



Make an Emergency Supply Kit

Recent derecho storms remind us we should be ready for emergencies

Hurricane season is here. And nearly everyone in Virginia recently experienced the historic derecho severe storms and extended power outages. Do you have an emergency supply kit?

Every family needs supplies on hand for these situations. Start your emergency kit with these essential items:

- ✓ Three days' of food that won't spoil, such as canned goods and packaged foods
- ✓ Three days' of water, one gallon per person per day
- ✓ A hand crank and/or battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- ✓ A written family emergency plan

Once you gather these basics, put them in waterproof containers that you can carry or roll in case you need to leave your home quickly. Old suitcases or backpacks also can hold supplies.

Other items are useful in an emergency supply kit, such as flashlights with extra batteries (not candles), a first aid kit, a list of prescriptions and doctors and a supply of medications, food and water for your pets, and special items for babies, disabled or older family members.

Think that's too much to do? At least get started with the essential items, and then add to your kit. For a fill-in or downloadable family emergency plan worksheet, go to www.ReadyVirginia.gov and click on Make a Plan.

Emergency preparedness is everyone's responsibility. Everyone should be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least the first 72 hours, and everyone should have a family emergency plan.

Visit www.ReadyVirginia.gov and www.ListoVirginia.gov to find out more about how to prepare for hurricane season.