



## Be Ready Tip(s) of the Month

### January Tip: **Prepare for the Hazard You Feel Mostly Likely to Face.**

If the idea of emergency preparedness seems overwhelming, focus your emergency preparations on the scenario that is of greatest concern to you. As a side benefit, you will be prepared for just about anything.

**Tip #1:** Think about the potential emergencies in your area, and **be informed** about what you feel you are most likely to face. Consider the following:

**Weather emergencies**—Flooding is the most common emergency and can occur just about anywhere. You may want to base your planning scenario on the effects of a flood or other emergencies caused by severe weather.

**Natural disasters**—If you live near a volcano or earthquake fault line, it may make sense to learn the specific actions you can take to prepare for those types of naturally occurring events.

**Hazardous materials**—Is there a large port, rail yard, or major industrial site nearby? Despite the safety precautions taken at these sites, a major accident could result in the release of hazardous materials. Consider whether your plan should focus on dealing with a man-made event involving hazardous materials.

**Terrorist or “lone wolf” attack**—These non-natural events occur with no warning, but you can still take actions to prepare in advance and reduce the impact these events have on you and your family.

**Tip #2:** **Make a plan** based on the emergency scenario that is of greatest concern to you. In that situation, will you need to evacuate or stay where you are? How will you communicate with your loved ones during and after the event, especially if a member of the family is deployed or if phone lines and cell towers are out?

**Tip #3:** **Tailor a portable emergency supply kit** for your home, workplace, and car. All kits should contain enough food and water to last for at least three days. Find out what other items you should include to cover the specific needs of your planning scenario and your family.

For more information about the types of hazards you might face and specific actions to take to prepare for them, go to [http://www.uscg.mil/worklife/ready\\_fact\\_sheets.asp](http://www.uscg.mil/worklife/ready_fact_sheets.asp)

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

Semper Paratus!