

Are You Ready for a Power Outage?

What should people do if a power outage lasts longer than two days? Plan ahead. Be prepared. When making a disaster plan and when preparing disaster supply kits, have enough supplies, food and bottled water/drinks to sustain everyone in the household for at least 72 hours.

Know that power outages can happen at any time. ReadyOhio encourages Ohioans to learn what to do to prepared for and recover from all hazards and emergencies before they are left in the dark.

Make a kit. Include a flashlight or battery-operated lanterns, portable radio, extra batteries, first aid kit, bottled water (at least one gallon per person per day, for at least three days), nonperishable food, manual can opener, blankets or sleeping bags, and protective clothing. Due to the extreme risk of fire, do not use candles as a light or heat source during a power outage.

Secure appliances and equipment against power loss. Have a 'land line' telephone that does not require electricity as cordless phones do. Purchase high-quality surge protectors for your computer and electronic equipment. If you have an electric garage door opener, know how to open it manually.

Consult with professionals. Seek expert assistance from a licensed professional if you are considering purchasing a generator. If a household member requires power-dependent equipment (oxygen or ventilator), register with the utility company so they can provide appropriate assistance when necessary.



The Ready campaign and National Preparedness Month are educational and informational products of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Launched in February 2003, Ready is a national public service advertising campaign designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to all emergencies.

Being ready is ensuring that everyone is prepared to respond to, recover from and rebuild from any major incident, whether it's man-made or a natural disaster.

Being ready is ensuring that homes and businesses have disaster plans. Being ready is practicing safety drills. Being ready is being prepared. Get Ready, Ohio.



Ohio, Are You Ready For ...



Are You Ready for a Flood?

In the state of Ohio, flooding is the most common and the most costly natural disaster. Floods and flash floods can occur during any season – after spring rains, heavy summer thunderstorms or winter snow and ice thaws.

Would you know how to protect yourself and your family in the event of a flood? ReadyOhio encourages Ohioans to learn what to do to prepare for and recover from all hazards, including floods.

Know the difference between flood watches and flood warnings. A **flood watch** means there's a potential of rapid flooding or when the onset of flooding can occur within 6 to 12 hours. If a **flash flood warning** is issued, take immediate action to protect life and property. Evacuate the area. Move to higher ground. Do not drive through flooded roadways.

Listen to a NOAA Weather Radio or local TV or radio station for up-to-date weather information and evacuation instructions.

Purchase and maintain flood insurance. Flood insurance is not covered by renters or homeowner insurance policies.

Visit FloodSmart.gov to learn more about flood insurance and to find an insurance agent near your community.

Are You Ready for Tornadoes?

Would you know how to protect yourself and others from destructive high winds or a tornado?

Know the terms.

A **tornado watch** means the potential or conditions exist for a tornado to develop. Prepare to move to shelter in the lowest level of a sturdy building. Listen to a NOAA Weather Radio or local TV or radio station for current weather information, including the development of tornado warnings.

A **tornado warning** means a tornado or funnel cloud has been spotted or is about to happen in your area. Take immediate action to seek safe shelter.

If you are outside or in a mobile home during a tornado warning, find immediate shelter in a nearby safe room, tornado shelter or go to a central room or lowest level of a nearby sturdy building.



**Get a Kit. Make a Plan. Be Informed.
Get Involved.**

Are You Ready for Home Fire Prevention?

Fire is a hot, fast and deadly element. Preparedness and knowing what to do is your family's best defense in the event of a fire.

Practice these fire safety tips so you can "Get Out Alive and Survive."

- Feel the door. If the door is hot, don't open it. Go to a window and call for help. If the doorknob is cool, open cautiously.
- Get out of the building before phoning for help.
- Crawl low to the floor. Thick smoke can make it impossible to see. Chemicals from smoke can be deadly in seconds. Heat in the form of gases rise. The freshest air is closest to the floor.

Before a fire:

- Install smoke detectors on every level of your home and inside each bedroom.
- Test your smoke detectors monthly.
- Change the batteries in your smoke detectors twice a year. When you change the time on your clocks, change your batteries.
- Make a home fire escape plan. Every room should have two escape routes. Practice your fire drills.
- Sleep with your bedroom doors closed.

Visit the State Fire Marshal site for additional information: www.com.ohio.gov/fire/

