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Acknowledgements

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Talladega County Emergency Management Agency

Page 32 — Photo: Bryan Dahlberg/FEMA News photo
Page 35 — Photo: NOAA Photo Library, NOAA Central Library; OAR/ERL/National Severe Storms Laboratory (NSSL)
Page 36 — Photo: Dave Gatley/FEMA News photo

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You must be prepared to take care of yourself – before, during and after an emergency. Local, state and federal agencies will assist you, but you must be realistic about what to expect and how long it will take emergency workers to respond. They cannot get to everyone right away.

If you are a person with special needs, you may face extra challenges during a hazardous situation. By planning now, you can be as safe and comfortable as possible. A few simple steps will help you remain calm and capable during an emergency.

Many people may not take planning for an emergency seriously because emergencies may occur only occasionally in their communities. They may plan for only one type of emergency, when many are possible – severe weather, power loss, terrorism, hazardous materials accident or the unlikely event of a chemical accident at Anniston Army Depot. This guide has information that can help a person with special needs prepare for different hazardous conditions.

Who is a Person With Special Needs?

A person with special needs may have a physical, medical or mental disability that could affect his or her ability to prepare for an emergency or to take protective action. Special-needs planning should be done now and updated whenever your situation changes.

In emergency planning, children who are unsupervised for any length of time, people who do not have transportation and people who do not understand English are also considered persons with special needs, if they do not have assistance. While this guide was primarily created for people with physical, medical and mental disabilities, you should plan for any special condition that could affect your ability to respond to an emergency.
Who is a Caregiver?
A caregiver is a person who provides care that enables a person with a physical, medical or mental disability to live at home despite his or her illness or disability. A caregiver can be a healthcare professional who is trained to provide these services. A caregiver also can be a family member, friend or neighbor who provides assistance.

Ask your caregiver to help you create a safety plan using this guide. They can help you identify any special challenges you might face during an emergency and find resources to meet those challenges.

What Is Alabama Caregiver Training (ACT)?
This guide was created for people with special needs and their caregivers (if the person has a caregiver). The guide can be used by a professional caregiver as well as a family member, friend or neighbor who provides assistance.

The guide provides information about 10 topics in emergency preparedness. Each topic includes a worksheet which should be completed by the person with special needs and their caregiver. Reviewing the 10 topics will help a person with special needs be better prepared during an emergency.

As you use the guide to create an emergency preparedness plan, keep the plan simple. It should be easy to use so that you can remember the plan during a hazardous situation. You also should consider your physical and mental abilities as well as any medical conditions. An elderly person who is easily confused will need a different plan from a person with a visual impairment. Use the tips in the guide to help you identify special needs and resources to meet those needs.

The Information Resources section lists other resources where you can find more emergency preparedness information. It includes contact information for local Emergency Management Agencies (EMAs).

Register as a Person With Special Needs
In Alabama’s Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) zones, your EMA is especially concerned about residents who have physical, medical or mental disabilities and cannot evacuate or shelter in place either by themselves or with the assistance of nearby family members, friends or neighbors.

Residents with special needs can register to receive materials to assist them with emergency planning. Call 256-236-8642 or 800-263-0201 to complete a survey that will determine if you qualify as a person with special needs. Text telephone users can call 256-236-8812.

Residents who do not have transportation or children who are unsupervised for any length of time can be registered as residents with special needs, if they do not have assistance.

After completing the survey, a resident with special needs will be advised about what protective equipment is available. The type of equipment is determined by which CSEPP zone you live in. Residents with special needs who live in a CSEPP zone around Anniston Army Depot can have a tone alert radio installed in their home at no cost.
Help Network

Developing a Help Network
Regardless of whether or not you have a caregiver, it is important for residents with special needs to develop and maintain a Help Network. Caregivers may not be able to help you prepare for an emergency or be with you when an emergency occurs. Your Help Network should include people that can be counted on to assist you in preparing for an emergency as well as taking protective actions. During and after an emergency you will need the help of people in your Help Network who live or work close by.

Ask for help!
✔ Ask family members, friends and neighbors to be part of your Help Network and help you prepare for an emergency.
✔ Ask people who live or work nearby who might be able to help you take protective action within minutes of an emergency or assist you immediately afterward to be members of your Help Network.
✔ Consider asking people you trust who currently assist you in some way, such as with shopping or personal care.
✔ Identify areas where you would need assistance from a Help Network, such as home or places you visit frequently. Include at least three people in a Help Network for each location.

Share information with your Help Network
✔ Tell them about your capabilities and limitations.
✔ Introduce them to your assistive animal, if you use one.
✔ Tell them how to operate and move any medical equipment.
✔ Give them copies of your emergency plan, emergency contact list and medical information summary.

Arrange for Help Network assistance
You need to arrange for Help Network assistance in preparing for an emergency. Your Help Network members may be able to help you find resources that would allow you to cope with any emergency to the best of your ability. You should work with your Help Network to:
✔ Assist you with sheltering in place or evacuating. If you had to evacuate due to a chemical accident at Anniston Army Depot, you would have to be picked up by someone in your zone.
✔ Notify you of an emergency and what protective action is recommended.
✔ Decide how you will stay in touch when telephones are not to be used.
✔ Develop a signal for help and a signal to let them know you are okay, such as knocking on an adjoining wall, hanging a towel on an outside doorknob or placing a large sign in the window.
✔ Practice the emergency plan by yourself and with others, including operating and moving any medical equipment.
✔ Review and change the personal assessment and emergency preparedness plan regularly. Revise it immediately if your condition changes.
Complete a Self-Assessment

Your Help Network can help you answer the following self-assessment questions. Completing a self-assessment can identify any needs or extra assistance that you might have during an emergency. Remember to consider any type of emergency that could affect your community—severe weather, power loss, chemical accident and flooding are a few examples.

1. Do you have transportation? If not, who would be nearby and could help? Remember that public transportation may not be working or routes and schedules may be changed.

2. Will you need assistance to move to a shelter room if told to shelter in place during a chemical emergency? Can you use the tape and plastic sheeting in the shelter-in-place kit provided by your county Emergency Management Agency? See page 29 for more information about sheltering in place.

3. If your home has suffered damage or there is debris in your home after a disaster, what actions would you take?

4. If a caregiver or a person who shops or runs errands for you cannot reach you, do you have an adequate supply of groceries, medicine and water to last several days?

