



HAMPDEN TOWNSHIP

FAMILY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

**Prepare Today.
Stay Safe Tomorrow.**



Plan



Prepare



Stay Informed



Stay Connected



2026 EDITION

Residents of Hampden Township:

No one expects an emergency to happen to them, but emergencies are a part of life. Whether it's a severe storm, a prolonged power outage, a house fire, or another unexpected event, the actions you take before an emergency often matter more than the actions you take during one.

At Hampden Township, we prepare every day. Our firefighters, EMS providers, fire police, and emergency management partners train, plan, and work together so we are ready to respond whenever our community needs us. But emergency preparedness doesn't begin when 911 is called. It begins at home.

This guide is designed to help you and your family become better prepared before an emergency occurs. Inside, you'll find practical steps to build an emergency plan, assemble essential supplies, understand local hazards, and make informed decisions during a crisis. Most of these actions take only a few minutes, but they can make a meaningful difference when time is limited.

Prepared communities are stronger communities. When households are ready to care for themselves during the first hours of an emergency, first responders can focus on those facing the greatest danger. Your preparedness doesn't just protect your family. It helps strengthen the resilience of our entire township.

I encourage you to read this guide, talk with your family about your emergency plan, and revisit it regularly as your household changes. Preparedness is not a one-time task. It is an ongoing commitment that helps keep our community safe.

Thank you for doing your part to make Hampden Township a safer, stronger, and more resilient community.

Sincerely,



Landon A. Churchill
Chief of Fire & Rescue Services

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 03 BUILD YOUR FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN**
- 05 BUILD AN EMERGENCY GO KIT**
- 06 KNOW YOUR RISKS**
- 09 STAY INFORMED**
- 10 RECOVERY AFTER AN EMERGENCY**
- 11 FAMILY EMERGENCY INFORMATION WORKSHEET**

HAMPDEN VOLUNTEER Community Connect

Community Connect lets you securely share important information about your home or business before an emergency happens.

Your information is securely stored and is only accessible to authorized Hampden Township emergency responders during an emergency

WHAT KIND OF INFO CAN I PROVIDE?



Your Property



Your People



Your Needs



Your Pets



**SCAN TO CREATE
YOUR FREE PROFILE!**

OR VISIT

<https://www.communityconnect.io/info/pa-hampdenvfc>



All logins are password protected with bank level encryption and security.

BUILD YOUR FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

Emergencies can happen at any time, often without warning. Taking a few simple steps now can help your household respond quickly and confidently when it matters most. A family emergency plan helps everyone know where to go, who to contact, and what to do during an emergency.

Before creating your plan, learn about the hazards most likely to affect our area, including severe weather, flooding, power outages, fires, and hazardous materials incidents. Sign up for local emergency alerts and make sure every member of your household understands how emergency information is shared.



YOUR FAMILY PLANNING CHECKLIST

Discuss potential emergencies and how your household will respond.

- ☐ Identify an emergency contact outside the area who can help family members reconnect if separated.
- ☐ Choose two meeting locations:
 - A location near your home.
 - A location outside your neighborhood.
- ☐ Identify evacuation routes from your home, workplace, and school.
- ☐ Create a list of emergency contacts and save them in all mobile devices.
- ☐ Teach children how and when to call 911.
- ☐ Learn how to safely shut off utilities if directed by emergency officials.
- ☐ Keep copies of important documents in a secure, waterproof location.
- ☐ Review and practice your plan at least once each year.

CONSIDER YOUR HOUSEHOLD'S UNIQUE NEEDS

Be sure to account for infants, older adults, individuals with disabilities, medical equipment, and pets when building your emergency plan. Make arrangements ahead of time for transportation, medications, and shelter options.

If you have pets, include food, water, medications, identification, vaccination records, and a carrier or leash in your preparedness plans.

BUILD AN EMERGENCY GO KIT

A well-stocked emergency kit can help your family remain safe and comfortable during power outages, severe weather, evacuations, or other emergencies. Keep your kit in an easily accessible location and review it every six months.

