

# THE AERIAL VIEW

THE OFFICIAL FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

September 2022- **SPECIAL EDITION**



Special Edition of "The Aerial View" for National Preparedness Month 2022- Theme: **"A Lasting Legacy."** *The life you've built is worth protecting. Prepare for disasters to create a lasting legacy for you and your family.*

Fort Worth residents have lived through almost every kind of severe weather and emergency situation in the past two years. From a historic winter weather storm in 2021 to the recording breaking drought/grassfires this summer topped with ten inches of rain in 24 hours. But how do you and your family prepare for any of these emergencies and are you ready for them to happen again?

The Fort Worth Fire Department is looking forward to taking the month of September to recognize "National Preparedness month" with our residents. We may not be able to predict every disaster or emergency we can experience BUT we have the opportunity now to be proactive in being prepared.

Your family, your home and the life you've built in Fort Worth is worth protecting. And the Fort Worth Fire Department is here to help.



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Stay safe,  
*Chief Davis*

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Fort Worth  
Fire Department



FortWorthFire



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# National Preparedness Month 2022

Each September, National Preparedness Month encourages and reminds Americans to be prepared for disasters or emergencies in their homes, businesses, and communities. The dedication of the entire month to preparedness serves as a reminder that disasters and emergencies can and will happen at any time.

The theme for 2022 is "**A Lasting Legacy: Prepare for disasters to create a lasting legacy for you and your family.**"

Each week in September focuses on a different aspect of preparedness for individuals, families, pets and communities.

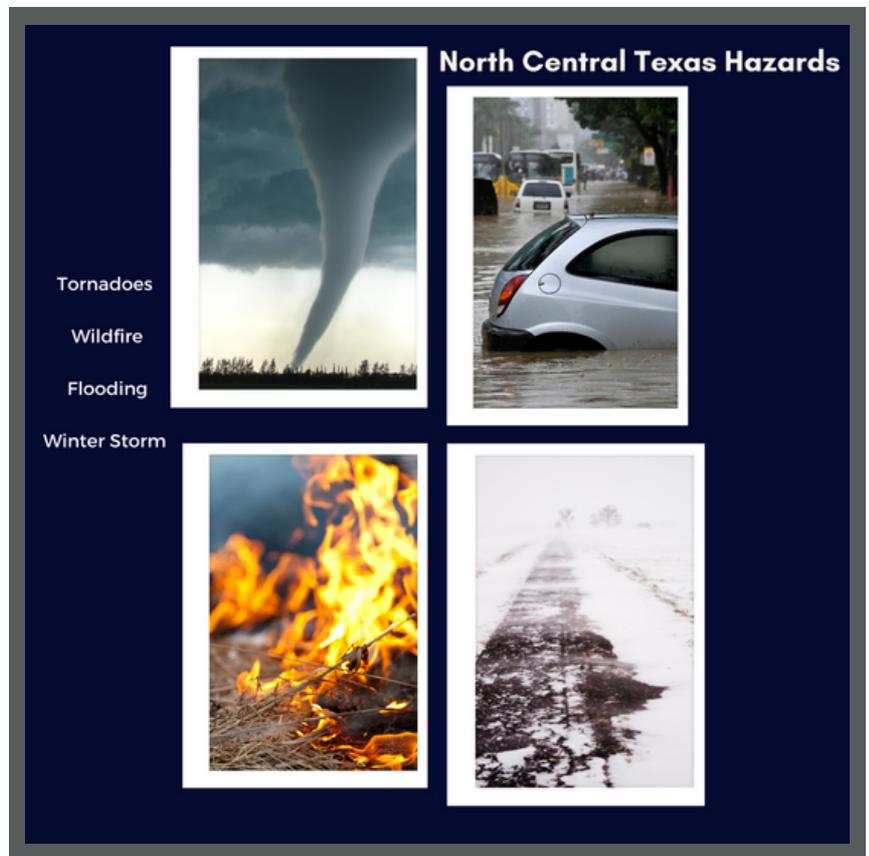


## Week 1: Make a Plan

September 1st through 4th

**Talk to your friends and family about how you will communicate before, during and after a disaster.**

The primary disaster that North Central Texas residents will experience are tornadoes, winter storms, flooding, and wildfires. Knowing these hazards allows for family and friends to plan ahead. The supplies needed in a supply kit are different for a winter storm event and a tornado event. But each hazard must be discussed. Have an evacuation route. Know where important documents are stored and understand your insurance coverage. And create a communication plan: *if cell phones do not work, how will you get in touch with one another? Do you have a central point of contact?* Ask the tough questions now, so when disaster strikes there is a plan in place to make it just a bit easier.



