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Preparedness for Apartments & Mobile Homes – Are You READY?

Are You READY?

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Overview

- Your Preparedness Policy
- Unique Risks for Apartments & Mobile Homes
- Sheltering-in-place vs. evacuation
- Evacuation Planning Essentials
- Creating a Go Bag
- Community Coordination & “Mutual Aid”
- Effective Communication & Alerts
- Post-Event Safety and Recovery

Preparedness: Your Personal Insurance Policy



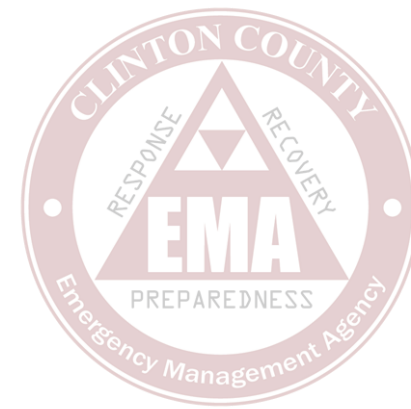
Preparedness is like an insurance policy you take out on yourself and your household. The coverage and deductible are entirely up to you. Every decision you make about preparedness is an investment in your ability to navigate crises.

Bare Minimum Policy (Liability-Only Coverage)

- Covers only the most common, **short-duration emergencies** (hours - days).
- Focus on **immediate needs**: food, water, flashlight, basic first aid.
- **Low investment**, but limited protection.



Preparedness: Your Personal Insurance Policy



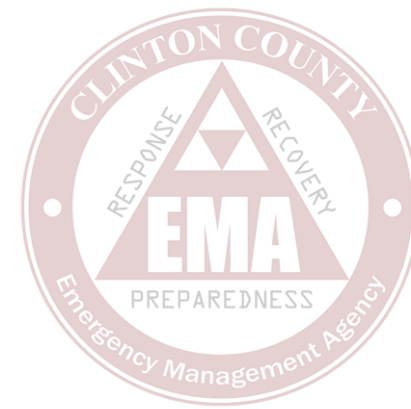
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Moderate Coverage Policy (High-Deductible Plan)

- Covers a **broader range of situations** but requires adaptation and resourcefulness (days – weeks).
- More self-reliance required, **fewer pre-packed solutions**.
- **Medium investment**, with flexibility in extending coverage over time.



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Comprehensive Policy (Full-Coverage Preparedness)

- Covers a **wide array of emergencies**, including long-term disruptions (weeks – months).
- **Requires more maintenance** and periodic updates to keep supplies fresh.
- **Higher upfront cost** but ensures maximum readiness.

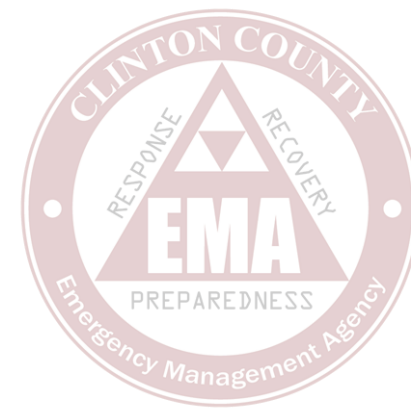


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Applying the Insurance Mindset to Every Lesson

- Each class topic is **another layer of protection** to add to your policy.
- Consider what **level of preparedness fits your needs** and lifestyle.
- **Reassess your preparedness policy regularly** as circumstances change.



Preparedness: Your Personal Insurance Policy



Budget-Conscious Preparedness Approach

- Start by identifying **existing items around your home** that can fill preparedness needs.
- **Repurpose and reuse** older gear before purchasing new equipment.
- Gradually acquire additional supplies and capabilities **as your budget allows**.
- **Focus on high-priority**, cost-effective solutions first, then expand over time.
- Preparedness doesn't have to be expensive—**small, consistent improvements** lead to long-term resilience.

