

Emergency Preparedness: Small Steps Towards Disaster Preparedness

Do 1 Thing is a national nonprofit based in the Lansing Office of Emergency Management. Started in 2006 as a primarily web-based program, D1T has now turned into an award-winning program recognized by organizations such as the CDC and FEMA. Our 12-month program features a new preparedness theme each month and that are easy, cost-friendly tips to help individuals and business prepare for emergencies and disasters. You can learn more at www.do1thing.com.

The theme for November is “**Emergency Supplies**”

Emergencies are easier to handle when you have **prepared ahead of time**. Put together an emergency kit with important items to keep at home, and a go bag with items you will need to take with you if you evacuate. Think about what you and your family would need in a disaster. You can make kits for your home, car or workplace. Emergencies can happen anywhere.

Take **small steps** so that you are better prepared when an emergency happens. It does not have to be a grand scale emergency. Something as small as boil water, order for your city can cause problems if you do not have water stored up. Here are three tips to help you get started in preparing.

1. Gather your emergency supplies in an accessible place.
2. Create an emergency supply kit for your pet, your car, and your workplace or school.
3. Stash some cash in case ATMs and credit card machines are not usable in a disaster.

Breaking up your preparedness plan makes it **easier to manage** and removes the barriers of it being too difficult and too expensive. Have a go bag ready if you have to shelter in place or evacuate your home. If your office or school does not have an emergency kit, offer to help make one. Many things that we take for granted are not available when there is no power. ATM machines may not work. Grocery stores and other businesses may not be able to accept your credit or debit card. Please visit www.do1thing.com for more information.