



Council Member Carlton Christensen  
City Council District One

Over the last year, I don't think anyone, especially elected officials haven't paused and wondered if we are doing all we can to prepare our communities for any unfortunate event or disaster that would not only challenge us as individuals and families but as a community. Are we

prepared to provide core services and care for those who are unable to care for themselves, or would we encounter the challenges faced recently by some other communities. While Salt Lake City benefited much from the planning that took place for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, we have yet to plan at the community level as we should.

In conjunction with your community councils, the Salt Lake City School District and the city's Fire Department, a plan is being developed for District 1 that could be replicated for other areas of the city. It's our intent that once the plan is completed, we will provide information to you on what the plan entails and how you and your loved ones can prepare to mitigate problems that might occur in such an event. As any emergency manager will tell you, it's not a matter whether a disaster occurs, but when.

As we prepare, we should remain calm and set some goals and take comfort in the fact that if we prepare properly, not only can we help ourselves, we can also help our neighbors, friends and others within the community when the time comes. Ours is a community rich in history of service and one that always steps up when the need is there.

September is Emergency preparedness Month and as you become educated on how best to prepare yourself, I hope you'll set some goals on how to be prepared if you're not ready today. Preparing a little each month, makes more sense than trying to do it at the last minute, when it may be too late.

In addition to the District 1 specific materials that will be ready for distribution in a few months, you can use our city resources that are linked with national resources at [www.slneighborhoopreparedness.net](http://www.slneighborhoopreparedness.net). While it would be ideal to not have any other natural disasters while serving in office, I realize that it is my duty to do the most I can for the people I serve and care about, and I invite you to join us as we prepare ourselves for the potential of a future disaster.

Thank You!

## Family/Household Preparedness Plans

Every family should have their own Emergency Preparedness Plan in place. Families should discuss potential disasters and understand why it's important to prepare for them. Each member of the family should be involved in the planning process. Knowing that the family has a plan in place can lessen children's anxiety about emergencies. While every family's preparedness plan will be different, a basic plan should include the following:

- A readily accessible 72 hour kit for each member of the family.
- A flashlight and a pair of shoes under each family member's bed in case there is an emergency during the night.
- An identified place to meet after a disaster if your house becomes unsafe and a meeting place outside your neighborhood in case you are told to evacuate.
- An out-of-state contact that each member of the family can call to give their location in case your family becomes separated.
- Take into account the special needs of seniors, those with disabilities and pets.
- An identified escape route from your home – two if possible. Practice using these routes.
- Show everyone in the family who is old enough where gas mains and other utilities are located. Teach each family member how and when to turn them off.
- Prepare emergency response cards that contain information on contact numbers, meeting places, etc. to place in each family member's 72 hour kit.

Parents should be aware that each school has an emergency plan in place. If you are not familiar with the plan at your child's school, you should contact the school and ask for that information.

This newsletter contains lists of basic items that should be included in 72 hour kits and car emergency kits and also web site addresses that provide much more detailed information to help your family prepare for an emergency.



### CAR SURVIVAL KIT

- Always maintain at least 1/2 Tank of Gas.
- First Aid Kit and Manual
- Class ABC Fire Extinguisher
- Radio and Batteries
- Non-Perishable Food Stored in a Coffee Can
- Bottled Water
- Bag of Sand, Shovel and Tools
- Blankets or Sleeping Bags
- Sundry Kit, Map, Paper, Pencil and Tissues
- Premoistened Towels and Plastic Bags
- Essential Medications

necessary to prepare. Our primary list of hazards includes urban and wild land fire, flooding, severe storms, hazardous materials events, and of course, earthquake.

Here are some suggestions that will help you to be prepared for emergency or disaster situations. Remember, the most important emergency decisions you will ever make are the things you decide to do NOW!

### **Food and Water:**

Begin now to put together a three-day supply of food and water.

Store non-perishable foods and have a few items that do not require cooking.

Store at least one gallon of water per person, per day in non-breakable containers.

### **Heating and Cooking:**

Any disruption in utilities can be alleviated by storing alternative methods of heat and lighting sources. With your family, review all safety rules for the use of alternate heating sources. NEVER USE CHARCOAL INDOORS.

Have extra blankets and/or sleeping bags for each member of the family.

Secure flashlights, extra batteries and candles. Don't forget the matches. (Although, if you suspect a gas leak, don't use matches!)

### **Medical:**

Purchase or put together a basic first aid kit for your home.

Teach first aid and CPR to all members of your family.

Plan ahead to have special medications and prescriptions on hand.

### **Finances:**

The safest place for your money is in your bank or credit union, but set aside a small amount of cash for emergency expenses. Most experts recommend keeping enough cash on hand for a four day weekend.

## **Emergency Preparedness Websites**



Salt Lake City Fire Dept. Earthquake Preparedness Handbook  
[http://www.slcgov.com/fire/comm\\_ed/earthquake\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.slcgov.com/fire/comm_ed/earthquake_handbook.pdf)

Citizen Corps Publications  
[http://www.citizencorps.gov/ready/cc\\_pubs.shtm](http://www.citizencorps.gov/ready/cc_pubs.shtm)

Are You Ready (208 page booklet)  
[http://www.fema.gov/pdf/areyouready/areyouready\\_full.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/pdf/areyouready/areyouready_full.pdf)

Utah Red Cross Preparedness Publications  
<http://www.utahredcross.org/>

Salt Lake City LEPC+ Emergency Preparedness Guidelines  
[www.slepc.net](http://www.slepc.net)

Salt Lake City Office of Emergency Preparedness  
[http://www.slcgov.com/departments/emergency\\_man/](http://www.slcgov.com/departments/emergency_man/)

Utah Emergency Management Association  
[www.uema.net](http://www.uema.net)

Salt Lake City Neighborhood Preparedness Program  
[www.slclineighborhoodpreparedness.net](http://www.slclineighborhoodpreparedness.net)

Pandemic Information - U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services

## **BASIC 72-HOUR EMERGENCY KIT**

The 72-Hour Emergency Kit should be individually tailored to meet the basic survival needs of your family for three days. Most families prefer to store their emergency supplies in one location that is relatively safe, yet easily accessible if evacuation is required. Items may be stored in a 32-gallon trash can, suitcase, duffel bag, footlocker or individual backpack.

### **EMERGENCY NEEDS:**

- Instruction Manual on Emergency Preparedness
- Battery Powered Radio and Spare Batteries
- First Aid Kit and Manual
- Sleeping Bags and Blankets (Wool and Thermal)
- Can Opener
- Waterproof/Windproof
- Non-Perishable Foods
- Flashlight and Spare Batteries
- Water Storage (1 gallon/person/day)
- Water Purification Tablets
- Utility Knife
- Emergency Candles
- Extra Eyeglasses/Contact Lenses
- Essential Medications
- Extra Clothing

### **SANITATION KIT:**

- Plastic Bucket w/Tightly Fitted Lid
- Plastic Bags and Ties
- Disinfectant
- Improvised Toilet Seat
- Toilet Paper
- Personal Toiletries
- Personal Hygiene Needs
- Baby Supplies
- Aluminum Foil
- Paper Towels
- Paper Cups and Plates
- Plastic Utensils
- Soap

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: