

# Emergency Preparedness - We ALL have a responsibility to prepare!!

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| <p><b><u>Stay Informed</u></b></p> <p>Protect yourself and your family... be aware of events and warnings affecting our community.</p> <p>In addition to radio and television reports, the following are free services that will keep you informed by delivering alerts to your e-mail and cell phone:</p> <p><a href="http://www.nixle.com">www.nixle.com</a> Sign up to receive public safety alerts directly from the Berks-Lehigh Regional Police Department. When you go to the website, click on "For Residents."</p> <p><a href="https://alert.pa.gov">https://alert.pa.gov</a> Sign up to receive weather watches and warnings affecting our community. The AlertPA system is administered by Pennsylvania officials. Pennsylvania uses AlertPA to provide citizens and partners with timely information to assist them in making informed decisions.</p>  | <p><b><u>Make A Plan</u></b></p> <p>One of the most important things you can do for yourself and your family is plan!</p> <p>What will you do? Where will you go? How will you reunite if you and your family get separated?</p> <p>Go to <a href="http://www.ready.gov">www.ready.gov</a> and click on "Make A Plan." You'll find a list of simple and practical steps that you can take.</p> <p>As much as possible, involve all family members in the planning process. Once the family emergency plan is complete - be sure to give a copy to all family members AND practice your plan!</p> <p>Keep this in mind - developing and practicing an emergency plan will: 1) improve your family's confidence in their ability to handle an emergency, and 2) help them be better prepared if you're separated when an emergency occurs.</p>   |
| <p><b><u>Get A Kit</u></b></p> <p>YOYO = You're On Your Own</p> <p>Be prepared...following a disaster or large scale emergency you may be on your own and need to take care of yourself and your family. Emergency responders and relief personnel will come but it may take hours, possibly days, for them to reach everyone!</p> <p>Local, state and federal emergency officials repeatedly stress the following - you should have at least a 72-hour supply of non-perishable food, water, and supplies, including medications for each person and animal in your home.</p> <p>Get a kit! Here are the options to consider:</p> <p><b>Make</b> your own kit (visit <a href="http://www.ready.gov">www.ready.gov</a> and click on "Get A Kit" to get a list of recommended items/quantities), or</p> <p><b>Purchase</b> ready-made kits (visit <a href="http://www.redcross.org">www.redcross.org</a> and click on "shop our store" for kits and supplies)</p> | <p><b><u>Get Involved</u></b></p> <p>CERT = Community Emergency Response Team</p> <p>Join the Upper Macungie Township CERT! CERT is about "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" during an emergency. There are currently 25 UMT residents who completed the 16-hour CERT training. More importantly, we think &amp; plan for the "what if..."</p> <p>The next CERT training will be held at the Fogelsville Volunteer Fire Company (Station 8) from 6 - 10 PM on the following Monday nights: October 4, 11, 18 &amp; 25.</p> <p>For more information about the CERT or other volunteer opportunities, contact Upper Macungie resident Mel Shiels at <a href="mailto:mshiels@ptd.net">mshiels@ptd.net</a> or 610-391-8044.</p> <p>CERT is like an insurance policy...you hope you never need to use it but you don't want to get caught without it!!</p> <p>If you prefer to work with animals, join LV CART (Lehigh Valley County Animal Response Team)<br/>If you want to help with public health emergencies, join AVMRC (Allentown Volunteer Medical Reserve Corp)</p> |

**What if???** On Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup> the "unthinkable" occurred when our community was hammered by golf ball - sized hail. Many homeowners experienced damage to their home and/or vehicles. It could have been worse...what if the tornado spotted in the area had touched down?

We can't always predict when an emergency will occur. Take steps to protect your family - start today!