

# **MRTA INFORMATIVE AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

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Karen Earnest, Chair

With the Joplin tornado fresh in our minds, it is important to review our preparedness for an emergency.

FEMA recommends the following steps:

## **MAKE A PLAN**

Pick two places to meet, one right outside your home in case of fire and one outside your neighborhood in case you cannot return home.

Ask an out-of area friend or family member to be your family contact and make sure everyone knows the number. Also, prepare a “red file” and ask this person to keep it for you. A “red file” should contain copies of important papers, credit card numbers, bank account numbers, pictures of your home interior and exterior, insurance information, etc.

## **ASSEMBLE A KIT**

Kits should include:

- 1) Water
- 2) Nonperishable, high-protein food
- 3) Flashlight and extra batteries
- 4) First Aid Kit
- 5) Medications
- 6) Battery operated radio and extra batteries
- 7) Tools including manual can opener, hammer, wrench, pliers, knife, duct tape, plastic sheeting and garbage bags.
- 8) Personal items (eyeglasses, copies of important papers, including birth certificates)
- 9) Sanitary Supplies (toilet paper, bleach, hand sanitizer)
- 10) Cash and coins
- 11) Emergency numbers
- 12) A map

Store your supplies in a sturdy, but easy to carry container. Keep a smaller version of the kit in your car.

## **MAINTAIN YOUR PLAN**

Review your plan every six months.