



GRAND RAPIDS FIRE DEPT

38 LAGRAVE AVE SE

GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503

READY GRAND RAPIDS

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT





CONNECT

FOR EMERGENCY
ASSISTANCE
DIAL 9-1-1

NON-EMERGENCY CONTACTS

GRAND RAPIDS POLICE DEPT

616-456-3400

GRAND RAPIDS FIRE DEPT

616-456-3900

GR DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS

616-456-3232

**GR PUBLIC
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

616-819-2000

SIGN UP FOR GR EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

www.grandsrapidsmi.gov/services/register-for-grand-rapids-emergency-alerts

KNOW WHO TO CALL

9-1-1

Dial 911 for emergencies only. An emergency is a serious medical problem (chest pain, seizure, bleeding, difficulty breathing), any type of fire (building, vehicle, brush), any life-threatening situation (fights, person with weapons, robbery, etc.) or to report any other crimes that are in progress.

If you dial 911 by mistake, do not hang up! Instead, stay on the line and inform the call-taker that it was a mistake and there is not an emergency.

2-1-1

Dial 211 for community services and information regarding disaster assistance, finding food and shelter, transportation, health, housing and utilities. Furthermore, you can text your zip code to 898211 to find helpful services in your area (standard message and data rates may apply).

3-1-1

Dial 311 or 616-456-3000 as a convenient single point of contact for non-emergency government information about City of Grand Rapids services or programs, or to make a request for service. Service is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and closed weekends and holidays.





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CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

City of Grand Rapids

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CityofGrandRapids

Twitter: @CityGrandRapids

Grand Rapids Fire Department

Facebook: www.facebook.com/GrandRapidsFireDepartment

Grand Rapids Police Department

Facebook: www.facebook.com/GrandRapidsPD

Twitter: @GrandRapidsPD

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MichiganDOT

Twitter: @MDOT_West

Local news and radio stations:

WOODTV NBC-affiliated television station

Digital channel 8

www.woodtv.com

WZZM13 ABC-affiliated television station

Digital channel 13

www.wzzm13.com

FOX17 Fox-affiliated television station

Digital channel 17

www.fox17online.com

Websites:

City of Grand Rapids

www.grandrapidsmi.gov

Kent County

www.accesskent.com

National Weather Service—GR

www.weather.gov/grr



Radio:

WKTG

AM 1230

WOOD

FM 106.9

AM 1300

Add your favorites:

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

ADD INFORMATION PERTINENT TO YOU

NAME	PHONE	SERVICE
		ELECTRIC
		GAS
		CABLE
		PHONE
		DOCTOR
		SCHOOL



MAKE A HOUSEHOLD PLAN:

The City of Grand Rapids maintains a formal citywide disaster plan and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) that coordinates emergency responses and services when a disaster strikes. However, making a household disaster plan increases your chances of survival when you and your loved ones know what to do.

ELEMENTS OF A PLAN

- ☐ LEARN THE THREATS IN YOUR AREA
- ☐ IDENTIFY MEETING PLACES OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOME
- ☐ SELECT AN OUT-OF-STATE CONTACT
- ☐ PLAN AN EVACUATION ROUTE
- ☐ KNOW LOCATION OF UTILITY SHUT-OFFS
- ☐ IDENTIFY A SHELTER-IN-PLACE AREA
- ☐ KNOW EMERGENCY POLICIES OF SCHOOLS
- ☐ REVIEW PLAN ANNUALLY AND PRACTICE DRILLS

NOTES

BUILD A KIT

In the event of a disaster, government agencies will attempt to distribute aid and other resources, however, depending on the severity of the incident there might be delay in getting these to you. Building an emergency kit of basic supplies to last a minimum of 72 hours will increase your household's survival.

VISIT WWW.READY.GOV FOR MORE INFORMATION

BASIC EMERGENCY SUPPLY CHECKLIST

- ☐ **WATER/NON-PERISHABLE FOOD FOR SEVERAL DAYS**
- ☐ **EXTRA CHARGERS FOR MOBILE/CELLULAR DEVICES**
- ☐ **FLASHLIGHTS AND EXTRA BATTERIES**
- ☐ **BATTERY-POWERED OR HAND CRANK RADIO THAT RECEIVES NOAA WEATHER ALERTS AND TONES**
- ☐ **FIRST AID KIT (CONSIDER RX AND GLASSES IF NECESSARY)**
- ☐ **WHISTLE TO SIGNAL FOR HELP**
- ☐ **NON-SPARKING TOOLS TO TURN OFF UTILITIES**
- ☐ **LOCAL MAPS**
- ☐ **DUST MASK, PLASTIC SHEETING, DUCT TAPE FOR SHELTER-IN-PLACE**
- ☐ **MATCHES STORED IN WATERPROOF CONTAINER**
- ☐ **SANITATION SUPPLIES**
- ☐ **CONSIDER EXTRA CLOTHING AND PET SUPPLIES**

VISIT WWW.READY.GOV FOR MORE INFO



INFORM

This section contains general information on specific hazards that may affect the Greater Grand Rapids area. Please stay connected with your local public safety organizations to ensure you receive specific, accurate and relevant instructions in the event one of these hazards occur.



