



*Sedgwick County...*  
*working for you*

SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS  
COMMUNICATIONS

# NEWS

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – No matter what the event, it is best to take steps now to prepare yourself, your family and your co-workers for any type of emergency. Proper preparation requires a plan. Sedgwick County is dedicated to keeping you informed about the steps necessary to prepare a plan to keep you and your family safe should a disaster or other type of emergency occur.

### **Develop a home emergency plan.**

- Discuss the dangers of fire, severe weather, hazardous material spills, and other emergencies. Talk about the ways in which you will respond to each situation.
- Discuss power outages and medical emergencies. Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1.
- Draw a floor plan of your home. Mark two escape routes from each room.
- Select two meeting places - one near your home in case of fire, and another that is outside your neighborhood, in case you cannot return home after a disaster.
- Learn how to turn off the water, gas and electricity at main switches.
- Post emergency numbers near each telephone in your home.
- Instruct family members to turn on the radio for emergency information.
- Take basic CPR and first aid classes.
- Keep important records in a waterproof and fireproof container.

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## **Create a disaster kit.**

- **Water:** Store water in plastic containers. You will need one gallon of water per person, per day (two quarts for drinking, and two quarts for food preparation and sanitation). Keep at least a three-day supply, and change your supply every 90 days.
- **Food:** Store at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food. You'll want items that require no refrigeration, little preparation and little or no water, such as canned goods, peanut butter, granola bars, etc.
- **Clothing & Bedding:** Plan for one complete change of clothing and footwear for each person in your household. Camping gear, such as sleeping bags and pillows are excellent choices for bedding.
- **Tools & Supplies:** Keeping tools and other supplies, such as battery-operated TVs/radios, flashlight, can opener, utility knife, matches/lighters, and toiletries together will come in handy during an emergency.
- **First Aid Kit:** In case of minor injuries, a good first aid kit should include sterile adhesive bandages, adhesive tape, scissors, tweezers, needles, safety pins, antiseptic spray, sunscreen, and latex gloves.

For more information about emergency preparedness, visit Sedgwick County Emergency Management at [www.sedgwickcounty.org](http://www.sedgwickcounty.org) or call 660-5959.

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