



# Emergency Preparedness Newsletter

January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023



## Do you have an Emergency Family Member Locator Plan?

Your first concern during a disaster is usually for the safety of your family members. If disaster strikes without warning during your normal, busy day, how will you locate them? Advance preparations can help you check on your family more quickly during an emergency. Nothing else will matter until you know that all is well at home. Only then can you turn your attention to other things, such as returning to work or helping your less fortunate neighbors.

You can find a sample family locator Chart on our website <http://clcepc.org/> under the resources tab.

### Where would you look?

Do something now to prepare, while you have the time and can think clearly!

- Make a list of the most logical places to look for each family member: at home, at work, at school, at a friend's house.
- Keep a calendar of family events .
- Consider all times of the day, routine schedules, and any favorite "hangouts." (For example, does your spouse stop at the gym before or after work? Is it Thursday afternoon, and your son is probably at his Boy Scout meeting?)
- Add a few co-workers, colleagues, neighbors, or school friends, just in case.
- Collect the address and telephone number for each of those places. Don't forget about cell phone and pager numbers!
- Arrange them in a way that makes sense to you.
- Add an out-of-state family member or friend as your contact if local telephone lines are down. Instruct all family members.

### I made my list... what's next?

Make plenty of copies!

- Share copies with family members - everyone in your household plus relatives that you see frequently.
- Keep a copy everywhere you might need it - at home, by the phone, in the car, at work, in your wallet, etc.
- Share the information with babysitters or other visitors to your home who may need to know.
- Talk about it! Discuss your plan with your family. Make sure they understand, in case they need to use it.
- Update it when you do your bi-annual smoke alarm test and set your clocks ahead/back.
- Make sure to give a copy to your employer if they require you to stay at work during a disaster.



**Now that you're prepared, encourage others to do the same!**

## PREPARE FOR EXTREME WEATHER

### STAY INFORMED



Stay alert to changing weather conditions. When extreme or severe weather is predicted, turn to your local television and radio news stations for more information. Follow the National Weather Service in Portland online or on Facebook for information on weather events and preparedness tips. Consider purchasing a NOAA Weather Radio and program it to alert you when inclement weather is approaching. Many models are capable of Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) and can be programmed for the county you live in. Consider downloading a smartphone app that will alert you to changing weather conditions. There are many free options available, so you can choose one that best suits your needs.

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### WINTER DRIVING



Be prepared for winter weather at home, at work and in your car. Create an emergency supply kit for your car. Include jumper cables, sand, a flashlight, warm clothes, blankets, bottled water and non-perishable snacks. Keep a full tank of gas.

Stay off roads if at all possible. If trapped in your car, then stay inside.



**Communities of Brownsville | Halsey | Shedd**  
**Brownsville & Halsey Fire Districts**  
 255 N Main Street  
 P.O. Box 188  
 Brownsville, OR 97327

PRSR STD  
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LOCAL POSTAL PATRON

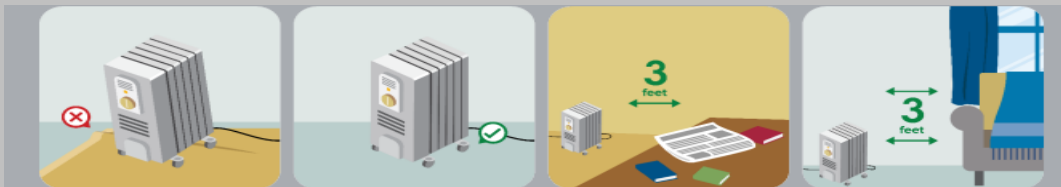
**PORTABLE HEATER FIRE SAFETY**



- Heating equipment is a leading cause of fires in U.S. homes. Local fire departments responded to an estimated average of 44,210 home structure fires caused by heating equipment each year in 2016-2020. These fires resulted in annual losses of 480 civilian deaths, 1,370 civilian injuries, and \$1 billion in direct property damage.
- Heating equipment caused one in six home structure fires (13%) that took place in 2016–2020 and 18% of home fire deaths.
- A vast majority of home heating fire deaths (88%) involved stationary or portable space heaters.
- Nearly half (46%) of all home heating fires occurred in January, February, and December.

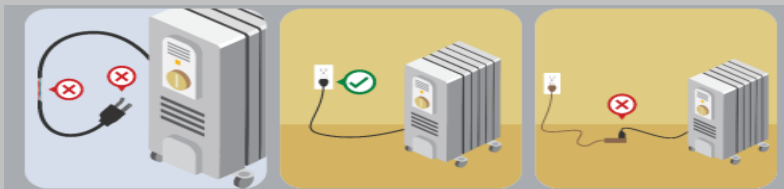
**Follow these portable heater tips to help prevent winter fires and to stay safe this winter season.**

Place space heaters on a solid, flat surface. Keep them at least three feet from things that can burn.



Check your space heater for cracked or damaged cords and plugs.

Plug space heaters **DIRECTLY** into wall outlets, **DON'T** use an extension cord or power strip.



For more information and free fire-safety resources, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov).



The City of Brownsville has emergency preparedness information on their website, [www.ci.brownsville.or.us](http://www.ci.brownsville.or.us). The website covers topics such as a 72 Hour kit, the Linn County Orange Book, electrical outages, utility shut off information, a preparedness calendar, etc. You can also access the Central Linn Community Emergency Preparedness Committee page at <http://clcepc.org>. You will find lots of great information and resources!

