



Emergency Preparedness Newsletter January 2022



ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THE NEXT DISASTER OR EMERGENCY?



Preparation is key, since disasters and emergencies can happen at any time. Think about the kinds of disasters that could happen in our community. For example, in Linn County we could have: • Flooding in winter and spring • Winter storms • Earthquakes • Fires • Toxic waste spills • Volcanic ash falls. Any of these events could leave you without power, water, or phone service for a few hours up to several days at a time. You may need to take care of yourself and family. Before an Event, During an Event, and After an Event you should: ♦ Know your risks ♦ Use Action Plans ♦ Repair Property ♦ Purchase insurance ♦ Help others ♦ Reduce future loss ♦ Develop plans ♦ Follow officials ♦ Identify needs ♦ Assemble kits ♦ Know warning systems Recovery from an emergency or disaster often depends on the planning and preparation done today. What you do today (being prepared and trained) is a direct key to your own safety. For more information, please visit www.ready.gov/prepare.

FLOODS

It's raining, it's pouring! With the large amount of rainfall we have received lately, it is a good time to think about preparing for possible flooding situations.



Flood Facts: •

- Six inches of water can knock you down.
- Two feet of water can sweep your vehicle away .
- Do not go into flood waters. Water may be deep, fast flowing, dirty, and very unsafe.
- Pay attention to flood warning signs and barricades.
- Be alert for gas, toxic chemical spills, and sewage in flood waters.
- Stay away from power and electrical wires.
- Abandon your car if flood water is not moving.
- Stay in your car if flood water is moving.
- **Watch** means there is a possibility of flooding in your area.
- **Warning** means there is already flooding, or it will occur soon.



WINTER WEATHER



Prepare your home to keep out the cold with insulation, caulking and weather stripping. Learn how to keep pipes from freezing. Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors with battery backups. Gather supplies

in case you need to stay home for several days without power. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Remember the needs of your pets. Have extra batteries for radios and flashlights.

Limit your time outside. If you need to go outside, then wear layers of warm clothing. Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.

Reduce the risk of a heart attack by avoiding overexertion when shoveling snow and walking in the snow.



Be prepared for winter weather at home, at work and in your car. Create an emergency supply kit for your car. Include jumper cables, sand, a flashlight, warm clothes, blankets, bottled water and non-perishable snacks. Keep a full tank of gas.

Stay off roads if at all possible. If trapped in your car, then stay inside.



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Prevent a Silent Killer!



Each year, more than 50,000 people in the United States are treated in emergency rooms for carbon monoxide poisoning. This odorless gas can be deadly, especially during the winter because it's emitted from equipment like furnaces and heating sources people use during power outages, like kerosene heaters and portable generators.

To protect yourself from CO poisoning, the [CDC recommends](#):

- Have a carbon monoxide detector on each floor of your home.
- Check or replace the detectors' batteries every six months.
- Have your furnace and water heater checked by a trained technician each year.
- Never run a generator inside a home, garage or other enclosed area.
- Never use a portable camping stove or charcoal grill inside a home.



The City of Brownsville has emergency preparedness information on their website, www.ci.brownsville.or.us. This website covers topics such as a 72 Hour kit, the Linn County Orange Book, electrical outages, etc. You can also access the Central Linn Community Emergency Preparedness page at <http://clcepc.org/>. You will find lots of great information here!