5. Do you use medical or other equipment that runs on electricity? How will you continue to use it if electrical service is interrupted? Do you have access to a generator? Can you use battery-powered equipment during a power outage?

6. What will you do if you cannot find your walker, cane or other mobility aids? What will you do if your mobility aids are damaged?

7. Will you be able to care for your assistive animal or pets during or after an emergency? Do you have another caregiver for your animal? If your assistive animal is hurt or too frightened to work, what will you do?

8. Would you have difficulty communicating with emergency workers? Can you or your Help Network prepare written messages about your physical, medical or mental disabilities and other important information?

9. Have you considered your disabilities, medical or dietary requirements and other special needs? How will you meet those needs and requirements during an emergency?

10. How will you receive alerts, protective action instructions and other important information about an emergency? Do you have a tone alert radio?
Create a Help Network

1. Create a Help Network of people you can count on to help you plan and prepare for an emergency, as well as be able to assist you within minutes if an emergency occurs. Remember, it is okay to ask for help.

2. Share information with your Help Network.

✔ Tell them about your capabilities and limitations.

✔ Introduce them to your assistive animal, if you use one.

✔ Tell them how to operate and move any medical equipment.

✔ Give them copies of your emergency plan, emergency contact list and medical information summary.

3. Consider your special needs and physical, medical or mental disabilities when planning for emergencies.

Include at least three people in your Help Network:

Name ________________________________  Home phone ________________________________
Work phone ____________________________  Cell phone ________________________________

Name ________________________________  Home phone ________________________________
Work phone ____________________________  Cell phone ________________________________

Name ________________________________  Home phone ________________________________
Work phone ____________________________  Cell phone ________________________________

During an EVACUATION, travel will be restricted.
Anyone providing transportation for you will have to live or work in your zone.
Emergency Preparedness Plan

Emergencies can occur at any time. During an emergency, local, state and federal agencies work to assist affected communities. Emergency workers will not be able to get to everyone needing assistance right away. Knowing what to do — before, during and after an emergency — will help you be prepared.

Your emergency preparedness plan must be simple so that you and your Help Network can remember the plan during the stress of an emergency. Keep your emergency preparedness information in an easy-to-reach location.

Teamwork

Talk about preparing for an emergency with your caregiver and Help Network. Physical, medical and mental disabilities must be considered when creating your plan. Think about your condition and what you might need before, during and after an emergency. For example, a person who is visually-impaired could request emergency preparedness information in Braille or large print. A person who might have difficulty communicating can prepare written messages about their disabilities and other important information.

Decide what needs to be done before, during and after an emergency. Remember to keep it simple!
Get started
✓ Identify a shelter room for each hazard that could affect your community. A basement is ideal during a tornado warning. However, an interior room with no or few windows on the ground level of your home is best during a chemical accident. During a snow or ice storm, you should stay in a warm area in your home.
✓ Choose a shelter room with access to a bathroom. In the unlikely event of a chemical accident, you may be instructed to shelter in place for several hours.
✓ Post current emergency contact numbers by the telephone. The telephone list should include fire, police, ambulance, hospital and Help Network numbers as well as your family physician and other family information.
✓ Post a list of Emergency Alert System radio and television stations near radios and televisions. See page 15 for more information about the Emergency Alert System.
✓ Know how and when to turn off water, gas and electricity at the main switches or valves in the home. Have a Help Network member write down this information to help you remember it during an emergency.
✓ Check fire extinguishers, carbon monoxide detectors and smoke detectors and replace batteries twice a year, when daylight savings time begins and ends.
✓ Know where the fire extinguisher is located and how to use it.
✓ Make an emergency preparedness kit. See page 12 for more information.
✓ Plan for pets. Do not leave them unprotected, but do not spend valuable time looking for them during an emergency. Determine where your pets could stay if you had to evacuate. All shelters accept assistive animals, but shelters cannot accept pets.
✓ Stay calm during an emergency and use your plan!

Suggestions for People with Special Needs

Suggestions for residents who are visually impaired
✓ Based on the level of sight, emergency information may need to be copied in large print on non-reflective paper.
✓ Contact the local Emergency Management Agency (EMA) for information in Braille.
✓ Ask a Help Network member to make an audio recording of printed emergency information. Keep the recording in an easy-to-reach location.
✓ Prepare an emergency supplies kit for your assistive animal.
✓ Have a backup plan in case your assistive animal is hurt or too frightened to work.

Suggestions for residents who are hearing impaired
✓ Request that your tone alert radio be equipped with a flashing light. Know what each cue means.
✓ Keep a pen and notepad in an easy-to-reach location to help with communication.
✓ Identify a local television station and keep captioning turned on for news updates.

Suggestions for residents who are mobility impaired
✓ Keep the path to your shelter room and exit door clear and allow extra space to move any necessary equipment.
✓ If you use a motorized wheelchair or scooter, you should have a wheel patch kit and canned air as well as extra batteries.
If someone who is easily confused or has difficulty communicating is alone for any period of time, use identification such as a hospital bracelet that can not be easily removed. Include the person’s name as well as their caregiver’s name and telephone number.

Suggestions for children
✔ Teach children how and when to dial 9-1-1. Have young children use a toy telephone to dial 9-1-1 and practice giving their name and address as well as answering questions about an emergency. During an actual 9-1-1 call, do not hang up before the dispatcher tells you to.
✔ Help the child understand when to call 9-1-1; for example, if an adult loses consciousness and no one else is home, or if a fire can be seen.

Suggestions for residents who do not speak English
✔ Request emergency information from the local EMA in your native language.
✔ Have a bilingual friend or family member translate materials.

Practice your plan.
Make changes as needed.
Check all telephone numbers.
Quiz children every six months so they remember what to do.
Conduct emergency drills.
Replace batteries and other equipment as needed.
If you have a cordless telephone for daily use, keep a telephone that does not need electricity for service.

Do you know?
What risks could affect you, your family and your community? Is your area prone to certain natural disasters such as flooding? Are hazardous materials stored or transported on highways or railroads close by?
Do you know what possible hazards are in and around your home?
What protective action zone do you live in? What zone do you work in, attend school in, or visit frequently?
What are the emergency plans for your child’s school, for your workplace and other places you visit?

