



**NO TWO HAZARDS ARE ALIKE.**  
Knowing how each hazard could affect you, your family, and your business is critical to how you respond to the possible situations that might present themselves.



**YOUR HOME IS YOUR FIRST LINE OF SHELTER AND PROTECTION.**  
Make sure it can protect you by making an investment into maintaining it.  
**Do the three R's:**  
**Reinforce** structures,  
**Repair** installations and  
**Remove** or fix accessories, doors, windows, and the roof.



## BEFORE A HAZARD STRIKES PREPAREDNESS

- Develop a family, business or school preparedness plan.
- Prepare emergency supplies for your home and business.
- Remember to allocate supplies for the disabled, children and the elderly, and keep your medications up to date.
- Familiarise yourself, your family and employees with exit routes from your neighbourhood, school and business and set up a chain of command for them. Use these exit routes only if necessary as sometimes the safest place to be is where you are.
- Have emergency fuel for vehicles, machinery and power as gas stations may be closed during emergencies. Plan to take one car per family to reduce congestion and delay.
- Have a minimum amount of emergency cash in small bills.



## BEFORE A HAZARD STRIKES PREVENTION

- To ensure that your home can protect you, make an investment in its maintenance.
- Be sure to have adequate insurance for your home, business and contents against disasters, and keep visual and written records of all your possessions to aid the claims process.
- Identify the safe zones and danger areas in your home and business, making note of how quickly you can escape if the need arises. Special attention must be taken for the elderly, disabled and small children when planning your escape routes.
- Test your disaster plan, it's never too early to modify and tweak the plan to better suit your needs.
- Take a first aid and CPR class to ensure you have the necessary skills to reduce the impact of injuries to your family or community.
- Talk to the members of your community to develop and implement a plan of action of the tasks each of you can assist in, or work together on, during an emergency. Remember to include persons who have medical expertise and someone to check on the elderly or disabled persons.



## WHEN A HAZARD STRIKES RESPONSE & RECOVERY

- Check your immediate facilities or surroundings to determine if it is safe to remain where you are.
- Stay healthy, keep hydrated, ensure to keep your hands clean and protect your feet from debris and dirty water by wearing sturdy shoes.
- Don't panic, stay calm and start to implement your plan of action.
- Listen to the radio and avoid spreading inaccurate information.
- If you run out of commercial bottled water, boil your potable water before drinking it.
- Photograph damages, make a list and identify what needs to be recovered for insurance or any other assistance.
- Discuss with your family or employees the activities that need to be implemented to aid in the recovery process over the period directly following the hazard.
- People need to be actively involved in getting their lives back together. Keep a tool kit and assorted material handy, to repair damage in the home or neighbourhood.
- Activate a clean-up and salvage team to help around your home, the homes of elderly persons and/or the neighbourhood.
- Assist with the injured, noting you should not move anyone unless they are in imminent danger of further injury.
- Remember counselling is available to you from your church, government or other aid organisations, to help your family to help cope with these situations.

Work together with your family to develop an emergency plan so that the adults and children know what to do.

Use the checklist to ensure that your Disaster Survival Kit is well prepared.

### DISASTER SURVIVAL KIT CHECKLIST

- ☐ 1 gallon of commercially bottled water per person daily
- ☐ Canned, boxed or plastic bottled juice
- ☐ Canned foods: meat, fish, fruits, vegetables
- ☐ Dried food like bread, cookies, biscuits
- ☐ Baby food and formula (if needed)
- ☐ Disposable plates, cups, utensils and garbage bags
- ☐ Cooking tools and fuel
- ☐ Insurance papers, medical records and identification stored in a waterproof bag
- ☐ First Aid Kit with mosquito repellent
- ☐ Prescription Medicine (min. a week's supply)
- ☐ Infant care supplies, diapers, etc.
- ☐ Special items for elderly or disabled family members
- ☐ Flashlights, extra batteries
- ☐ Battery operated radio and clock
- ☐ Manual can opener
- ☐ Matches in a waterproof container
- ☐ Water purification kit or bleach
- ☐ Plastic sheeting and duct tape
- ☐ Toiletries and personal hygiene items including feminine supplies
- ☐ Toilet paper, moist towelettes and soap
- ☐ Fire extinguisher
- ☐ Tools including a wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- ☐ Sturdy shoes, extra clothing, eyeglasses
- ☐ Pillows, blankets, sleeping bags
- ☐ Small amount of cash in small bills
- ☐ Pet care items, food, water, carrier, medications, muzzle and leash.

There is so much more you can do to be ready.  
For more information, visit

[www.weready.org](http://www.weready.org)



**CDEMA**  
The Caribbean Disaster  
Emergency Management Agency



# WHAT IS COMPREHENSIVE DISASTER MANAGEMENT?

IT IS

**ALL PEOPLE**

Everyone is involved:  
civil society, government,  
private sector, your family  
and most importantly, you.

**ALL HAZARDS**

Get to know the hazards you can face  
and know what actions can  
help you prevent a hazard from  
turning into a disaster.

**ALL PHASES  
OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT**

**PREPARE → PREVENT → RESPOND & RECOVER**

## WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN:

### A HAZARD?

A hazard is a potentially damaging physical event, phenomenon or human activity that may cause the loss of life or injury, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation.  
If a hazard is not handled well it can lead to a disaster.

### AN EMERGENCY?

An emergency is any instance for which assistance is needed:

1. - to supplement efforts and capabilities to save lives.  
- to protect property, public health and safety, or
2. to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe.

### A DISASTER?

A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society (country) causing widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses which exceed the ability of the affected community or society (country) to cope using its own resources.

# COMPREHENSIVE DISASTER MANAGEMENT

**ALL PEOPLE  
ALL HAZARDS  
ALL PHASES  
OF DISASTER  
MANAGEMENT**



**Caring Does Matter!**



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