GET WEATHER READY WITH TAKE WINTER BY STOLL WWW.TakeWinterByStorm.org

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MAKE A FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN

Your family may not be together when a storm disaster strikes. Plan how you will stay informed and contact one another. Review what you will do in different situations.

- Discuss with your family and/or friends how to prepare for and respond to emergencies that are most likely to happen where you live, learn, work and play. Identify responsibilities for each member of your household and plan to work together as a team.
- **Learn** how to use technology to be weather ready for storms. Go to www.TakeWinterByStorm.org for National Weather Service forecasts for your local area, weather information resources and to register for alert systems in your area.
- Ask places your family frequents if they have site-specific emergency plans. Schools, childcare providers, workplaces and apartment buildings should have a plan, know how they will communicate with families during a crisis, and store adequate food, water and other basic supplies. Find out if they are prepared to "shelter-in-place" if need be, and where they plan to go if they must evacuate. Post this contact information on your Family Communication Plan and Emergency Contact Card.
- ☐ **Identify** a safe out-of-neighborhood meeting place. During a storm related disaster, family members may not be in the same location. In case your neighborhood has been damaged in a storm related event, a safe out-of-neighborhood meeting place may be the best alternative. This place may also be the best place to meet in case family members get separated. Know the phone number and contact information of your family out-of-neighborhood meeting place.
- ☐ **Identify** an out-of area contact. After a disaster, long distance phone lines may be more reliable than local lines. Ask a friend or relative who lives outside of Washington state to be your "family contact." After a disaster, your family contact becomes a communication point to share information with all household members. Your plan depends on everyone knowing your contact's phone number.
- ☐ Complete the Family Communication Plan and post in places your family spends most of their time.
- ☐ Complete the Emergency Contact Card and place in all preparedness kits, home communication center, automobile and at your place of work or school. You can find downloadable cards at www.TakeWinterByStorm.org.
- Program all emergency contact numbers into all of your phones and keep a list with you because your personal address book on your phone may not be accessible. Tell your local emergency contact and out-of-area contact that you've listed them as emergency contacts. Make sure your out-ofneighborhood meeting place has a phone available for communication.
- ☐ **Use** text messaging if network disruptions are causing phone calls not to go through. Wireless phones will not work if the electricity is out. Corded (also known as land line) phones are the most reliable.
- ☐ Stay informed. Tune in to local media channels for important updates and directives. Go to www.TakeWinterByStorm.org for links on how to register for alert systems in your area.

222 FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN Make sure your family has a plan in case of an emergency. Before an emergency happens, sit down together and decide how you will ge in contact with each other, where you will go and what you will do in an emergency. Keep a copy of this plan in your emergency supply k Regional Meeting Place: Fill out the following information for each family member and keep it up to date. Social Security Number: Date of Birth: Important Medical Information Social Security Number: Date of Birth: Social Security Number: Date of Birth: Important Medical Informa Social Security Number Date of Birth: Important Medical Information Social Security Number: Date of Birth: Write down where your family spends the most time: work, school and other places you frequent. Schools, childcare provide Work Location One Phone Number: Phone Number: Evacuation Location: Evacuation Location: Work Location Two Address: Address: Phone Number: Phone Number: Evacuation Location: Evacuation Location: Other Place You Frequer Phone Number: Phone Number: Evacuation Location: Evacuation Location: Medical Insurance Get your children involved in emergency preparedness. Go to www.TakeWinterByStorm.org for fun games and educational resources for children. WHEEDLE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS TIP Is your Emergency Contact Card in your child's backpack? Does your child's teacher or school have your family emergency contact information and know your Family

Communication Plan? Make sure

everyone is aware of your family plan

in case you get separated from one

another during a winter storm or

print out and complete the Family

Communication Plan like the one above. 🦃

natural disaster. Go to www.

TakeWinterByStorm.com and

The Seattle Times Newspapers In Education presents

GET WEATHER READY WITH TAKE WINTER BY STORM WWW.TakeWinterByStorm.org

Keep this sectionas a resource for winter weather preparedness.

Winter storms are just around the corner. Use these tools and resources to prepare yourself and loved ones for hazardous winter weather.

HOME MAINTENANCE

Ready your home and property to minimize storm impacts.

- ☐ Conduct annual reviews of your property insurance to understand and address coverage needs, and ask about flood insurance or coverage for sewer/drain backup
- ☐ Complete a detailed home inventory of your possessions and keep in a safe place away from your home (like a safe deposit box); download an inventory form at www.TakeWinterByStorm.org

OUTDOORS

- ☐ Check your roof for loose, missing, worn or damaged shingles to eliminate flying debris and reduce the chance of possible water damage
- ☐ Check for loose handrails, banisters and stair coverings, and repair buckled or cracked walks
- Clean gutters and make sure they are properly aligned and securely attached to your home
- ☐ Clear snow and ice from sidewalks in front of your home to avoid dangerous falls (this is the home/property owner's responsibility)
- ☐ Grade property so water drains away from the foundation and downspouts direct water away from the house into the storm drainage system
- ☐ Make sure flashing is secure around vents and chimneys
- ☐ Rake leaves away from drains to avoid street and property flooding
- ☐ Watch the patterns of stormwater drainage on slopes near your home, and note the places where runoff water converges. Watch the hills around your home for any

signs of land movement, such as small landslides, debris flows or progressively tilting trees. Contact your local geotechnical or structural engineer to determine the severity of the problem

