

3 STEPS TO GET READY

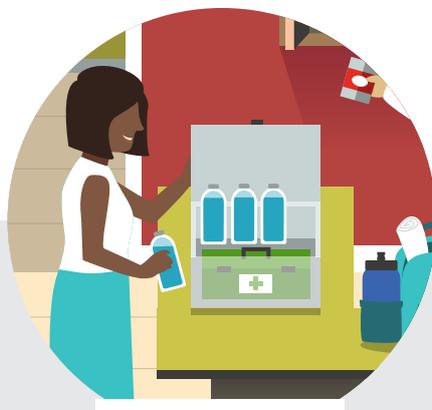
getready.qld.gov.au

When it comes to extreme weather events in Queensland, it's not a matter of 'if' but 'when'.

Storms, floods, cyclones and bushfires can hit at anytime and anywhere. Be aware and be prepared to protect what's most important to you.



STEP 1:
Make a plan



STEP 2:
Pack supplies



STEP 3:
**Make sure
you're covered**

STEP 1: Make a plan

The first step in being prepared is to have a household emergency and evacuation plan.

Complete the following **household emergency and evacuation plan** so that everyone in your household knows exactly what to do if the worst happens. If you would like to complete the plan online go to getready.qld.gov.au.

HOUSEHOLD EMERGENCY AND EVACUATION PLAN

Family/household member contact details

Name: _____

Name: _____

Mobile: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Mobile: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Pets

Name: _____

Name: _____

Type: _____

Type: _____

Breed: _____

Breed: _____

Vet name: _____

Vet name: _____

Vet number: _____

Vet number: _____

Vet email: _____

Vet email: _____

Medications/dosage: _____

Medications/dosage: _____

Vehicle/s make and registration

Vehicle make: _____

Vehicle make: _____

Registration: _____

Registration: _____

Emergency contacts (local)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Emergency contacts (out of town)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Neighbours contact details

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

Local council contact details

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Kids' school/s, daycare and/or kindy contact details

Family/household members who go here:

School and teacher/educator's name:

School/facility phone number:

School/facility email:

Family/household members who go here:

School and teacher/educator's name:

School/facility phone number:

School/facility email:

Family/household members who go here:

School and teacher/educator's name:

School/facility phone number:

School/facility email:

Workplace/s contact details

Family/household member and workplace name:

Manager/colleague's name:

Manager/colleague's mobile:

Manager/colleague's email:

Workplace phone:

Family/household member and workplace name:

Manager/colleague's name:

Manager/colleague's mobile:

Manager/colleague's email:

Workplace phone:

Utility companies contact details

Type:

Provider:

Phone:

Email:

Type:

Provider:

Phone:

Email:

Type:

Provider:

Phone:

Email:

Type:

Provider:

Phone:

Email:

Doctor/s contact details

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Household members who require special assistance

Household member's name:

Assistance required:

Aids required (if applicable):

Household member's name:

Assistance required:

Aids required (if applicable):

Insurance company (make sure you're covered for natural disasters – see Step 3)

Type:

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Website:

Household safe meeting point

Address:

Description:

Electricity supply at home

Location:

How to turn off:

Gas supply at home

Location:

How to turn off:

Water supply at home

Location:

How to turn off:

Emergency and evacuation kit location

Location:

Our checklist if we need to evacuate the house

- Has official advice been given to evacuate?
- Do we know where we are evacuating to?
- Do we know the preferred route for evacuation?
- Does our vehicle have enough fuel to get to the evacuation point? Is it full?
- Have we turned off power, gas and water mains at the house?
- Are our pets safe and secure?
- Have we secured and locked the house?
- Have we got our 'grab and go' evacuation kit?
- Final kit check: have we packed all essential medications for all household members?
- Final kit check: have we packed or are able to access in the cloud all important documentation?
- Final kit check: have we packed enough emergency water supplies for all household members?
- Have we checked on our neighbours?

