

ABBREVIATED DISASTER PREPARATION CHECKLIST

(Custom checklists available through consultation.)

BUILDING A FAMILY DISASTER PLAN:

Contact your local emergency management officials or your local American Red Cross chapter.

- ☐ Find out which disasters are most likely to happen in your community or near your home.
- ☐ Ask how you would be warned.
- ☐ Find out how to prepare for each.

Meet with your family.

- ☐ Discuss the types of disasters that could occur.
- ☐ Explain how to prepare and respond.
- ☐ Discuss what to do if advised to evacuate.
- ☐ Practice what you have discussed.

Plan how your family will stay in contact if separated by disaster.

- ☐ Pick two meeting places:
 - 1) a location a safe distance from your home in case of fire.
 - 2) a place outside your neighborhood in case you can't return home.
- ☐ Choose an out-of-state friend as a "check-in contact" for everyone to call.

GENERAL SUPPLIES LIST:

"Everyone, plus 1"

"In every car, a kit"

Battery operated radio	Flashlight and extra batteries	Non-electric can opener, utility knife
Tube tent	Pliers	Duct tape
Plastic sheeting	Aluminum foil	Plastic freezer bags – quart size
Plastic freezer bags – gallon size	Toilet paper & towelettes	Paper towels
Feminine hygiene products	Personal hygiene products	Liquid soap
Plastic garbage bags	Disinfectant	Household chlorine bleach
First Aid Kit	Chemical light sticks	

EMERGENCY FOOD & CLOTHING SUPPLIES:

Keep enough supplies in your home to meet your needs for at least three days. Target eventually having a two week supply in your home. Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit with items you may need in an evacuation. Store these supplies in sturdy, easy-to-carry containers such as backpacks, duffle bags or covered trash containers.

Include:

- A three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day) and food that won't spoil.
- One change of clothing and footwear per person, and one blanket or sleeping bag per person.
- A first aid kit that includes your family's prescription medications.
- Special items for infant, elderly or disabled family members.
- An extra pair of glasses.
- Keep important family documents in a waterproof container. Keep a smaller kit in the trunk of your car.

REMEMBER UTILITIES !

Locate the main electric fuse box, water service main and natural gas main. Learn how and when to turn these utilities off. Teach all responsible family members. Keep necessary tools near gas and water shut-off valves.

Remember, turn off the utilities only if you suspect the lines are damaged or if you are instructed to do so. *If you turn the gas off, you will need a professional to turn it back on.*

FINAL SUGGESTIONS AND REMINDERS:

- Store your kit in a convenient place known to all family members. Keep a smaller version of the Disaster Supplies Kit in the trunk of your car with enough food and water for three days.
- Keep items in air-tight plastic bags.
- Change your stored water supply every six months so it stays fresh.
- Rotate your stored food at least once a year..
- Re-think your kit and family needs at least once a year. Replace batteries, update clothes, etc.
- Ask your physician or pharmacist about storing prescription medications.

My Action Plan!

✓	Category or Item	My Steps or Next Actions
	Car disaster kit – <i>"In every car, a kit."</i>	
	Disaster communications plan	
	Home disaster supplies for <i>"Everyone, plus 1"</i>	
	Home utility check	
	Important family documents are safe	
	Any special needs are prepared for (medical, etc.)	

Robert Hurst is the founder of **Critical Leadership**, a creative problem-solving and consulting team working with clients to tailor unique solutions to the challenges of rapid changes in the market and life, both in disaster and non-disaster situations. Our process involves working closely with clients to determine strengths, weaknesses, and needs, and then providing a customized solution designed to achieve the goals and objectives.

Robert D. (Bob) Hurst, CPP, CHS-III, LP, through Critical Leadership, is presently under contract as Director of Homeland Security for Nacogdoches County, Texas.



"He who fails to plan, plans to fail."



Robert D. (Bob) Hurst, CPP, CHS-III, LP

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"A VOICE TO CHRIST"

&

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"CHRISTIAN MUSIC FOR YOUR FAMILY"

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