

# Preparing for Emergencies



WEST COAST  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

GROUP

**Get your household ready!** Emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere. You can take steps to be prepared.

**GET READY**



## Talk about the impacts

Understanding the impacts of an emergency can help you get through. Have a chat with the people in your household and work out what you'll do in these situations.



## Make a plan

Emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere, and often without warning. It is important to make emergency plans so you know what to do when an emergency happens.



## Tailor your plan

Think about a plan for your home, work and school.



## Work out what supplies you need

In an emergency, you may be stuck at home for three days or more. Figure out what supplies you need and make a plan to work out what you need to get through.



## Make your home safer

We can't predict disasters, but we can prepare for them. One of the best places to start is with your home. Find out what you can do to make your home safer.



## Stay informed

It's important to know the different ways you can stay informed during an emergency.

## Household kits and supplies

You probably have most of the things you need already. You don't have to have them all in one place, but you might have to find them in a hurry and/or in the dark.

### In a grab bag

**A grab bag is a small bag with essential supplies ready to go!**

**Each bag should have:**

- ✓ Walking shoes, warm clothes, raincoat and hat
- ✓ Water and food for 3 days. Include special dietary requirements
- ✓ First aid kit and sanitisation
- ✓ Medications
- ✓ Cellphone and portable charger
- ✓ Cash
- ✓ Copies of important documents and photo ID
- ✓ Torch, radio and batteries

### Your pets

**Your animals are your responsibility. You need to include them in your emergency planning and preparation.**

- ✓ Aim to have food, water and medication for your animals for a couple of weeks or more
- ✓ Collar, lead, muzzle and/or cage
- ✓ Microchip your pets
- ✓ If you need to evacuate, take your pets with you. If it's not safe for you, it's not safe for them
- ✓ Make sure your evacuation place will take your pets. Or have contact details for kennels, catteries and pet friendly motels
- ✓ Review your pet insurance policy to see if it covers emergencies

### At home

**Aim to have supplies to last at least a couple of weeks or more**

- ✓ **3 litres** of water per person per day
- ✓ Long-lasting food, don't forget special dietary needs, babies and pets too
- ✓ Basic first aid kit, medications/medical items
- ✓ Battery powered radio and spare batteries
- ✓ Cellphone and portable charger
- ✓ Torch and batteries
- ✓ Sanitation, personal hygiene items
- ✓ Toilet paper and large plastic buckets for an emergency toilet
- ✓ Blankets/sleeping bags
- ✓ Cash
- ✓ Clothes
- ✓ Spare car/home key
- ✓ Family and emergency contact information
- ✓ Copies of personal documents in watertight bag
- ✓ Pet supplies
- ✓ Tools or equipment you might need

By looking after yourself and your household, you'll also be helping emergency services focus their limited resources on the people who need the most help.

Find out more on our website [www.westcoastemergency.govt.nz](http://www.westcoastemergency.govt.nz)

