



Bucks County
Emergency Services



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Happy
**National
Preparedness
Month**



Emergency Communications

- Ready Bucks
- Emergency Notifications

Preparedness at Home

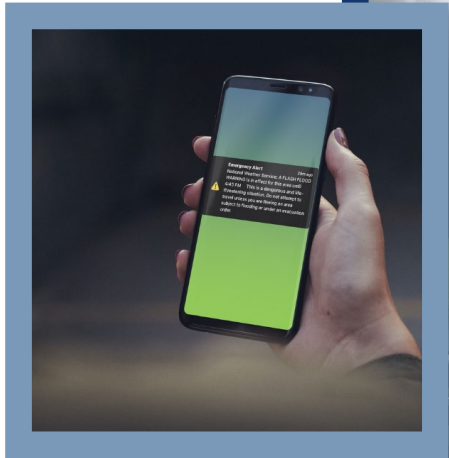
- Storm scenario
- Preparedness items for home emergency kits

Preparedness out in Public

- Car kit
- Preparedness for public events



Preparedness at Home *Scenario – The Storm*



- **Heading home** on a Friday.
- You **go directly home**, skipping the store:
You *were* going to stop at the store and pharmacy before going home, but Mother Nature had other plans.
- On your ride home, **water is covering the roads.**
- The **power goes out** minutes after arriving home.
- Check PECO before your phone dies, power will be **restored in 3 days.**

Morning reveals submerged roads turned into dangerous waterways. Fallen trees block emergency responders, adding to the uncertainty—you might be here for a while.





What you will need in this scenario:



Illuminating the Darkness:
How will you see?

- Flashlights
- Candles
- Lamps (battery-powered)
**Extra batteries*



Water Worries:
Is your water pump dependent on electricity?

- Supply of bottled water
**Aim for at least a gallon per person per day*



Functional Facilities:
Bathroom work without electricity?

- Filling up buckets with water
- Portable toilet to manage sanitation needs



Cleanliness Matters:
How will you wash your hands?

- Hand sanitizer
- Wet wipes



Responding to Injuries:
How will you address minor injuries promptly?

- Basic first aid kit



Feeding the Famished:
What will you eat and how will you prepare it?

- Plan for non-perishable options
- Canned goods
**Can opener*
- Granola bars
- Camping foods
- **Safe food handling**





Safe Food Handling:

Why It Matters: Food safety is crucial during emergencies.

You don't want to deal with food poisoning and its symptoms while managing a crisis.

Proper food handling helps prevent illnesses and keeps your emergency response on track.



Eat Safe Food after a Power Outage

Refrigerated or frozen foods may not be safe to eat after the loss of power. Find out what you can do to keep food safe during a power outage, and when you need to throw away food that could make you sick.

Before

Keep appliance thermometers in your refrigerator and freezer.
The refrigerator should be at 40°F or below.
The freezer should be at 0°F or below.

Prepare for emergencies or natural disasters
Freeze containers of water and gel packs to help keep your food at 40°F or below.
Have a cooler handy.
Buy dry ice or block ice to keep food cold in the refrigerator if the power might be out for a long time.

During

KEEP Refrigerator & Freezer Doors CLOSED

4 Hours in a Refrigerator

48 Hours in a FULL Freezer

24 Hours in a HALF-FULL Freezer

After 4 hours without power, put refrigerated perishable foods in a cooler. Add ice or another cold source to keep them at 40°F or below.

After

Never taste food to determine if it is safe to eat. When in doubt, throw it out.

- Throw out perishable food in your refrigerator (meat, fish, cut fruits and vegetables, eggs, milk, and leftovers) after 4 hours without power or a cold source.
- Throw out any food with an unusual odor, color, or texture.
- Check temperatures of food kept in coolers or your refrigerator with a cold source. Throw out food above 40°F.
- If you have an appliance thermometer in your freezer, check to see if it is still at 40°F or below.
- You can safely refreeze or cook thawed frozen food that still contains ice crystals or is at 40°F or below.

www.cdc.gov/foodsafety



Other considerations:



Communication Channels:

What if your cellphone needs to be charged?

- Backup battery
- Explore other communication devices



Medication Matters:

Ample supply of their required medications?

- Have extra supply of needed medications
- *Ideally three days or longer*



Special Needs Consideration:

Anyone in your household have special needs?

- Make necessary arrangements



Caring for Furry Friends:

Don't forget about your beloved pets.

- Food
- Water
- Medications
- Sanitary supplies



Maintaining Calm:

Stress levels can rise in challenging situations.

- Comfort items



Entertainment Essentials:

How will you pass the time without electricity?

- Board games
- Puzzles





Emergency Notifications



EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

READY BUCKS

Sign up for Ready Bucks

SCAN ME

SIGN UP

A graphic on the right side of the slide. It features an orange folder labeled "EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS" containing a yellow card. The card has a yellow box with the text "READY BUCKS" and "Sign up for Ready Bucks" below it. To the right of the card is a smartphone with a cracked screen, displaying a QR code with a "SCAN ME" label above it. The words "SIGN UP" are written in red at the bottom of the card.



Emergency Notifications

EMERGENCY ALERTS



The image shows two screenshots from an iPhone. The left screenshot shows the 'Settings' app with 'Notifications' selected, and 'Emergency Alerts' turned on. The right screenshot shows the 'Notifications - Emergency Alerts' settings page with 'Emergency Alerts', 'Local Awareness', and 'Always Play Sound' all turned on. Blue arrows point to the toggle switches for each of these three options.

