

July

SUPPLIES:

- More propane/cooking fuel
- + 1 day of food, water and cash

TASKS:

- Talk to your neighbors



FEMA News Photo

WHEN NEIGHBORS BECOME FIRST RESPONDERS

In a disaster, professional emergency response may be delayed for hours or even days. In many cases, your most immediate source of help are the neighbors living around you.

At a minimum, it will be helpful to know in advance of an emergency:

- Do any of your neighbors have special needs, such as elderly folks living alone?
- Do any of your neighbors possess specialized skills or equipment?

Many Eugene Neighborhood Associations have emergency preparedness resources and/or plans. Connect with your Neighborhood Association to learn more: <https://www.eugene-or.gov/535/Neighborhood-Associations>



HELP

→

OK

PRO TIP: Following a disaster, place a sign in your window to let your neighbors know if you are OK or in need of HELP. This will allow first responders to move quickly from house to house.

Keep building on your water, food and cash. Continue to prioritize non-perishable, high protein, easy-to-prepare items like canned foods, nuts, and dried fruits.

One day of water = 1 gallon/person.



- In a long-term emergency, it will be helpful to have fuel for cooking and boiling water. Propane works well to power camp stoves or barbecue grills, but there are other options such as charcoal, wood and butane. Never store liquid fuel indoors or in an attached garage. It should be stored in a location that gets little to no direct sunlight and has ventilation.

Map Your Neighborhood Program

Map Your Neighborhood is a step-by-step resource for organizing your neighbors to prepare for an emergency. You simply download the guide and use the tools provided to organize a meeting with neighbors in your immediate surrounding area.

The program walks you through:

The first 9 steps to take immediate following disaster

It is hard to think clearly following disaster. These steps will help you to quickly and safely take actions that can minimize damage and protect lives.

1. Take care of your loved ones.
2. Dress for safety. A bicycle helmet or hard hat protects from falling debris. Sturdy shoes protect from broken glass. Leather gloves protect from sharp objects.
3. Check the natural gas or propane at your home. Shut off if necessary. This is one of the best ways to prevent fire.
4. Shut off water at the house main. This will trap water in your home and will keep pollutants out of possible drinking water.
5. Place the HELP/OK sign in your window.
6. Put your fire extinguisher on the sidewalk or where neighbors can see it.
7. Go to the neighborhood gathering site.
8. Form teams at the gathering site.
9. After completing your team work, go back to the gathering site to report in.

Identifying skills and equipment

Knowing which neighbors have supplies and skills ensures a timely response to a disaster and allows everyone to contribute to the response in a meaningful way.

Creating a neighborhood map

This is useful for identifying the locations of natural gas and propane tanks for quick response, and allows you to match up houses with the information on your contact list.

Creating a contact list

A contact list identifies those with specific needs such as the elderly, those with a disability, or homes where children may be alone during certain hours of the day.

Learning how to work together following an emergency

With these skills, you and your neighbors will be able to canvas 15-20 homes within in hour of a disaster.

For more information and to download all Map Your Neighborhood materials, visit <https://mil.wa.gov/map-your-neighborhood>.