

ARE YOU PREPARED ????

THE CITY OF BOWLING GREEN WANTS TO HELP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY PLAN FOR AND SURVIVE A MAJOR DISASTER. BY TAKING CERTAIN PREPAREDNESS MEASURES, THE IMPACT OF A DISASTER CAN DEFINITELY BE LESSENER. SET ASIDE SOME EMERGENCY SUPPLIES, AND TEACH YOUR FAMILY WHAT TO DO AT HOME **DURING** AND **AFTER** A DISASTER. YOU COULD BE WITHOUT HELP FOR UP TO **72 HOURS**, SO YOU NEED TO BE PREPARED TO COPE FOR AT LEAST THAT LONG.

EARTHQUAKE

Movement of the ground is seldom the actual cause of death or injury. Most casualties result from partial building collapse, falling objects and debris, like toppling chimneys, falling bricks, ceiling plaster and light fixtures, and many of these conditions are easily preventable.

Because earthquakes occur without warning, it's important to take steps now to prepare, so that you know what you can do and how to respond-constructive, protective action is possible.

ITEMS TO HAVE ON HAND FOR AN EMERGENCY

Flashlights-with spare batteries. Keep a flashlight beside your bed. **Do not** use matches or candles after an earthquake until you are certain no gas leaks exist.

Portable radio-with spare batteries. Most telephones will be out of order or used for emergency purposes so radios will be your best source of information.

First Aid Kit-first aid knowledge-have a first aid book such as the Standard First Aid & Personal Safety by the American National Red Cross. Have members of your household take basic Red Cross first aid and CPR courses.

Fire Extinguishers. Keep a fire extinguisher handy for small fires. Some extinguishers are only good for certain types of fires-electrical, grease, or gas. Class ABC extinguishers are designed to use safely on any type of fire. Your fire department can demonstrate proper use.

Food. It's always a practical idea to keep a supply of non-perishable food on hand, which can be rotated into your diet and replenished, on a regular basis. Have a sufficient supply of canned or dehydrated food, powdered milk and canned juices for at least 72 hours. Dried cereals and fruits and non-salted nuts are a good source of nutrition.

Water-should be stored in airtight containers and replaced about every six months. Store at least three gallons of water per person to be prepared for a 72-hour period. Also have purification tablets such as Halazone and Globaline but read the label on the bottle before using tablets.

Special items. Have at least a week's supply of medications and special foods needed for infants or those on limited diets.

Tools. Pipe Wrench and Crescent Wrench-for turning off gas and water mains.

EARTHQUAKE HAZARD HUNT

You can identify potential dangers in your home by conducting an earthquake hazard hunt. Foresight and common sense are all that are needed as you go from room to room and imagine what would happen in an earthquake.

Some possible hazards are:

- Tall heavy furniture that could topple such as bookcases, china cabinets, or modular wall units.
- Hot water heaters that could pull away from pipes and rupture.
- Appliances that could move enough to rupture gas or electrical lines.
- Hanging plants in heavy pots that could swing free of hooks.
- Heavy picture frames or mirrors over the bed.
- Latches on kitchen or other cabinets that will not hold the door closed during shaking.
- Breakables or heavy objects that are kept on high or open shelves.
- A masonry chimney that could crumble and fall through an unsupported roof.
- Flammable liquids, like painting or cleaning products, that would be safer in a garage or outside shed.

Teach responsible members of your family how to turn off electricity, gas and water at main switch and valves. **Caution:** Do not shut off gas unless an emergency exists. If gas is ever turned off, **remember** that all pilot lights must be relit. Label water shut-off valve found where water enters the house.