If someone who is easily confused or has difficulty communicating is alone for any period of time, use identification such as a hospital bracelet that can not be easily removed. Include the person’s name as well as their caregiver’s name and telephone number.
Create an Emergency Preparedness Plan

1. Know the hazards and take responsibility for protecting yourself. What emergencies could affect your community?

- **Tornado** — You should seek shelter in a basement or small interior room. Do not stay in a mobile home when a tornado watch is issued. Make plans now to stay with a family member, friend or neighbor who has a basement or safe room or to go to a community shelter.

- **Ice or Snow Storm** — You should stay in a warm area in your home.

- **Other hazards** —

2. Create a practical emergency preparedness plan based on your physical, medical or mental disabilities and any special needs.

**Notes**

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3. Gather information.

- Keep a list of local Emergency Alert System stations taped to your radio and television.

- Post current emergency contact telephone numbers near your telephone.

- **Chemical Accident** — Your shelter room should be on the ground level of your home and have no or few windows. Choose a shelter room with access to a bathroom, if possible. In the unlikely event of a chemical accident, you may be instructed to shelter in place for several hours.

- **Fire**

- **Police**

- **Ambulance**

- **Hospital**

- **Physician**

- **Help Network**

4. During an emergency, stay calm by using your plan.
An emergency preparedness kit should include essential items that you might need if told to shelter in place or evacuate. The kit should be flexible enough to provide for personal needs and the type of emergency situation — whether you are sheltering in your home for a few days due to a winter storm or in your shelter room for several hours due to a chemical accident.

Store small items in a sturdy container to protect them from damage. The container should be easy to open and should be kept in the shelter room in a convenient place. Designate a shelf or closet for large items such as blankets or gallons of water. Keep a list of your supplies and their location taped to your emergency preparedness kit. Consider any special needs while creating an emergency preparedness kit.

All members of the household and Help Network should know where your emergency preparedness kit items are stored.

**Suggestions for an emergency preparedness kit**

- **Flashlight and battery-powered radio** (and extra batteries for each)
- **Lighter, matches and candles in waterproof container, if they can be used safely**
- **Books, puzzles, crayons and coloring books, and other items to help relieve boredom**
- **Bottled water (one gallon per day per person with a minimum three-day supply)**
- **Snacks and nonperishable, ready-to-eat foods, non-electric can opener and foods in easy-to-open packages (consider any special dietary needs)**
- **Sleeping bags or blankets, if your shelter room does not include a bedroom**
- **Supplies for pets or assistive animals (consider the animal’s needs if it will be in the shelter room or evacuating)**
Remember

✔ Change out water every six months and check expiration dates on food. Replace as needed.
✔ Replace batteries twice a year, when daylight saving time begins and ends.
✔ Re-think kit and family needs annually.

Suggestions for persons with special needs

✔ If you require an assistive device such as a walker, cane or hearing aid and have an extra device, store it in your shelter room with your emergency preparedness kit.
✔ Keep extra batteries for assistive devices such as wheelchairs and hearing aids.
✔ If you have an assistive animal, include any supplies the animal will need.
✔ If you have difficulty communicating due to a speech or hearing impairment, include a notepad and pen. Ask your Help Network to help you prepare messages about your special needs and other personal information before an emergency happens.

Keep necessary items in a handy location so they can be taken quickly to your shelter room or during an evacuation.

✔ Medications and prescription information
✔ Physician names and telephone numbers
✔ Telephone numbers for family and Help Network members
✔ A list of essential items that you would need to take with you such as eye glasses, dentures and hearing aids

More tips for creating emergency preparedness kits are available from your local Emergency Management Agency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calhoun County</td>
<td>256-435-0540</td>
<td><a href="http://www.calhounema.org">www.calhounema.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay County</td>
<td>256-396-5886</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleburne County</td>
<td>256-463-7130</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etowah County</td>
<td>256-549-4575</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cityofgadsden.com">www.cityofgadsden.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Clair County</td>
<td>205-884-6800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talladega County</td>
<td>256-761-2125</td>
<td><a href="http://www.talladegacountyal.org/ema">www.talladegacountyal.org/ema</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit www.areyoureadygoema.com for more information.
Create an Emergency Preparedness Kit

1. Be Practical
   You should have enough basic emergency supplies to last for three days.
   ✔ Flashlight and extra batteries
   ✔ Radio and extra batteries
   ✔ Water and nonperishable food
   ✔ Blanket and pillow
   ✔ Supplies for your assistive animal or pet

   Other ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

   Keep necessary items in a handy location so they can be taken quickly to your shelter room or during an evacuation:
   ✔ Medications and prescription information
   ✔ Physician names and telephone numbers
   ✔ Telephone numbers for family and Help Network members
   ✔ A list of essential items that you would need to take with you such as eye glasses, dentures and hearing aids

2. Plan for your special needs
   ✔ Medication
   ✔ Dietary requirements (i.e., diabetic)
   ✔ Equipment which requires electricity

   Other ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

Consider your daily needs and plan how you would meet those necessities.

Notes ____________________________________________
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_________________________________________________
The Emergency Alert System (EAS) warns residents when an emergency happens or may be expected to happen. The system includes outdoor warning sirens, tone alert radios and local radio and television stations. County Emergency Management Agencies (EMAs) use the system to provide information before, during and after an emergency.

Outdoor warning sirens
Two types of sirens have been installed in Alabama’s six-county Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) area. One type of siren sounds an alert tone followed by a voice message. The other type of siren sounds an alert tone without a voice message. Both types of sirens are used in Etowah and St. Clair counties. Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne and Talladega counties only use sirens that sound an alert tone followed by a voice message.

To hear the siren tones, visit www.areyoureadygoema.com or call 256-237-7703.

Outdoor warning sirens are intended to alert people who are outdoors. They do not replace the need to have an indoor warning method such as a tone alert radio or National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio receiver.

Tone Alert Radios
Tone alert radios (TARs) are part of the EAS and are intended to alert people who are indoors. A TAR will sound an alert tone followed by a voice message. Call 256-236-8642 or 800-263-0201 to find out if you qualify to receive a TAR. For more information about TARs, see page 19.

