



Central Michigan District Health Department
For more information, please call: (989) 773-5921 ext. 109
2012 E. Preston Avenue, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858, www.cmdhd.org

People Caring for People

Family Preparedness is the primary focus of the US Department of Homeland Security's National Preparedness Month in September 2006. Central Michigan District Health Department staff are encouraging local residents to create an emergency plan for themselves and/or their families. Steps to take to prepare your family for an emergency include:

- Creating a communication plan
- Arranging a meeting place
- Creating a disaster supply kit to include necessary items in the event of severe weather, a power outage or another type of disaster
- Being familiar with your child's school emergency plans with regards to re-uniting with your child if severe weather or a disaster should occur while school is in session
- Knowing the emergency protocols for your place of employment

To help local residents become familiar with the topic areas included in emergency preparedness, local health departments have copies of the booklet "Preparing for a Public Health Emergency: What You Need to Know" available. These booklets cover information on biological agents, such as anthrax, botulism, smallpox, and pandemic influenza (flu), chemical agents and radiological agents. Information on how to create a family emergency plan and a place to record personal information on each family member are also components of the booklets. Central Michigan District Health Department has booklets available in each of their branch office locations in Arenac County (3727 Deep River Road, Standish), Clare County (225 W. Main Street, Harrison), Gladwin County (103 N. Bowery, Gladwin), Isabella County (2012 E. Preston Avenue, Mt. Pleasant), Osceola County (4329 220th Avenue, Reed City) and Roscommon County (1015 Short Drive (M-18), Prudenville). Please stop by and pick up your free booklet today in order to assist your family in preparing for an emergency.

In addition, local health departments have become a part of local planning teams which consist of representatives from Emergency Management, hospital & EMS, local businesses, schools, human service including Red Cross, universities, law enforcement, fire and other community partners. These entities continuously work to create, test and evaluate local, regional, statewide and national response plans to help keep citizens safe during emergency situations.

The following websites contain a variety of resources for individuals, families, schools, churches, businesses and other community organizations with regards to preparedness topics:

US Department of Homeland Security: www.fema.gov and www.ready.gov

Central Michigan District Health Department: www.cmdhd.org

Department of Health and Human Services Pandemic Flu website: www.pandemicflu.gov

This article was provided by the staff at Central Michigan District Health Department, which serves residents in Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola and Roscommon Counties.