April Tip: Preparedness on a Budget: Create an Affordable Emergency Kit

One of the top reasons many people do not have an emergency kit on hand is because of the perceived expense involved. But with the frequency and severity of disasters on the rise, it could cost a lot more if you are not prepared. Follow the tips below to create your emergency kit without breaking the bank.

**Tip #1:** Make Your Own (Part 1)—Creating your own tailor-made kit can be less expensive than ready-made kits that have items you may not need.

**Tip #2:** Make Your Own (Part 2)—Don’t buy expensive bottled water. Fill your own clean, disinfected, air-tight containers for a nearly free source of safe water.

**Tip #3:** Watch for Sales—Buy new or replacement items for your kit when they go on sale.

**Tip #4:** Re-use—Buy or repurpose a container or duffle that has been gently used to hold emergency kit items.

**Tip #5:** Add to Your Wish List—We all know what it’s like to get gifts we don’t need. Ask for something you can add to your kit instead, like a flashlight, utility tool, or weather radio.

**Tip #6:** Start Today—Start now to gather items a little at a time, and it will have a smaller impact on your budget. Plus, you will avoid the rush at stores to stock up for emergencies that come with warning,


Be/stay informed, make a plan, build a kit and pass it on, so all are prepared.

Semper Paratus!