HOUSEHOLD EVACUATION & KEY EQUIPMENT CHECKLISTS

Emergency & Disaster Resilience Manual

Practical Household Checklists

Daran Oswyn Jones, BA (Hons), MA
© Daran Oswyn Jones 2026

CHECKLIST 1 — HOUSEHOLD EVACUATION PLAN

Household Information

Household name: _____

Address: _____

Primary evacuation meeting point: _____

Secondary meeting point: _____

Out-of-area contact: _____

Telephone: _____

Nearest safe relative/friend: _____

Telephone: _____

Date plan created: _____

Date last reviewed: _____

---

1. PEOPLE ACCOUNTED FOR

Before leaving, identify everyone who needs to evacuate.

☐ Adults accounted for

☐ Children accounted for

☐ Older household members accounted for

☐ People with mobility difficulties accounted for

☐ People requiring medical equipment accounted for

☐ Pets accounted for

☐ Assistance animals accounted for

☐ Visitors accounted for

☐ Everyone knows where to meet

Number of people evacuating: _____

Number of pets/animals: _____

---

2. IMMEDIATE EVACUATION DECISION

If there is immediate danger:

☐ Call emergency services if required

☐ Follow official evacuation instructions

☐ Do not delay evacuation to collect unnecessary possessions

☐ Take essential medication

☐ Take essential medical equipment

☐ Take children/dependants

☐ Take pets where evacuation arrangements permit

☐ Take evacuation bag/kit if immediately accessible

☐ Take mobile phone

☐ Take power bank

☐ Take keys

☐ Take wallet/purse

☐ Take essential identification/documents

☐ Leave by the safest available route

☐ Do not use lifts where fire or power failure makes them unsafe

☐ Do not enter an unsafe building to retrieve belongings

---

3. BEFORE LEAVING — IF TIME PERMITS

Only carry out these actions **if they can be completed without delaying evacuation or increasing danger**.

☐ Check all household members

☐ Check vulnerable people/neighbours where safe

☐ Close windows and doors

☐ Lock doors if practical

☐ Turn off gas if safe and appropriate

☐ Turn off electricity if safe and appropriate

☐ Turn off water if appropriate

☐ Extinguish obvious household flames

☐ Disconnect non-essential electrical equipment if safe

☐ Move important documents to evacuation bag

☐ Take essential medicines

☐ Take essential medical equipment

☐ Take emergency water

☐ Take emergency food

☐ Take warm/waterproof clothing

☐ Take first-aid kit

☐ Take torch/headlamp

☐ Take radio

☐ Take chargers/power banks

☐ Take necessary pet supplies

☐ Check that nobody remains inside

---

4. PERSONAL EVACUATION KIT

For each person:

☐ Identification

☐ Wallet/purse

☐ Mobile phone

☐ Phone charger

☐ Power bank

☐ Essential medication

☐ Prescription information

☐ Water bottle

☐ Emergency food/snacks

☐ Warm clothing

☐ Waterproof clothing

☐ Spare underwear

☐ Spare socks

☐ Appropriate footwear

☐ Torch/headlamp

☐ Basic hygiene supplies

☐ Personal first-aid supplies

☐ Essential glasses/contact-lens supplies

☐ Important personal items

---

5. HOUSEHOLD EVACUATION BAG

☐ Drinking water

☐ Emergency food

☐ First-aid kit

☐ Essential medicines

☐ Torch

☐ Spare batteries

☐ Radio

☐ Power banks

☐ Charging cables

☐ Printed emergency contacts

☐ Paper

☐ Pencil

☐ Local map

☐ Compass

☐ Emergency blankets

☐ Warm clothing

☐ Waterproof clothing

☐ Spare socks

☐ Basic sanitation supplies

☐ Toilet paper

☐ Hand sanitiser

☐ Antiseptic wipes

☐ Nitrile gloves

☐ Heavy-duty waste bags

☐ Basic tools

☐ Duct tape

☐ Cordage

☐ Whistle

☐ Copies of important documents

---

6. CHILDREN

For each child:

☐ Child accounted for

☐ Appropriate clothing

☐ Shoes/boots

☐ Coat/waterproof

☐ Medication if required

☐ Favourite comfort item

☐ Water

☐ Snacks

☐ Identification/contact information

☐ Small activity/book/game

☐ Parent/carer contact information

Important: Children should remain with a responsible adult wherever possible.