Settings - Notifications - Emergency Alerts

- Emergency Alerts
- Local Awareness
- Always Play Sound

Settings - Notifications

- AMBER Alerts
- Emergency Alerts
- Public Safety Alerts
- Test Alerts



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EMERGENCY ALERTS



The image shows two screenshots from an Android phone. The left screenshot shows the 'Advanced settings' menu with 'Wireless emergency alerts' selected. The right screenshot shows the 'Wireless Emergency Alerts' settings page with 'Allow alerts' turned on, and 'Extreme threats' and 'Severe threats' also turned on. Blue arrows point to the toggle switches for 'Allow alerts', 'Extreme threats', and 'Severe threats'.

Advanced settings - Wireless Emergency Alerts

- Allow alerts
- Extreme threats
- Severe threats



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Emergency Communications



- Who are your emergency contacts?
- Who are your out-of-town emergency contacts?
- If your phone dies, do you have their contact information written down?
- Is it easily accessible, and can you grab it quickly?
- PA Emergency Preparedness Guide: Ready.pa.gov

EMERGENCY PLAN FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND OLDER PENNSYLVANIANS **Ready.PA**

Make sure you and your family and friends have 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, what mobility and/or medication issues will need to be dealt with 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 find it quickly during a disaster.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

First Contact Name _____	Second Contact Name _____
Telephone Number _____	Telephone Number _____
Email _____	Email _____
Relationship _____	Relationship _____

SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS OR DISABILITIES (Like diabetes, epilepsy, heart conditions, high blood pressure, etc.)

Special Medical Needs / Disability _____	Special Medical Needs / Disability _____
Special Medical Needs / Disability _____	Special Medical Needs / Disability _____

MEDICATIONS

Name of Medication _____	Name of Medication _____
Reason for Taking _____	Reason for taking _____
Dose and How Often It's Taken _____	Dose and How Often It's Taken _____
Name of Medication _____	Name of Medication _____
Reason for Taking _____	Reason for taking _____
Dose and How Often It's Taken _____	Dose and How Often It's Taken _____

ALLERGIES

Allergy _____	Allergy _____
What Happens _____	What Happens _____
Allergy _____	Allergy _____
What Happens _____	What Happens _____

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT USED (This may include wheelchair, crutches, home dialysis, respirator, oxygen, etc.)

Type of Equipment _____	Type of Equipment _____
Type of Equipment _____	Type of Equipment _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:	TELEPHONE NUMBER	POLICY NUMBER (if needed)
Doctor's Name _____	_____	_____
Other Doctor _____	_____	_____
Pharmacist _____	_____	_____
Medical Insurance _____	_____	_____
Homeowners / Rental Insurance _____	_____	_____
Veterinarian / Kennel (For Pets) _____	_____	_____



• [Preparedness out in Public



A line of cars and trucks are stuck along the Pennsylvania Turnpike, 2016.

Car Emergency Kit:

Keep an emergency supply kit in your car with these automobile extras.

- Jumper cables
- Flares or reflective triangle
- Ice scraper
- Car phone charger/power bank
- Blanket
- Map
- Shovel
- Cat litter or sand



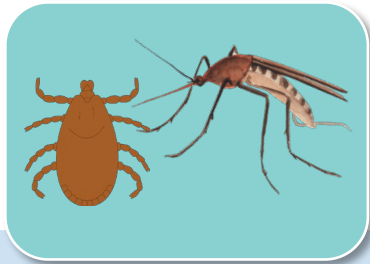


Preparedness out in Public



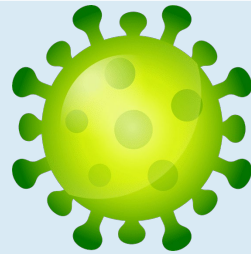
Weather

- Sunblock
- Drink Water
- Check forecast
- Sign up for weather alerts
- Identify shelter areas
- Dress for the weather



Ticks & Mosquitoes

- Insect repellent
- Treat clothing with permethrin
- Avoid standing water



Germs

- Carry & use hand sanitizer
- Wash hands with soap & warm water
- Stay home if sick



Crowds

- Identify meeting locations & evacuation routes
- Learn how to safely navigate crowds
- Take a picture with your group, consider wearing a “team” look



Emergencies

- Situational awareness
- Medical conditions and/or devices?
- Stay hydrated!
- Free trainings



Start Preparing Today

Check your current supplies and gather them together.

Identify any missing items and add them to your kits as needed.

We've created an Amazon wish list with researched and suggested emergency supplies to help you prepare.



Reminders & Resources



Medications

One-week Minimum

- Inhalers
- Insulin
- Prescriptions
- Allergies

Include dosage information



Special Needs Consideration:

- Medical Equipment
- Eyeglasses
- Hearing Aid Batteries

Helpful to include instructions



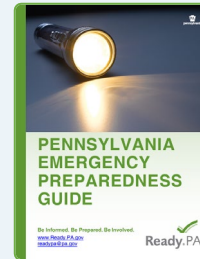
Transportation:

- Plan how
- Plan where
- Assistive devices
- Who to call

Plan on how you will leave if evacuating



Preparedness Guide:



Ready.pa.gov



County Resource:



267-880-5700



www.BucksCounty.gov

We thank you for your attention.