



Rapid City—Pennington County Emergency Management  
315 St Joseph St, B-31, Rapid City, SD 57701  
Office: 605-394-2185 Fax: 605-394-2180  
[rcpcem.com](http://rcpcem.com)

Anthony Carbajal or Alexa White

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

---

### **Are You Prepared For a Disaster?**

Severe Weather Preparedness Week, April 26-30, 2010

Every year, in every season, we hear about disasters that take peoples homes and lives. We would like to think that disasters and emergencies don't really happen here, in our area, but they do. You could be anywhere—at work, at school, or in your car. What would you do if basic services—water, gas, electricity or telephones were cut off? Knowing what to do is your best defense against the burden of disaster. Being prepared and understanding what to do can reduce fear, anxiety, and losses that accompany disasters. None of us know when or where disaster will strike, but we can be ready, resilient and safe during emergencies by preparing in the following 3 ways.

1. Make A Plan: Know the hazards in your area, have an evacuation and communication plan with your family and practice it.
2. Build A Kit: A minimum 3 days survival kit at home, in each car, at work, and at each child's school or daycare, and remember your pets' needs as well.
3. Get Involved: Learn CPR and first aid, talk with your neighbors about responding to emergencies in your neighborhood.

#### Statewide Tornado Drill– Wed, April 28

A statewide tornado drill will be conducted by the National Weather Service between 9:00 and 9:30 am MDT on **Wednesday, April 28**. Because the exercise is used to ensure communications and warning systems are functioning properly before storm season, people will see and hear the alerts. Individuals do not need to take any action during the drill, but they are encouraged to make plans to protect themselves and their families before storms develop.

You should know how to respond to severe weather or any disaster that could occur in your area. Each disaster has lasting effects — people are seriously injured, some are killed, and property damage runs into the billions of dollars.

Contact our office at 394-2185 to get a FREE emergency kit magnet. This magnet lists all the necessary items needed to complete your disaster kit. Don't wait, get started today.

---