

Prepare for Emergencies

The chances of you being caught up in a major emergency or disaster are low. Nevertheless it may happen and this leaflet shows you how you can be better prepared to protect yourself, your family and others.

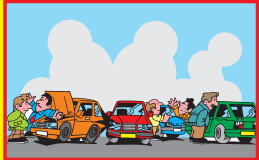
What Emergencies Might We Face?



• **Flooding**



• **Large Chemical Fires, Explosions or Gas Release**



• **Power Failure**

• **Severe Weather, Storms or Snow**

• **Large Scale Transport Accidents**

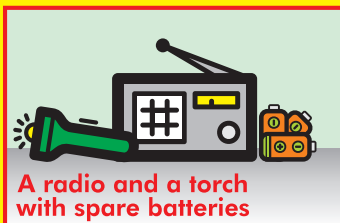
For more information on the risks in your area check the Cleveland Community Risk Register at the following website www.clevelandlrf.org.uk

Initial Steps to Take

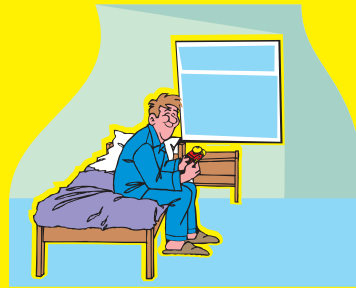
- Keep all family and friends phone numbers with you.
- Choose someone living away to be your family contact.
- Make household plans for possible local emergencies, and make sure children know what to do and practice the plans.
- If you live near an industrial site you will be told if there are special emergency arrangements for your area.

Pack an emergency bag or kit and keep it handy.

It should contain:

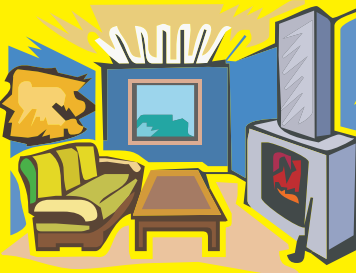


In the Event of an Emergency, if Possible:



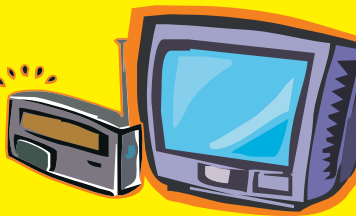
Go In- Go Indoors

- Continually assess risks
- Go upstairs where possible
- Do not collect children from school - arrangements will be made for their continued care



Stay in- Close all doors and windows

- Extinguish all naked flames
- Switch off gas supplies
- **DO NOT** go out until advised by the police



Tune in- Tune into local radio/TV

- Follow official instructions
- **LIMIT USE** of the telephone - keep lines free for emergency use only

Toxic, Chemical or Radiation Release

Upon warning of an incident

- Go indoors and stay there
- Bring all pets inside
- Close all windows and air vents
- Switch off air conditioning, ventilation and fans
- Cover all unsealed fresh food
- Extinguish all naked flames



During / After an incident

- Do not go outside until you are told to do so (See tune in)
- Do not collect children from school until told you can - they will be looked after
- Do not leave the scene to go to hospital yourself. If you think you are contaminated **WAIT** for specialist advice



Severe Weather or Power Cuts

- Put together an emergency kit, make sure you have batteries, torch and a radio
- Be aware of severe weather warnings and plan ahead for what you may need to do

If You are Evacuated



Follow instructions from the emergency services

Check if neighbours know what is happening, or need help



Gather family members and prepare to leave your home

Get pets ready for evacuation (food/leads/baskets needed?)



Take any prescribed medicines with you

Don't return home unless told it is safe to do so

Flooding

- Register with Floodline to receive free, up to date flood warnings.
- Make any preparations to prevent water coming in.
- Insure your property and contents and safely store documents in a waterproof wallet.
- Make a plan of action.

When flooding is imminent:

Put your plan into action e.g. move your furniture and valuables upstairs (including photographs, passports, deeds, birth certificates) and place sandbags or barriers into position. **DO NOT** put yourself in danger.



Tune into your local radio stations or television news for updates. (See local radio stations overleaf)

For more information ring the Environment Agency's Floodline 0845 9881188 www.environment-agency.gov.uk/flood