

Preparedness Tip #2



I put a kit together, but I heard I may need to check it once in a while.

Do emergency kits require upkeep?

Yes! Canned food and even bottled water have expiration dates. We recommend you check your kit at least once a year (every six months is best) to be sure your supplies are fresh and complete.

Kit upkeep tips:

1. Pick a date to check your kit and put it on your calendar. You could check your emergency kit at the same time you check your smoke detectors.
2. Pull everything out of your emergency kit!
3. Make a list of what is in your kit. Note how much of each item you have and how much you want or need. Over the next few months add what is needed to complete your kit.
4. While everything is out check each item's expiration date, including water, food, batteries and medications. If items are expired add them to your "what is needed to complete my kit" list.
5. Decide if anything is missing or damaged. Some emergency kit items get used for other purposes or you may need a different storage location or method. (Use plastic bins instead of paper bags or cardboard boxes to protect from moisture.) This is a great time to make sure you have everything you need when a disaster happens.