The NOAA Weather Radio provides comprehensive weather and emergency information. You can purchase a NOAA Weather Radio receiver at many electronics stores.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Siren tone</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Protective action</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wail tone</td>
<td>Siren test</td>
<td>Review your family’s safety plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long high-pitched tone</td>
<td>Thunderstorm or tornado warning</td>
<td>Go to basement, interior hall or bathroom. Leave mobile homes when tornado watches are issued. Tune to local Emergency Alert Station for further information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hi-Lo tone</td>
<td>Hazardous material accident or radiological accident</td>
<td>Tune to your local Emergency Alert Station for further information or instructions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whoop tone</td>
<td>Chemical accident at Anniston Army Depot</td>
<td>Tune to your local Emergency Alert Station for further information or instructions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air horn (St. Clair County only)</td>
<td>Dam failure</td>
<td>Evacuate immediately.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What should I do if I hear an outdoor warning siren?
✔ Stay calm.
✔ Go indoors immediately and tune to your local EAS radio or television station for more information.
✔ Follow instructions which will be provided by your local EMA. Use your emergency plan and Help Network.

What should I do if I hear a TAR?
✔ Stay calm.
✔ Follow instructions that will be provided by your local EMA.
✔ Tune to your local EAS radio or television station for more information.
✔ Use your emergency plan and Help Network.

Remember:
✔ Outdoor warning sirens and tone alert radios are tested monthly or quarterly, unless the threat of severe weather exists on the test day.
✔ Tape a list of your county’s EAS radio and television stations to a radio or television in your home.
✔ Keep a radio with extra batteries in an easy-to-reach location.
✔ Test the EAS stations for your community before an emergency to determine which stations you can receive at your home.

Residents who are visually impaired should:
✔ Have a copy of the EAS stations in large print on non-reflective paper.
✔ Contact your local EMA for an EAS list in Braille, if necessary.
✔ Have a Help Network member tune an extra radio to an EAS station before an emergency.

Residents who are hearing impaired should:
✔ Obtain a tone alert radio equipped with a flashing light.
✔ Monitor TV captioning on a local EAS television station.
✔ Obtain a modified radio receiver which can provide text information from the NOAA National Weather Service. Modified radio receivers can be purchased at an electronics store.
## Emergency Alert Stations for Alabama’s CSEPP counties

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<th>FM Radio</th>
<th>Television</th>
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<tr>
<td>Calhoun</td>
<td>WNSI 810</td>
<td>WJCK 88.3</td>
<td>WBRC FOX TV Ch. 6</td>
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<td>WHMA 1390</td>
<td>WVOK 97.9</td>
<td>WVTM NBC TV Ch. 13</td>
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<td></td>
<td>WDNG 1450</td>
<td>WTRB 98.3</td>
<td>WJXS TV Ch. 24</td>
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<td>WANA 1490</td>
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<td>WJSU ABC TV Ch. 33/40</td>
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<td>Clay</td>
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<td>WTDR 92.7</td>
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<td>WVOK 97.9</td>
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<td>WIAT CBS TV Ch. 42</td>
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<td>WVTM NBC TV Ch. 13</td>
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<td>WJSU ABC TV Ch. 33/40</td>
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<td>WTJP TV Ch. 60</td>
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<td></td>
<td>WOIL TV Antenna 47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Know Your Emergency Alert System

If you hear an outdoor warning siren:
✔ Stay calm.
✔ Go indoors immediately.
✔ Tune your radio or television to a local Emergency Alert System (EAS) station.
✔ Listen for instructions on how to protect yourself and information about the emergency.
✔ Follow the Emergency Management Agency’s (EMA) protective action instructions.
✔ Use your emergency plan and Help Network.

Keep a list of your county’s EAS radio and television stations taped to your radio or television.

During an emergency, I should tune to:

TV ___________________________
TV ___________________________
Radio _________________________
Radio _________________________
Radio _________________________

What should I do if I hear a Tone Alert Radio?
✔ Stay calm.
✔ Follow instructions that will be provided by your local EMA.
✔ Tune to your local EAS radio or television station for more information.
✔ Use your emergency plan and Help Network.

Notes _______________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
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_________________________________________________________________
Tone alert radios (TARs) are an important part of the Emergency Alert System for people who are indoors. Emergency Management Agencies (EMAs) use the TARs to provide information before, during and after emergencies.

**How do I get a TAR?**

Call 800-263-0201 or 256-236-8642. Text telephone users can call 256-236-8812.

After you register as a person with special needs, a free TAR will be installed in your home if you live in a Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program zone. You will need to answer a few questions about your physical, medical or mental disabilities and your ability to shelter in place and evacuate.

Residents who are hearing impaired can receive a TAR equipped with a flashing light.

**What if my TAR doesn’t work correctly?**

Call Warning Systems Inc. (WSI) at 888-850-7286.

If your TAR makes a chirping noise or the green light is not on, you should press the test/reset button. If problems continue, contact WSI.

Do not move your TAR from the location where it was installed. Do not unplug your TAR. Do not give it to anyone else.

**Remember**

County EMAs conduct monthly or quarterly tests of TARs, unless there is a threat of severe weather at test time. You should press the test/reset button to return your TAR to normal service, after the test is over.
Three TAR lights

*Update* — A yellow light will glow at least once a day to indicate a silent test, which the tone alert network conducts. This light will be displayed for 3 to 5 seconds at each test.

*Power* — Always green; always on. (Runs on battery when power is off.)

*Alert* — A red alert light will glow when an emergency or test signal is received. The tone alert has various warning tones, followed by a voice message. Pressing the reset button will turn the red light off.

Weather — Receives information from the National Weather Service Channel periodically.

Four TAR buttons

*Volume Up* — To increase volume of message (does not apply to alert tones).

*Volume Down* — To decrease volume of message (does not apply to alert tones).

Test/Reset — Returns the radio to normal service after a message, test or emergency alert has been received.

What do the tones mean?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tone</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High-Low</td>
<td>Alert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chimes</td>
<td>Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steady tone</td>
<td>All Clear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three beeps</td>
<td>Message will follow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If your TAR is not working correctly, call Warning Systems, Inc. (WSI) at 888-850-7286 toll-free.
Get Your Tone Alert Radio

Tone Alert Radios (TARs) are an important part of the Emergency Alert System for people who are indoors. Emergency Management Agencies (EMAs) use the TARs to provide information before, during and after emergencies.

Before, during and after an emergency, a TAR will sound a loud alert followed by a voice message.

EMAs conduct monthly or quarterly tests of TARs, unless there is a threat of severe weather at test time. You should press the test/reset button after the test is over to reset your TAR.

If your TAR is not working correctly, call Warning Systems, Inc. (WSI) at 888-850-7286 toll-free.

