

# Winter Weather Emergency Preparedness



## Types of Advisories, Watches, and Warnings

### Floods/Flash Floods

- A **flood watch** is issued when current and developing conditions are such that there is a threat of flooding, but the occurrence is neither certain nor imminent.
- A **flood warning** is issued when there is flooding along larger streams causing a serious threat to life or property. A flood warning will usually contain river stage (level) forecasts.
- A **flash flood watch** indicates that flash flooding is possible in and close to the watch area. Those in the affected area are urged to be ready to take quick action if a flash flood warning is issued or flooding is observed.
- A **flash flood warning** signifies a dangerous situation where rapid flooding of small rivers, streams, creeks, or urban areas is imminent or already occurring.

### Severe Thunderstorms

- A **severe thunderstorm watch** means that conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms in and close to the watch area.
- A **severe thunderstorm warning** is issued when a thunderstorm produces hail 3/4 of an inch or larger in diameter and/or winds which equal or exceed 58 mph. Severe thunderstorms can result in the loss of life and/or property. Information in this warning includes: where the storm is, what towns will be affected, and the primary threat associated with the storm.

### Winter Weather

- A **winter storm watch** indicates that severe winter weather may affect your area.
- A **winter storm warning** indicates that severe winter weather conditions are definitely on the way or are already here.
- A **blizzard warning** means that large amounts of falling or blowing snow and sustained winds of at least 35 miles per hour are expected for several hours.
- A **blowing snow advisory** is issued when wind-driven snow reduces surface visibility, possibly hampering travel.
- A **wind chill advisory** is issued when the wind chill could be life threatening if action is not taken.
- A **wind chill warning** is issued when the wind chill is life threatening.
- A **freezing rain/drizzle advisory** is issued when freezing rain or freezing drizzle is forecast but a significant accumulation is not expected. However, even small amounts of freezing rain or freezing drizzle may cause significant travel problems.

### Heat

- A **heat advisory** is issued within 12 hours of the onset of the following conditions: heat index of at least 105°F but less than 115°F for less than three hours per day, or nighttime lows above 80°F for two consecutive days.

### Tornadoes/Wind

- A **tornado watch** means that conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes in and close to the watch area.
- A **tornado warning** means that a tornado is indicated by radar or has been sighted by storm spotters. The warning will include where the tornado is and what towns will be in its path.
- A **wind advisory** is issued with sustained winds from 25 to 39 mph and/or gusts to 57 mph.



The University of Iowa ■ Iowa State University  
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship  
Iowa Department of Public Health ■ Non-profits for Farm Health

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Winter storms can bring freezing temperatures, large quantities of snow and ice, high winds and blizzard conditions. As a result, hazards to you and your family's health are possible. Preparing before the storm can help you protect your family.

## Before a Winter Storm: Prepare Your Family

- **Stay informed.**
  - Monitor for severe winter weather in your area at the NOAA National Weather Service. <http://www.weather.gov/>
- **Know the terminology.**
  - **Winter Storm Watch:** Severe winter conditions, such as heavy snow and/or ice, are possible for your area in the next 12 to 36 hours. Prepare now!
  - **Winter Storm Warning:** Severe winter conditions are expected in the next 12-24 hours; 4-6 inches of snow or sleet, or 1/4 inch or more of ice is expected. Seek shelter immediately!
  - **Blizzard Warning:** Snow and strong winds (gusts up to 35 mph or greater) will combine to produce a blinding snow (near zero visibility), deep drifts, and life threatening wind chill; expected to occur for three hours or longer.
- **Prepare an emergency kit.**
  - Food, water and necessities for all members of the family to last 3 to 5 days; high energy food (e.g., dried fruit) or canned food that require no cooking or refrigeration is best
  - Any medications needed for family members
  - First aid kit, battery powered radio, flashlight with extra batteries
  - Sleeping bags or blankets
  - Extra clothing and boots, hats, mittens
  - Fire extinguisher
  - Emergency contact numbers
- **Family communication plan.**
  - Inquire about emergency plans at places where your family spends time: work, daycare and school.
  - Have a plan of how you will contact each other if you are in separate locations or establish a location to meet.
  - Have an out-of-state relative or friend serve as the family contact person.
  - Learn the location of the emergency shelters for your area.

