# Do's and Don'ts During Disasters

Disasters can strike at any time, disrupting our daily lives and posing significant challenges. Preparing for emergencies is crucial to ensure the safety and wellbeing of individuals, families, and communities.





## **Do's During Disasters**

During a disaster, it's crucial to remain calm and take proactive steps to ensure your safety. Stay alert, listen to local authorities, and follow their instructions carefully. Secure your home, gather essential supplies, and be prepared to evacuate if necessary.

## **Securing Your Home**

During a disaster, take steps to fortify your home and ensure your family's safety. Board up windows, lock all doors, and gather essential emergency supplies like water, non-perishable food, batteries, and a first-aid kit.

Secure your property by turning off utilities, unplugging appliances, and removing loose outdoor items that could become projectiles. Identify the safest interior room to shelter in and stock it with necessary provisions.



## **Evacuation Procedures**

### **Identify Evacuation Routes**

Know the quickest and safest routes to evacuate your area. Familiarize yourself with alternate roads in case your primary route is blocked.

### **Prepare an Evacuation Kit**

Pack essential supplies like water, non-perishable food, first-aid kit, medications, and important documents in a portable bag.

### **Secure Your Home**

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Turn off utilities, lock doors and windows, and take measures to protect your property before leaving. This helps prevent further damage.

### **Follow Official Guidance**

Heed all instructions from local authorities regarding evacuation orders, routes, and shelter locations. This ensures your safety during the emergency.



## **Communicating with Loved Ones**

## **Stay Connected**

Reach out to family and friends as soon as possible to let them know you are safe. Use various communication channels like phone, text, or social media.

### **Share Updates**

Provide regular updates on your situation and location to keep your loved ones informed and reassured. Avoid spreading unverified information.

## **Coordinate Assistance**

Work with your loved ones to identify any immediate needs and coordinate assistance, whether it's supplies, transportation, or emotional support.

## **Don'ts During Disasters**

During times of crisis, it's crucial to avoid certain actions that can put you and your loved ones at risk. **Refrain from spreading unverified information** or panic-inducing rumors, as this can create unnecessary chaos. Resist the urge to return home until authorities have deemed it safe, as you may endanger yourself and obstruct emergency response efforts.

Do not attempt to drive through flooded areas or damaged roads, as this can lead to lifethreatening situations. Steer clear of downed power lines and unstable structures, as they pose serious electrical and structural hazards. Avoid hoarding essential supplies, as this can deprive others of necessary resources during a critical time.

## **Avoiding Panic and Chaos**

## Stay Calm

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Take deep breaths and maintain composure.

### **Follow Instructions**

Listen to and obey directives from authorities.

### **Assist Others**

Lend a hand to those in need if possible.

During a disaster, it's essential to remain as calm and composed as possible. Avoid panicking, which can lead to irrational decisions and contribute to chaos. Instead, focus on following the instructions provided by emergency personnel and authorities. If you're able, lend a hand to those around you who may need assistance, but always prioritize your own safety.

## **Protecting Valuables and Documents**







### **Secure Your Valuables**

Keep critical documents and high-value items in a fireproof, waterproof safe or lockbox to protect them from loss or damage during a disaster.

## **Backup Important Files**

Digitize and backup essential documents, photos, and other files onto an external hard drive or cloud storage to ensure they are preserved.

## **Assemble an Emergency Kit**

Prepare a portable go-bag with copies of IDs, financial information, and other critical documents in case you need to evacuate quickly.



## **Staying Informed and Monitoring News**

## **Tune in to Reliable Sources**

Stay connected to official emergency broadcasts, local news outlets, and government websites to get the latest updates on the disaster situation and any instructions from authorities.

## **Avoid Misinformation**

Be cautious of unverified social media rumors and unsubstantiated claims. Cross-check information from multiple reputable sources to ensure you have accurate, up-to-date facts.



# Conclusion and Key Takeaways

In conclusion, disaster preparedness is crucial for keeping your family safe and minimizing the impact of emergencies. Remember the key dos and don'ts covered in this presentation to stay calm, protect your home and possessions, and effectively communicate with loved ones.