Call 256-236-8642 or 800-263-0201 to see if you qualify to receive a free TAR. Text telephone users can call 256-236-8812.
The Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) has identified zones around Anniston Army Depot (ANAD) that could face varying levels of risk in the unlikely event of a chemical accident. These zones include areas within Calhoun, Clay, Cleburne, Etowah, St. Clair and Talladega counties.

Knowing your zone is the first step in preparing for a chemical emergency.

Your county Emergency Management Agency (EMA) will provide protective action information by zone during an emergency. Based on their zone and its distance from ANAD, residents have been offered various protective equipment. See page 25.

**Immediate Response Zone (IRZ)** includes the area closest to ANAD. Individuals who live and work in the IRZ would be at greatest risk in the unlikely event of a chemical accident. The IRZ extends approximately...
nine miles around ANAD. The IRZ includes the pink zone (areas which border ANAD.)

**Protective Action Zone (PAZ)** extends approximately 20 to 30 miles beyond the IRZ. The PAZ would have more time to take protective action.

**Precautionary Zone (PZ)** extends beyond the PAZ to a distance where special protective actions would not be required. This area has a minimal risk factor.

To receive a zone map for your county, call your local EMA. Zone maps are also available at [www.areyoureadygoema.com](http://www.areyoureadygoema.com).

---

### Zones by county

#### Calhoun

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pink Zone</th>
<th>Protective Action Zone (PAZ)</th>
<th>Immediate Response Zone (IRZ)</th>
<th>Protective Action Zone (PZ)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-1</td>
<td>B-9A</td>
<td>A-3</td>
<td>A-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-1A</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-1A</td>
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#### Clay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pink Zone</th>
<th>Protective Action Zone (PAZ)</th>
<th>Immediate Response Zone (IRZ)</th>
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<td>C-2</td>
<td>A-17</td>
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<td>A-8</td>
<td>B-18</td>
<td>B-2</td>
<td>B-14</td>
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#### Cleburne

<table>
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#### Talladega

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Know Your CSEPP Zones

Knowing your zone is the first step in preparing for a chemical emergency.

Different protective action instructions will be given to zones based on the risk faced by each zone.

Different zones receive different types of protective equipment.

Know your zone.

My home is in zone _________________

My school is in zone _________________

Other:

My _______________ is in zone ______

My _______________ is in zone ______

Notes ______________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
Free protective equipment is available to residents of the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) zones around Anniston Army Depot (ANAD). The type of equipment available is determined by how close your home is to ANAD. See page 22 for more information about CSEPP zones.

### Protective equipment available by zone

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<tr>
<th>Pink Zone</th>
<th>Immediate Response Zone (IRZ)</th>
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<td>Calhoun County</td>
<td>Calhoun County</td>
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<td>Talladega County</td>
<td>Clay County</td>
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<td>Etowah County</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>St. Clair County</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Talladega County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protective hood</td>
<td>Portable room air cleaner</td>
<td>Shelter-in-place kit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portable room air cleaner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shelter-in-place kit</td>
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</table>

### How do I receive my equipment?

Calhoun County residents can pick up their equipment at the CSEPP Training and Distribution Center. Call 256-241-0058 for more information.

- ✔ Proof of residency is required. You should bring a photo ID, a bill or another document that verifies your correct street address.
- ✔ You will be required to fill out a medical questionnaire to make sure there is no reason why you cannot use the protective hood.
- ✔ Be prepared to spend approximately one hour getting the equipment and receiving the complete training on its use.
- ✔ If you live in the pink zone, each member of your household should visit the CSEPP Training and Distribution Center to receive a protective hood.

Residents of Talladega County’s Immediate Response Zone also may pick up protective equipment at the CSEPP Training and Distribution Center.

If you are a person with special needs who cannot pick up your protective equipment, call 256-236-8642 or 800-263-0201. If you qualify, your equipment may be delivered and set up in your home. Text telephone users can call 256-236-8812.

Emergency Management Agencies (EMAs) in Clay, Cleburne, Etowah, St. Clair and Talladega counties have made arrangements to distribute shelter-in-place kits to residents in their protective action zones. Contact your local EMA to find out how to receive your kit.
Protective Hood (Calhoun County only)

You will receive training on how to use the protective hood at the CSEPP Training and Distribution Center. Listen carefully and ask questions until you understand how to use the hood.

Two types of protective hoods are available — one type for ages 3 and older, and one type for children under the age of 3.

The hood is stored in a vacuum-sealed pouch. Do not open the pouch. It should not be stored in extremely hot or cold areas, or where it might get damp.

If you have a respiratory disorder, you may not be able to use the hood. A nurse can determine if you are able to use the hood. Call the CSEPP Training and Distribution Center at 256-241-0058 to find out when a nurse is available.

To use the protective hood:

1. Be sure that your neck is clear of hair and other items that might prevent the hood from sealing.
2. Remove the foil pouch containing the hood from the cardboard box.
3. Hold the pouch upright and locate the TEAR HERE label and small notch.
4. Grasp the side of the pouch with one hand below the notch and the other hand above the notch.
5. Tear the pouch open to expose the plastic container. Note the hood placement instructions located on top of the plastic lid.
6. Remove the red lid.
7. Remove the folded hood by pulling on the pull tab. The blower will begin to operate automatically. Make sure the hood is completely unfolded.
8. Do not tear the hood with fingernails or jewelry when opening it.
9. Point the front of the hood (with the blower) away from yourself. Insert both hands through the neck opening with palms facing each other.
10. Spread the neck seal with backs of the hands.
11. Insert the top of your head through the open neck seal and lower your hands to bring the neck seal over your head in a single motion.
12. Do not insert your face or back of your head first. Doing so may stretch the neck seal.
13. Smooth the neck seal to remove any folds and make sure nothing interferes with the neck seal.
14. The blower will be resting on your chest. Breathe normally.
15. Remove the hood immediately if the blower stops operating or after four hours of use.
Protective Hood for Children (Calhoun County only)

To put the protective hood on a child older than age 3:

1. The adult should put on his or her hood first.
2. With the front of the hood pointing away from the front of the child, insert both of your hands through the neck seal with palms facing each other.
3. Spread the neck seal with the backs of your hands.
4. Stand behind the child, place the neck seal on the child’s forehead. The child should hold his head in a straight ahead position.
5. Lower the neck seal over the child’s head in a single motion.
6. Smooth any folds in the neck seal and make sure nothing interferes with the neck seal.
7. The blower will be resting on the child’s chest. Instruct the child to breathe normally.
8. Remove the hood immediately if the blower stops operating or after four hours of use.

