



Disability Is Not Inability

**WESTERN RESERVE INDEPENDENT
LIVING CENTER**

4076 Youngstown Rd. S.E. Suite 203

Warren, Ohio 44484

Phone: 330-372-3325

330-373-1825

Fax: 330-373-1826

www.wriloc.org

Emergency Preparedness

Disaster Tips for People with Medical Needs

- Let your utility company know if you have life sustaining and medical equipment
- Include flashlights, a battery-powered radio with extra batteries, and a windup clock in your disaster kit
- Have corded "landline" telephone
- Have a backup heat source and fuel supply
- Learn how your garage doors open without electricity
- Turn off all appliances except freezers and refrigerators
- Unplug computers and other sensitive equipment
- Conserve water
- Never use gas ovens, fire pits, or portable heaters for indoor heating
- Use flashlights or touch lights. Candles can cause fires.
- Stay away from downed power lines
- Learn how to keep food safe when you don't have power
- Consider buying a backup generator

Tips for Mobility Disabilities

- Keep an emergency supply kit close to your walker or wheelchair.
- Have extra batteries for motorized wheelchairs, and learn different ways to charge batteries.
- Have a patch kit in your emergency kit to repair flats if your wheelchair does not have puncture proof tires.
- Plan and practice using another escape route in case you primary route is blocked.
- Practice ways of lifting and carrying that will work if you are unable to use stairs and must leave your mobility device behind.

Tips for those with visual disabilities

- Label your emergency kit in large print or Braille, or mark with fluorescent tape
- If you use a cane, keep an extra one with your emergency kit
- Place security lights in each room to make it easier to find your way to safety
- Flashlights and touch lights with extra batteries should be stored where they are easy to find

Tips for those with Hearing Disabilities

- Keep hearing aids and extra batteries in a place where you can get them easily if disaster strikes. Keep extras in your emergency kit
- Install battery operated smoke alarms that you can both see and hear when they go off
- Keep paper and pens in your emergency kit to communicate with emergency personnel