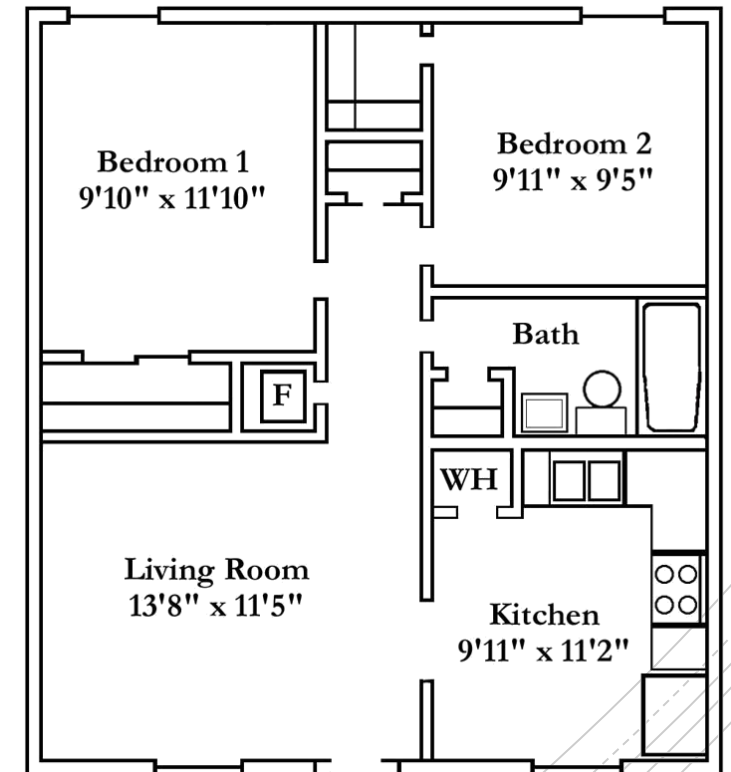


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Unique
Vulnerabilities

Apartments:

- Limited personal storage space
- Shared walls and utilities
- Evacuation bottlenecks

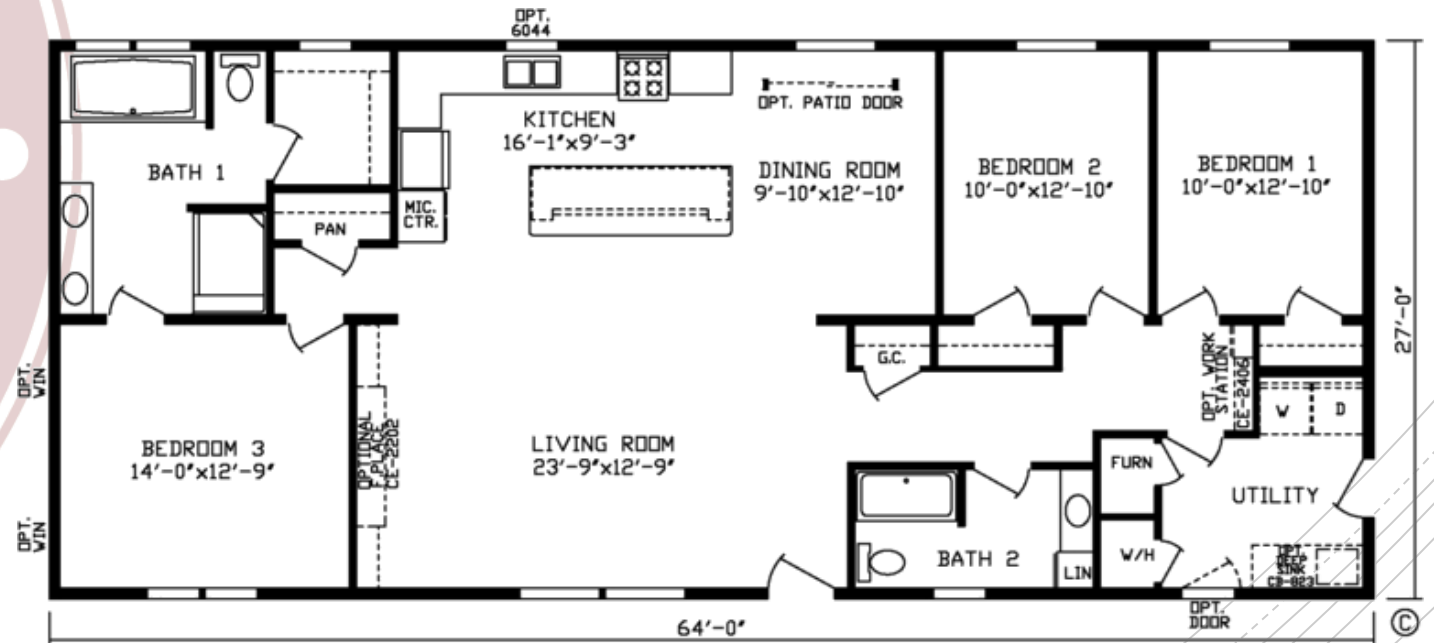


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Unique
Vulnerabilities

Mobile Homes:

