## Do You Have an Emergency Plan?

Does your family have a plan in case of a natural disaster or another emergency? You might be surprised to learn that a lot of Americans don't have an emergency plan.

We take a lot of steps to keep our loved ones safe. We childproof our homes, buckle up in the car, and install smoke detectors. But are we ready for an emergency, like a power outage or a severe storm?

What would your family do if the power went out for days? Do you have enough food, water, and other supplies? Every family's needs are different, and your plan should reflect that. For example, families with young children, pets or someone with medical needs might require more detailed planning.

## Why Planning Matters

PPL Electric Utilities reminds its customers that having a plan in place before an emergency hits can make all the difference. It's much easier to stay calm and focused when you've thought through the details ahead of time. Knowing where to go, who to contact, and what to have on hand will help you keep your loved ones safe.

National Preparedness Month is a great time to review and update your emergency plan. Even if you already have a plan, it's important to make sure it still meets your family's current needs.

## **Get Started on Your Plan**

If you don't have a plan yet, now is the perfect time to create one.

- Make sure every person in your family knows who to contact and where to go if an emergency happens when you're not home.
- Know how to stay updated with the latest news and information.
- Keep a paper copy of your emergency contacts; If your phone dies, you'll still have access to important numbers.
- Finally, have an emergency kit with enough supplies for at least three days.

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency or FEMA, items for a basic emergency kit include:

- Water and some non-perishable food to last for a few day
- Extra cell phone charger cords
- Cell phone power bank
- Battery powered or hand crank radio that receives weather alerts
- Flashlights (never candles)
- Extra batteries for radio and flashlights
- Whistle to signal for help
- First aid kit
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air if necessary
- Moist towelettes or disinfecting wipes and garbage bags
- Hand sanitizer

- Can opener for non-perishable food
- Local maps

Bottomline, two of your best tools are a rock-solid plan and a well-stocked emergency kit.