## Before a Winter Storm: Prepare Your Vehicle

- **Prepare your car for winter.**
  - Have your car systems serviced; check the battery, antifreeze, wipers, etc.
  - Replace wiper fluid with a wintertime mixture.
  - Replace worn tires; check the air pressure in the tires.
  - Keep the gas tank full to avoid ice in the tank or fuel lines.
- **Prepare a survival kit for your car that includes:**
  - Blankets/sleeping bags
  - Extra winter clothes (mittens, hats, scarves), boots
  - High calorie, non-perishable food (e.g., unsalted nuts, dried fruit); hard candy can help keep your mouth moist
  - A can and waterproof matches to melt snow for drinking water
  - Flashlight, extra batteries, battery powered radio, first aid kit
  - Shovel, windshield scraper
  - Road salt, sand or cat litter
  - Cell phone and charger
  - Jumper cables, tow rope, tool kit
  - Compass and road maps

## During a Winter Storm

- **Stay informed.**
  - Listen to local news and weather channels for situation developments and road closures.
- **Stay inside.**
  - Avoid traveling during the storm period.
  - This can help you avoid injuries from cold temperatures, slips on the ice or car accidents.
- **Gather your emergency supplies.**
  - Be prepared for power outages or conditions requiring you to remain at home for several days.
- **Stay safe while indoors.**
  - Use fireplace, wood stoves, or other combustion heaters only if they are properly vented to the outside.
  - Use battery-powered flashlights or lanterns.
  - Avoid using candles; if they are used never leave them unattended while lit.
  - If you lose power or heat to your home and do not have back-up heat options, go to a designated public shelter.
- **Stay nourished.**
  - Eat to provide your body with energy to produce its own heat.
  - Keep your body replenished with fluids to prevent dehydration.



- **Cooking safety.**

- ☐ Never use charcoal grills or portable gas camp stove indoors —the fumes can be deadly.

- **If you have to go outside,**

- ☐ Dress warmly and in layers; loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing is best.
- ☐ Wear a hat; most body heat is lost through the top of the head.
- ☐ Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs from cold temperatures.
- ☐ Stay dry to avoid frostbite and hypothermia.
- ☐ Avoid ice. Many cold-weather injuries result from falls on ice-covered sidewalks, steps, driveways, and porches.
- ☐ Avoid exertion. Cold weather puts an extra strain on the heart. If you have heart disease or high blood pressure, follow your doctor's advice about shoveling snow or performing other hard work in the cold.

- **If you are caught outside during a storm,**

- ☐ Try to find a shelter out of the wind.
- ☐ Stay dry and cover all exposed parts of your body.

- **If you must travel,**

- ☐ Do so during daylight.
- ☐ Don't travel alone.
- ☐ Stay on main roads.
- ☐ Tell others about your route and schedule.

- **If you get stranded in your vehicle,**

- ☐ Stay calm! Staying in your vehicle is often the safest choice.
- ☐ Turn on your hazard lights.
- ☐ Make yourself visible to rescuers:
  - Tie a distress flag (preferably red) to your antenna or window.
  - Turn on the dome light at night, but only when running the engine. You don't want to wear down your battery.
- ☐ Run the motor/heater for only about 10 minutes per hour.
  - Open a window slightly to let fresh air in.
  - Make sure snow is not blocking the exhaust pipe to avoid potential carbon monoxide poisoning.
- ☐ As you sit, keep moving your arms and legs to improve your circulation and stay warmer.
- ☐ Drink fluids to remain hydrated.
- ☐ Do not leave your car unless you know exactly where you are, how far it is to possible help, and you are certain this action will improve your situation.
- ☐ Do not let all occupants of the car sleep at once; one person should always remain awake.

## After a Winter Storm

- **Check on neighbors to see if they need help.**

- **Clear away the snow safely.**

- ☐ Wear sturdy shoes or boots, layered clothing, hat and gloves.
- ☐ Do not overexert yourself. Shoveling causes many heart attacks, especially in very cold temperatures.
- ☐ Pace yourself, work slowly, and rest frequently.
- ☐ Take your time and lift small amounts.
- ☐ Lift snow/shovel properly to avoid back injuries.
- ☐ Make sure you have good footing when lifting the snow shovel.

