



## Division of Emergency Management

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### Media Advisory

#### **September is National Preparedness Month and State Agencies Urge Nevadans to Make an Emergency Plan**

The Nevada Department of Public Safety's Division of Emergency Management (DEM), Nevada National Guard (NVNG), the Division of Public and Behavioral Health's (DPBH) Public Health Preparedness Program (PHP) and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) are reminding Nevada residents the importance of planning and preparing for any emergency.

September 12, the second week of National Preparedness Month (NPM) promotes, "Preparing Through Service." NVNG urges Nevadans to understand the importance of community preparedness by working with emergency focused organizations and neighbors to develop a plan.

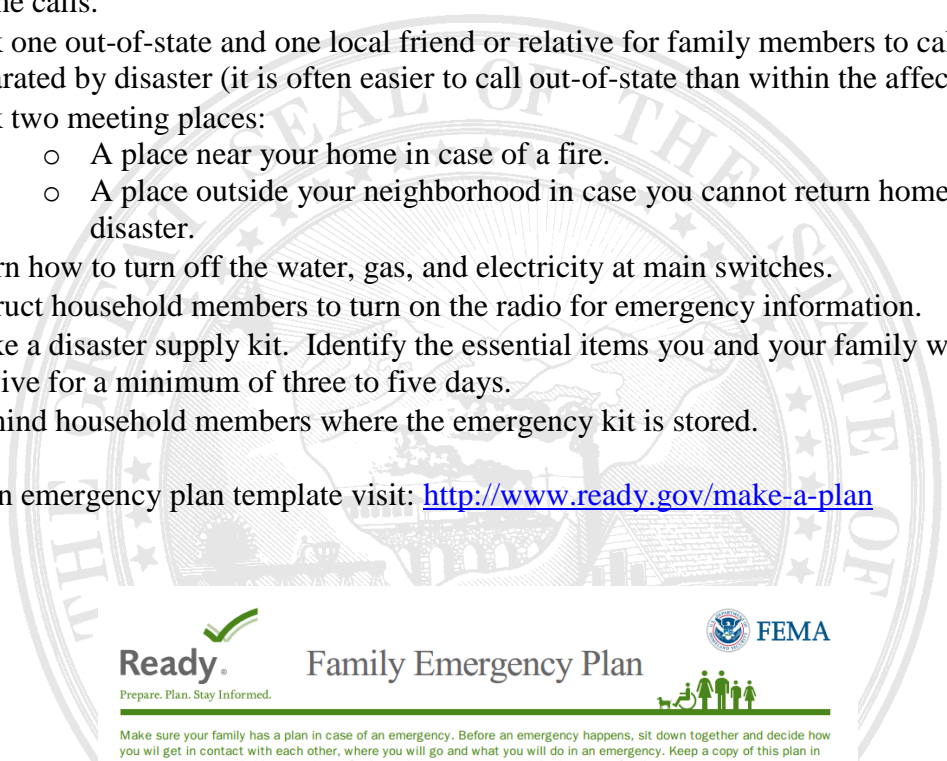
Families may not be together when a disaster strikes so it is important to plan in advance: how you will get to a safe place; how you will contact one another; how you will get back together; and what you will do in different situations. Planning ahead of time will help household members take the right steps during an emergency - which could mean the difference between life and death.



#### **NPM Step 2: Make a Plan**

- Involve all members of the household.
- Complete a contact card for each family member to always keep in a wallet, purse, briefcase or backpack.
- Discuss potential emergencies, and how to respond to each emergency such as power outages.
- Check with your children's day care or school. Facilities designed for children should include identification planning as part of their emergency plans.
- Teach family members how to use text messaging (also known as SMS or Short Message Service). Text messages can often get around network disruptions when a phone call might not be able to get through.

- Subscribe to alert services. Many communities now have systems that will send instant text alerts or e-mails to let you know about bad weather, road closings and local emergencies. You can also download the FEMA app for disaster resources, weather alerts, and safety at: <https://www.fema.gov/mobile-app>
- Draw a floor plan of your home. Mark two escape routes from each room, and practice using the routes.
- Post emergency telephone numbers near telephones.
- Teach children how and when to call 911, police, and fire and how to make long distance phone calls.
- Pick one out-of-state and one local friend or relative for family members to call if separated by disaster (it is often easier to call out-of-state than within the affected area).
- Pick two meeting places:
  - A place near your home in case of a fire.
  - A place outside your neighborhood in case you cannot return home after a disaster.
- Learn how to turn off the water, gas, and electricity at main switches.
- Instruct household members to turn on the radio for emergency information.
- Make a disaster supply kit. Identify the essential items you and your family will need to survive for a minimum of three to five days.
- Remind household members where the emergency kit is stored.

To access an emergency plan template visit: <http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>



**Ready**  **Family Emergency Plan** 

Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.

Make sure your family has a plan in case of an emergency. Before an emergency happens, sit down together and decide how you will get in contact with each other, where you will go and what you will do in an emergency. Keep a copy of this plan in your emergency supply kit or another safe place where you can access it in the event of a disaster.

Neighborhood Meeting Place: _____	Phone: _____
Out-of-Neighborhood Meeting Place: _____	Phone: _____
Out-of-Town Meeting Place: _____	Phone: _____

Fill out the following information for each family member and keep it up to date.

Name: _____	Social Security Number: _____
Date of Birth: _____	Important Medical Information: _____
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Name: _____	Social Security Number: _____
Date of Birth: _____	Important Medical Information: _____
Name: _____	Social Security Number: _____
Date of Birth: _____	Important Medical Information: _____

Write down where your family spends the most time: work, school and other places you frequent. Schools, daycare providers, workplaces and apartment buildings should all have site-specific emergency plans that you and your family need to know about.

<b>Work Location One</b>	<b>School Location One</b>
Address: _____	Address: _____
Phone: _____	Phone: _____
Evacuation Location: _____	Evacuation Location: _____