

STEPS TO MAKING A PLAN

- **Gather** — Bring your family members together.
- **Discuss** and take notes on how you will respond to the most common types of disasters that may happen in your area and where your family members live, work, play and learn.
- **Make a list of responsibilities** for each family member of your family and plan how to work together in a crisis situation.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- **Where to Meet** — It is good to choose 2 places depending on where everyone is at the time.
 - **Close by your home** in case the emergency is inside—it is good to choose a spot such as the driveway or by the big tree in the front yard.
 - **Outside your neighborhood** at a place that everyone knows well in case you are unable to get home or are told to evacuate.
- **Person to Contact** — Choose an out-of-the-area contact person that each person will get in touch with should they be separated from the family in the confusion. Make sure that the text and emergency contact information is in every person's wallet and programmed into each person's cell phone.

PRACTICE AND REVIEW

- **Practice evacuating your home** at least twice a year until every member is familiar with the escape routes from your home and where to gather when they are outside.
 - Keep all the 72-hour backpack kits in one place to make them easy to find and grab on the way outside. [[Click here](#) for a 72-hour check list to download.]
 - Keep a fully packed emergency supply kit ready at all times to toss in a vehicle if called on to evacuate.
- **Plan for the safety and security of your pet.** Make sure you know where area shelters are along evacuation routes, where larger animals can be taken and don't forget food and medical supplies for them in your emergency evacuation kit.

LEARN MORE

<https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies.html>