

A golden alarm clock is shown in the lower-left corner, partially covered in snow. A pine cone lies next to it. The background is a warm, golden bokeh with soft, out-of-focus lights. The title text is written in a dark blue, cursive font.

Year-End Preparedness Checklist

Emergency Action Planning LLC

Year-End Preparedness Checklist: 10 Essential Steps to Start 2025

Ready for Anything

As the year winds down, there's no better time to assess your preparedness for life's unexpected events. Whether it's natural disasters, financial emergencies, or personal challenges, having a plan can make all the difference. Our Year-End Preparedness Checklist ensures you'll close 2024 confidently and start 2025 ready for anything. Let's dive into 10 essential steps to fortify your disaster and financial readiness.

Disclaimer: This checklist is intended as a general guide to help you begin your emergency preparedness efforts. It is not exhaustive and may not address all the unique needs of your household or specific situations. Every individual, family, and community is different, and you are encouraged to evaluate and adjust this checklist based on your personal circumstances, location, health requirements, and the nature of potential risks in your area. It is your responsibility to take proactive steps to ensure your safety and preparedness by considering additional needs, consulting local emergency management resources, and staying informed about best practices and potential hazards. This checklist is offered as a starting point and should be supplemented with your own research and planning.

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Ready for Anything

1. Review Your Family's Emergency Plan

Update contact lists, evacuation routes, and roles within your family.

Account for any recent changes, such as a new address, pets, or household members.

2. Refresh and Restock Your Emergency Kit

Check for expired items and replace as needed (e.g., food, medications, batteries).

Add seasonal items like warm blankets or sunscreen, depending on your climate.

Ensure every household member has access to essentials.

3. Conduct a Family Meeting to Revisit Communication Plans

Review how to stay connected during emergencies.

Confirm that everyone knows emergency contact numbers.

Set primary and backup meeting points for quick reunions.

4. Evaluate Your Financial Preparedness

Assess your emergency savings to ensure it covers 3-6 months of expenses.

Review and update insurance policies for home, health, and life coverage.

Organize critical documents like IDs, wills, and insurance policies in a fireproof and waterproof case.

5. Test and Maintain Home Safety Equipment

Inspect smoke detectors, carbon monoxide alarms, and fire extinguishers.

Replace expired fire extinguishers or dead batteries.

Perform regular maintenance on safety equipment.

6. Update Your Home Inventory

Create or revise a list of your belongings, including receipts and photos.

Use inventory management apps for easy access to records.

Store digital copies in secure cloud storage for safekeeping.

7. Set Preparedness Goals for 2025

Define specific objectives, like building individual go-bags or attending CPR training.

Schedule time to revisit and refine your preparedness plans throughout the year.

8. Strengthen Community Connections

Get involved in local preparedness groups, like a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Introduce yourself to neighbors and discuss how you can support each other in an emergency.

Stay informed about risks in your area.

9. Backup Your Digital Life

Safeguard important data by using both physical external drives and cloud backups.

Regularly check that files are up-to-date and accessible.

10. Commit to Learning and Staying Informed

Read articles, attend webinars, and follow reputable preparedness resources.

Stay proactive by subscribing to newsletters or signing up for emergency alerts.

Set aside time each month to educate yourself and your family.

About Daniel

Daniel is an urban disaster planning expert with over 30 years of experience training foreign nationals, and Department of Defense Civilians to survive on the modern battlefield. He is the author of "Family Urban Disaster Planning" and co-author of the number one best sellers "The Book of Influence." And the "Book of Mentors."

Daniel has been called America's "5-Star Leadership Coach," he helps parents open communications, build leadership, and develop resiliency to leave a legacy for their children.

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Afterword

Emergencies and disasters are often unpredictable, but being prepared can make a world of difference for you and your loved ones. By taking the time to plan, gather supplies, and stay informed, you are empowering yourself to face challenging situations with confidence and resilience. Remember, preparedness is not a one-time task but an ongoing process. Regularly review your plans, update your supplies, and practice emergency drills with your family. Your efforts today can provide peace of mind and security tomorrow. As you move forward on this journey, know that you are not alone. Many resources are available to help you stay prepared and informed. We encourage you to share this checklist with friends, neighbors, and loved ones, because a prepared community is a resilient one. Thank you for prioritizing safety and preparedness. Together, we can weather any storm and create a brighter, more secure future for ourselves and those we care about.

Stay Informed and Stay Safe,

Daniel Kilburn

Americas 5-Star Leadership Coach

Emergency Action Planning LLC

