YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Wayne County Community Health & Wellness News

Emergency Preparedness Issue

Being prepared for unexpected situations can help you and your loved ones stay safe and reduce the impact of emergencies. Here's some basics:

- Make emergency kits- Include food, water, first aid supplies, and medicines. It's also important to have important documents such as IDs and insurance papers, and some cash on hand.
- 2. Create a plan- Ensure everyone knows what to do in case of an emergency. This plan should include designated meeting places, emergency contacts, first aid, and evacuation routes.
- 3. **Stay informed-** This can include signing up for local emergency alerts, knowing where to find shelter in case of severe weather, and being aware of potential hazards in your work & home.





Even the act of getting prepared can build peace of mind. Make your emergency kits and plans now.

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From the Nurse's Office:

Families can play a crucial role in supporting the school nurse during an emergency.

First, the school nurse may need to quickly reach out to the family, so providing up-to-date contact information to schools is very important.

Additionally, families can work with the school nurse to develop a personalized emergency plan for their child. This plan should include information on any health conditions or allergies the child may have, and any medication instructions.

Finally, families can help the school nurse by educating their children on basic first aid and emergency preparedness. This may include teaching them how to recognize the signs of a medical emergency, how to call for help, and how to stay calm and focused in a crisis situation.



3 Things to remember from this article:

- ___ Update family contacts with school
- ___ Make Emergency Medical Plan with School Nurse
- ___ Educate children on what to do in an emergency



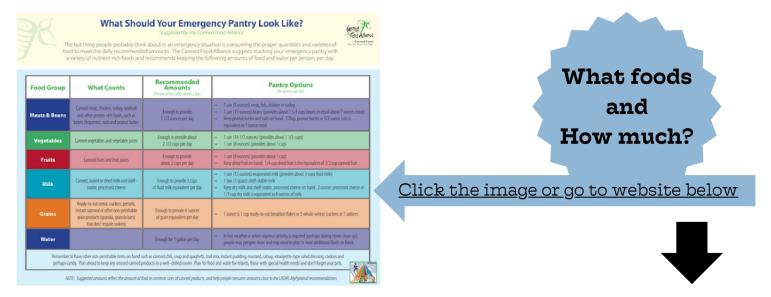






No one wants to think about a disaster or a winter storm, but these events happen. If a disaster or storm strikes, your family could be without electricity, water, or food for multiple days. Take a little time now to prepare your family properly.

- 1. **PICK IT:** First, choose canned foods (and a NON-ELECTRIC can opener) that your family enjoys. Sometimes when folks are emergency planning, they start buying all canned goods/nonperishable foods, but it's important that you spend your money and energy choosing foods you'd actually eat. Remember to include special diet needs like gluten-free, and plan for the needs of the elderly, pets, or infants needing liquid formula.
- 2. **STORE IT:** Keep all of your emergency prep foods in a dark, cool place and in original packages. You can put these foods in a large plastic tub with a lid to protect it from any animals.
- 3. **CHECK IT:** Inspect your stockpile for any items that are ripped, expired, corroded, dented cans or cans that look swollen. All of these should be discarded. Place newly purchased items at the back of the storage area and older ones in the front.
- 4. **METHOD**: If your electricity goes out, use the perishable foods in your refrigerator, garden, and countertops first. Then utilize the foods from your freezer. Try not to open your freezer multiple times. You can take a picture of the content and make a list to post on the outside of the fridge. Food in your freezer will still be safe to eat (as long as your freezer is well-insulated) for at least two days. Then finally start using the non-perishable emergency foods in your cupboards. Do your best to eat at least one well-balanced meal per day- meaning protein, vegetables, grain, and fruit. Eating this way can help you keep your nutrition and strength high during this time.
- 5. **COOKING:** For emergency cooking, you can cook in your fireplace. If you don't have one, you can use a small charcoal grill or a camp stove outdoors. Canned food does not need to be cooked prior to eating, the food can be eaten directly out of the can.
- 6. **WATER**: Emergency bottled water is a must! Human beings have a higher need for water than they do for food. One gallon of water per day per person is the gold standard. As well as water needed for cooking, washing, brushing teeth, etc.



Use These Checklists to be Emergency Prepared!

HOME EMERGENCY CHECKLIST!

FEMA and the American Red Cross recommend:

- __ 3-days of food & water
- __ Portable, battery-powered radio or TV, and extra batteries.
- __ Flashlight and extra batteries.
- __ First aid kit and manual.
- __ Sanitation and hygiene (hand sanitizer, toilet paper).
- __ Matches & lighter
- Whistle.
- __ Extra clothing and blankets.
- __ Kitchen items and cooking utensils.
- __ Copies of IDs and credit cards.
- __ Cash and coins.
- __ Medications, glasses, contact solution, and hearing aid batteries.
- __ Items for infants, such as formula, diapers, bottles, and pacifiers.
- __ Tools, pet supplies, a map of the local area, and other items to meet your unique family needs

10 SKILLSTHAT CAN SAVE A LIFE.

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO:

- 1. Wash your hands properly.
- 2. Administer CPR.
- 3. Work an automated external defibrillator (AED).
- 4. Use a portable generator.
- 5. Perform first aid.
- 6. Help someone that's choking.
- 7. Turn off utilities.
- 8. Use a fire extinguisher.
- 9. Call 9-1-1/ Reach emergency
- 10. Stop sever bleeding.

