DISASTER PLAN

Are You Ready?

WASHINGTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

JANUARY 2005

Are You Ready?

Is a series of handouts designed to assist you and your family to plan ahead for emergencies.

For more information on Disaster Plan— Check out these Helpful websites:

About FEMA

www.fema.gov

American Red Cross

www.redcross.org

www.hhs.gov

www.whitehouse.gov

Create a Disaster Plan

Meet with your family and discuss why you need to prepare for disaster. Explain the dangers of fire, severe weather and earthquakes to children. Plan to share responsibilities and work together as a team.

- Discuss the types of disasters that are most likely to happen. Explain what to do in each case.
- Pick two places to meet:

1. Right outside your home in case of a sudden emergency, like a fire.
2. Outside your neighborhood in case you can't return home. Everyone must know the address and phone number.

- Ask an out-of-state friend to be your "family contact." After a disaster, it's often easier to call long distance. Other family members should call this person and tell them where they are. Everyone must know your contact's phone number.
- Discuss what to do in an evacuation. Plan how to take care of your pets.

Fill out, copy and distribute to all family members

Family Disaster Plan

Emergency Meeting Place_____
outside your home

Meeting Place_____ Phone_____
outside your neighborhood

Address_____

Family Contact_____
(name)

Phone ( )_____ Phone ( )_____
day evening

Practice and Maintain Your Plan

- Quiz your kids every six months so they remember what to do.
- Conduct fire and emergency evacuation drills.

Year	Drill Date
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- Replace stored water every three months and stored food every six months.
- Test and recharge your fire extinguisher(s) according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Test your smoke detectors monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.

Jan.	☐	July	☐
Feb.	☐	Aug.	☐
Mar.	☐	Sep.	☐
Apr.	☐	Oct.	☐
May	☐	Nov.	☐
June	☐	Dec.	☐

Change batteries in _____each year.
(month)

here will your family be when disaster strikes? They could be anywhere—