STEP 2: Pack supplies

The second step to Get Ready is to pack your emergency and evacuation kits.

If, as a result of a natural disaster, you are unable to leave your home for an extended period, your emergency kit will equip your household for up to three days of isolation.

ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY KIT

Your kit should be kept in a sturdy waterproof storage container and stored in a safe place in your home. Make sure it is easy for all members of the household to access (except young children – make it childproof if necessary). Make a note of the emergency kit's location on your household emergency and evacuation plan.



- 1 Pack 10 litres of drinking water per person at a minimum.
- 2 A properly equipped first aid kit can save lives. Make sure you include a first aid manual and include a week's supply of prescription and over the counter medication.
- 3 Include toiletries you will need for three days such as toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, personal hygiene products, sunscreen and insect repellent.
- 4 Scan and save important documents, contacts, emails and photos to a USB and keep it in your emergency kit.
- 5 Although most tins have a ring pull, there are still quite a few for which you will need a can opener.
- 6 Your emergency kit should contain up to date copies of important documents. For example documents could include your driver licence, insurance policies (home, content, vehicles, life), passports, legal documents (property deed, wills etc.), birth and marriage certificates.
- 7 Your mobile phone is key to keeping connected during a disaster. Extend the life of your phone by ensuring you have a spare phone charger packed as well as a fully charged portable battery/power pack.
- 8 Make a three day menu plan for your household and store a supply of non-perishable food in your kit.
- 9 Even if your home is not damaged in a disaster, electricity may not be available and you could be left in the dark for quite a while so include a torch (or two) or a battery powered lantern.
- 10 A pair of sturdy work gloves will help prevent injury and infection when handling rubbish and debris.
- 11 A battery powered radio is one of the most reliable items in a disaster especially during power and internet loss.
- 12 Make sure you have enough spare batteries to last three days.

STEP 2: Pack supplies

COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY KIT

For those that would like to take further steps to cover a wider range of scenarios for a longer period, you can add additional supplies to your kit to ensure you are extensively covered.



- 13 Wrench or pliers can be used to turn off all utilities.
- 14 Your pets have their own special needs that you should prepare and plan for as a responsible pet parent. For more detail check out the **Protect what's most important to you** booklet.
- 15 In addition to basic items make sure you include a warm jumper, waterproof jacket, a hat, gloves and enclosed-toed shoes or boots for each household member.
- 16 Protect your eyes from any flying debris when cleaning up post weather event.
- 17 Rubbish bags to clean up your backyard.
- 18 Use a whistle for attracting attention if you need assistance.
- 19 A utility knife is a useful tool during and after a disaster.
- 20 For formula-fed babies check the use-by date on any formula and use it before it expires, replacing the one in your kit. Queensland Health recommends storing enough ready-to-drink formula for three days. Ready-to-use formula means you do not have to use precious supplies of water to mix with dehydrated formulas. Don't forget to include a bottle! Also include enough nappies and wipes for three days based on your baby's needs. Ensure you check sizing of nappies packed in your kit periodically as infants may outgrow the nappies you have packed for them.
- 21 Pack a small amount of cash (notes and coins) in case ATMs are inaccessible or not working due to power failure.
- 22 Include any prescribed medication and aids required by household members such as prescription glasses, medic-alert bracelet or necklace (keep a spare in your kit), dosage measures (syringes, measuring cups), epipen or batteries for hearing aids.
- 23 A tarpaulin and ropes can be used to cover any areas of your home that may have been damaged during severe weather. These should only be affixed once the weather system has passed and it is safe to do so.
- 24 Blankets will keep you warm if you are exposed to the elements.
- 25 Beds can become damaged or sodden during a weather event such as a cyclone, severe storm or flood. Camping mattresses and sleeping bags are easy to store with your kit.
- 26 Think about including cooking equipment, the items you need to serve it up, eat it and store it.
- 27 If you are without power think about how you are going to cook or heat up meals.

