


## Getting Ready Made Easy!!

Haldimand County wants all residents to be prepared and safe in case of an emergency. In order to make the task of getting ready easier for you, we have broken it down into small pieces that you and your family can do together. By following our Readiness Activity Chart you will work your way through the task of preparing your family in a simple, straightforward manner. Our chart outlines two readiness tasks per month – one on the first of the month and the second on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Following the schedule will make getting prepared quick and easy.

Why not make these preparedness exercises fun, family activities that everyone looks forward to participating in during the next few months!

### LET'S GET STARTED!

DATE	ACTIVITY	DONE 
1st	Get a <b>portable container</b> with a lid to use as an emergency kit. A plastic storage bin or garbage can works well, particularly one with wheels. Choose an accessible location for the container near an exit, and label the container. Make sure all family members know what it will be used for and where it is. Stock your kit with a <b>three-day supply of water</b> , and don't forget to include water for your pets. You need four litres of water per person per day - two for drinking and two for food preparation and hygiene.	
15th	<b>Learn about hazards.</b> Find out what the hazards are in your community, and do a home hazard hunt to make your home safer. Secure appliances and heavy furniture, and move beds away from heavy mirrors and windows. <b>Identify safe places</b> in your home and on your property. Plan and practice evacuation drills using two different escape routes from each room. Add <b>containers of juice or juice crystals</b> to your kit.	
1st	Give every family member <b>specific safety tasks</b> to do in an emergency. For example, designate one person to be in charge of turning off electricity, one to collect the emergency container, one to take charge of any pets, etc. Add <b>peanuts</b> and <b>granola bars</b> to your kit. Identify a <b>family meeting place</b> away from home but close to your regular spots (between work and home or school). Add some <b>books, toys and cards</b> to your kit.	

15th	Stock your kit with several varieties of canned meat and dried fruit. Include a manual can opener. Add some <b>canned food</b> like stews, baked beans and vegetables and some <b>dried soups, crackers and peanut butter</b> to your emergency kit.	
1st	Get a <b>portable radio and extra batteries</b> for your emergency kit. Add a <b>flashlight and extra batteries</b> , along with candles and waterproof matches.	
15th	<b>Prepare a first-aid kit</b> that includes extra prescription medication, extra eyeglasses, bandages, sterile gauze pads, tape, scissors, tweezers, antibiotic ointment, hydrogen peroxide and over-the-counter pain pills. Enroll a <b>family member</b> in a first-aid course	
1st	Arrange an <b>out-of-area phone contact</b> person, and keep this and other emergency phone numbers near each telephone. Teach each family member these numbers.	
15th	<b>Check your insurance policies</b> and make records of your possessions. <b>Assemble important documents</b> like wills, insurance papers, medical records, inventory of possessions, identification, etc. in a fireproof/waterproof container. Add a <b>family photo album</b> to your emergency kit.	
1st	Stock your kit with both large and medium-sized <b>plastic garbage bags</b> (orange or yellow make good visible signals). Large bags can also be used as ponchos, ground covers or blankets. Add <b>plastic or paper dishes</b> . Get a <b>large bucket</b> with a tight-fitting lid to use as a toilet, and put it with your emergency kit. Use the bucket to store other <b>emergency tools</b> like an axe, a folding shovel and rope.	
15th	Add <b>personal toiletry items</b> like toilet paper, handy-wipes, soap, detergent, toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, sanitary supplies, etc. to your emergency kit.	
1st	Add a <b>pocket knife</b> (Swiss army style), <b>cutlery</b> , a <b>whistle</b> and <b>spare set of house and car keys</b> to your container.	
15th	Add <b>evaporated canned or powdered milk and cereal</b> to your kit. Add some <b>freeze-dried or foil pouch food products</b> like meats, soups, vegetables and stews.	
1st	If needed, include <b>infant supplies</b> including disposable diapers, disposable bottles, formula, etc. to your emergency kit. Keep a <b>leash or pet carrier</b> near your kit and add a three-day supply of <b>pet food</b> .	
15th	Add a <b>change of clothing</b> for each family member to your kit. Be sure to include warm clothing, heavy work gloves and sturdy shoes. Add <b>sleeping bags or blankets</b> to your kit along with <b>water purification tablets</b> .	
	<b><i>Now you're ready!</i></b>	

You have successfully completed Haldimand County's readiness activities.  
Congratulations!