Disaster Defined

An occurrence of a severity and magnitude that normally results in deaths, injuries, and property damage and that cannot be managed through the routine procedures and resources of government.
Types of Disasters

- Natural
  - Snow and Ice
  - Flooding
  - Earthquake
- Industrial
- Transportation
- Terrorism
Preparation

- All Hazards Approach
  - Using the all hazards approach allows the same basic principles to be applied to many situations
  - Ensure basic needs
  - Ensure a planned response so love ones can reunite
  - Heightens awareness before an event occurs
The Plan

- Risk Assessment
- How are you going to react
  - Shelter in place or relocate?
- Maintain basic needs
  - Food & Water
  - Heat
  - Electric
  - Medication/Equipment
Shelter

- Shelter in place is often used to control population from further harm. This allows people to stay within their comfort area.

- Evacuation is a method of control that removes the population for a hazardous or unlivable environment.
Preparing the Home

- Designate Safe Shelter areas within the home
- Designate evacuation & communication plan
- Consider a small generator to run AC/heat, fans, medical equipment, etc.
Prep Kit: Emergency Supplies

- First Aid Kit
- Spare batteries
  - Consider all sizes (i.e., hearing aid)
- Lighting
  - Flashlights
  - Lantern
Prep Kit: Food & Water

- **3 Day Supply**
  - Water: 1 gallon per person per day
    - Water cooler acceptable
  - Food: no heat/refrigeration required items
    - Ready to eat items
    - Pop top cans

- **Dietary Restrictions**
  - Take into account when stocking!
    - Low sodium, low sugar, etc.
Prep Kit: General Supplies

- Cash
- Blankets/Sleeping Bag
- Change of clothing
- Hygiene supplies
- Emergency contact list
  - Local & non-local contacts
- Medical info
  - Medications, medical devices
  - File of Life
AM–FM radio
- This is the primary means of communication for governmental officials to get the word to the public
- The radio should be battery operated

Weather Radio
- Sirens are designed to alert people who are outside to take cover. Newer buildings deaden the sirens.
- Basic model: $20

Emergency Cell Charger
- Great gift idea for staff/clients
Preparation: Information Out

- All family members should be aware of plan
- Establish points of contact and calling trees with family
- Do not rely on a single point of communications
- Texting may be preferable to talking
Other Considerations

- **Medication**
  - Keep at least 7 days in home at all times
  - Consider a one–week pill box that can be taken quickly in the event of evacuation

- **Medical Equipment**
  - Portable Oxygen
    - Inquire about emergency deliver with provider
  - Electric Scooter
    - How will they charge it?
Residents MUST take the necessary preparations for emergencies

Police, Fire & EMS resources are going to be extremely taxed during a disaster
More information

- CDC
- State and County Department of Emergency Management
- State Department of Senior Services
- American Red Cross
- Local Responders