



Knox County Health Department

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KCHD's Service Spotlight: Emergency Preparedness Division

A reminder to regularly update family evacuation plans and emergency supply kits.

Knoxville, Tenn. — Disaster can strike anytime. That's why the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) Emergency Preparedness (EP) Division regularly encourages individuals, families, schools and businesses to review emergency plans and update emergency supply kits.

"Emergency kits are used for a range of emergencies, containing anything from basic survival tools like water, food, and first-aid needs, to specialty items that match your family's needs," said Roberta Sturm, director of communicable and environmental disease and emergency preparedness. "It's important to keep your supplies fresh, updated and checked regularly. Just remember to disclose their location to your entire household to ensure everyone is prepared."

For more information, visit KCHD [Emergency Preparedness website](#), which features emergency communications plan, lists of what to include in emergency supply kits, and additional resources on how to stay informed of emergencies or health threats in Knox County.

KCHD's EP Division enhances community preparedness by encouraging and supporting readiness planning efforts among all community members, from individual households to large corporations. The EP Division also fosters relationships with federal, state and local governments, as well as nongovernmental organizations to prepare and respond to potential hazards.

This division also consistently monitors and assesses all infectious disease threats to determine what additional measures should be taken to ensure the safety and wellness of Knox County residents. To view the CDC's resources for pandemic preparedness, visit their website [here](#).

About Knox County Health Department

The first health department in Tennessee to achieve national voluntary accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board, the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) is dedicated to ensuring the conditions in which every resident can be healthy. As a chief health strategist for the community and with more than 240 team members, KCHD's broad scope of work includes convening partners to improve community health, identifying community health threats, investigating disease outbreaks, conducting extensive outreach and education, preparing for public health emergencies, providing and connecting the public with medical care, enforcing food safety and air quality laws, and more. For more information, visit www.knoxcounty.org/health.

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