

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

## *PREPARING YOUR HOME*



Below are some tips to follow in the event of any emergency. Remember preparedness begins at home. Have available the following items:

- A sufficient supply of food and water which will last at least 3 days.
- A first-aid kit available that includes your family's prescriptions.
- Tools for turning off gas supplies and water lines.
- A battery powered radio, flashlight and plenty of batteries.

In addition it would be wise to:

- Strap water heaters to the studs of the nearest wall.
- Move heavy or breakable objects below head level or secure them in place.
- Store flammable liquids, like painting or petroleum products, in a garage or outside shed, away from heating sources.
- Determine the best escape routes from your home. Find two ways out of each room.
- Meet with you family and discuss why you need to prepare for disasters. Explain the dangers of fire, severe weather and earthquakes to children.
- Pick two places to meet: Right outside you home in case of a sudden emergency like fire and outside you neighborhood in case you cant return home.
- Establish an out-of-area contact person (Outside of Washington and Oregon) to be your family contact. Your out of area contact can be a friend or relative who can be called by all members of you household after a disaster. The reason for this is that it is often easier to call long distance than locally after a disaster for several days or weeks.