

Be prepared ... at your place

In the event of disasters ... storms, earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, fires, eruptions ... every household must be prepared for emergencies.

The priority in any emergency is to ensure the safety of members of your household, then to assist and work with neighbours to deal with the aftermath.

Every family and household should have a survival kit and family plan in place. You and the people you live with can use this useful checklist to be sure that you have all the bases covered.	✓
Safe place ... where is likely to be the safest place to store your survival kit and to muster in an emergency.	
Survival kits ... keep these up to date and in a handy place. Your kit should contain the following things:	
• drinking water ... at least three litres per person per day for three days minimum	
• washing water ... at least three litres per person for three days minimum	
• food ... cans and dried food for at least three days (plus can opener!)	
• pet food ... ditto and pet water ditto	
• clothing ... warm and waterproof gear you can move in	
• footwear ... practical and warm	
• sleeping space ... such as tent, caravan, material for bivouac, sleeping bags, tarpaulin, groundsheet, blankets	
• cooking ... gas bottle, bbq, cooker, fuel, matches. pots and pans, utensils	
• toilet ... something to section off part of the garden for temporary loo, spade, loo paper, bucket, old toilet seat, newspaper	
• lighting ... headband lights (hands-free) plus wind-up torches, gas lights	
• communications ... small radio and batteries, plug-in analogue phone	
• food storage ... something to keep pests away from food	
• first aid ... kit with regular medications, Panadols (or similar), bandages, antiseptic, slings and bandages, scissors	
• personal papers ... plastic ID cards, insurance policies, paper work, some cash	

Your priority is to ensure the safety of everyone in your household. After that we should assist and work with our neighbours and follow the plan agreed in your street meeting.

This checklist will be on our web site. We will add your ideas to it as they arise from your street meetings. We will also amend it over time in line with 'official' guidelines.



Be prepared working with your neighbours

The first step to prepare your neighbourhood to survive a disaster is your first street group meeting ... followed by others to keep info up to date.

We suggest that groups of 6-10 households meet and work through this checklist. Neighbours may have to pool resources and skills to provide basic needs in a major emergency. Some people will need extra help. This situation could go on for several days.	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have your street meeting and get someone organised to be the recorder 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make a list of useful resources you have between you like gas bbqs, boats, chemical toilets, tents and caravans etc. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make a list of useful skills that members of your street group have like medical experience, search and rescue, culinary, building and other practical talents 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • list contact details for all household members day/night, work/home remembering to note the schools and other places where some household members may be during the day 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note any neighbours with disabilities, who are elderly and frail or those who have infants and those who will need special help 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • list pets in each household 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note any other information important to the group of residents in your group 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • distribute a copy of this information to all street group households. (These should be kept in a safe place as the information is confidential.) 	

Then you will need to discuss the following points:	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where will you meet (when each of you has ascertained the safety of your own household)? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who will be the person who liaises with the CD headquarters at Plimmerton School (or wherever it is relocated to)? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will you organise to check neighbouring properties? A team of three is recommended. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who will record dates, times of visits to check properties? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Download the form from our web site (November) that can be stuck on the main entrance of each property you check (with number of people safe, number who need assistance, property issues, time and date of check etc.) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will you need to carry out first aid and other response/rescue activities? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can you plan to work together to organise communal toilet facilities, cooking and sharing of food, shelter, evacuation, or whatever is needed. 	

Find out more

- Detailed info at www.getthru.govt.nz
- WREMO is also putting out a booklet online and in hard copy about street groups and how they can work in emergencies. We'll let you know when this becomes available.
- A booklet, *It's easy*, is available from PCC and explains how to get yourself prepared at home.

Let us know if we have missed out anything that your group thinks is important.

