



### Commissioners Corner

By Linda Oosterman, District 1

## Disaster Preparedness

The time to prepare for an disaster is well before the event. During this time you can calmly create lists of the supplies you need to gather, watch for good prices on these items and take time to think through the emergency actions your family can take. The best way to start your personal disaster preparedness checklist is to start with the list below and view the lists made available from the American Red Cross or the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and combine them and others to create a customized list that suits your family's needs specifically.

### Be Prepared for an Emergency

**At a minimum, you should have the basic supplies listed below:**

- Water: one gallon per person, per day (3-day supply for evacuation, 2-week supply for home)
- Food: non-perishable, easy-to-prepare items (3-day supply for evacuation, 2-week supply for home)
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible)
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Medications (7-day supply) and medical items
- Multi-purpose tool
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- Copies of personal documents (medication list and pertinent medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies)
- Cell phone with chargers
- Family and emergency contact information
- Extra cash
- Emergency blanket
- Map(s) of the area

**Consider the needs of all family members and add supplies to your kit. Suggested items to help meet additional needs are:**

- Medical supplies (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, etc)
- Baby supplies (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers)
- Games and activities for children
- Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl)
- Two-way radios
- Extra set of car keys, house keys, and hide a car key on your car for emergency access
- Don't forget to store a extra emergency kit in your car
- Manual can opener

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**Additional supplies to keep at home or in your survival kit based on the types of disasters common to your area:**

- Whistle
  - N95 or surgical masks
  - Matches
  - Rain gear
  - Towels
  - Work gloves
  - Tools/supplies for securing your home
  - Extra clothing, hat and sturdy shoes
  - Plastic sheeting
  - Duct tape
  - Scissors
  - Household liquid bleach
  - Entertainment items
  - Blankets or sleeping bags
- Red Cross website



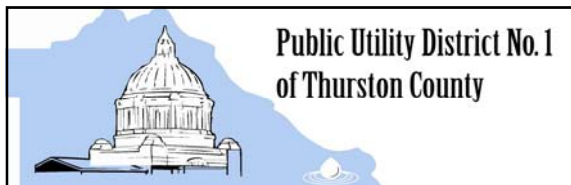
<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/location/home-family>

## Low Income Assistance Program

Below is a copy of the bill stuffer you will find in your billing statement in October and December. If you receive your bill via email, please call us and we can mail you the bill stuffer if you are interested in participating.

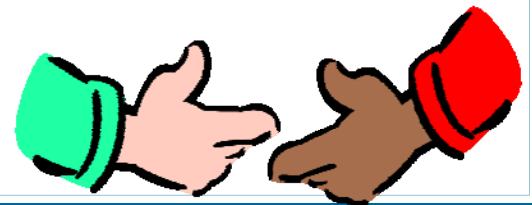
## Project Help

is an assistance program to help low-income families with their water bill.



Help us offer this great program by donating today!

Your generous contribution will help to keep the water on in homes throughout our service area. No matter how big or small your donation, you are making a difference in the lives of families throughout the area.



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