Severe weather, natural disasters or diseases can sometimes lead to emergencies.

The tips here can help you prepare for emergencies.

**Stay informed**
- Watch local news for information.
- Ask your employer how they will communicate in an emergency.
- Get alerts on your phone: turn on Emergency or Government Alerts.
- Visit your city and county government websites to sign up for additional emergency alerts. Look for the words **emergency management** or **emergency preparedness**.
- Check trusted websites to learn more about the emergency.

**Trusted websites**

**For weather and public safety emergencies**, such as floods, tornadoes, wildfires, chemical leaks, terrorist attacks:

[Minnesota Department of Public Safety’s website](dps.mn.gov)

**For public health emergencies**, such as viruses, diseases, pandemics:

[Minnesota Department of Health’s website](health.state.mn.us)
For statewide emergencies:

State Emergency Operations Center’s (SEOC) website
(dps.mn.gov/divisions/hsem/seoc/)

For national emergencies:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) website (cdc.gov/)
Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) website (fema.gov/)
U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s website (ready.gov/)

Pack an emergency bag

In addition to other recommended supplies, like food, water, and medications, people who are deaf, deafblind or hard of hearing may want to include:

- Hearing aids, assistive listening devices, braille display, glasses.
- Batteries for hearing aids, cochlear implant or assistive listening device.
- Phone and/or tablet and chargers.
- Communication apps on your phone or tablet. For example, speech-to-text apps, video relay service apps, captioned telephone apps, IP Relay or real-time text apps. It is a good idea to have more than one app, in case your preferred app does not work.
- Other special equipment.
- Communication card. These cards say you are deaf, deafblind or hard of hearing, and suggest how to communicate. Cards are available from Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Division.
- A notebook and pens for writing notes.
- If you have a service animal or pet, also include pet supplies, such as food, carrier, leashes and medications.

Find more ideas for your emergency bag on the Homeland Security and Emergency Management’s Emergency Preparedness webpage (dps.mn.gov/divisions/hsem/emergency-preparedness)
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