Are You and Your Family Ready for Emergencies?

For more information go to www.redcross.org or call 971-673-0352

In the car, if evacuation is necessary or you are stranded:

- Drinking water and water treatment tablets
- Non-perishable, high energy foods such as nutrition bars
- Paper towels, plates, cups, utensils
- Baby food and formula with disposable bottles
- Pet food and supplies
- Extra clothes, shoes, blankets
- List of phone numbers
- Plastic bags for trash and waste
- Extra car keys
- Basic tool kit, tape, gloves, duct tape, rags
- Plastic bucket with lid for sanitary purposes
- Toilet paper
- Small folding shovel and sand for traction
- Whistle, small mirror, flares
- At least a half-tank of gas

Check weather and road conditions before a trip and take a cell phone if possible.

At home—have at least three days supply of the following:

- Drinking water (at least three gallons for each person)
- Non-perishable, read-to-eat foods
- Baby food and formula with disposable bottles
- Hand-operated can opener, knife, eating utensils
- Alternate source of heat and/or extra blankets
- Pet food and supplies
- First-aid supplies and necessary medication
- Soap, toothpaste, toilet paper, sanitary pads, diapers, baby supplies
- Portable radio, flashlight and extra batteries
- Matches and candles, oil lamps or light sticks (a safe, low-cost substitute to candles.)

Prepare for the emergencies most likely to happen where you live. Are you in an earthquake, tsunami or flood zone? Are landslides, forest fires, or ice storms common in your area? Do you live near a chemical storage facility? Do you have an elderly or disabled household member or neighbor? Is there someone who can help you or who may need your help?

Create a family emergency plan and practice it. Decide on two meeting places; one close to home and one away. Agree on another contact to call if you can't reach each other directly. Teach children how and when to call 911. Know how to shut off water, gas and power to your home. If you need a special tool, make sure you can get it quickly. Listen to news reports and follow directions carefully.