- **Use caution with gas powered equipment.**

- ☐ Dangerous carbon monoxide can be generated by gas-powered equipment as well as alternative heating sources.
- ☐ Use these items only in well ventilated areas.
- ☐ **Signs:** dizziness • light-headedness • nausea

- **Once the blizzard is over, you may need to leave your vehicle and proceed on foot.**

- ☐ Follow the road if possible.
- ☐ If you need to walk across open country, use distant points as landmarks to help maintain your sense of direction.

## Cold-Related Illnesses

- **If any of these conditions are suspected, SEEK MEDICAL CARE IMMEDIATELY!**

- **Frostbite.**

- ☐ Can occur following prolonged exposure to low temperatures, wind or moisture.
- ☐ **Signs:** white, waxy or pale appearance to extremities (e.g., fingers, toes, nose, ear lobes); skin is cold and numb

- **Hypothermia.**

- ☐ Occurs when the core body temperature drops to a level at which normal muscle and brain functions are impaired.
- ☐ **Signs:** extreme shivering • confusion or disorientation • memory loss • slurred speech • drowsiness • exhaustion
- ☐ If you can't get help quickly, warm the person's body **SLOWLY** and start with the body core first, **NOT** the extremities.
- ☐ Do not give the person any alcohol, coffee or any HOT beverage or food. Warm broth or food is better.

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The impact of winter storms on farms can involve a number of issues. Farm buildings can be damaged due to heavy snow or ice accumulation. Power failures or fuel shortages can impact animal production. Prepare now to protect your farm during winter storms.

## Before a Winter Storm

- **Stay informed.**
  - Monitor for severe winter weather in your area at the NOAA National Weather Service. <http://www.weather.gov/>
- **Know the terminology.**
  - **Winter Storm WATCH:** Severe winter conditions, such as heavy snow and/or ice, are possible for your area in the next 12 to 36 hours. Prepare now!
  - **Winter Storm WARNING:** Severe winter conditions are expected in the next 12-24 hours; 4-6 inches of snow or sleet, or 1/4 inch or more of ice is expected. Seek shelter immediately!
  - **Blizzard WARNING:** Snow and strong winds (gusts up to 35 mph or greater) will combine to produce a blinding snow (near zero visibility), deep drifts, and life threatening wind chill; expected to occur for three hours or longer.
- **Be prepared for power outages or conditions requiring you to remain at home for several days.**
- **Develop an emergency plan for water and feed resources.**
  - Obtain emergency supplies of forage and grain.
  - Identify emergency resources for water.
  - Have a list of suppliers, truckers, and people that can help with the animals, especially if normal working conditions are disrupted.
- **Stockpile emergency materials.**
  - Standby electric generator for emergency power
  - Sandbags, shovel, road salt or ice melt
- **Winterize any buildings that may provide shelter for your family, livestock or equipment.**
  - Install storm shutters, doors, and windows.
  - Caulk and weatherstrip doors and windows.
  - Check the roof structure for its ability to hold heavy weight accumulations of snow and ice.
  - Repair any roof leaks.
  - Add insulation, insulated doors, storm windows, or thermal-pane windows.
  - Insulate any water lines that run along exterior walls so they will be less likely to freeze.

## During a Winter Storm

- **Stay informed.**
  - Listen to local news and weather channels for situation developments and road closures.
- **Have an emergency plan in place for farm workers.**
  - Have shelter and extra food, water, and blankets.
- **If you are caught outside during a storm,**
  - Try to find a shelter out of the wind.
  - Stay dry and cover all exposed parts of your body.

## After a Winter Storm

- **Stay safe during cleanup.**
  - Wear sturdy shoes or boots, layered clothing, hat and gloves.
  - Avoid overexertion. Strain from the cold and the hard labor could cause a heart attack - a major cause of death in the winter.
  - Pace yourself, work slowly, and rest frequently.
  - Make sure you have good footing when lifting the snow shovel.
  - Take your time and lift small amounts.
  - Lift snow/shovel properly to avoid back injuries.
- **Use caution with gas powered equipment.**
  - Dangerous carbon monoxide can be generated by gas-powered equipment as well as alternative heating sources.
  - Use these items only in well ventilated areas.
- **Account for your inventory.**
  - Note any livestock losses.
  - Check buildings and fences for damage (e.g., downed power lines or trees, accumulated snow or ice).
  - Take photographs of all damage for insurance or emergency assistance purposes.

