

# Emergency Minute

Island County Department of Emergency Management

## Supply Checklists:

For 2020, the Department of Emergency Management will provide monthly tips to help you and your family plan for emergencies. We will highlight a new topic each month relating to emergency preparedness, as well as links to useful documents and additional information. The goal of these monthly “tidbits” is to get you thinking about what to do and how to keep you and your family safe during emergencies in short 1 minute snippets. This month’s topic is on Emergency Supply Checklists.

Think back to the last time you inventoried or checked on your emergency supplies (assuming you have some). Perhaps you used your extra batteries for flashlights during last February’s Snowmageddon? Can you recall the last time you checked the expiration dates on your canned foods or rotated your emergency supply of water? If you are unsure about either of these questions, it’s probably a good time to “Recheck, Rotate, and Restock” and check what supplies you have.

There are a variety of checklists to use if you are unsure what type of supplies you may be missing. People often think that they must buy specialty items that are advertised for emergency use. A more wallet-friendly option is to look at what items you already have around your house. Camping items such as portable stoves, camping foods and multi-tools are great resources during emergencies. We recommended keeping a **minimum of 2 weeks’** worth of supplies on hand since it will likely be difficult to resupply local markets. A useful tool is the Island County Preparedness app for smart devices. It can help you develop your emergency plan and provides a checklist of emergency supplies you should have on hand (We’ll discuss the phone app another time).

This has been your **Emergency Minute**

Links:

[Emergency supply checklist](#)

[IC preparedness app](#)