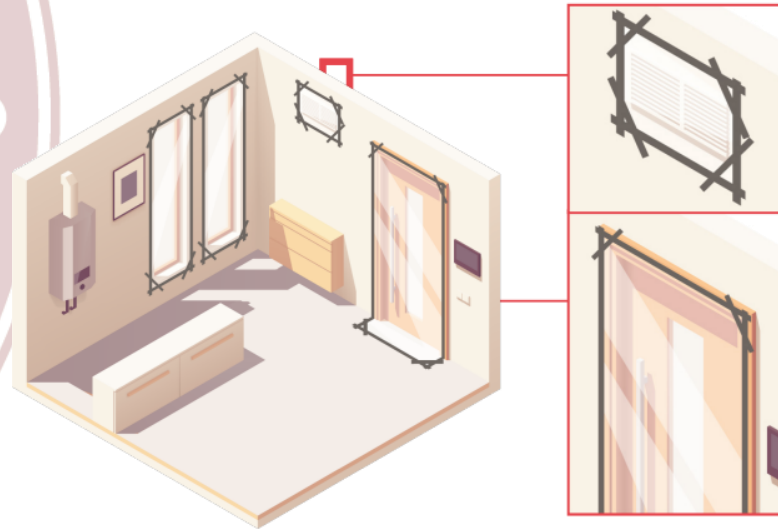
- Structural vulnerabilities in severe weather
- Limited sheltering options
- Isolated or rural locations



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Sheltering-In-Place (SIP) Considerations

- When sheltering is appropriate (chemical spills, storms, power outages)
- Safe locations (interior rooms, *basements, reinforced areas)
- Managing utilities safely (gas, electricity, water)



● **Use duct tape and plastic sheeting to seal** around the windows and doors. This will reduce contaminated air coming into the room.

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Evacuation Planning Essentials

- Recognizing evacuation signals (sirens, local alerts)
- Apartment evacuation routes (stairs, hallways, exits)
- Mobile home evacuation routes (pre-identified safe locations, storm shelters)



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Evacuation
Planning
Essentials

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**What could force
you to evacuate
your home?**

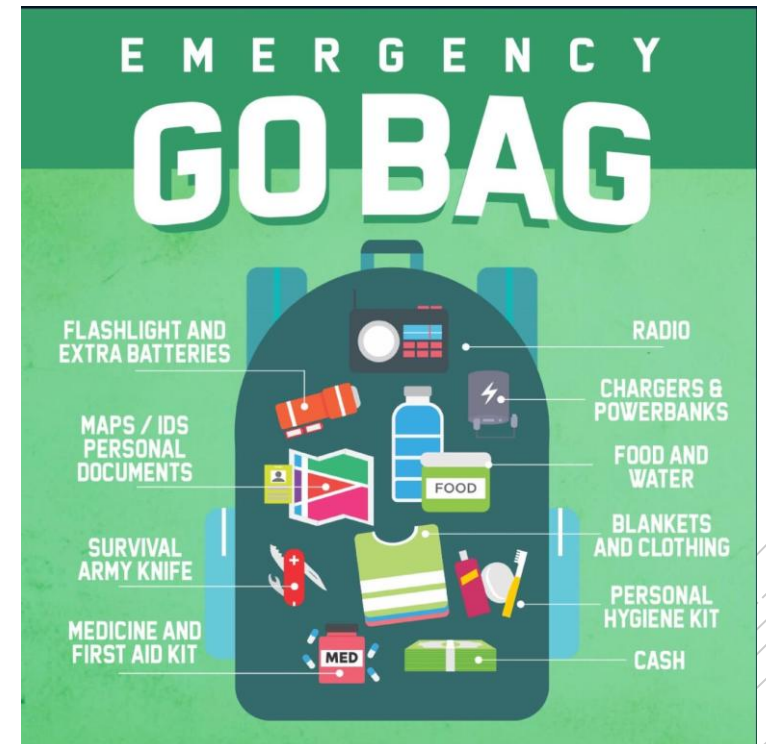
**What would you
take?**

A Go Bag gives residents a compact, ready-to-carry kit that ensures they can evacuate quickly with essential items. It provides speed, security, and self-sufficiency during emergencies when time and storage are limited.

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Creating a Go Bag

- Essential items (documents, medication, water, food, flashlights)
- Considerations for apartment/mobile home residents:
 - Portability
 - Limited storage



IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

(stored in waterproof pouch)

- Copies of ID(s)
- Insurance Papers
- Copy of Lease or Rental Agreement
- Medical Information
- Emergency Contacts

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- Water
- Food
- First Aid/Medical
- Flashlight & Batteries
- Multi-Tool or Utility Knife
- Personal Hygiene Items
- Whistle

CLOTHING & COMFORT

- Change of clothes (seasonal)
- Small blanket or emergency mylar space blanket
- Study shoes (if not worn daily)

COMMS & SAFETY

- Portable phone charger / power bank
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio
- N95 or dust mask
- Gloves (work or lightweight)

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Infant/Child Needs
- Pet Supplies
- Spare keys

MONEY & EXTRAS

- Emergency Cash (small bills)
- Spare glasses or contacts
- Notebook and pen

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Essential Items for a Bug-Out Bag

Who Should Have a Bug-Out Bag?

- Every household should have **one bag per person tailored to specific needs** (children, elderly, pets).
- Keep BoBs accessible in vehicles, near home exits, or emergency storage areas.