Recommended Supplies



Water - Store at least one gallon of water per person, per day, for a minimum of three days.



Flashlights



Food - Include a three day supply of nonperishable foods and a manual can opener



Extra batteries



Portable phone chargers or power banks



Battery-powered or hand-crank radio



First aid kit



Prescription medications



Important Documents - Keep copies of identification, insurance information, emergency contacts, and medical information in a waterproof container.



Glasses or contact lens supplies



Pet Supplies

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Prepared communities recover faster. Take time to get to know your neighbors, especially older adults and individuals who may need additional assistance during an emergency. Working together can make a significant difference when help is needed.

KNOW YOUR RISKS

Understanding the hazards that can affect our community is the first step toward preparedness. While emergencies can happen anywhere, some events are more likely to impact residents of Hampden Township and Cumberland County.

Take time to learn how you will receive emergency information and what actions may be required during different situations.

THUNDERSTORMS

Severe thunderstorms can bring damaging winds, lightning, hail, and flash flooding. These storms can develop quickly and may cause power outages, fallen trees, and dangerous travel conditions.



Before A Storm

- Sign up for emergency alerts.
- Secure outdoor furniture and loose items.
- Charge electronic devices

During a Storm

- Move indoors immediately.
- Stay away from windows.
- Avoid using corded electrical equipment.



Before A Storm

- Maintaining emergency supplies at home.
- Keeping vehicles winter-ready.
- Monitoring weather forecasts.

WINTER STORMS

Heavy snow, ice, and extreme cold can create hazardous travel conditions and extended power outages.

During a Storm

- Limit unnecessary travel.
- Dress in layers.
- Check on neighbors and vulnerable family members.

FLOODING

Flooding can occur with little warning and may impact roads, homes, and infrastructure.

Just six inches of moving water can knock a person down, and twelve inches of water can carry away a vehicle.



Before Flooding

- Identify evacuation routes.
- Move valuables and hazardous materials to higher levels.
- Clear drainage areas to help water flow away from your home.

During Flooding

- Move to higher ground.
- Avoid flooded roadways.
- Follow evacuations instructions from local officials.

TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN!



TORNADOES

Pennsylvania experiences tornadoes every year, most often during severe thunderstorms from spring through summer.

Tornadoes can produce winds exceeding 100 mph, capable of damaging homes, uprooting trees, and creating dangerous flying debris.

Before a Tornado

- Know where you'll take shelter.
- Prepare emergency kit.
- Secure outdoor furniture and loose items.

During a Tornado

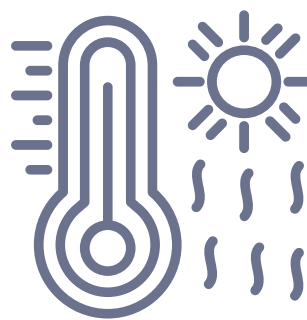
- Move to a basement or interior room.
- Stay away from windows.
- Protect your head and neck.

EXTREME HEAT

High temperatures can be dangerous, especially for older adults, young children, and those with medical conditions.

Know the Signs of Heat Illness

- Heavy sweating
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Rapid pulse
- Call 911 if someone becomes confused, loses consciousness, or has hot dry skin



Stay Safe by

- Drinking plenty of water.
- Limiting outdoor activity during peak heat.
- Spending time in air-conditioned spaces when possible.



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS

Transportation routes, industrial facilities, and commercial operations can occasionally experience hazardous material releases.

If instructed to shelter in place:

- Close and lock all windows and doors.
- Turn off ventilation systems.
- Monitor official updates.

If instructed to evacuate:

- Leave immediately.
- Follow designated evacuation routes.
- Bring your emergency go kit.

BEFORE YOU TURN THE PAGE...

☐ I know my evacuation routes.

☐ My emergency contacts are updated.

☐ My emergency kit is stocked.

☐ My family has a meeting place.