 <b>Emergency Supply Kit Checklist</b> <i>Be sure to have enough supplies for 72 hours for each person in your home!</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water (3 gallons) for each person
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-perishable food
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medications
<input type="checkbox"/>	Battery-powered or hand-crank radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Flashlight and extra batteries
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fully stocked first aid kit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete changes of clothing & footwear
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bedding & blankets
<input type="checkbox"/>	Important family documents (copies)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pet supplies (if necessary)
<input type="checkbox"/>	A whistle to signal for help
<input type="checkbox"/>	Supplies for ALL weather events (hot & cold temps)

## Week 2: Build a Kit

September 5th through 11th

**Gather supplies that will last for several days after a disaster for everyone in living in your home. Don't forget to consider the unique needs each person or pet may have in case you have to evacuate quickly.**

There are standard supplies that must go into every emergency supply kit (see graphic) but there are also supplies that are unique to your family and the disaster you may be facing. If it is summer time, you want to make sure that you have items that will keep you cool while your winter supply kit should include items such as ice scrapers and hand warmers. Your kit is unique to you, so think ahead. Always plan for enough supplies to last for 72 hours. This includes medication, durable medical equipment (oxygen tanks), foods that meet your dietary restrictions, etc.. Think about items you would need for your pets and children too. And have those items stocked and ready at all times.

## Week 3: Prepare for Disasters

September 12th through 18th

**Limit the impacts that disasters have on you and your family. Know the risk of disasters in your area and check your insurance coverage. Learn how to make your home stronger in the face of storms and other common hazards and act fast if you receive a local warning or alert.**

NOAA Weather Radios, local tv/radio, internet/ social media, weather apps and emergency alert notifications are five ways to receive warnings and alerts. Not every method is perfect and the Outdoor Warning Sirens are the absolute last resort. They are sounded when the emergency (tornado, hail, strong winds) is already happening. Be sure to have multiple ways to receive warnings to give you enough notice to seek shelter.

The City of Fort Worth, through the Fire Department's Office of Emergency Management has a FREE alert system called Fort Worth Texas Alerts. This system replaced NIXLE. You can register for texts, phone calls, email or a combination of all three by visiting this site to sign up today. [www.fortworthtexasalerts.gov](http://www.fortworthtexasalerts.gov)

### Fort Worth Texas Alerts

There are three ways to receive a "Fort Worth Texas Alerts" alert from the **Fort Worth Fire Department Office of Emergency Management**. You can choose all options or whichever is most convenient for you.



**TEXT MESSAGE**

When a "Fort Worth Texas Alerts" alert is sent out you can receive just a text on your phone to alert you of the notification.



**PHONE CALL**

You can opt to also receive a phone call but this is not a requirement. When you register or update your registration add or remove this option.



**EMAIL**

You can also receive an email with details about the alert. Your information will not be shared outside of "Fort Worth Texas Alerts".

\*\*Please be sure when you sign up for alerts to fully register and not sign up as a "guest." This enables you to edit your account as needed.

[WWW.FORTWORTHTEXASALERTS.GOV](http://WWW.FORTWORTHTEXASALERTS.GOV)





## Week 4: Help Your Family & Neighbors Prepare

September 19th through 24th

**Talk to your kids about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Reassure them by providing information about how they can get involved.**

In the age of cell phones, memorizing numbers is a lost habit. But in the case of an emergency, sometimes a cell phone isn't available. Do your kids know their phone number? Do your kids know their address? Do your kids know your first and last names should you be separated? Do your kids know the best way to leave your home if there was a fire? And do they know where the "safe place" in your home is located? These questions can be overwhelming to think about all at once. But preparing your children for emergencies can be made into memory card games, family "planning" events to practice escape routes and safe place, and role playing to practice what to say if they are separated from you and need to find help/call 9-1-1.

