

Planning Hints

Planning sounds like a really big effort. There are so many things to consider and so many different hazards to include. How do we break this down into simple tasks? The same way we eat an elephant, one bite at a time. There are a lot of templates out there to make this process easier. We have posted some of our favorites on the website and you can also pick them up at the local library. We even have QR codes for those who prefer a digital format. Below are some simple tasks you can do to make your planning process easier.

- Know what hazards are likely to occur in your neighborhood. Everyone worries about Cascadia and it's a valid concern, but you are much more likely to experience a flood, winter storm, power outage or wildfire than you are a damaging quake. Plan for all of these events
- Do you have an alternate route out of your home? Look around on your next drive to work or the store and see where you would go, if your normal exit is blocked or inaccessible.
- Practice with your kids, how to be ready to leave your home in a hurry if necessary.
- Have your physical address posted in a highly visible location so visitors, guests and caregivers can find it easily.
- Show all family members that may be home alone, how to turn off your power, water, and propane.
- Work with your insurance agent or provider to make sure your coverage includes local disasters like wildfire, earthquake, and storm damage. Understand what they cover and what they do not.
- Be ready to evacuate all the time. Keep your gas tank filled and know where to get information on where to go if you intend to leave.
- Planning ahead can often minimize damage (strapping down your propane tank) and knowing what to do reduces anxiety and panic in an incident.
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- Visit us at the KONP Home and Lifestyle show at the Port Angeles High School on March 9th and 10th for more hints and projects.