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Winter storms can be stressful to livestock, especially those kept outdoors. Wind chills and prolonged cold increases their need for shelter, food and water. Dehydration can be a great hazard during winter storms. Prepare now to protect your livestock during winter storms.

## Before a Winter Storm

- **Develop an emergency plan of action.**
  - How will you get feed supplies in the case of road closures?
  - How will you supply water with freezing temperatures?
  - Plan ahead for emergency or alternative heat sources (e.g., for poultry facilities).
  - How will a power outage or fuel shortage impact the care and well-being of my livestock? What back up plan would you use?
  - Have well maintained backup generators for livestock production operations.
  - How will needed services (e.g., milk pickup) be provided? Or what will you do if needed services are not provided due to road closures?
- **Maintain an inventory.**
  - Keep a current list of all animals on your farm.
  - Include their location and any records of vaccinations, testing and ownership.
  - Make sure animals have some form of permanent identification (e.g., ear tags, tattoos).
  - Establish a list of suppliers, truckers, and people that can help with the animals, if needed.
- **Set up shelter or windbreak areas for animals kept outdoors.**
  - Shallow open front sheds
  - Windbreaks or timber-covered lowlands
  - Solid sided feed wagons can serve as temporary wind protection; place plywood or bales of straw under wagon to block the wind.
- **Winterize any building that may provide shelter for your livestock.**
  - Check roof structure and stability to hold the heavy weight of accumulated snow and ice.
  - Repair any roof leaks.
  - Install storm shutters, doors, and windows.

## During a Winter Storm

- **Provide food.**
  - Haul extra feed to feeding areas.
  - Check mechanized feeders in case of power outages; provide for emergency feeding procedures.
  - Provide enough space for all animals to get to the feed.

- **Provide water.**
  - Remove ice buildup around waterers.
  - Use heaters in water tanks.
  - If pipes freeze or power is out you may need to haul water to animals.
- **Provide shelter.**
  - If possible, move animals to an indoor shelter or building, especially the young.
  - Provide additional bedding to keep animals insulated from the ground and keep them dry.
  - Place sand or other non-toxic gritty material on icy feedlots to provide good footing.
  - Ensure heaters are working properly and are located in an area with adequate ventilation.
- **Ensure adequate ventilation in the building.**
  - If mechanically ventilated facilities are not functioning properly, animals could suffocate from lack of oxygen.
  - Open vents to facilitate natural air flow.
  - Clear ice and snow from vents.

## After a Winter Storm

- **Animal disposal.**
  - Record any animal deaths.
  - Check with your state or local authorities for proper disposal methods for animal carcasses.
- **Check fences and buildings for damage from downed tree branches, contact with downed power lines, or inoperable electric fencing.**
- **Monitor animals daily for signs of illness dehydration, frostbite or hypothermia.**
  - If any of these conditions are suspected, SEEK VETERINARY CARE IMMEDIATELY!

## Cold-Related Illnesses

- **Frostbite**
  - Extremities (ears, tail) are particularly subject to frostbite. Male reproductive organs may be affected and impair animal fertility. Frozen or chapped teats will impact milk production.
  - Signs may not be immediately obvious or show for several days and may include white, waxy or pale appearance to affected area, sloughing of freeze-damaged tissue.
- **Hypothermia**
  - Signs: extreme shivering • increased respiration • confused, erratic or clumsy behavior; especially young animals.

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Severe winter weather can lead to property damage, employee illness or injury, and possible business closures. Preparing before the storm can help you protect your employees, minimize damage and recover quicker following a winter storm situation.

