



Pierce County Emergency Management

READY

Preparedness Tips Monthly Newsletter



Do you have a grab and go kit to evacuate quickly for safety purposes?

Add this task to your "bucket list" if not done!!

Why would I have to evacuate quickly?

There are natural and human created hazards that may require evacuation. Flood, fire, lahar (volcano hazard), landslides, and hazardous material spills are possible reasons in Pierce County that could require evacuation for life and safety.

What would I need and for how long?

"Grab and Go" Supplies (for 2-3 days)

- A flashlight, radio w/extra batteries
- Water (drinking - 3 qts per person) and non-perishable food
- Bandages and a first aid kit
- Extra supply of medications
- Moist towelettes and hand sanitizers
- Toothbrush/paste, soap, towel
- Toilet paper
- Special family needs (diapers, feminine hygiene items, etc.)
- Emergency poncho and blanket
- A local map
- Family documents, including driver's license, insurance information
- Copy of your [family emergency plan](#)
- Out-of-area contacts and a way to charge cell phones
- Photos of family members and pets for unification
- Set of keys to your home and car
- Whistle,
- Dust mask - N95
- Games and toys
- Change of clothes
- Multipurpose pocket knife & duct tape
- Tarp
- Large plastic trash bags

What is the best equipment for transporting my gear?

Make sure your container is something that is easy to carry based on your needs and abilities. Using a bucket as a grab and go kit is helpful as a seat, water container, portable toilet as well as a good method to keep items dry while in storage. See the next article for more ideas.

Where to I store a grab and go kit?

If you drive, consider keeping in your car, then you have supplies if in your car if you are stranded. Otherwise, near an exit at your home where you can easily locate and "grab and go"!

<http://www.piercecountywa.org/BUCKETLIST>

Or

<http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/1954>

"Grab and Go" Creativity

A grab and go kit implies having to "GO", so it is important to determine what container is practical and realistic for you and your family when on the "GO". Your mode of transportation will impact the best grab and go kit container for you. If you are able to "grab and go" using a car, keeping your kit stored in the trunk serves two purposes.



Building a grab and go kit can be a challenge for many people, including individuals who may need assistance with functions of daily living, have limited mobility or transportation, or large families. Be sure to make prior arrangements for disaster support. If you have a service provider check with them for resources to fill in gaps in your personal planning.

We have seen examples of go kits placed in pull carts, supplies in pull suitcases, easy to carry tubs, a bucket and backpacks. Consider what is required for you and your family in any given day and plan accordingly. The most important part is not the container, but what you put in it and that you test it out.



Evacuating to a shelter will be stressful and to ease your anxiety arrive with food that does not require cooking and drinking water that lasts up to 3 days. Shelters can be open but may have to wait for food to be delivered. If you are able, bring enough medications for up to two weeks. Supplies may not be available immediately after a region wide disaster.

Pet and Service Animal "Grab and Go" Kit

- Food and water
- Can opener for canned food
- Bowls - collapsible bowls work great
- Treats
- Medications
- Flea and tick/heart-worm preventatives
- Bed or blankets
- Leash and carrier/kennel
- Copies of important pet documents like vaccinations records and medical history
- A few toys
- What would help your pet with anxiety?
- Pictures of your pet, in case you are separated from them
- Pet first aid kit and booklet
- List of important phone numbers



Marvin Nauman receiving a congratulatory handshake from Pierce County Executive Dammeier.

Citizen Corps Volunteer Receives Outstanding Adult Award

Marvin Nauman first volunteered as a photographer and public information specialist for the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management, bringing his expertise from many FEMA disaster deployments. Two years ago he joined the Citizen Corps Board and took on its marketing and outreach. This year he tackled the huge project of updating the [Citizen Corps website](#), coordinating with a web master. Thanks to Marvin's work, Citizen Corps is able to launch a professional and robust website.

Citizen Corps website: <https://www.ccc-pc.org/>

PREPAREDNESS ACADEMY

Find information and registration links for classes available in 2017. Below are April courses, more are listed [HERE](#).

Psychological First Aid: People's reactions to crisis vary. Learn which reactions are beneficial and how some are actually harmful. Take away some important tools you can use to connect with affected people and provide immediate emotional support following an emergency. Use the registration link to see future classes as well.

Instructor: Washington Community Chaplain Corps
Date & Time: April 8, Saturday, 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
Location: 37117 103rd Ave. Ct. E. Eatonville, Home Spun Ministries

To register: <http://piercecouny.surveymshare.com/s/AYAMWDA>

Clearly Speaking—Family Service Radios for Effective Neighborhood

communications Understand the basics of using radio communications in a disaster and get hands-on practice with others in the group. This is a great way to get comfortable using the “walkie-talkie” style of communication in a disaster. Use the registration link to see future classes as well.

Instructor: Mark Yordy
Date & Time: April 10, Monday, 6:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.
Location: 401 Washington Ave SE, Orting

To register: <http://piercecouny.surveymshare.com/s/AYAMW6B>

Disaster First Aid/Triage: Learn skills and get hands-on experience about how to perform immediate triage and use disaster first aid following an event. A First Aid Certificate is awarded, no CPR unless indicated at registration. Recommend taking CPR before this class. All classes are on Saturday. Use the registration link to see future classes as well.

This course for PC NET, Citizen Corps, PEP-C, and CERT Team members

Instructors: DEM EMT Staff and Volunteers
Date & Time: April 22, Saturday, 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Location: Pierce County EOC
2501 South 35th Street, Tacoma

To register: <http://piercecouny.surveymshare.com/s/AYAKGIB>

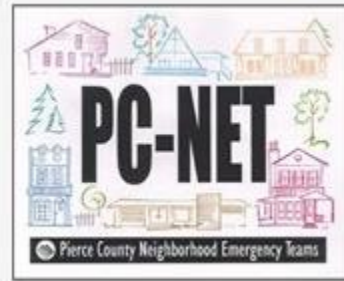
Earthquake Retrofit:

Instructors: Pierce County Staff
Date & Time: April 5, Wednesday, 6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Location: 324 Meridian Street, Puyallup

To register: <http://piercecouny.surveymshare.com/s/AYASWMB>

What is PC-NET?

[Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams \(PC-NET\)](#) provides neighbors with information and tools necessary to work together for an effective response following emergencies and disasters. Professional responders will not be available to assist your neighborhood after a major disaster—you become the first responder. If individuals and their neighbors are prepared to mutually assist one another, lives can be saved and property can be spared.



The Heros You Don't See

It takes a special strength to be the voice of calm when lives are on the line. To take control in an emergency using just a telephone. To get the right kind of help to the right location. To give instructions that make a difference, no matter what the situation. Every minute, every day, 9-1-1 professionals promise callers that they'll stay with them until help arrives. But we say, when you're on the line, help already has arrived.

**National Public Safety Telecommunications
Appreciation Week April 9-15th**



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(253) 798-6595



Request
a preparedness
presentation

Pierce County Emergency Management
www.piercecountywa.org/PREPARE



Outreach Staff
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Peggy LovellFord
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930 Tacoma Ave. South, Tacoma WA 98402

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