

COMMUNICATE IN AN EMERGENCY

Follow these tips to make sure you can communicate during an emergency.



Keep a list of emergency phone numbers in your cell phone and near your home phone.



Have charged batteries and car phone chargers for back-up power for your cell phone.



If you have a traditional landline, keep a non-cordless phone in your home, because it will work even if you lose power.



Prepare a family contact sheet with at least one out-of-town contact. Often it's easier to make long-distance rather than local calls during an emergency.



Subscribe to text alert services from local or state governments and schools to receive emergency alerts.

Preparing Your Home and Mobile Device Before a Disaster

Reaching Friends, Family & Emergency Services During and After a Disaster



If you have a life-threatening emergency only, call 9-1-1.



For non-emergencies, text messaging, email or social media are less likely to experience network congestion. You can use social media to let family and friends know you are okay.



Keep all phone calls brief - just share vital information.



Conserve your cell phone battery by reducing screen brightness, placing your phone in airplane mode and closing apps you are not using.



Tune into local TV and radio stations for important news alerts.



www.facebook.com/VAemergency



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Download the Ready Virginia app



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Download the free Ready Virginia app for alerts and more information.

Ready Virginia is an educational campaign that promotes emergency preparedness through three basic steps: get a kit, make a plan, stay informed. This document was prepared under a grant from FEMA's Grant Programs Directorate and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.