- ☐ Replace weather stripping and caulk that has lost contact with surfaces
- ☐ Trim shrubbery away from siding to prevent insect and moisture damage and remove shrubbery that interferes with walkways
- ☐ Keep snow buildup off of surfaces that could collapse
- ☐ Insulate exposed water pipes and outdoor faucets to protect them from freezing

INDOORS

- ☐ Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and change batteries every six months; replace units every eight years
- ☐ Check basement and crawl space for dampness and leakage; standing water could be a sign of improper drainage
- ☐ Check all windows for proper operation and locking capability
- ☐ Test your sump pump before the start of every wet season; battery-operated backup sump pumps can help protect against power failure of the primary pump

EMERGENCY CONTACT CARD

Every member of your family should complete and carry an Emergency Contact Card. Keep this card with you and place one in your preparedness kit, home communication center, automobile and at your workplace or school to reference in the event of an emergency.

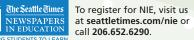


Utilities (gas, electricity, water): insurance Provider: Healthcare Provider: Poison Control Center: 1-800-222-1222 Ambulance: 9-1-1 or 10 f-f-6 :91i7 Police: 9-1-1 or Name: **Home Phone** Work Phone Cell Phone Visit TakeWinterByStorm.org for more valuable information on creating an emergence communications plan, putting together an emergency preparedness kit and other important preparedness information. **Local Contact** Phone (night): Out-of-area Contac Phone (day): Meeting Place Outside of Neighborhood **Location Name**

Download more cards at www.TakeWinterByStorm.org.







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GET WEATHER READY WITH TAKE WINTER BY STORIGHT

Take Winter By Storm is a public-private, collaborative education program helping people get better prepared for winter storms. Every year Western Washington is faced with natural disasters — hazardous winter weather storms. Preparing our communities for our annual weather hazards will lead them through the steps to be prepared for unforeseen and even catastrophic disasters.

Cooperative partners of this year's program include:





























EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KITS

Be prepared to take care of yourself and those around you. Gather the following items to build emergency preparedness kits. Prepare at least three days' of essentials (seven to ten days preferred) for your family and pets. Kits should be portable and ready to go in case of evacuation.

- ☐ Water one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days for drinking and sanitation (seven to ten days preferred)
- ☐ Food at least a three-day supply of non-perishable, ready-to-eat food and manual can opener (seven to ten days preferred)
- ☐ Battery-powered or hand-crank radio, NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- ☐ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ☐ First-aid kit
- □ Emergency Contact Card
- ☐ Multipurpose tool
- ☐ Whistle to signal for help
- ☐ Antiseptic towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- ☐ Dusk mask, to help filter contaminated air
- ☐ Cellphone with chargers (car charger recommended in the event of power outage)
- ☐ Thermal emergency blankets
- ☐ Rain ponchos
- ☐ Personal hygiene supplies (toothbrush, toothpaste, sanitary napkins, soap, towel, etc.)
- ☐ Copies of important documents, placed in a waterproof container or bag, including:
- Copy of your driver's license and/or birth certificate
- Bank account information
- Insurance cards, policy numbers and insurer contact information
- ☐ Cash (bank machines may not be functional; small bills are best)
- ☐ Extra set of house keys
- ☐ Prescription medications (seven-day supply suggested)



☐ Pet supplies (food, water, blanket, medications)

☐ Children's/baby supplies < (coloring book/crayons, diapers/wipes, formula, baby food)

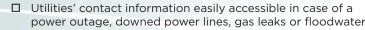
Always check expiration dates and update your emergency preparedness kit every six months. Use daylight-saving dates as a reminder to check your kits.

WHEEDLE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS TIP

Cell phones may not be able to make calls, but the text message capability often works during emergencies. You should know how to text in case of an emergency.

OTHER ITEMS TO HAVE ON HAND AT HOME AND AT WORK OR SCHOOL

- □ Emergency Contact Card
- ☐ Instructions and tools to turn off gas, electricity and water
- ☐ Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- ☐ Warm blankets
- ☐ Tarps, tents and rope
- ☐ Fire extinguisher
- ☐ Carbon monoxide detector



- ☐ Rake to remove fallen leaves and debris from storm drains to prevent street flooding
- ☐ Water-purification equipment
- ☐ Snow shovel and salt to remove snow and ice from pathways
- ☐ Outdoor faucet covers and/or insulation to wrap outdoor faucets to protect them from freezing
- ☐ Camping stove and fuel (for outdoor use only)
- ☐ Firewood and waterproof matches (for wood-burning fireplace or outdoor use only)
- ☐ Medical supplies (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses and solution, syringes, cane)
- ☐ Two-way radios and extra batteries
- ☐ Local maps with predetermined evacuation routes identified
- Additional unique family needs

ITEMS TO INCLUDE IN YOUR VEHICLE

- ☐ Emergency Contact Card
- ☐ Three-day supply of food and water
- ☐ Warm clothing and sturdy walking shoes
- ☐ Warm blankets
- ☐ Rain ponchos
- ☐ Flares
- ☐ Preparedness kit with first-aid supplies
- ☐ Small shovel and traction aids (sand, cat litter, chains) whe freezing weather and snow is forecast
- ☐ Local maps with predetermined evacuation routes identified





WHEEDLE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS TIP

Prepare before storms hit and be weather ready! Find weather forecasts for your specific area at www.TakeWinterByStorm.org/weather. Review and practice your Family Emergency Communication Plan twice a year. Use daylight saving time dates as preparedness dates for your family.



www.TakeWinterByStorm.org

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