## Before a Winter Storm

- **Stay informed.**
  - Monitor for severe winter weather in your area at the NOAA National Weather Service. <http://www.weather.gov/>
- **Know the terminology.**
  - **Winter Storm Watch:** Severe winter conditions, such as heavy snow and/or ice, are possible for your area in the next 12 to 36 hours. Prepare now!
  - **Winter Storm Warning:** Severe winter conditions are expected in the next 12-24 hours; 4-6 inches of snow or sleet, or 1/4 inch or more of ice is expected. Seek shelter immediately!
  - **Blizzard Warning:** Snow and strong winds (gusts up to 35 mph or greater) will combine to produce a blinding snow (near zero visibility), deep drifts, and life threatening wind chill; expected to occur for three hours or longer.
- **Stockpile emergency materials.**
  - Standby electric generator for emergency power
  - Sandbags, shovel, road salt or ice melt
- **Establish shelter locations on your property.**
  - There should be enough room for all employees, any customers or suppliers who may be at your business during the hazardous situation.
  - Stock the shelter with emergency supplies (e.g., flashlights, battery powered radio, first aid kit, food, water, and blankets).
- **Make plans regarding customers.**
  - Determine the likelihood of customers being present if a severe storm situation.
  - Have an emergency plan for customers; review it with employees regularly.
- **Have a business emergency/continuity plan**
  - Be prepared for power outages that often accompany severe weather.
  - Determine any essential equipment or processes that rely on electrical power.
  - Have emergency power (e.g., backup generators) available for these items.
  - Maintain an inventory of all equipment and assets for your business in the event of structural damage.
  - Install surge protectors to protect electronic equipment.

- **Determine a back-up heating source in case the power goes out.**
  - Use heating sources only in a well ventilated room to avoid build up of lethal carbon monoxide gas.
  - Keep a fire extinguisher close by.
- **Install a smoke detector and a battery-operated carbon monoxide detector near the area to be heated.**
  - Test them monthly.
  - Replace batteries twice yearly.
- **If employees work outdoors,**
  - Schedule work during the morning and late-afternoon hours, if possible.
  - Avoid strenuous activities outdoors.
  - Postpone nonessential tasks.

## During a Winter Storm

- **Stay informed.**
  - Listen to local news and weather channels for situation developments and road closures.
- **Ensure employee and customer safety.**
- **Stay safe while indoors.**
- **If backup power supplies are needed,**
  - Never use an electric generator indoors, inside the garage, or near the air intake of your home because of the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.
  - Do not store gasoline indoors where the fumes could ignite.
  - Use individual heavy-duty, outdoor-rated cords to plug in other appliances.

## After a Winter Storm

- **Clear away the snow safely.**
  - Avoid overexertion. Strain from the cold and the hard labor can lead to a heart attack - a major cause of death in the winter.
  - Pace yourself, work slowly, and rest frequently.
  - Make sure you have good footing when lifting the snow shovel.
- **Assess the situation.**
  - Make sure heating systems and water pipes are working.
  - Look for any damage that may have occurred to your home.
- **Account for your inventory.**
  - Check buildings for damage (e.g., downed power lines or trees, accumulated snow or ice).

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# FAMILY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

General Preparedness



Regardless of the emergency situation or hazard anticipated, one of the best things you can do is to make a plan and prepare your family beforehand.

## Create a Family Disaster Plan

- **Gather information.**
  - ☐ What disasters or hazards are most likely in your community? For your home?
  - ☐ How would you be warned?
  - ☐ How should you prepare for each?
- **Know the warning signals for your area.**
  - ☐ Learn the warning systems for your community.
  - ☐ Be sure you can hear or see the appropriate warning from your home.
- **Obtain insurance for your family and home.**
  - ☐ Check your homeowners insurance.
  - ☐ Get additional coverage for situations that may not be covered.
- **Stay alert for emergency broadcasts.**
  - ☐ Emergency Alert System broadcasts (radio, TV)
  - ☐ NOAA weather radio alerts
  - ☐ News sources – radio, television, internet
- **Choose a post-hazard meeting place for your family.**
  - ☐ A safe distance from your home for sudden emergencies (e.g., fire).
  - ☐ Outside your neighborhood in case you can't return home.
  - ☐ Learn where area evacuation shelters are located.
- **Make a family communication plan.**
  - ☐ Know how you will contact each other if you are at work, school or other location.
  - ☐ Have an out-of-state friend or relative serve as an emergency contact for everyone to call.
  - ☐ Keep a list of emergency phone numbers, including neighborhood contacts.
  - ☐ Give emergency numbers to all family members and post by every phone.
- **Make a family emergency supply kit.**
  - ☐ You may need to survive on your own temporarily until you can get assistance.
  - ☐ Prepare a kit with 3 or more days of supplies (food, water, clothing).
- **Share the above information with your family.**
  - ☐ Meet with all members of your household.
  - ☐ Discuss the types of hazards that could occur.
  - ☐ Discuss your family's plan.
  - ☐ Practice your plans.

