

MEMA is the state agency charged with ensuring the state is prepared to withstand, respond to, and recover from all types of emergencies and disasters, including natural hazards, accidents, deliberate attacks, and technological and infrastructure failures. MEMA ensures the Commonwealth's ability to rapidly recover from large and small disasters by assessing and mitigating threats and hazards, enhancing preparedness, ensuring effective response, and strengthening our capacity to rebuild and recover.



MASSACHUSETTS ALERTS ON YOUR SMARTPHONE

For severe weather alerts & emergency info from MEMA, download the free "Massachusetts Alerts" app.



Go to mass.gov/MEMA/mobileapp or search for "Massachusetts Alerts" in your app store.

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MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

BE INFORMED
MAKE A PLAN
BUILD A KIT
GET INVOLVED

Tips and information to help Massachusetts residents prepare for all types of emergencies.



Ready Massachusetts

www.mass.gov/MEMA

WHY SHOULD YOU PREPARE FOR AN EMERGENCY?

DISASTERS HAPPEN

Anytime...Anywhere

Are You Ready For the Next Disaster? Is Your Family Ready?

Severe Weather and Extreme Temperatures
 Hurricanes and Tropical Storms • Flooding
 Earthquakes • Fire • Power Outages
 Terrorism • Cyber Disruptions
 Health Emergencies



Prepare Now

Plan for your family's safety

Protect your property

Know your neighbors and be ready to help in an emergency

Build your community's resilience

Visit: www.mass.gov/MEMA for more emergency preparedness information

EMERGENCY KIT SUPPLIES

- Water** - 1 gallon per person per day for 3 days 
- Food** - 3 day supply of nonperishable foods that do not need cooking 
- Tools** 
- Radio** - (battery-powered or hand crank), NOAA Weather Radio and extra batteries 
- Flashlight** and extra batteries 
- First Aid kit** 
- Diapers, wipes, baby food, formula, if needed** 
- Pet food, supplies, tags and crates, if needed** 
- Prescription medications and extra eyeglasses** 
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags, soap, hand sanitizer, and other personal hygiene items** 
- Copies of important documents and IDs (and cash)** 
- Cell phone & charger** (auto or solar charger may also be needed if power is out) 

Place all items in a portable, watertight bin and store in an easy-to-access location.

For complete list go to: www.mass.gov/mema/ready

Know your hazards:

Learn the types of disasters and emergencies that may occur in your area:



blizzard



flood



fire



tornado



hurricane



hazardous materials

Receive Emergency Alerts

- Sign up for your community's emergency alerting system
- Download Massachusetts Alerts: a free app from MEMA that delivers location specific weather warnings and emergency information to your smart phone
- Have a battery operated radio to monitor news broadcasts and weather forecasts
- Call 2-1-1 during a disaster to receive non-emergency information

Know Your Community's Plans

- Know your community's evacuation routes and shelter locations
- Know Your Zone. If you live or work in a coastal community, learn whether you live in a hurricane evacuation zone. Visit www.mass.gov/knowyourzone.

HAVE A PLAN

Develop A Family Disaster Plan:

Make a plan with your household members: know what you will do, how to find each other, and how to communicate in an emergency.

- Decide where you will meet in an emergency. Choose two locations: one place right outside your home and another outside your neighborhood.
- Identify exit routes from your home and neighborhood.
- Share phone numbers and email addresses with family members, and know how you will communicate. Identify an out-of-state friend or relative that household members can call.
- Plan for everyone's needs, especially people with medical needs or disabilities, seniors, children and pets.
- Know what to do if you must evacuate: know where you will go, what you will take with you, and how you will get there.
- Know what to do if you must shelter-in-place. Locate the safest locations in your home and place of work, and know what supplies you will need to be comfortable for up to 3 days.
- Share your plan with household and family members.

BUILD A KIT

Build Your Emergency Kit Now.

Emergencies and disasters sometimes happen without notice.

Use the Emergency Supplies Checklist in this Emergency Preparedness Guide, and consider the following:

- Keep your supplies in an easy-to-carry kit that you can use at home or take with you in case you must evacuate.
- Keep a kit in your car as well.
- Have enough food, water, medicine and other supplies to last for at least 72 hours.
- Include supplies for all members of your household, including seniors, children, people with disabilities, and pets.
- Include supplies in your kit to help you manage without basic services such as electricity, gas, water, sewerage and telephone.
- Collect and safeguard critical documents: financial and personal records, identification papers. See www.ready.gov/financial-preparedness.

Visit www.mass.gov/mema for a full list of supplies to include in your emergency kit.



GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Invest in your community's resilience and help it prepare for the next disaster.

Volunteer

Volunteer with a recognized disaster volunteer organization in your community.

Ask if your community has a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Citizen Corps program, or other volunteer opportunities.



Donate

Make a contribution to one of the many non-profit organizations that are members of the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD). (www.massvoad.org)

Know and Help Your Neighbors

During an emergency or disaster, check on your neighbors, particularly if they are elderly, have medical issues or disabilities, or do not speak English.