---

7. PETS AND ANIMALS

☐ Pet accounted for

☐ Lead/harness

☐ Carrier where appropriate

☐ Food

☐ Water

☐ Medication

☐ Waste bags

☐ Identification

☐ Contact details

☐ Veterinary information

☐ Appropriate bedding/blanket

☐ Pet emergency kit

Do not put yourself or others in danger attempting to retrieve an animal.

---

8. VEHICLE EVACUATION CHECK

If evacuating by vehicle:

☐ Vehicle is roadworthy

☐ Fuel level checked

☐ Aim to maintain at least half a tank during periods of heightened risk

☐ Mobile phone charged

☐ Charging cable available

☐ Emergency water available

☐ Emergency food available

☐ First-aid kit available

☐ Torch available

☐ Reflective equipment available

☐ Warm blanket available

☐ Maps available

☐ Vehicle documents available

☐ Essential medication packed

☐ Pets safely restrained

☐ Everyone wearing seat belts

☐ Route checked using reliable information

☐ Alternative route identified

☐ Road closures/hazards checked

☐ Do not drive through floodwater

☐ Do not ignore official evacuation routes

---

9. EVACUATION ROUTE

Primary Route

From: _____

To: _____

Route: _____

☐ Route identified

☐ Route practised

☐ Alternative route identified

☐ Route avoids known hazards

☐ Route suitable for household mobility requirements

☐ Route suitable for children

☐ Route suitable for pets where necessary

Alternative Route

From: _____

To: _____

Route: _____

☐ Alternative route identified

☐ Alternative route practised

☐ Safe meeting point identified

---

10. IF THE FAMILY BECOMES SEPARATED

☐ Remain calm

☐ Contact household members

☐ Contact designated emergency contact

☐ Go to agreed meeting point if safe

☐ Do not repeatedly move between meeting points without communicating

☐ Follow official instructions

☐ Contact emergency services if someone is missing or in danger

Primary meeting point:

Secondary meeting point:

---

11. IF COMMUNICATIONS FAIL

☐ Use agreed meeting point

☐ Use printed contact information

☐ Use radio

☐ Use local information points where appropriate

☐ Follow official public announcements

☐ Do not rely solely on mobile phones

☐ Do not assume that silence means everything is safe

---

12. BEFORE LEAVING THE PROPERTY — FINAL CHECK

☐ Everyone accounted for

☐ Pets accounted for

☐ Essential medication taken

☐ Mobile phones taken

☐ Power banks taken

☐ Identification/documents taken

☐ Emergency bag taken if safe

☐ Water taken if safe

☐ Doors/windows secured if time permits

☐ Utilities isolated if appropriate and safe

☐ Fire hazards checked

☐ No person remains inside

☐ No one delays evacuation unnecessarily

---

13. EVACUATION — FINAL COMMAND

STOP → ASSESS → ACCOUNT → EQUIP → EVACUATE → COMMUNICATE

☐ STOP — Do not panic

☐ ASSESS — Identify immediate danger

☐ ACCOUNT — Make sure everyone is present

☐ EQUIP — Take essential items if safe

☐ EVACUATE — Leave by the safest available route

☐ COMMUNICATE — Inform family/emergency services as appropriate

---

CHECKLIST 2 — EMERGENCY EVACUATION QUICK CARD

TAKE FIRST

☐ People

☐ Children/dependants

☐ Pets

☐ Essential medication

☐ Mobile phone

☐ Keys

☐ Wallet/purse

☐ Identification

☐ Water

☐ Emergency bag

☐ Warm/waterproof clothing

☐ First-aid supplies

IF THERE IS TIME

☐ Radio

☐ Power banks

☐ Chargers

☐ Important documents

☐ Food

☐ Local map

☐ Torch

☐ Sanitation supplies

☐ Essential medical equipment

REMEMBER

PEOPLE BEFORE PROPERTY.

