



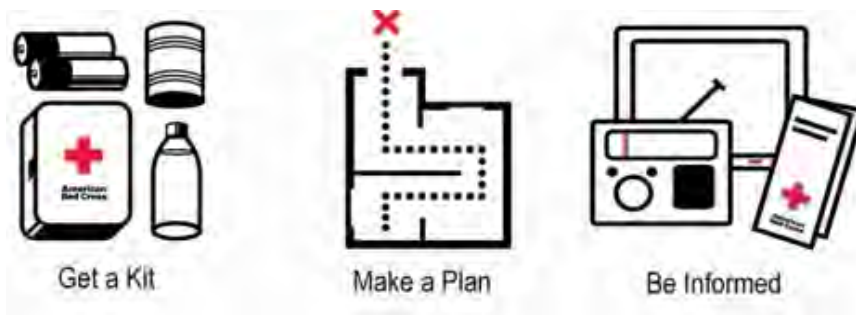
**Washington County**  
**Employee Readiness Guide**

**On any given day**, Washington County employees report for work, bringing our dedication, creativity and expertise to the service of our community. When critical incidents occur or disaster strikes, we shift into high gear to help get our community get back on its feet. When things go bad, we show up. From Sheriff’s Office Patrol to Road Operations; from Public Health to Support Services and everyone in between—we all have a crucial role to play in disaster response and recovery—even if that means being temporarily reassigned to a job that we might not perform on a normal day.

In recent years, as we’ve learned more from the experts about the inevitability of a catastrophic Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake hitting our region, and in an effort to address all potential hazards that the County could face, we’ve been making plans at all levels of the organization. These all-hazard response plans are mission-critical but so is the ability of our staff to report to work when the community needs us most. We know that the availability to serve is directly tied to how well our own homes and families are able to safely come through any disaster and how quickly we can stabilize our living situations. Home and family come first. Our community comes in a close second and deserves our best efforts to get everyone on the road to recovery.

To that end, Washington County is launching the **“3 to Get Ready”** campaign, designed to provide employees with the information and links to resources that will encourage, inspire and guide continuing efforts toward individual and family disaster readiness. **3 to Get Ready** ties in to the three major preparedness themes used by the American Red Cross: Get a Kit. Make a Plan. Be Informed. This guide will direct employees to a variety of resources that will simplify and organize preparedness efforts, including family communications and reunification plans, checklists for creating supply kits and where to buy supplies. The guide also includes links to information about seismic strengthening of homes, financial preparedness for disasters, how to stay safe during an earthquake or tsunami, as well as various emergency communication tools.

We hope that you will find the **3 to Get Ready** materials helpful as we all prepare together.





Get a Kit

*Put together a **STAY KIT** of gear and supplies you'll need to ride it out at home. Consider what you will need to evacuate if it's not safe to remain at home and pack those items into a **GO KIT**.*

- Make a STAY KIT. Start stockpiling enough supplies for everyone in your household for 1-2 weeks including one gallon of water per person per day, canned or dried food (including for pets), flashlights and batteries, and medications. If you're unable to stockpile medications, keep a current list with you.
- Make a stash of useful items including a first aid kit, battery or crank radio, camp stove with fuel (do not use indoors) and other camping gear, emergency toilets, plus tools and supplies for home repairs.
- Make a personal GO KIT for each member of the household in case you need to evacuate, as well as kits for work, school and the car in case you're not at home when disaster strikes.