## Fort Worth Outdoor Warning Sirens

Depending on the weather and cloud coverage, every Wednesday at 1pm, the Fire Department's Office of Emergency Management tests the outdoor warning sirens across the City. In total, there are 153 sirens stationed throughout the 356 square miles of Fort Worth.

Do you know why the sirens are sounded when it's not an emergency? There are certain criteria for activating the sirens. This graphic breaks down the main reasons why they are sounded during an emergency.

The tone for the sirens- no matter what they are being sounded for- is the same. **The purpose of the siren is to alert anyone OUTDOORS to move inside immediately and seek additional information. The sirens are not meant to be heard indoors.**

### FORT WORTH OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS

*Criteria for Activating the Sirens*

- TORNADO WARNING OR CONFIRMED ROTATION
- WINDS IN EXCESS OF 70 MPH
- REPORTS OF HAIL 1.5+ INCH IN DIAMETER
- CHEMICAL SPILL OR EMERGENCY

\*Criteria can be altered for increased safety during Special Events or at the discretion of the Duty Officer.

## What's Inside Your Vehicle?

## Don't Forget Your Pet!

### VEHICLE EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First aid kit
- White distress flag
- Tire repair kit and tire pump
- Jumper cables
- Flares
- Bottled water and non-perishable food items
- Pair of closed-toed shoes
- Blanket
- Gloves
- Local map





### PET EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT CHECK LIST

- VET RECORDS & PRESCRIPTIONS
- RABIES CERTIFICATE
- PROOF OF OWNERSHIP
- VACCINATION RECORDS
- MICROCHIP INFORMATION
- PET DESCRIPTION & PHOTOS
- LIST OF PET FRIENDLY HOTELS
- COLLAR WITH ID TAG
- LEASH AND PET CARRIER
- FIRST AID & SANITATION NEEDS
- FAMILIAR ITEMS & TOYS
- 3 DAY SUPPLY OF FOOD & WATER
- FLEA, TICK, & HEARTWORM MEDS




## How to Create an Evacuation Plan

- Identify several places you could go in an emergency such as a friend's home in another town or a motel.
- Choose destinations in different directions so that you have options during an emergency.
- If needed, identify a place to stay that will accept pets. Most public shelters allow only service animals.
- Be familiar with alternate routes and other means of transportation out of your area.
- Always follow the instructions of local officials.
- Develop a family communication and re-unification plan so that you can maintain contact and re-unite if you are separated.



There are many scenarios to take into consideration when planning for emergencies. Here are just a few helpful checklists to guide you in the right direction as you begin building your kits, writing your plans, and preparing for all types of events.

**Remember:** *The life you've built is worth protecting. Prepare for disasters to create a lasting legacy for you and your family.*

## What About an Evacuation?

# Disaster Recipes

## CHICKEN TORTILLA SOUP

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COOK TIME: 10 MIN

SERVINGS: 4

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### *ingredients*

- 1 (15-ounce) can of whole kernel corn, drained
- 1 (15-ounce) can of no salt added black beans
- 1 (10-ounce) can diced tomato with green chile peppers, drained
- 2 (14.5-ounce) cans low sodium chicken broth
- 1 (10-ounce) can chunk chicken

### *directions*

1. Open all the cans of vegetables and chicken. Pour into a saucepan.
2. Using camp stove, Sterno or other heat source, heat soup for about 10 minutes or until heated through.
3. Serve and enjoy.



When you and your family are using your emergency supply kit after a disaster, you can make food everyone in the house will eat that is both easy and made with non-perishable items. You can plan ahead for meals with non-perishable ingredients that can be stored in your kit. The next time you stock up- be sure to grab the items and supplies listed in these recipes.

## GLAZED PEACHES

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COOK TIME: 10 MIN

SERVINGS: 4

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### *ingredients*

- 2 (16-ounce) can peaches, sliced or quartered
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- pinch cinnamon, to taste

### *directions*

1. Combine all ingredients on a sheet of foil
2. Form a foil packet and seal by folding up the sides.
3. Place packet on hot grill
4. Grill over medium heat for about 10 minutes.
5. Serve and enjoy.