Watch vs. Warning

A severe thunderstorm *watch* means conditions are favorable or expected, but *not* occurring or imminent

A severe thunderstorm *warning* means conditions are occurring or imminent

SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS

DURING A THUNDERSTORM WATCH:

- TUNE INTO THE NWS, NOAA, OR LOCAL NEWS AND RADIO CHANNELS
- PREPARE TO SEEK SHELTER
- AVOID NATURAL LIGHTNING RODS, SUCH AS METAL AND POLES

DURING A THUNDERSTORM WARNING:

- FIND SHELTER RIGHT AWAY!
- AVOID WATER AND ELECTRIC SOURCES
- SECURE AND STAY AWAY WINDOWS AND DOORS
- UNPLUG ELECTRONIC DEVICES (TELEVISION, PERSONAL COMPUTERS, ETC.)

NOTES

EXTREME TEMPERATURES

EXTREME HEAT

IF UNDER EXTREME HEAT WARNING:

- FIND AIR CONDITIONING
- AVOID STRENUOUS ACTIVITIES
- WATCH FOR HEAT ILLNESS
- DRINK PLENTY OF HYDRATING FLUIDS
- DO NOT LEAVE PEOPLE OR PETS IN A CLOSED VEHICLE

PREPARE FOR AN EXTREME HEAT EVENT:

- COVER WINDOWS WITH SHADE
- USE WINDOW REFLECTORS LIKE ALUMINUM FOIL-COVERED CARDBOARD
- USE ATTIC FANS TO CLEAR HOT AIR
- INSTALL WINDOW AC UNITS IF ACCESSIBLE

HEAT RELATED ILLNESSES



HEAT CRAMPS

prolonged and painful cramps in abdomen, legs and arms

HEAT EXHAUSTION

heavy sweating, rapid pulse, headache, nausea, dizziness

HEAT STROKE

confusion, slurred speech, very high body temperature, seizures, hot dry skin, or profuse sweating

COLD AND WINTER WEATHER

IF UNDER A WINTER STORM WARNING:



- FIND SHELTER IMMEDIATELY
- AVOID GOING OUT DOORS AND WEAR WARM PROTECTIVE GEAR IF YOU CANNOT REFRAIN
- TUNE INTO THE NWS, NOAA, OR LOCAL NEWS AND RADIO CHANNELS
- STAY TO ONE HEATED ROOM AND CLOSE OFF UNNECESSARY ROOMS IN THE HOME

PREPARE FOR AN EXTREME WINTER EVENT:

- EXPECT POTENTIAL POWER OUTAGES
- USE GENERATORS OUTSIDE ONLY AND AWAY FROM WINDOWS AND DOORS
- LISTEN FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS
- CHECK ON NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS

DO NOT USE ELECTRIC OR GAS OVENS OR STOVETOPS FOR SPACE HEATING

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION OR CALL 9-1-1 IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS EXPERIENCING A MEDICAL EMERGENCY

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NATURAL DISASTERS

FLOOD

IF UNDER A FLOOD WARNING:

- FIND SHELTER RIGHT AWAY
- DO NOT SWIM OR DRIVE THROUGH FLOOD WATERS
- STAY OFF OF BRIDGES OVER FAST MOVING WATER
- LISTEN FOR EVACUATION INSTRUCTIONS AND EMERGENCY ALERTS FROM YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY AUTHORITY



PREPARE FOR A FLOOD:

- KNOW YOUR FLOOD RISK
 - VISIT FEMA'S FLOOD MAP SERVICE CENTER
- SIGN UP FOR THE GRAND RAPIDS EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM
- PURCHASE FLOOD INSURANCE
 - GET COVERAGE UNDER THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP)
- GATHER EMERGENCY SUPPLIES AND BE PREPARED TO EVACUATE IF TOLD TO DO SO
 - IN CASE OF EMERGENCY KEEP IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS IN WATERPROOF CONTAINER
- PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY
 - DECLUTTER GUTTERS AND DRAINS

TORNADO

IF UNDER A TORNADO WARNING:

- GO TO A SAFE SHELTER IMMEDIATELY
 - SAFE ROOM, BASEMENT, STORM CELLAR
- STAY AWAY FROM WINDOWS, DOORS, AND OUTSIDE WALLS
- DO NOT GO UNDER AN OVERPASS OR BRIDGE
 - YOU ARE SAFER IN A LOW, FLAT LOCATION
- USE YOUR ARMS TO PROTECT YOUR HEAD AND NECK
- IF YOU CAN'T STAY HOME SAFELY, PLAN TO GO TO A PUBLIC SHELTER

PREPARE FOR A TORNADO:

- KNOW SIGNS OF A TORNADO
 - ROTATING, FUNNEL SHAPED CLOUD OR APPROACHING CLOUD OF DEBRIS
- PAY ATTENTION TO WEATHER REPORTS
- PREPARE FOR A LONG-TERM STAY AT HOME OR SHELTERING IN PLACE
- IDENTIFY AND PRACTICE GOING TO A SAFE SHELTER QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY
- SIGN UP FOR THE GRAND RAPIDS EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM



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