



Ready New York Tips

New Yorkers should be ready for all types of emergencies. Develop a disaster plan and decide where you and your family will meet in the event of an emergency. Gather emergency supplies - some to keep in your home and others to keep in a Go Bag in case you must leave your home in a hurry. Finally, learn how to stay informed about the hazards you may face in New York City.

Today, everyone can take three steps to prepare for all types of emergencies:

1. Make a Plan

Get a Ready New York Emergency Reference Card. Fill out a Ready New York Emergency Reference Card available at www.nyc.gov/html/oem/downloads/pdf/emergency_reference_card.pdf and keep it on your fridge or in your wallet so you have access to important numbers in case your cell phone battery runs out.

Designate an out-of-state contact. Designate an out-of-state friend or relative that family members can call if separated during a disaster. If New York City phone circuits are busy, long-distance calls may be easier to make. This out-of-state contact can help you communicate with your family. It's a good idea to memorize this out-of-state contact's number in case your cell phone battery runs out.

Pick a family meeting place. It's important to pick a place for your family to meet in the event of an emergency. The Ready New York "My Meeting Place" application on OEM's Facebook page can help you designate the best one for your family. Visit www.facebook.com/NYCemergencymanagement for more information.

2. Get a Kit

Get a Go Bag. Have a Go Bag packed and stored in a safe place, preferably near your front door, with all recommended items you may need to care for you and your family in the event of an emergency. Keep in mind ATMs and credit card readers may be down in a power outage and pharmacies may be closed, so it's important to have items such as a small amount of cash and copies of prescriptions in your bag. For more recommendations on what to have in your Go Bag, visit Ready New York at www.NYC.gov/readyny.

Extra Go Bag items. Shelters are set up in public buildings, such as schools, and only provide water and basic food. Think about the items you may need to care for you and your family and put them in your Go Bag.

Get a battery-operated AM/FM radio. Wireless networks and radio broadcasts may still be working even during a power outage. Keep a battery-operated AM/FM radio and extra batteries handy; also consider a back-up battery for your wireless devices.

3. Be Informed

Sign Up for Notify NYC – the City's emergency notification program – at www.nyc.gov/notifynyc/ to stay informed during emergencies like a power outage and get real-time alerts by text message, e-mail, or phone.

