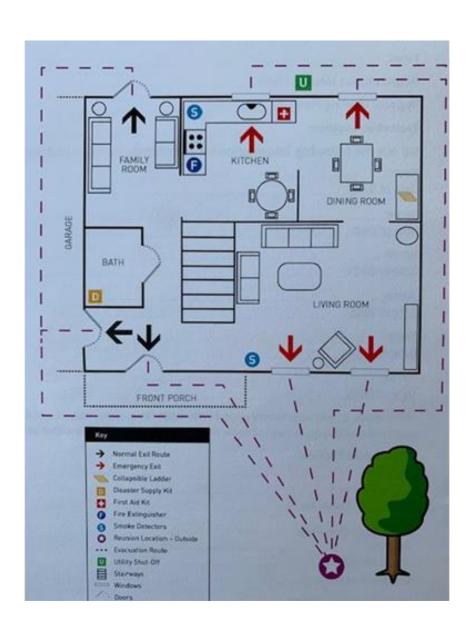


MAY 2021 - TIP OF THE MONTH #9 From the GHNA Disaster Preparedness Committee

HOUSEHOLD EMERGENCY PLAN



An important step in preparing for an emergency is to hold a meeting with household members to make a plan for how you will communicate and organize should disaster strike. The first step is to make a list of household members' emergency contact information. Write down each person's name, e-mail address and phone numbers for places they are likely to be such as work, school etc. Include contact information for everyone's physicians and hospitals. Make sure you know your children's school emergency response plans and sign up for alerts from their school. Identify someone who lives out of your area who can be an emergency contact for the whole household in the event you cannot reach each other. Identify meeting places should you get separated both in and outside of your neighborhood. Household members should keep a copy of this list in their wallet, backpack or purse as well as any emergency bags.

In your meeting, you should discuss what type of emergency is likely to happen in your area. Is it fire, earthquake, storms, floods, terrorism, hazardous chemicals etc.? Your response will vary with the type(s) of disaster. Visit <u>caloes.ca.gov</u> to know the type of hazards you will be dealing with. Look up Know Your Alerts and Warnings at <u>READY.GOV</u>

Household members should also make an emergency evacuation plan for your home. The plan should identify two escape routes from each room and the location of special equipment such as fire extinguishers, first aid kits, smoke detectors, and grab-and-go bags. If you have a meeting place in your yard, it should be identified on the plan. If your home is more than one story, each story should have its own page. Identify outside hazards as well such as power lines, fences and trees. Some people have found it easier to create this floor plan on graph paper.

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For more tips on preparing for a disaster visit www.garfieldheights.org under DISASTER PREP.



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