Protective hoods are available for children under 3 years of age. Contact the CSEPP Training and Distribution Center for more information. Call 256-241-0058.

Portable Room Air Cleaner (PRAC) (Calhoun and Talladega counties only)

The portable room air cleaner is designed to clean the air in a 9’ x 12’ x 10’ room more than twice an hour. If you would have trouble removing your PRAC from its cardboard box, ask a Help Network member to take the PRAC out of its box and store it in your shelter room. To start the PRAC, plug it into an electrical outlet; it will turn on automatically and will stay on until unplugged.

If your physical, medical or mental disability would make it difficult to plug your PRAC into an electrical outlet, you can receive a unit with a remote switch. A PRAC can also be outfitted with a lamp so that you will know that it is operating.

Shelter-In-Place Kits (All six counties)

Shelter-in-place kits include a roll of plastic sheeting, tape, scissors and a towel. These items can be used to make your shelter room more safe. The kit also includes printed instructions and a video. For more information about sheltering in place, see page 29.

Do not use your protective equipment unless you are instructed to do so by your EMA through the Emergency Alert System.
Get Your CSEPP Equipment

How do I get my equipment?

1. Know your zone. I live in Zone _______.
   See page 22 for a zone map and page 23 for a list of zones.

2. Based on my zone, I need:
   ___ Portable Room Air Cleaner
   ___ Protective Hood
   ___ Shelter-in-Place Kit

If you live in Talladega County’s Immediate Response Zone or Calhoun County, go to the CSEPP Training and Distribution Center. Call 256-241-0058 for more information.

If you can not pick up your equipment, call 256-236-8642 or 800-263-0201. If you qualify, it may be delivered to you.

If you live in Clay, Cleburne, Etowah, St. Clair or Talladega county, call your local Emergency Management Agency (EMA) to receive your shelter-in-place kit.

If you receive a protective hood (Calhoun County only):

1. Do not open the sealed foil pouch.
2. Store it in your shelter room where it won’t be damaged, or get too hot, too cold or damp.

Remember!
Do not use your protective equipment unless you are instructed to do so by your EMA through the Emergency Alert System. Store your protective equipment in your shelter room.

If you are not sure what zone you live in or what protective equipment you need, ask your Help Network or contact your local EMA.

Notes

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Shelter in Place

During hazardous conditions, you may need to take shelter in your home. Your actions should be based on the situation. If there is a tornado warning, you would stay in your basement or a small ground floor room and listen to a local radio or television station for information updates. If your community has been hit by a winter storm, you may stay at home for a few days in a warm part of your house.

In the unlikely event of a chemical accident at Anniston Army Depot, you might be instructed to shelter in place. You could also be advised to shelter in place due to other emergencies involving airborne chemicals.

Shelter-in-Place actions for a chemical emergency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Normal protection</th>
<th>Take cover in a building. Close and lock exterior windows and doors. Shut off all ventilation systems, heating or air conditioning and fans.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For more protection</td>
<td>Use your shelter-in-place kit. Plastic, duct tape, painter’s tape and shelf liner can be used to cover doors, windows, vents and electrical outlets. Place a towel at base of door.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For maximum protection</td>
<td>Use protective equipment such as a portable room air cleaner and/or hood. Weatherization techniques like caulking or weather stripping may be applied to a structure before an incident occurs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Determining your shelter room is an important step in your preparedness planning. You should not shelter in a basement during a chemical emergency because agent vapors are heavier than air and may settle into lower areas. Choose a shelter room that comes as close as possible to meeting the following guidelines:

✔ Relatively small, but at least 10 square feet per person
✔ No outside walls and located on the ground floor
✔ No windows or the room with the smallest number of windows (avoid rooms with window air conditioners or leaky windows)
✔ No vents to the outside or exhaust vents that automatically start with a light on
✔ One door
✔ Lighting and electrical outlets for radio or television

Generally speaking, a bedroom with a connecting bathroom is a good room for sheltering in place. Keep hallways clear so that you can easily reach the shelter room.

If instructed to shelter in place

✔ Move immediately indoors.
✔ Close and lock all exterior doors and all windows. Close fireplace dampers, vents and any other openings. Close interior doors.

(continued on next page)
✔ Turn off all heating and cooling systems, all fans and any other ventilation systems.
✔ Go into the predetermined shelter room. If possible, take your pets into your shelter room. Do not spend valuable time looking for a pet.
✔ Turn on a radio or television and tune to a local Emergency Alert Station (EAS) for further emergency instructions.
✔ Seal windows, doors, vents and unused outlets in the shelter room with plastic and tape provided in your shelter-in-place kit. You also can use self-adhesive shelf liner or painter’s tape to seal air gaps.
✔ Keep a towel in the shelter room. Place the towel at the bottom of the door to block airflow. If you are not able to bend down, keep a broom handle in your shelter room. You can use it to place the towel at the bottom of the door.
✔ Listen to the radio or television for further directions and information.
✔ Use your emergency preparedness kit, as needed.

Stay calm and remain in your shelter room. Your local Emergency Management Agency will broadcast a message on EAS stations when it is safe to leave your shelter room. Once directed to end sheltering in place, it is important to follow instructions given by local officials. At this point, the air outside is no longer dangerous.

When sheltering in place ends, the air inside the building where you were sheltering may need to be ventilated. Open the windows and let fresh air in to circulate, and continue listening to the radio or television for further information.
You may need to take shelter in your home during an emergency. Your actions should be based on the situation. You may be sheltering due to severe weather conditions or a chemical accident.

In the unlikely event of a chemical accident at Anniston Army Depot, you may be instructed to shelter in place. You should:

1. Move immediately indoors.
2. Close and lock all exterior doors and all windows. Close fireplace dampers, vents and any other openings. Close interior doors.
3. Turn off all heating and cooling systems, all fans and any other ventilation systems.
4. Go into the predetermined shelter room. Take your pets into your shelter room if possible but do not spend valuable time looking for a pet.
5. Turn on a radio or television and tune to a local Emergency Alert Station (EAS) for further emergency instructions.
6. Seal windows, doors, vents and unused outlets in the shelter room with plastic and tape provided in your shelter-in-place kit. You can also use self-adhesive shelf liner or painter’s tape to seal air gaps.
7. Place a towel at the bottom of the door to block air flow.
8. Listen to the radio or television for further directions and information.
9. Use your emergency preparedness kit, as needed.
10. Stay calm and remain in your shelter room. Your local Emergency Management Agency will broadcast a message on EAS stations when it is safe to leave your shelter room. Once directed to end shelter-in-place, it is important to follow instructions given by local officials. At this point, the air outside is no longer dangerous. However, the air inside the building where you were sheltering may need to be ventilated. Open the windows and let fresh air in to circulate, and continue to listen to the radio or television for further information.

