targeted, time-sensitive information to individuals who have registered to receive alerts. Notifications can be sent via email, text, voice, and mobile app push notifications. To register for Code Red notifications text MadCoReady to 99411 or call (618) 692-0537 and you will be able to register to receive both emergency alerts from Madison County and weather warning alerts if you choose.

We are a small community and that is wonderful. Take the time to get to know your neighbors! Some people are doctors, some people are plumbers, some people have construction skills, some people are great gardeners, some people are veterans, some people are engineers, some people are teachers, we can all have a valuable role to play. It is imperative that we all come together. When disaster strikes is not the time to be organizing. So we all look forward to meeting each other and working towards a stronger community. Feel free to join the Facebook page Out & About in St. Jacob and post there if you want to introduce yourself or if you have any questions. See you soon!

In friendship, Sheri Lemken
Courtesy of the Village Board

FAMILY EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

General Preparedness



In an emergency situation, such as a natural disaster, preparing items beforehand can help keep you and your family safe until you can get assistance.

Basic Kit

- **Essential items needed for all situations – FOOD – WATER – CLOTHING.**
 - Canned food: 3-5 days worth – don't forget a non-electric can opener
 - Water to last 3-5 days -- about 1 gallon of water per person per day
 - Any medications needed by family members (e.g., heart or high blood pressure medication, insulin, contact lens supplies)
 - A first aid kit and first aid manual.
 - Extra clothing
- **Other items to bring:**
 - A battery-powered radio
 - Flashlight with extra batteries
 - Cell phone with charger
 - Mess kits or paper dining products (e.g., cups, plates, napkins)
 - Personal hygiene supplies (e.g., soap, toothpaste, toilet paper, garbage bags, etc.)
 - Hand sanitizer
 - Sleeping bags or extra blankets
 - Dust masks
 - Duct tape
 - Cash or traveler's checks
- **Additional items for infants:**
 - Bottles, formula, drinking water
 - Diapers, ointments
 - Medications
- **Special items for children:**
 - A favorite toy or blanket
 - Colors and paper to help keep them busy while in the shelter
- **Don't forget items for pets.**
 - See 'Pet Emergency Plan and Supply Kit' handout (next page).
- **Place your kit in a central location.**
 - Let all of your family know where it is.
 - Check the contents regularly to ensure fresh and complete supplies.

- **Gather important family documents:**
 - Will, insurance policies, contracts, deeds, stocks, bonds
 - Passports, social security cards
 - Immunization records
 - Bank account numbers
 - Credit card account numbers and companies
 - Inventory of valuable household goods
 - Important telephone numbers
 - Family records (birth, marriage, death certificates, social security numbers)
 - Keep these documents in a waterproof, fireproof, portable container.

Seasonal Items

- **Spring/Summer**
 - Mosquito protection: Insect repellent containing DEET or Picaridin, or long sleeved and long-legged clothing
 - Sunscreen, wide brim hat
- **Winter**
 - Extra blankets
 - Hats, gloves, scarves
 - Shovel, sand or cat litter

Emergency Kit for Your Car

- **You may be away from home and in your car during an emergency situation.**
- **Keep these preparedness items in your car:**
 - High energy foods (e.g., peanut butter, crackers, granola bars, trail mix) and water
 - Flares, booster cables, tools, maps
 - First aid kit, blankets
 - Flashlight and extra batteries
 - Seasonal items: sunscreen, shovels
- **Keep your gas tank full, in case of emergency.**

For More Information

Ready America: Get a Kit (FEMA)

<http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/>

Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit (FEMA)

<http://www.fema.gov/plan/prepare/supplykit.shtm>

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PREPARING MAKES SENSE

How well you and your family prepare for a disaster before it happens impacts how quickly you recover.



KNOW YOUR RISK

Prepare for the risks where you live.

Visit [FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov) where you can input your location to get information about disasters in your area.

Visit [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) to know how to prepare for disasters and what to do during an emergency.

Download the [FEMA mobile App](#) to receive **weather alerts** from the National Weather Service for up to five locations across the nation.



MAKE A PLAN

Prepare yourself and your family before disaster strikes.

Consider the specific needs of your household like medical needs or items for your pets.

Know how you'll receive emergency alerts and warnings.

Visit [Ready.gov/plan](https://www.ready.gov/plan) and fill out an emergency plan.

Practice your family's plan.



TAKE ACTION

Be ready to respond to and recover from a disaster.

Gather supplies that fit your family's needs.

Secure important documents.

Understand your insurance coverage and have the right insurance that covers specific hazards that may affect you.

Participate in community disaster preparedness events.



Go to [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) for more information to help you be prepared!

Everyone Has a Role

As you prepare, adjust your plans and emergency supply kits to your own daily living needs and concerns.



BUILD A KIT

Get emergency supplies together before a disaster happens. During a disaster, you and your family will need specific items, including cash and supplies. Your emergency kit will be unique to you. Consider items your family may need such as medications and infant supplies, and remember to pack for your pet!

[Ready.gov/kit](https://www.ready.gov/kit)

YOUR BASIC KIT SHOULD INCLUDE ENOUGH ITEMS TO LAST FOR SEVERAL DAYS

- Water
- Non-perishable food
- Cash
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Non-electric can opener
- First aid kit
- Whistle
- Prescription medications
- Personal hygiene items
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air
- Moist wipes, garbage bags and plastic ties
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities

LEARN MORE AND GET INVOLVED



Learn how to take action in emergency situations and provide lifesaving care before professional assistance arrives through **You Are the Help Until Help Arrives.**



Visit [Ready.gov/cert](https://www.ready.gov/cert) to find a Community Emergency Response Team program, and train to help your community respond and prepare for disasters.



Take a CPR and first aid class offered by a local community organization, so that you know what to do if a family member, neighbor or co-worker is hurt.



Go to [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) for more information to help you be prepared!