[PREP Checklist: GO and STAY KITS](#) (PDF)

[Family Emergency Supplies Calendar](#) (PDF)

[Beyond 72 Hours](#) (PDF)

[Storing Emergency Water for Disasters](#) (PDF)

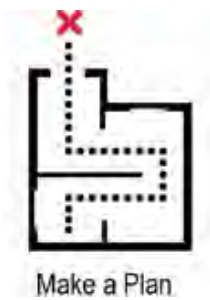
[Personal Medication List](#) (PDF)

[Supplies for Well-stocked First Aid Kit](#) (website)

[Emergency Sanitation](#) (PDF)

[Work, School and Car Kits and Vehicle Prep](#) (PDF)

[Where to Buy Supplies](#) (PDF)



*When disaster strikes, **having a plan** in place and knowing what to do will help you feel calm and in control. Make sure family or household members are in on the plan.*

- Plan what to do if a disaster occurs when you're at home, work, or school. Address special needs for family members and pets. Involve children in the planning to teach them about preparedness and help to calm their fears.
- Family plans for communicating with one another and reunification should be at the top of your list. Decide on a place to meet and an out-of-state contact person for family members to call. (Long distance calls or text messages may go through when local lines are overwhelmed.) Social media tools such as Facebook Safety Check and the Red Cross Safe & Well registry are good options.
- Whenever you make a trip to the coast, make note of tsunami evacuation routes. (Be sure to take along your GO KIT.)
- Walk around your home looking for hazards like tall bookshelves that could tip over and take steps to secure them in place
- Consider whether your home needs seismic strengthening to withstand earthquake forces. Older homes are especially at risk because they often lack adequate anchorage to their foundation and were not designed to resist large earthquakes.
- Sign up with *Enhabit*, a Portland-based non-profit (formerly Clean Energy Works) for a free "100 Point Home Performance Check" for your home which includes earthquake readiness. *Enhabit* connects participants with qualified contractors and low-interest financing options.

### **Household/Family Emergency Plan template**

[Preparing for People with Disabilities & Other Special Needs](#) (PDF)

[Family Pet Emergency Plan](#) (PDF)

[Facebook Safety Check](#); [Red Cross Safe & Well Registry](#) (websites)

[Tsunami Evacuation Maps for Oregon Coast](#) (website)

[Earthquake Home Hazard Hunt](#) (PDF)

[LUT Resources for Seismic Strengthening of Homes](#) (website)

[LUT Seismic Strengthening Rack Card](#) (PDF)

[Enhabit](#) (website)

[Get Prepared with Your Neighbors](#) (website)

[Financial Preparedness for Disasters & Emergencies](#) (PDF)



Review **what to expect** during an earthquake and how to protect yourself and loved ones. Teach everyone in your household **what to do** and what not to do.

- During an earthquake: DROP to the ground; take COVER by getting under a sturdy table or other piece of furniture; and HOLD ON until the shaking stops. Protect your head and neck as much as possible. If indoors, stay there until the shaking stops. If outside, move away from buildings, streetlights, and utility wires.
- If you're at the coast, move quickly (possibly on foot if roads are blocked or damaged) to the highest possible ground. Follow any posted tsunami evacuation routes. Do NOT go near the ocean.
- After the shaking stops, take care of yourself and your loved ones, put on a protective hat, clothing and footwear. Check for gas or propane leaks. Learn when and how to shut off natural gas. Turn the gas off ONLY if necessary. Clean up broken glass. Meet with neighbors to assess the situation and make plans to work together.

[How to Stay Safe in an Earthquake or Tsunami](#) (PDF)

[Tsunami Evacuation Maps for Oregon Coast](#) (website)

[What to Do Right After an Earthquake](#) (PDF)

[How to Shut Off Natural Gas](#) (website)

- Once your home and family are safe and stable, call the Washington County Operations Status Line at 1-855-230-7495 for current information. If you are able to report for work, your help will be critically important to help get our community through the crisis and re-building phases. Bring along your personal GO KIT (including medications.)
- Utilize these other resources to gather information and maintain communication:

<https://twitter.com/WashcoOregon>

<https://www.facebook.com/WashCoOregon>

KUIK Radio, 1360 AM

[Public Alerts](#)

[Facebook Safety Check](#); [Red Cross Safe & Well registry](#)

[Red Cross mobile app](#)

[Zello Push-To-Talk/walkie talkie app](#)

[GroupMe/free group messaging app](#)