If during an emergency, you would not be able to seal windows and doors with plastic and tape, ask your Help Network to prepare your shelter room before an emergency occurs.
Other Protective Actions

In the unlikely event of a chemical accident at Anniston Army Depot (ANAD), residents could be advised to shelter in place or evacuate, based on which zone they live in and other details about the emergency. You may also be advised to take no action if your zone faces no immediate risk. See page 29 for shelter-in-place information.

Evacuate

Residents might be instructed to evacuate in the event of a chemical accident. This protective action will be given if the local Emergency Management Agency (EMA) determines that a zone is in danger, yet there is enough time for residents to safely leave the zone. Evacuations have been planned for each zone and are listed in county emergency information materials. If you are instructed to evacuate:

✔ Remember your emergency preparedness plan. If you have arranged to evacuate with someone in your zone, follow the plan.

✔ Take essential items such as medications and prescription information, special needs items, physician names and telephone numbers and telephone numbers for family and Help Network members. Take your emergency preparedness kit with you. Do not waste valuable time gathering personal items.

✔ If you or someone at your home can drive, gather family members into a single vehicle. Do not wait for family members who may not be at home. Keep vehicle windows and vents closed. Do not use the heater or air conditioner.

✔ Do not attempt to pick up your child at school. Your EMA and school personnel have created safety plans to protect students.

✔ Do not go against the flow of traffic. Follow emergency instructions. Listen to Emergency Alert System (EAS) radio stations.

✔ Do not attempt to return home until you are instructed to do so. Your EMA will provide information through radio, television and newspapers.
Take no protective action
If a zone is not threatened by a chemical accident at ANAD, a protective action may not be issued. This is not a mistake. It means that the vapor is not a threat to the area and residents should not act on their own to shelter in place or evacuate unnecessarily.
✔ Stay calm.
✔ Stay where you are, stay indoors and avoid travel. It is important to keep roadways clear for people who have been directed to evacuate.
✔ Keep your radio or television on and tuned to an EAS station. Instructions for your community could change and EAS stations are your best source for up-to-the-minute information.
✔ Avoid using the telephone so that systems are not overloaded and emergency calls can get through quickly. Do not call 9-1-1 unless you face a life-threatening emergency such as fire or heart attack symptoms.

Ask family members, friends and neighbors who live in your zone about helping you during an evacuation.

Keep vital items stored together so that you can carry them easily — identification, medication and prescription information, physician names and telephone numbers and telephone numbers for family and Help Network members. Keep a list of important items that you would need to take with you such as eye glasses, dentures and other special needs items.

Plan ahead for any special needs including an assistive animal, if you have one.
Evacuation

✔ Remember your emergency preparedness plan. If you have arranged to evacuate with someone in your zone, follow the plan.

✔ Take essential items such as medications and prescription information, special needs items, physician names and telephone numbers and telephone numbers for family and Help Network members. Take your emergency preparedness kit with you. Do not waste valuable time gathering personal items.

✔ If you or someone at your home can drive, gather family members into a single vehicle. Do not wait for family members who may not be at home. Keep windows and vents closed. Do not use the heater or air conditioner.

✔ Do not attempt to pick up your child at school. Your Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and school personnel have created safety plans to protect students.

✔ Do not go against the flow of traffic. Follow emergency instructions. Listen to Emergency Alert System (EAS) radio stations.

✔ Do not attempt to return home until you are instructed to do so. Your EMA will provide information through radio, television and newspapers.

Take no special protective action

✔ Stay calm.

✔ Stay where you are, stay indoors and avoid travel. It is important to keep roadways clear for people who have been directed to evacuate.

✔ Keep your radio or television on and tuned to an EAS station. Instructions for your community could change and EAS stations are your best source for up-to-the-minute information.

✔ Avoid using the telephone so that systems are not overloaded and emergency calls can get through quickly. Do not call 9-1-1 unless it is a life-threatening emergency such as fire or heart attack symptoms.

Ask family members, friends and neighbors who live in your zone about helping you in an evacuation.

Notes

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Prepare now
During an emergency, local, state and federal agencies will assist you, but you must be realistic about what to expect and how long it will take emergency workers to respond. The local Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and other agencies will be dealing with all aspects of the emergency.

For example, when the National Weather Service issues an alert for severe weather, the local EMA may activate the Emergency Alert System (EAS). Police and fire departments as well as other emergency responders are also notified of the threat. Roads may need to be cleared of fallen trees. A traffic accident could require response from several agencies such as 9-1-1, police, fire departments as well as emergency medical services.

Emergency responders will be working, but they can not get to everyone right away. Prepare now so that you can protect yourself during an emergency.

Knowing what to do is your best protection and your responsibility. Use this guide to prepare now because emergencies can strike quickly.

Before an emergency...
Prepare Now
During an emergency...
Stay Calm
Stay Informed
Follow Your Plan and Instructions Given By Your EMA

Tornadoes
✔ Stay inside and away from windows.
✔ A basement is the safest place in your home. If you don’t have a basement, stay in a small room or hallway near the center of your home.

Thunderstorms
✔ Stay inside and away from windows.
✔ Stay away from water and faucets.
✔ Use the phone only for emergencies.

(continued on next page)
Winter storms

✔ Ask your Help Network to help winterize your home before the winter season.
✔ Do not let your heating source get too low. Ask your Help Network to help you identify financial assistance programs to help with heating bills.
✔ Stay indoors as much as possible.
✔ Dress in layers.
✔ Keep extra blankets on hand.
✔ Keep space heaters at least three feet away from anything that might burn.

Extreme hot weather

✔ Drink plenty of water.
✔ Wear cool, light-colored clothes.
✔ Use air conditioning and fans.
✔ Avoid strenuous activity.
✔ If you get too hot, lie down, drink water and sponge off with cool water.
✔ If you have a racing pulse, feel dizzy or confused, you may be having a heat stroke. Call 9-1-1.