EVACUATION KIT

There may be times during an emergency where it becomes unsafe for your household to stay at home and you need to evacuate. In addition to your emergency kit you need to pack an evacuation kit – one for each member of the household. The evacuation kit is designed to contain only essential items for each household member that they can easily and quickly ‘grab and go’.



- 1 A properly equipped first aid kit can save lives. Make sure you include a first aid manual and include a week's supply of prescription and over the counter medication. Make sure it is all within its use-by date.
- 2 Your evacuation kit should contain up to date copies of the same important documents in your emergency kit.
- 3 A pair of sturdy work gloves will help prevent injury and infection when needing to handle rubbish and debris.
- 4 Include any aids required by household members such as prescription glasses, medic-alert bracelet or necklace (keep a spare in your kit), dosage measures (syringes, measuring cups), epipen or batteries for hearing aids.
- 5 Electricity may not be available where you are headed to and you could be left in the dark for quite a while so include a torch (or two) or a battery powered lantern.
- 6 Add toiletries you will need for three days such as toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, shampoo, personal hygiene products, sunscreen and insect repellent.
- 7 Mobile phones are key to keeping everyone connected during a disaster. Extend the life of your phone by ensuring you have your phone's power cord packed as well as a fully charged portable battery/power pack.
- 8 Multiple changes of clothes for each household member (long pants, long-sleeved shirts, hats and strong shoes are recommended).
- 9 Pillow and sleeping bag for each household member.
- 10 Pack some books and games that do not require electricity to entertain younger household members.
- 11 For formula-fed babies check the use-by date on any formula and use it before it expires, replacing the one in your kit. Queensland Health recommends storing enough ready-to-drink formula for three days. Ready-to-use formula means you do not have to use precious supplies of water to mix with dehydrated formulas. Don't forget to include a bottle! Also include enough nappies and wipes for three days based on your baby's needs. Ensure you check sizing of nappies packed in your kit periodically as infants may outgrow the nappies you have packed for them.
- 12 Pack a small amount of cash (notes and coins) in case ATMs are inaccessible or not working due to power failure.
- 13 Place a reminder on your evacuation checklist to grab valuables, photos (prints, CDs, USB data stick) and small mementos – make a list as it may be hard to think clearly at the time of evacuation.
- 14 Pack drinking water.
- 15 A battery powered radio is one of the most reliable items in a disaster especially during power and internet loss.
- 16 Although most tins have a ring pull, there are still quite a few for which you will need a can opener.
- 17 Make sure you have enough spare batteries to last three days. Ensure you have packed the correct battery type and quantities required for your torch, radio, kid's toys that are packed and other included electricals.
- 18 Non-perishable snacks like muesli bars and packet snacks will curb hunger until you reach your evacuation point.

STEP 3: Make sure you're covered

The third step to Get Ready is to make sure your home and contents insurance cover is up to date.

Both renters and homeowners should be covered for disasters and should be familiar with their coverage details.

For more insurance guidance and tips go to www.getready.qld.gov.au/resources

CHECK YOUR POLICY, CONTACT YOUR INSURER AND START ASKING QUESTIONS.



1 What disasters does the policy cover?



2 How do they define each disaster?



3 How much will the policy cover?



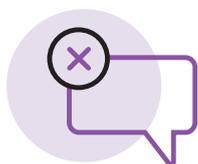
4 Does the policy provide enough insurance to cover the cost of rebuilding your house and any extra costs you might incur?



5 Is your insurance adequate to cover the replacement of your possessions?



6 Are your possessions covered for damage caused by potential local hazards such as storm, cyclone, flood and bushfire?



7 In what circumstances will the insurer reject the claim?



8 Are you covered for the cost of temporary accommodation if your home is uninhabitable?



9 Does pre-existing damage caused by a previous natural disaster or lack of home maintenance impact eligibility of insurance claim payouts?