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Essential Items for a Get-Home Bag

A GHB should be compact but effective in helping you travel on foot 10-30 miles if needed.

- **Water & Purification:** 1 liter of water, purification tablets
- **Food:** Energy bars, jerky, electrolyte packets
- **Clothing:** Comfortable walking shoes, spare socks, gloves, hat
- **First Aid:** Small trauma kit, bandages, antiseptic wipes
- **Navigation:** Paper map of local area, compass

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Essential Items for a Get-Home Bag

A GHB should be compact but effective in helping you travel on foot 10-30 miles if needed.

- **Self-Defense:** Pepper spray or self-defense tool (as legally permitted)
- **Safety Items:** Dust mask, goggles (for debris, smoke protection)
- **Lighting:** Compact flashlight or headlamp
- **Multitool:** Small knife, paracord, duct tape
- **Emergency Contacts:** Printed list, emergency whistle

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Essential Items for a Get-Home Bag

Additional Items to Consider:

- Small Folding Stove & Fuel Tabs (for boiling water, cooking)
- Spare Phone Battery Pack
- HAM or GMRS Radio (for emergency comms)
- Solar charger/power
- Cash in Small Bills (ATMs may be down)

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Essential Items for a Get-Home Bag

Seasonal Adjustments:

- **Winter:** Hand warmers, insulated gloves, extra layers
- **Summer:** Sunscreen, extra water, cooling towel
- **Rainy Season:** Waterproof bag, poncho

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Real-World Case Studies: Lessons from Disasters

East Palestine Train Derailment (2023)

- Residents **forced to evacuate** due to hazardous chemical exposure.
- Those with a **Bug-Out Bag** could leave immediately with essential supplies.
- **Shelters were overwhelmed**, and personal hygiene items were critical.

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Real-World Case Studies: Lessons from Disasters

California Wildfires

- Sudden evacuation orders meant **minutes to leave** before fire spread.
- Smoke and ash made **respiratory protection** (N95 masks, goggles) essential.
- Those with **pre-packed Bug-Out Bags** had a **major advantage** in securing shelter quickly.

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Final BOB / GHB Takeaways

- **Know the Difference:** A Bug-Out Bag is for evacuation, a Get-Home Bag is for returning home.
- **Tailor Your Bag:** Customize contents based on personal needs and environment.
- **Regularly Update Gear:** Rotate food, water, batteries, and seasonal items.
- **Have a Plan:** Know when to evacuate, where to go, and how to communicate.

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Community Coordination & Mutual Aid

- Benefits of coordinating preparedness with neighbors
- Creating emergency resource pools
- Establishing neighborhood preparedness teams

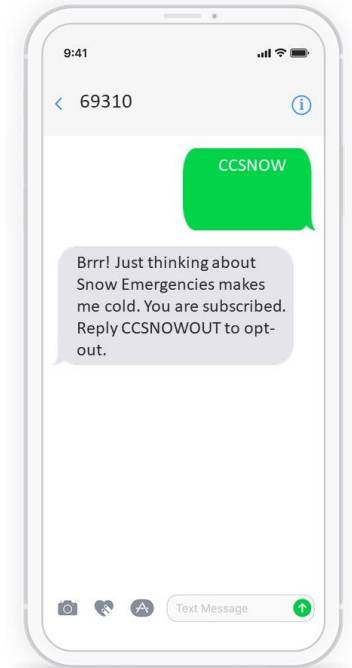
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Effective Communication & Alerts

- Signing up for local emergency notifications
- Establishing alternate community communication (radio, social media)
- Using community bulletin boards effectively



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Post-Incident Safety & Recovery

- Safe re-entry after evacuation
- Conducting quick damage assessment
 - Take Photos!
 - Hazards
 - DA for Insurance
 - DA for Disaster Declaration
- Connecting with recovery resources (FEMA, Red Cross, Insurance)

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Practical Checklists - Apartment

- Identify safest interior room (away from windows/doors).
- Keep a compact Go Bag ready with essentials.
- Store water in smaller containers (easier to move).
- Maintain a fire extinguisher and know evacuation routes.
- Secure important documents in a waterproof pouch.
- Sign up for local emergency alerts.

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Practical Checklists – Mobile Home

- Pre-identify nearest community storm shelter.
- Keep transportation options ready for quick evacuation.
- Reinforce skirting, tie-downs, and entry steps.
- Maintain Go Bag with portable essentials.
- Store extra fuel, water, and a weather radio.
- Know alternate routes out of the community.

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Practical Checklists – Community Coordination

- Organize a resident safety group or buddy system.
- Share contact info with trusted neighbors.
- Pool resources (tools, first aid, backup power). Post evacuation maps in community areas.
- Hold periodic preparedness meetings or drills.
- Establish a communication method (group text, radios, bulletin board).

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Summary

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Questions &
Discussion

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RESPONSE RECOVERY

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