GET READY! Kent County
Twelve Month Citizen Preparedness Program
Fact Sheet

JANUARY: STAY INFORMED and
KNOW THE HAZARDS IN YOUR AREA

Disasters happen anytime and anywhere.
When disaster strikes, it is easier to cope when you are prepared. GET READY! Kent County
recommends that you take the advice of your local Fire, Police, and Health Departments in
response to local emergencies or hazards.

COMMUNITY & HOME HAZARDS

☐ Western Michigan residents endure
  many weather-related hazards such as
  thunderstorms, high winds, snow storms,
  extreme cold, extreme heat, and tornados.

☐ Other hazards may include fires, chemical
  accidents occurring at local industries, or
  environmental situations that affect public
  health. (For example: E. coli or Norovirus contamination)

☐ Complete a ‘Home Hazard Hunt’!
  - Be sure your electric outlets are adequate to
    handle your appliance loads
  - Keep flammable liquids away from heaters,
    ovens, pilot lights and outlets
  - Have smoke detectors placed on each floor
    of your home, with at least one near your
    bedrooms (test monthly)
  - Keep a multi-purpose fire extinguisher
    (2-A:10-B:C Rated) in the kitchen and in the
    garage.
  - Candles and home heaters should never be
    left unattended.

Smoke detectors and fire extinguishers can be purchased at home improvement stores and stores that sell small appliances.

What should I do during severe weather? Stay in your home unless directed to evacuate by your
local fire or police department.

How do I know if it’s safe to travel? Tune in to local radio or TV news stations for travel updates.

Tips for success... Keep emergency kits on hand at home and in your car!
(See September and October Fact Sheets for details on kits)

Most Important Emergency Supplies... Water, blankets, flashlights with extra batteries, a shovel, and a
first aid kit; ...and don’t forget your cell phone and charger/car charger.

For more information...
Visit the Get Ready! Kent County website, www.accessKent.com/getready, www.michigan.gov,
www.redcross.org/ml/grand-rapids, and www.bemittenready.com

www.accessKent.com/getready and www.getreadyKent.org