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## Hot Topics

### Reduce the Wildfire Risks to Your Home and Property

Wildfires destroy thousands of homes and thousands of acres of woodland each year. Even if you live outside of heavily-wooded areas, you can potentially sustain significant fire damage. Embers can be blown into your community and could cause fires. This homeowner's checklist will help you learn what you can do to help protect your family.

**Read More:** <https://bit.ly/2vsdRIv>



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### Wildfire Smoke and Your Health

The most effective way to protect your health during wildfire emergencies is to stay indoors or limit your time outdoors. If you cannot evacuate or you must be outdoors in a smoky area, a good way to protect your lungs is to wear a special mask, called a "particulate respirator." Read more about protecting your health by clicking on the link below.

**Read More:** <https://bit.ly/2vs19H9>



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## Winter Weather Emergency Preparedness Kit

Winter is coming. Staying warm and safe can be a challenge when the temperature drops. Weather conditions have already dropped significantly below normal in many parts of the country. With the change in the weather, now is the time to update your emergency preparedness kit and prepare your home for the effects of the cold, sleet, or snow that’s headed your way.

**Read More:** <https://bit.ly/2iaZi3q>

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## Education/Communication



## Protect Critical Documents in the Event of an Emergency or Natural Disaster

In the event of a natural disaster, like a flood or fire, your top priority should be for the safety and care of you and your family. In the process of getting your family to safety, there may not be time to collect important documents like your social security card, passport, birth and/or marriage certificates. Protecting your critical documents before a disaster hits is an important step in being prepared.

**Read More:** <https://bit.ly/22mmbTy>

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## Preventing Infection Through Handwashing

Hand hygiene is your first line of defense against infections. After a major emergency, it’s important to keep your hands clean to prevent the spread of infections. Washing hands removes germs that can make you and others sick. Click the link below and follow the steps from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to make sure you wash your hands properly.



**Read More:** <https://bit.ly/2r7jtSh>

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## Smart911 Can Assist Kidney Disease Patients in Medical Emergencies

Smart911 is a national safety service that gives 9-1-1 dispatchers information when responding to an emergency. Smart911 is a free service that allows kidney disease patients to set up a profile that lists their medical conditions, medications, emergency contacts, as well as other important information that dispatchers can relay to responding emergency personnel. To learn more about Smart911 and to create your free Safety Profile, click on the link below.

**Read More:** <https://www.smart911.com/>

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[www.kcercoalition.com/kcerwatch](http://www.kcercoalition.com/kcerwatch)

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