

Are you prepared in case of a disaster here in Lincoln County?

Many Lincoln County offices, departments and employees have specific roles and responsibilities to carry out in the event of a disaster. While local government prepares to assist its citizens and visitors in everyday emergencies, a large disaster can overwhelm our immediate response capability. After an earthquake or tsunami, it may take several days for state or national help to arrive. People will need to act immediately in their own workplaces, homes and communities until help can arrive. Lincoln County recognizes the need to develop emergency plans and tools for our workplaces as well as in the community at large. One resource to help us is the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program. CERT was designed by the Los Angeles City Fire Department after the 1987 Whittier Narrows Earthquake and adopted by FEMA to educate people about disaster preparedness. All across the nation, communities are now setting up CERT Programs to educate people about disaster preparedness. Training is provided in basic disaster response skills so that trained CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following a large event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. Lincoln County will be working with local trainers to schedule CERT training for selected County employee volunteers from different locations and offices throughout the County system. Our goal is to provide trained volunteers in each building or service location.

The primary reason for CERT training is to give us the decision-making, organizational, and practical skills to effectively offer immediate assistance to family members, neighbors and associates while waiting for help. If you are interested in joining a local CERT you can contact your local fire department, or to get more information, visit the CERT website at www.citizencorps.gov/cert.

Here are some sample special needs survival kits you can put together in addition to your normal needs:

For Your Vehicle

- Keep gas tank full
- Tool box (tow cable, jumper cables)
- Extra oil, anti-freeze
- Emergency flares and distress flag/signal
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Portable radio and extra batteries
- Tow chain or rope
- Traction devices, bag of sand and shovel
- Windshield scraper
- First aid kit
- Prescriptions
- Blanket or sleeping bag
- Bottled water
- Canned fruit/nuts and non-electric can opener

Courtesy of www.oregon.gov

For Your Pets

- 3 days food and water per pet
- Extra medicine in a waterproof container
- Backup leash, collar and ID tag (Your pet should wear a collar with tags and ID at all times.)
- Copies of licensure, adoption papers, vaccination documents and microchip info
- Crate or pet carrier
- Pet litter and box
- Picture of you and your pet together, with detailed info about breed, sex, etc.
- Favorite toys, treats or bedding

Courtesy of www.ready.gov



For Your Babies

- Formula
- Diapers
- Bottles
- Powdered milk
- Medications
- Moist towelets
- Diaper rash ointment
- Toys
- Blankets

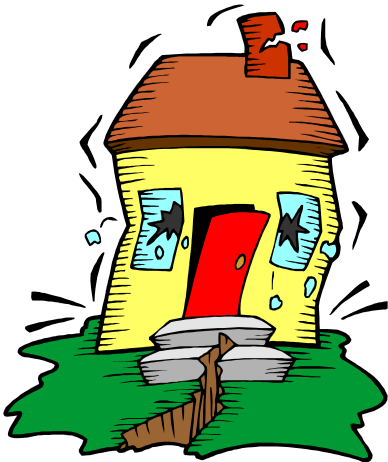
Courtesy of www.ready.gov



Check out the Lincoln County Emergency Services website at www.lincolncoemergencyservices.us/

www.ready.gov/america and www.ready.gov/kids

Originally created thru the Department of Homeland Security, this website includes a variety of preparedness information. A 3 minute video has ideas for keeping you and your family safe. Kids will love reading the comic strips, looking for hidden treasure and playing other games as they learn about preparedness. People with special needs including older Americans, pet owners, business owners, people with disabilities, etc. will find specialized information to be prepared. Detailed family emergency cards to carry in your purse, wallet or vehicle are located here for you to print out and use in an emergency.



www.redcross.org/services/disaster
(Click on "Be Prepared")

In addition to family preparedness and survival kit info, the Red Cross site includes tips on response and recovery for businesses of all sizes and suggestions on minimizing property damage and financial risks. There's also help for handling animals and livestock in an emergency. A unique page on this site explains how to "Shelter-in-Place" in your home, school, workplace or vehicle if hazardous materials are released into the atmosphere.

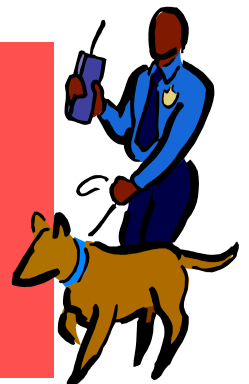
www.oregon.gov/OOHS/OEM/archive/create_family_disaster_plan.shtml

This site is helpful in that it includes instructions for disconnecting utilities such as electricity, gas and water. Clicking on Library will take you to other websites with more comprehensive information including disaster recovery and more employee and family preparedness info.



To buy already prepared emergency kits, you might consider the following websites:

www.redcross.org/shop
www.disaster necessities.com
www.saratogatradingcompany.com
www.homelandpreparedness.com



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