

# Preparing for Emergencies & Disasters



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# DENVER

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### **Mission:**

Leading Denver's emergency management efforts to cultivate safe, prepared, and resilient communities.

### **Vision:**

To become a national model in shaping and sustaining the culture of preparedness throughout the whole community.

# Preparedness Basics

## What is Preparedness?

- The steps you take to ensure you are safe before, during, and after an emergency or natural disaster.

## Start by Being Informed

- FEMA Awareness Resources: [Ready.gov/be-informed](https://www.ready.gov/be-informed)
- Sign up for City & County of Denver Alerts: [denvergov.org/EmergencyNotifications](https://denvergov.org/EmergencyNotifications)

## Next, create a Plan for yourself, household, family, workplace, neighborhood

- [ready.gov/make-a-plan](https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan)

## Then build an Emergency Kit

- Create emergency kits for your home, workplace, school, car. Can also find on [ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) website.

## Finally, get involved with local preparedness partners

- [denvergov.org/DenverREADY](https://denvergov.org/DenverREADY)

# More About Preparedness

## Why preparedness must be a personal responsibility:

- During an emergency, local officials and first responders cannot reach everyone immediately
- Due to tapped resources, national studies show that help may not arrive for hours, even days

## That's why you have to ask yourself:

- Do you have a plan in place to sustain yourself or your family for 72 hours?
- Do you have the supplies in place to sustain yourself or your family for 72 hours? What do those supplies look like?

# What goes in your Bug Out Bag?

- Medications/Prescriptions
- 2-3 pairs of clothes + undergarments
- Snacks and water bottle
- Phone charger
- Gloves, beanie, a jacket
- Flashlight and batteries
- Matches
- Important personal/financial documents
- Personal hygiene essentials
- Portable battery charger
- Emergency cash in small bills
- Address & contact info for loved ones
- Pet medications and food



# Understanding Common Actions

During an emergency, local officials and/or media outlets may direct community members to do the following:

- Lockdown
- Shelter in Place
- Evacuation

Do you know the difference?

# Understanding Common Actions: Lockdown



## **LOCKDOWN**

*Whenever there is an active threat, officials may call for a lockdown which essentially asks you to lock yourselves in your homes, business, cars, or the nearest secure place you are in and do not exit the area until you receive an all-clear notification from officials. This means to also close and lock windows, cars, and secure your residence to the best of your ability. This is a common request during an active shooter situation or an active threat in your neighborhood.*

# Understanding Common Actions: Shelter in Place



## **SHELTER IN PLACE**

*During a natural disaster such as an earthquake, flooding, hurricane, novel pandemic, or winter storms, officials may call for you to shelter-in-place which requests for you to stay in your homes to ensure your safety during emergency situations. Additional proactive directions may be issued dependent on the disaster.*



# Understanding Common Actions: Evacuation



## EVACUATION

*When officials believe a disaster will pose risks far too substantial for you to stay in your homes, they will call for an evacuation. Before they announce this, predetermined locations such as libraries and Recreation Centers will be designated as evacuation zones. Officials should and will likely always include where to go if an evacuation order has been issued.*

# What to do when you're taking Emergency Action

- Once you've found your sheltering spot, whether it be in your home or a local shelter, tune in to your local media via social media, television, or radio for further guidance.
- In Denver during a large-scale emergency, here are some social media accounts you want to follow:
  - Twitter:** @DenverOEM | @DenverPolice | @Denver\_Fire
  - Facebook:** /DenverOEM | /DenverPolice | /DenverFireDepartmentCO

# Other ways to Stay Informed

Methods for staying informed during an emergency:

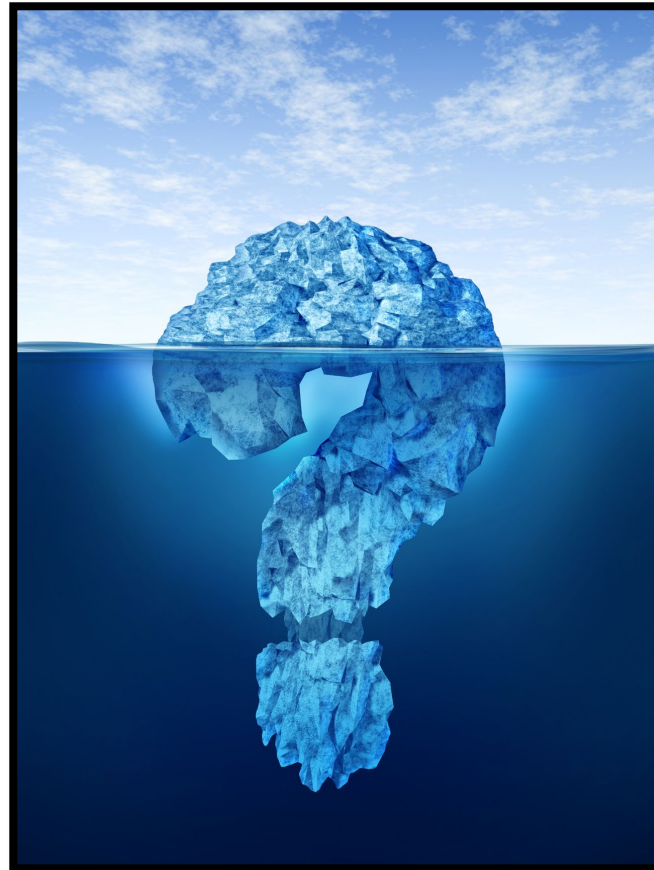
- Local News virtually and on social media.
- Social Media
- Waze App (for up-to-date road closures)
- Red Cross Shelter Finder
- Red Cross Emergency App
- FEMA App
- Weather Channel App
- Pocket.gov

# What to do Next

- Go to [ready.gov](https://ready.gov) and [denvergov.org/DenverREADY](https://denvergov.org/DenverREADY) to take advantage of resources offered to the community for free.
- Sign up for Denver's Reverse Emergency Alerts by visiting [denvergov.org/EmergencyNotifications](https://denvergov.org/EmergencyNotifications).
- Proactively follow Denver's emergency agencies to stay
- Create an emergency plan using a FEMA Workbook. Share with your team, family, or anyone else who is included in your plan to ensure they know what to do in an emergency situation.
- Become familiar with your emergency plan and practice your evacuation routes, communication methods, and begin building your emergency kit.



# Questions?



# For Further Information Contact:



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**Thank You!!!**