



Preparing Our Faith Communities in Fairfax County

Suggested Newsletter and E-mail Article

Option 2

Please copy and use as is or modify to your needs

Do you have enough water? Where are your important personal documents? If your home lost power, do you have a battery-powered radio to stay informed?

These supplies are among the essentials needed to cope during dangerous weather or man-made hazards that threaten us every day.

According to an American Red Cross survey, only 40 percent of Americans have assembled the basic supplies needed to take care of themselves, their families and their neighbors during an emergency. This lack of preparedness poses a challenge not only to individuals, but also to first responders, governments and businesses. Taking responsibility for your own home emergency supply kit will help you play a key role in national preparedness and you can help fellow faith community members if they need assistance.

Remember how vulnerable the Washington, D.C. area is to large and small incidents that could require tapping into a home emergency supply kit: Hurricane Isabel, Sept. 11, 2001, tornados and floods, severe snow storms, power loss, and other crises.

Houses of worship in Fairfax County are encouraging their members to prepare or update a home emergency supply kit to respond to any hazard at any time. You and/or your family must be prepared to "Ready ... Pack ... Go" to a basement, interior room, public shelter, friend's house or other safe area.

By gathering supplies such as water, non-perishable food, prescription medications, flashlights, first aid kit, important documents and other supplies, you can take personal responsibility for your safety, the safety of your family and the safety of your neighbors during an emergency or extended crisis.

Look for a home emergency supply kit checklist in (INSERT LOCATION) and plan to make a kit. Now it's your turn today to "Ready ... Pack ... Go" for tomorrow, if necessary.

Sponsors: Fairfax County Faith Communities in Action (FCIA) Interfaith Emergency Planning Steering Committee, Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council, Fairfax County Department of Systems Management for Human Services Community Interfaith Liaison Office, the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management, Department of Family Services and the Office of Public Affairs



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For information, call 703.324.3453 TTY 703.803.7914