STAY INFORMED

Receiving accurate information during emergency is essential. Do not rely on a single source for emergency information.

Multiple Ways to Receive Alerts



Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)



Hampden Township Website



Local television and radio stations



NOAA Weather Radio



Hampden Township social media channels



Utility company outage notifications

Important Local Telephone Numbers

Emergency (Police, Fire, EMS)	911	
Hampden Township	(717) 761-0119	Hampden Township
Hampden Township Police (Non-Emergency)	(717) 761-2609	Police Department
Hampden Township Volunteer Fire Company	Emergency: 911	Hampden Fire Department
Cumberland County Non-Emergency	714-238-9676	Ready Cumberland Alerts
Poison Help	1-800-222-1222	Poison Help
Suicide & Crisis Lifeline	988	988 Lifeline
UGI Gas Emergency	1-800-276-2722	UGI Utilities
PPL Electric Outages	1-800-342-5775	PPL Outage Center
Pennsylvania American Water	1-800-565-7292	Pennsylvania American Water
PA One Call (Call Before You Dig)	811	PA One Call

RECOVERY AFTER AN EMERGENCY

Recovery begins as soon as the immediate danger has passed.

Returning Home Safely

Follow guidance from local officials.

Use flashlights instead of candles.

Contact your insurance provider as soon as possible

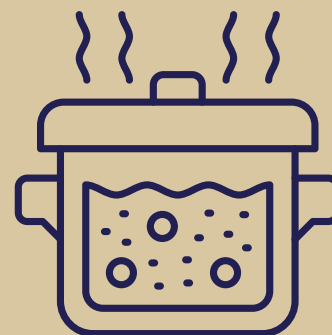
Watch for damaged power lines, gas leads, and structural hazards.

Photograph damage before beginning cleanup.

Boil Water Advisory

If local officials issue a boil water advisory:

1. Bring water to a rolling boil for at least one minute.
2. Allow water to cool before use.
3. Use boiled or bottled water for drinking, cooking, brushing teeth, and infant formula.



WATCH VS. WARNING



Watch

Conditions are favorable for a hazard to develop.

Be prepared and monitor conditions.



Warning

A hazard is occurring or expected soon.

Take protective action immediately.

FAMILY EMERGENCY INFORMATION WORKSHEET

Complete this page and keep it in an easily accessible location. Review and update your information at least once a year or whenever your household changes.



Household Members

Name

Date of Birth

Phone Number

Medical
Needs



Pet Information

Pet Name

Type

Veterinarian

Phone



Emergency Meeting Places

Meeting Place Near Home:

Meeting Place Outside the Neighborhood:

Evacuation Destination (Friend, Family, Hotel, etc.):



Emergency Contacts

Primary Emergency Contact

Name:

Relationship:

Phone:

Out of Area Contact

Name:

Relationship:

Phone:

Secondary Emergency Contact

Name:

Relationship:

Phone:

Nearby Friend or Neighbor

Name:

Phone:



Important Medical Information

Primary Care Physician

Name:

Phone:

Healthcare Insurance Provider

Name:

Phone:

Policy Number:



Utility Information

Utility

Provider

Account/Phone

Electric

Natural Gas

Water

Internet



STAY CONNECTED



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

<https://hampdenfire.org>



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

[@HampdenFire30](#)



NON-EMERGENCY PHONE

(717) 737-3565



SIGN UP FOR ALERTS

cumberlandcountypa.gov



**SCAN TO CREATE
YOUR FREE PROFILE!**

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HAMPDEN TOWNSHIP FIRE · RESCUE

Protecting the lives and property within Hampden Township, County of Cumberland, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ("Hampden Township") from fire, accidents, or other emergency situations; and Performing charitable acts and public service that may aid in the welfare of the people of Hampden Township and the surrounding vicinity.

Designed by

ROKEHILL DIGITAL ELEVATION

Elevating Your Presence.

www.rokehill.com

This guide was prepared
using guidance from:



FEMA