



Disaster Preparedness

Knowing what to do during severe weather can help keep you and your family safe. Following these tips can help you be prepared before, during and after severe weather.

Types of severe weather in Arkansas:

- **Tornados**
- **Thunderstorms**
- **Flooding**

Before The Storm:

1. Important Measures to Take:

- Take a few minutes with your family to develop a tornado emergency plan. Walk through each room and discuss where and how to seek shelter.
- Show a second way to exit from each room or area. If you need special equipment, such as a rope ladder, mark where it is located.
- Make sure everyone understands the siren warning system.
- Mark where your first-aid kit and fire extinguishers are located.
- Mark where the utility switches or valves are located so they can be turned off--if time permits--in an emergency.
- Understand how to administer basic first aid, how to use a fire extinguisher, and how and when to turn off water, gas, and electricity in your home.
- Identify how local authorities will notify you during a disaster and how you will get information, whether through local radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio stations or channels.
- Know the difference between different weather alerts such as watches and warnings and what actions to take in each.
- Know what actions to take to protect yourself during disasters that may occur in areas where you travel or have moved recently. For example, if you travel to a place where earthquakes are common and you are not familiar with them, make sure you know what to do to protect yourself should one occur.

2. Emergency Contact Cards for All Household Members:

- Print one card for each family member.
- Write the contact information for each household member, such as work, school and cell phone numbers.
- Fold the card so it fits in your pocket, wallet or purse.
- Carry the card with you so it is available in the event of a disaster or other emergency.

3. Extra Measures for People with Special Needs:

- Write down your specific needs, limitations, capabilities, and medications. Keep this list near you always--perhaps in your purse or wallet.
- Find someone nearby (a spouse, roommate, friend, neighbor, relative, or co-worker) who will agree to assist you in case of an emergency. Give him or her a copy of your list. You may also want to provide a spare key to your home, or directions to find a key.
- Keep aware of weather conditions through whatever means are accessible to you. Some options are closed captioning or scrolled warnings on TV, radio bulletins, or call-in weather information lines.

Being prepared means being equipped with the proper supplies you may need in the event of an emergency or disaster. Keep your supplies in an easy-to-carry emergency preparedness kit that you can use at home or take with you in case you must evacuate.

At a minimum, you should have the basic supplies listed below:

- Water:
 - one gallon per person, per day (3-day supply for evacuation, 2-week supply for home)
- Food: non-perishable, easy-to-prepare items (3-day supply for evacuation, 2-week supply for home).
- Manual can opener
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible)
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Medications (7-day supply) and medical items
 - hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, etc.
- Multi-purpose tool
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- Copies of personal documents
 - medication list and pertinent medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies
- Cell phone with chargers
- Family and emergency contact information
- Extra cash
- Emergency blanket
- Map(s) of the area
- Matches
- Towels
- Extra clothing and shoes
- Sleeping Bags
- Pet supplies
 - Collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl

<https://www.redcrossstore.org/category/id/1>

During the Storm:

Tornados

- Identify a safe place in your home where household members and pets will gather during a tornado: a basement, storm cellar or an interior room on the lowest floor with no windows.
- In a high-rise building, pick a hallway in the center of the building. You may not have enough time to go to the lowest floor.
- In a mobile home, choose a safe place in a nearby sturdy building. If your mobile home park has a designated shelter, make it your safe place. No mobile home, however it is configured, is safe in a tornado.

THUNDERSTORMS

- If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to the storm to be struck by lightning. Go to safe shelter immediately.
- As the storm approaches, take shelter in a building.
- If you are driving, pull off the roadway and park. Stay in the car with the windows closed and turn on the emergency flashers. Avoid touching metal or other surfaces that conduct electricity in and outside of the vehicle.
- If you are inside a home, unplug appliances and avoid using the telephone or any electrical appliances. Avoid taking a bath or shower, or running water for any other purpose.
- If you are caught outside and cannot reach a safe building, avoid high ground, water, or tall, isolated trees and metal objects such as fences or bleachers. Picnic shelters, dugouts and sheds are not safe.

FLOODING

- Be prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice. When a flood or flash flood warning is issued for your area, head for higher ground and stay there.
- Stay away from floodwaters.
- Turn around, don't drown. If you come upon a flooded road while driving, turn around and go another way. If you are caught on a flooded road and waters are rising rapidly around you, get out of the car quickly and move to higher ground. Most cars can be swept away by less than two feet of moving water.
- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood danger

Contact Information:

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

10 Remington Drive
Little Rock, AR 72204
Phone: 501-376-4791
Toll Free in Arkansas: 1-800-838-2272

Randy Garrett
ABSC Disaster Relief Director
1-800-838-2272x5249

rgarrett@absc.org

<http://www.absc.org/ministries/disasterrelief>

Arkansas Baptist State Convention Disaster Relief extends the love of Christ to disaster survivors by preparing hot meals, removing damaging trees and debris, tarping roofs, shoveling mud, providing emergency communications, and coordinating the response through Incident Command leadership.

2017 Training Dates:

- May 20, 2017 – Fordyce FBC
- September 9, 2017 – Central Baptist Church, Jonesboro
- October 14, 2017 – Geyer Springs FBC, Little Rock

Arkansas Department of Emergency Management

Bldg. # 9501
Camp Joseph T. Robinson
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72199-9600
(501) 683-6700
(501) 683-7890 FAX

The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM) is Arkansas' Homeland Security and Preparedness Agency. ADEM serves as the state's coordination center for the capabilities necessary to prevent, protect against, mitigate the effects of, respond to, and recover from those threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the Nation.

The State's Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) is housed at ADEM. In a disaster, the SEOC has representatives from various state agencies to ensure that assistance can be given quickly.

<http://www.adem.arkansas.gov/aem/>

American Red Cross in Arkansas

401 South Monroe

Little Rock, AR 72205

Main Phone: 1-800- RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

<http://www.redcross.org/local/arkansas>

The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. The Red Cross, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavors—in its international and national capacity—to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

FEMA- Federal Emergency Management Agency

FRC 800 North Loop 288

Denton, TX 76209-3698

940-898-5399

Michael.lambrecht@fema.dhs.gov

https://www.fema.gov/pdf/about/divisions/npd/CPG_101_V2.pdf

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate all hazards.

Cooperative Extension Service- Natural Disaster Recovery in Arkansas

2301 S. University Avenue

Little Rock, AR 72204

Phone: 501-671-2000

<https://www.uaex.edu/environment-nature/disaster/>

With Arkansas' natural beauty come the severe events that helped shape the state: floods, high winds, drought, and earthquakes. Learning to prepare for the potential damage can help us become resilient and help us recover more quickly. The Cooperative Extension Service as part of the University of Arkansas System's Division of Agriculture has many resources to develop ways to cope with disaster and its aftermath.

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture offers all its Extension and Research programs and services without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status, and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

La Universidad de la División de Sistemas de Arkansas de Agricultura ofrece a todos sus programas y servicios de extensión e investigación sin importar la raza, color, sexo, identidad de género, orientación sexual, origen nacional, religión, edad, discapacidad, estado civil o de veterano, información genética, o cualquier otro estado legalmente protegido, y es una acción afirmativa / ofrece igualdad de oportunidades