- **Plan how you and your neighbors could work together during a disaster.**
  - ☐ Create a neighborhood communication plan.
  - ☐ Help neighbors who have special needs, such as elderly or disabled persons.
  - ☐ Make plans for child care in case parents cannot get home.
  - ☐ Learn plans for your work, children's schools, or other locations.
- **Don't forget to include plans for your pets.**

## Family Emergency Plan Situations

- **Shelter-in-place**
  - ☐ Take immediate shelter wherever you are – home, work, school or in between – rather than entering into a hazardous situation.
  - ☐ Used for situations such as severe storms, winter weather, biological emergencies.
  - ☐ Time will vary; few hours to several days.
- **Evacuation**
  - ☐ Leaving your current location and seeking shelter at a safer place.
  - ☐ For situations such as flood or chemical accidents.
  - ☐ Time will vary; days, weeks - it may be never for some situations (e.g., flood).

## For More Information

### Ready America (FEMA)

Guidebook to help you prepare for emergency situations.

[www.ready.gov/america/index.html](http://www.ready.gov/america/index.html)

### National Weather Service

Current hazardous weather threats for your location.

<http://www.weather.gov/>

NOAA Radio Channels for your Area

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/nwrbro.htm>

### Safe and Well Website (American Red Cross)

Online registry to let family members know you are safe after a disaster situation.

<http://disastersafe.redcross.org>

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# FARM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

General Preparedness



Protecting your farm involves a number of considerations – family members, co-workers or employees, buildings, equipment, livestock, and crops. Planning ahead for all-hazard situations can help to minimize the impact and speed the recovery process for you and your farm.

## Before a Disaster or Emergency

- **Gather information.**
  - ☐ What disasters or hazards are most likely in your community? For your farm?
  - ☐ How would you be warned?
  - ☐ How should you prepare for each?
- **Know the warning signals for your area.**
  - ☐ Learn the warning systems for your community.
  - ☐ Are you able to hear or see the appropriate warning from your farm?
- **Stay alert for emergency broadcasts.**
  - ☐ Emergency Alert System broadcasts on radio or television
  - ☐ NOAA weather radio alerts
  - ☐ News sources – radio, television, internet
- **Put together an emergency supply kit for your family.**
  - ☐ See 'Family Emergency Supply Kit' handout
- **Draw a farm site map and indicate:**
  - ☐ Buildings and structures
  - ☐ Access routes (e.g., roads, lanes)
  - ☐ Barriers (fences, gates)
  - ☐ Locations of livestock
  - ☐ Locations of all hazardous substances
  - ☐ Electrical shutoff locations, etc.
- **Make a list of your farm inventory, include:**
  - ☐ Livestock (species, number of animals)
  - ☐ Crops (acres, type)
  - ☐ Machinery and equipment (make, model #)
  - ☐ Hazardous substances (e.g., pesticides, fertilizers, fuels, medicines, other chemicals)
- **Keep a list of emergency phone numbers.**
  - ☐ Your local and state veterinarian
  - ☐ County extension service
  - ☐ Local emergency management
  - ☐ Insurance agent
- **Make a list of suppliers or businesses providing services to your farm.**
  - ☐ Livestock or milk transport, feed delivery, fuel delivery, etc.

- **Contact your insurance agent.**
  - ☐ Review your insurance coverage.
  - ☐ Get additional coverage for "all-hazard" situations (e.g., flood, hail damage).
- **Stockpile supplies needed to protect the farm:**
  - ☐ Sandbags and plastic sheeting, in case of flood
  - ☐ Wire and rope to secure objects
  - ☐ Lumber and plywood to protect windows
  - ☐ Extra fuel for tractors and vehicles
  - ☐ Hand tools for preparation and recovery
  - ☐ Fire extinguishers in all barns and all vehicles
  - ☐ A safe supply of food to feed livestock
  - ☐ A gas powered generator
- **Identify areas (e.g., higher elevation) to relocate your assets, if needed.**
  - ☐ Livestock and horses
  - ☐ Equipment
  - ☐ Feed, grain, hay
  - ☐ Agrochemicals ( pesticides, herbicides)
- **Remove or secure any loose equipment or materials, such as lumber and fuel tanks.**
- **Prepare farm employees.**
  - ☐ Keep them informed of the farm's emergency plan; review it with them regularly.
  - ☐ Identify shelter-in-place or evacuation locations.
  - ☐ Establish a phone tree with contact information for all employees.

