

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

## Winter Edition

*Presented by ACI's Emergency Preparedness Team and  
John Ferguson of the Middlesex County OEM*

# WHAT IS A DISASTER/EMERGENCY?

**A sudden event, such as an accident or a natural catastrophe, that causes great damage or loss of life.**



# TYPES OF DISASTERS/EMERGENCIES?

- ❄ **Tornadoes**
- ❄ **Hurricanes and tropical storms**
- ❄ **Wildfires**
- ❄ **Thunder and lightning storms**
- ❄ **Nor'easter**
- ❄ **Flooding**
- ❄ **Earthquakes**
- ❄ **Heat waves**
- ❄ **Pandemic**
- ❄ **And.....WINTER STORMS**

# WINTER WEATHER CHALLENGES

**For the millions of Americans who have physical, medical, sensory or cognitive disabilities, disasters/emergencies such as Ice and snow storms and their effects present a real challenge.**

**What are some of the challenges you have faced in past winters?**



# NJ WINTERS HAVE INCLUDED...

- ❄ **Severe snow storms**
- ❄ **Freezing temperatures**
- ❄ **Power outages**
- ❄ **Floods**
- ❄ **Ice storms**
- ❄ **Closed roads**
- ❄ **Business and school closures**

***Are you prepared?***



# FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION

**PREPARED -  
DURING POWER OUTAGES...**



**NOT PREPARED.**

# WHAT IS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS?

**Emergency Preparedness are the steps you take to make sure you are safe before, during and after an emergency or natural disaster.**

**If you have a disability, there may be extra steps to will have to ensure your safety and well being.**



# HOW CAN YOU PREPARE TO SHELTER IN PLACE?

- ❄ **Power up your motorized wheelchair and other equipment including cell phones.**
- ❄ **Make sure you have a manual wheelchair as a back up.**
- ❄ **Save water by filling up pots, the bath tub, buckets and sinks.**
- ❄ **Make sure you have new batteries and working flashlights.**
- ❄ **Fill up your car with fuel.**
- ❄ **If you have a wheelchair in your home or car/van, make sure they are in working order. In severe winter weather, parts can freeze or not function**
- ❄ **Have non-perishable foods (foods that don't spoil) and a manual can opener.**

# HOW CAN YOU PREPARE TO SHELTER IN PLACE?

- ❄ **Have a NOAA radio (with batteries) for the latest information on weather and news alerts.**
- ❄ **Have extra blankets, sweaters, hats and gloves.**
- ❄ **Make extra ice to keep fridge cold. Remember to keep fridge closed as much as possible.**
- ❄ **Make sure you have a manual wheelchair as a back up.**
- ❄ **Service animal food and supplies.**
- ❄ **Have a Go Bag and first aid kit handy.**
- ❄ **Have a plan!**

# GO BAGS

**An Emergency Preparedness kit (Go Bag) is simply a collection of basic items your household may need in the event of an emergency.**

**Try to assemble your kit well in advance of an emergency. You may have to evacuate at a moment's notice and take essentials with you. You will probably not have time to search for the supplies you need or shop for them.**



# GO BAGS

**The Go Bag should include: your meds, first aid kit, flash light and batteries, hand sanitizers, portable radio and batteries, water, face masks, hand warmers, contact list consisting of doctors, family and friends, non-perishable snacks.**

**What else would you include in your Go Bag?**



# **PLANNING FOR A DISASTER/EMERGENCY**

**Also, protecting yourself and your family when disaster/emergency strikes requires planning ahead.**

**Discuss ways to prepare for an disaster/emergency with your family, friends, and/or your personal assistant or aide, or anyone else in your network and prepare and emergency plan.**

**Consider the possibility of evacuating out of your home and going into a shelter.**

**Now is the time to put together an emergency plan...before winter!!!**

# MAKE A PLAN

**STEP 1: Put a plan together by discussing the questions below with your family, friends or household to start your emergency plan.**

- ❄ How will I receive [emergency alerts and warnings](#)?
- ❄ What is my [shelter](#) plan?
- ❄ What is my [evacuation](#) route? Is it accessible?
- ❄ What is my [family/household communication plan](#)?
- ❄ Do I need to update my [emergency preparedness kit](#)?
- ❄ Check with the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) and update my emergency plans due to Coronavirus.
- ❄ Get masks (for everyone over 2 years old), disinfectants, and check my sheltering plan.