DO NOT call 9-1-1 unless you have a life-threatening condition such as heart attack symptoms or a fire.

REMINDER —
Emergencies can be especially difficult for people who:

Can’t move around quickly.
Rely on medical equipment.
Have other special needs.

Consider any special needs or challenges that your physical, medical or mental disability could cause during an emergency. Plan for your special needs now. Ask your Help Network to help you!

Floods

✔ Find out now if your home is in an area that could flood.
✔ Arrange for a Help Network member to transport you to another area if your local EMA issues a flood watch.
Prepare for Other Hazards

Plan now

What emergencies could affect you?
✓ Tornadoes
✓ Thunderstorms
✓ Winter storms
✓ Extreme hot weather
✓ Floods
✓ Other

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

During an emergency
✓ Stay calm.
✓ Listen to Emergency Alert System (EAS) radio and television stations.
✓ Remember your plan.
✓ Follow instructions given by your Emergency Management Agency.

How will you stay safe during an emergency?
✓ Stay in a basement or small room during a tornado watch.
✓ Stay away from windows during a thunderstorm.
✓ Do not let your heating source get too low during winter.
✓ Drink plenty of water and wear cool clothing during extreme hot weather.
✓ Know if your home is in an area that could flood.
✓ Ask your Help Network members to help you plan what to do during hazardous conditions.

Plan for special needs

Think about your physical, medical or mental disabilities and special needs. What will you need during an emergency?

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Call 9-1-1 for emergencies such as a fire or heart attack symptoms.

DO NOT call 9-1-1 to ask about what has happened in your community.

Listen to EAS radio and television stations for information.
### Information Resources

**Calhoun County Emergency Management Agency**
- 507 Francis Street West
- Jacksonville, AL 36265
- 256-435-0540
- www.calhounema.org

**Clay County Emergency Management Agency**
- PO Box 427
- Ashland, AL 36251
- 256-396-5886

**Cleburne County Emergency Management Agency**
- 118 Emergency Lane
- Heflin, AL 36264
- 256-463-7130

**Gadsden/Etowah County Emergency Management Agency**
- PO Box 267
- Gadsden, AL 35902
- 256-549-4575
- www.cityofgadsden.com

**St. Clair County Emergency Management Agency**
- 1610 Cogswell Avenue, Suite B-10
- Pell City, AL 35125
- 205-884-6800
- www.stclairco.com

**Talladega County Emergency Management Agency**
- PO Box 43
- Talladega, AL 35161
- 256-761-2125
- www.talladegacountyal.org/ema

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**For all counties:**

**Are You Ready? Go EMA!**
Features information about the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program, a children's section and local information for each of the six CSEPP counties in Alabama.
- www.areyoureadygoema.com
Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA)
Coordinates assistance to local governments to ensure that they are adequately prepared to assist the people of Alabama in the event of natural disasters or other emergencies. AEMA also provides resources to communities and individuals to help them plan and prepare for disasters.
http://ema.alabama.gov
PO Box 2160
Clanton, AL 35046
205-280-2200
info@aema.state.al.us

CSEPP Training and Distribution Center
Provides residents of Calhoun and northern Talladega counties with chemical protective equipment. The Center trains residents on the proper use of the equipment and how to create a safe area in their home in the unlikely event of a chemical accident at the Anniston Army Depot.
256-241-0058

East Alabama Regional Planning & Development Commission
Provides assistance in planning for transportation and other needs to help the elderly, people with disabilities, and people who lack transportation.
www.adss.state.al.us/EARPDC.htm
1130 Quintard Ave, Suite 300
PO Box 2186
Anniston, AL 36202
256-237-6741
800-239-6741
800-AGELINE

Metro Services
Works with local Emergency Management Agencies in identifying and registering persons with special needs, ensuring appropriate protective equipment is offered to them and providing training and information for maximum safety during an emergency. Metro Services develops emergency preparedness training materials for residents with special needs and their caregivers, and offers workshops for healthcare agencies and other community groups.
105 East D Street
Anniston, AL 36202
256-236-8642
800-263-0201
256-236-8812 Text telephone

Warning Systems Inc. (WSI)
1400 Commerce Boulevard
Suite 22
Anniston, AL 36207
256-831-2000
888-850-7286
800-548-2546 Text telephone
American Red Cross
Links to Disaster Preparedness for People With Disabilities, a booklet designed to help people who have physical, visual, auditory or cognitive disabilities to prepare for natural disasters and their consequences.
www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/disability.html

Center for Disability Issues and the Health Professions
Links to Emergency Evacuation Preparedness: Taking Responsibility for Your Safety — A Guide for People with Disabilities and Other Activity Limitations, a guide which emphasizes the importance of individuals with disabilities taking personal responsibility for preparing for potential emergencies where evacuation is necessary. Offers information on steps to take to become personally prepared, how to realistically evaluate one’s needs and level of preparedness, how to quickly tell first responders about specific needs, and how to establish a personal support network.
www.cdihp.org/evacuationpdf.htm

Emergency Email Network
Sign up to receive emergency alerts by email, cellular phone, digital pager or fax.
www.emergencyemailnetwork.com

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
www.fema.gov
www.fema.gov/spanish
(Provides Spanish translation of emergency preparedness information)

National Organization on Disability
Provides emergency preparedness information for people with disabilities including a products and services directory of equipment and technology that may assist people with disabilities in emergencies, publications, and providers of services related to emergency preparedness for people with disabilities.
www.nod.org/emergency

National Severe Storms Laboratory
Explains NOAA Weather Radio services and how the radios may be modified so that hearing-impaired and vision-impaired people can receive alerts.
www.nssl.noaa.gov/NWR

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Includes preparedness and response information covering natural disasters such as fires, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes. Also addresses threats of terrorism, including biological, chemical, nuclear, radiological and explosive. Provides instructions for making a disaster kit, staying informed and making a safety plan. Links to Preparing Makes Sense, Get Ready Now, a brochure explaining potential terrorist threats and how people can prepare for them.
www.ready.gov

U.S. Fire Administration
Links to publications that address the challenges special-needs individuals may face during a threat of fire. Information is available for people who are mobility-impaired, elderly, hearing-impaired and visually-impaired as well as children.
www.usfa.fema.gov/safety/atrisk