## For More Information

### Preparing the Farm and Farm Animals for Disaster (USDA NAL)

Document that overviews steps to prepare your farm and livestock for disaster situations.

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/awic/pubs/IACUC/dis.htm#prep>

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# FARM EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM

General Preparedness

<b>Police</b>	<b>Local/Farm Veterinarian</b>
<b>Fire</b>	<b>State Veterinarian</b>
<b>Ambulance</b>	<b>Cooperative Extension Service</b>
<b>County Emergency Management Office</b>	<b>Livestock Shipper</b>
<b>Neighbors</b>	<b>Grain Hauler</b>
<b>Out of State Contact</b>	<b>Fuel Supplier</b>
<b>American Red Cross</b>	<b>Milk Hauler</b>
<b>Power Company</b>	<b>Homeowner's Insurance Policy</b> Agent: Company: Policy Number:
<b>Gas Company</b>	<b>Farm Insurance Policy</b> Company: Policy Number:
<b>Water Company</b>	<b>Flood Insurance Policy</b> Company: Policy Number:
<b>Disaster Hotline</b>	<b>Wind and/or Hail Insurance Policy</b> Company: Policy Number:
<b>County Public Health Department</b>	
<b>Poison Control Center</b>	

## OUR EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT



You will need to periodically go through your emergency supply kits to make sure the items in it are not outdated. ***Plan to go through your supply kits at least every six months.***

### AT HOME

- ☐ **Water** (3-5 day supply for each person)
- ☐ **Non-perishable food** (3-5 day supply for each person)
- ☐ **First aid kit**
- ☐ **Emergency contact information**
- ☐ **Money**
- ☐ **Whistle**
- ☐ **Personal hygiene items** (hand sanitizer/towelettes, toilet paper, feminine hygiene items, etc.)
- ☐ **Extra clothing and bedding** (including shoes)
- ☐ **Plates, cups, utensils and a non-electric can opener**
- ☐ **Battery-operated flashlight**
- ☐ **Portable, battery-operated radio/weather radio**
- ☐ **Extra batteries for flashlight and radio**
- ☐ **Medications** (at least one week's worth)
- ☐ **Paperwork outlining current medications, dosages, and instructions**
- ☐ **Copies of important documents** (driver's licenses, birth certificates, insurance policies, etc.)
- ☐ **If you have infants** – formula, diapers, bottles and pacifiers
- ☐ **If you have children** – books, toys, puzzles, games to occupy them for an extended period of time

### FOR YOUR PET

- ☐ **Pet carrier**
- ☐ **Water** (3-5 day supply per pet)
- ☐ **Food** (3-5 day supply per pet)
- ☐ **Medications**
- ☐ **Paperwork outlining current medications, dosages, and instructions**
- ☐ **Copy of current vaccination record**
- ☐ **Small toys** or items that may make your pet more comfortable in an unfamiliar setting



## IN YOUR VEHICLE

- ☐ Flashlight(s) with extra batteries
- ☐ First aid kit with pocketknife
- ☐ Medications
- ☐ Paperwork outlining current medications, dosages, and instructions
- ☐ Blankets and/or sleeping bags
- ☐ Plastic bags, moist towelettes, and hand sanitizer (for sanitation)
- ☐ Matches
- ☐ Whistle
- ☐ Rain gear and extra clothes
- ☐ Jumper cables
- ☐ Life Hammer or other emergency hammer (to safely shatter windows and escape from your car)
- ☐ Brightly-colored (red) cloth (to use as a flag)
- ☐ Bottled water
- ☐ Canned/prepackaged fruit and nuts and non-electric can opener
- ☐ Small shovel and other tools (especially in winter)
- ☐ Window scraper (during winter months)
- ☐ Extra newspapers for insulation (during winter months)
- ☐ Extra set of mittens, socks and a wool cap (during winter months)
- ☐ Small sack of kitty litter or sand to generate traction under car wheels (during winter months)

## SPECIAL NEEDS OR OTHER ITEMS

**FILL IN THE BLANKS WITH YOUR OWN SPECIAL NEEDS EQUIPMENT OR SUPPLIES (SUCH AS A VENTILATOR OR RESPIRATOR, ETC.)**

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