# MAKE A PLAN

## STEP 2: Consider specific needs in your household.

- ❄ **Different ages of members within your household**
- ❄ **Responsibilities for assisting others**
- ❄ **Locations frequented**
- ❄ **Dietary needs**
- ❄ **Medical needs including prescriptions and equipment**
- ❄ **Disabilities or access and functional needs including devices and equipment**
- ❄ **Languages spoken**
- ❄ **Cultural and religious considerations**
- ❄ **Pets or service animals**
- ❄ **Households with school-aged children**

# MAKE A PLAN

**STEP 3: Fill out a Family Emergency Plan.**

❄ [ready.gov/sites/default/files/2020-03/create-your-family-emergency-communication-plan.pdf](https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2020-03/create-your-family-emergency-communication-plan.pdf)

**STEP 4: Practice your plan with your family/household.**

**For more information, visit [ready.gov/make-a-plan](https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan)**

# WHAT IS FEMA?

- ❄ **The Federal Emergency Management Agency is an agency of the United States Department of Homeland Security, initially created under President Jimmy Carter by Presidential Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978 and implemented by two Executive Orders on April 1, 1979.**
- ❄ **FEMA is responsible for coordinating the federal government's response to natural and manmade disasters. FEMA is charged with providing both immediate and long-term assistance to local and state governments as well as individuals.**



# FEMA

# FEMA RESOURCES

- ❄️ **FEMA HOME PAGE**  
[fema.gov](https://www.fema.gov)
- ❄️ **FEMA'S PARTNERING WEBSITE**  
[ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov)
- ❄️ **HOW TO PREPARE FOR WINTER GUIDE**  
[fema.gov/media-library-data/1494008826172-76da095c3a5d6502ec66e3b81d5bb12a/FEMA\\_2017\\_WinterStorm\\_HTP\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1494008826172-76da095c3a5d6502ec66e3b81d5bb12a/FEMA_2017_WinterStorm_HTP_FINAL.pdf)



# FEMA

# WINTER EMERGENCY AND DISASTER ALERTS

- ❄ **THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**  
Provides up to date information on weather conditions: [weather.gov/nwr](https://weather.gov/nwr)
- ❄ **NIXLE ALERTS**  
Provides alerts directly to your phone on accidents, weather information, emergencies, disasters, road closings, and community notifications from your public safety departments. Go to [nixle.com](https://nixle.com) to sign up.
- ❄ **READY.GOV EMERGENCY ALERTS**  
[ready.gov/alerts](https://ready.gov/alerts)

*All alerts are free to sign up and use.*

# MIDDLESEX COUNTY OEM

❄️ **JOHN FERGUSON, Deputy Coordinator**  
[john.ferguson@co.middlesex.nj.us](mailto:john.ferguson@co.middlesex.nj.us)

❄️ **Emergency Services Center**  
**1001 Fire Academy Drive**  
**Sayreville, NJ 08872**  
**732-316-7100**  
[middlesexcountynj.gov](http://middlesexcountynj.gov)



# NEW JERSEY OEM

- ❄ **NJ State Police Division Headquarters**  
P.O. Box 7068, West Trenton, NJ 08628  
609-882-2000  
[ready.nj.gov](http://ready.nj.gov)
- ❄ **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RESOURCES FOR  
INDIVIDUALS WITH ACCESS/FUNCTIONAL  
NEEDS AND THE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH  
SERVE THEM**  
[ready.nj.gov/plan-prepare/pdf/Register\\_Ready\\_Brochure\\_2019.pdf](http://ready.nj.gov/plan-prepare/pdf/Register_Ready_Brochure_2019.pdf)



# CORE ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)

Are you a person with a disability living in Middlesex County? Are you concerned about disasters? Join us for the next meeting of the Core Advisory Group (CAG) on Zoom.

This is a great opportunity to work together with emergency managers and FEMA to make effective changes in how emergency services are provided to people with disabilities in the event of a disaster. We need your input!

*The Middlesex County CAG is sponsored by ACI.*

For more information, call 732-738-4388 or visit [adacil.org/recurring-events/core-advisory-group](https://adacil.org/recurring-events/core-advisory-group)

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY**  
**CORE ADVISORY**  
**GROUP (CAG)**

**FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH**  
**ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS**



**QUESTIONS???**



# ALLIANCE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE

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**THANK YOU!**