In addition to jumper cables, a spare tire, and flares,

Keep these in your car in case of emergencies:

_Flashlight & batteries

_Blanket or sleeping

bag, towels, and tarp

_Drinking water

_A map of your area

_Dry Food

_ First Aid Kit





Food Safety During a Power Outage:





When in Doubt, Throw it Out!

The USDA notes "your refrigerator may keep food safe for up to 4 hours during a power outage. **Keep the door closed** as much as possible! **Discard perishable food** such as meat, poultry, fish, eggs, and leftovers after 4 hours without power. After a power outage, **never taste food** to determine its safety. You will have to evaluate each item separately – use this guide: *When in Doubt, Throw it Out!*"

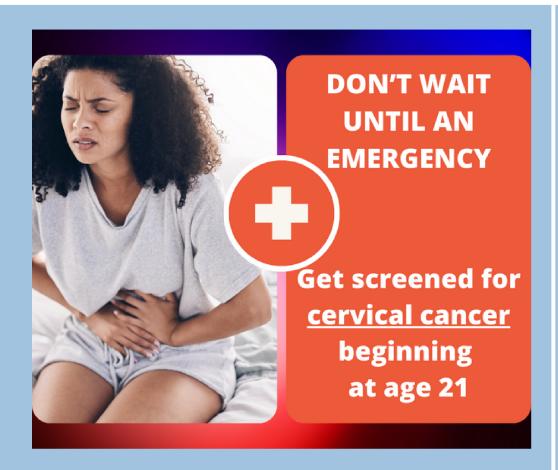
https://www.foodsafety.gov/food-safety-charts/food-safety-during-power-outage



Remember: 40 degrees or Below to Keep Food Safe!

- Use a fridge thermometer to keep food & fridge at 40 degrees or below.
- In a power outage, use the thermometer to track how long fridge is over 40 degrees, and when to throw things away.
- You can put frozen items (like ice packs or foods you won't eat) in the fridge to try to keep it at 40 degrees or below.
- Use the guide linked above to view the frozen food safety to decide when and what food to discard from your freezer.

-Adam Bullock, SNAP-Ed Nutrition Educator





Test your smoke alarms monthly

<u>Change</u> the batteries every 6 months

Remember it when we have a time change.

Replace alarms every ten years.

Fire and Carbon Monoxide (CO) Safety during the Winter months

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of the home
- Carbon Monoxide (CO) alarms should be installed on every level of the home
- Testing alarms should be done every month to make sure they are working
- Practice with your family, what to do if the alarm goes off

Space Heaters

- Use a wall outlet to plug in the heater. NEVER a power strip or extension cord
- Keep heater flat on the ground and at least 3 feet from anything flammable
- DO NOT leave a space heater unattended. Always turn it off before leaving or going to bed

Fire Place Safety

- Have flues and chimneys inspected by a professional before each heating season
- Open the fireplace damper before lighting the fire and keep it open until the ashes are cool. Never close the damper if the ashes are still warm
- Store fireplace ashes in a fire resistant container and cover it with a lid. Keep the container outdoors and away from combustibles.

Generator Safety

- Place generators at least 20 feet away from your home, garage and open windows
- DO NOT use generators in rain/wet conditions
- Before refueling, turn off the generator and let it cool for 15 minutes
- Have a fire extinguisher nearby
- NEVER plug a generator into a wall outlet; instead use an outdoor extension cord to plug appliances into the generator



For a life threatening emergency call 9-1-1

NYSEG -800.572.1131 (Electric Emergency) 800.572. 1121 (Natural Gas Emergency) RG&E - 800.743.1701







Foodlink and the Wayne County Partnership bring you the following 2024 food distribution events:

January

12 (Fri.)
Lyons Transportation Facility, 70 Clyde Road, Lyons
18 (Thurs.)
Lyons Transportation Facility, 70 Clyde Road, Lyons
Lyons Transportation Facility, 70 Clyde Road, Lyons

February

2 (Fri.)	Lyons Transportation Facility, 70 Clyde Road, Lyons
9 (Fri.)	Lyons Transportation Facility, 70 Clyde Road, Lyons
29 (Thurs.)	Lyons Transportation Facility, 70 Clyde Road, Lyons

March

8 (Fri.)	Lyons Transportation Facility, 70 Clyde Road, Lyons
11 (Mon.)	Lyons Transportation Facility, 70 Clyde Road, Lyons
20 (Wed.)	Lyons Transportation Facility, 70 Clyde Road, Lyons
29 (Fri.)	Williamson Town Park, 3773 Eddy Road, Williamson

Free and open to all Wayne County Residents.

Pre-registration not required.

10:00 AM until food gone.

Please understand that this is a working transportation facility for the Lyons School District and the Town of Lyons. Buses, plows, and other vehicles need to operate unobstructed. PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE AT THE SITE BEFORE 9:15 AM