

Are You **READY?**

During an emergency here in Canada, it can be a long time before help arrives, so it's essential to prepare for that time when you're on your own. Public Safety Canada has some important advice for Canadians:

1- KNOW THE MOST IMPORTANT RISKS you face where you live, such as earthquakes, floods, blizzards or wildfires.

2- DEVELOP A FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN that lays out where family members should meet in an emergency, how to escape from your home or neighbourhood, how to deal with children at school or daycare and other matters.

3- PUT TOGETHER A BASIC FAMILY EMERGENCY KIT with enough water and imperishable food for three days, a flashlight, a first-aid kit, cash in smaller bills (such as \$10s) and copies of your emergency plan and contact list. A larger kit could include candles and matches, changes of clothing, toilet paper, bleach and other items.

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“Preparedness is a responsibility we all share,” says Jennifer Jager, Public Safety Canada’s senior communications adviser, adding that the message applies to Canadians at home and abroad. “The steps we suggest are sensible and easy and may save lives wherever they are implemented.”

The Public Safety Canada website has a section titled 72 Hours: Is Your Family Prepared? that provides checklists, links to various publications, information on where Canadians can buy packaged emergency kits and other valuable tips. Find out more at www.GetPrepared.ca.

Useful tip: Everyone at home should know the location of the electrical box, the water and gas valves and the floor drain.