DO NOT DELAY EVACUATION FOR NON-ESSENTIAL ITEMS.

CHECKLIST 3 — KEY HOUSEHOLD ITEMS & EQUIPMENT

WATER

☐ Bottled drinking water

☐ Food-grade water containers

☐ Water storage containers

☐ Buckets

☐ Cooking pots

☐ Funnel

☐ Clean cloth

☐ Certified water filter

☐ Water purification supplies

☐ Water storage labels

☐ Drinking/non-drinking water clearly separated

FIRE & HEAT

☐ Disposable lighters

☐ Waterproof matches

☐ Ferro rod

☐ Dry tinder

☐ Candles

☐ Muffin baking tin

☐ Fire-safe surface

☐ Heat-resistant gloves

☐ Metal bucket

☐ Fire extinguisher

☐ Firewood/fuel where appropriate

LIGHTING

☐ Headlamp

☐ Hand torch

☐ LED lantern

☐ Spare batteries

☐ Rechargeable batteries

☐ Battery charger

☐ Solar lantern

☐ Candles

☐ Matches/lighter

ELECTRICITY

☐ Power banks

☐ USB cables

☐ Mains chargers

☐ Rechargeable batteries

☐ Battery charger

☐ Car USB/12V charger

☐ Solar charger

☐ Solar panel

☐ Battery power station

☐ Essential-device charging cables

COMMUNICATION

☐ Mobile phone

☐ Wind-up radio

☐ Solar radio

☐ FM/AM radio

☐ Spare batteries

☐ Rechargeable batteries

☐ Legal two-way radios

☐ Radio charging equipment

☐ Printed emergency contacts

☐ Notebook

☐ Pencils

☐ Permanent marker

☐ Paper

☐ Whistle

☐ Printed local map

SHELTER

☐ Emergency blankets

☐ Tarp

☐ Groundsheet

☐ Sleeping bags

☐ Wool blankets

☐ Sleeping mats

☐ Tent

☐ Waterproof clothing

☐ Bin bags

☐ Duct tape

☐ Cordage

☐ Needle and thread

CLOTHING

☐ Base layers

☐ Warm jumpers/fleece

☐ Waterproof jacket

☐ Waterproof trousers

☐ Hat

☐ Gloves

☐ Warm socks

☐ Spare socks

☐ Spare underwear

☐ Boots

☐ Spare footwear

☐ Clothing repair kit

FOOD

☐ Tinned food

☐ Manual tin opener

☐ Oats

☐ Rice

☐ Pasta

☐ Beans/lentils

☐ Dried foods

☐ Nuts

☐ Peanut butter

☐ Crackers/biscuits

☐ Chocolate/sweets

☐ Cooking oil

☐ Salt

☐ Sugar

☐ Tea/coffee

☐ Dried milk powder

☐ Powdered drinks

☐ Emergency no-cook food

COOKING

☐ Primary cooking equipment

☐ Camping stove

☐ Correct stove fuel

☐ Cooking pot

☐ Frying pan

☐ Kettle

☐ Metal mugs

☐ Cooking utensils

☐ Knife

☐ Chopping board

☐ Manual tin opener

☐ Heat-resistant gloves

☐ Outdoor cooking equipment

☐ Safe fire-lighting equipment

MEDICAL & FIRST AID

☐ First-aid kit

☐ Plasters

☐ Sterile dressings

☐ Gauze

☐ Bandages

☐ Medical tape

☐ Disposable gloves

☐ Antiseptic

☐ Scissors

☐ Tweezers

☐ Safety pins

☐ Thermal blanket

☐ Cold pack

☐ Blister dressings

☐ Digital thermometer

☐ Oral rehydration supplies

☐ Appropriate pain relief

☐ Essential personal medicines

☐ Prescription information

☐ Medication storage supplies

☐ List of important medical information

SANITATION & HYGIENE

☐ Toilet paper

☐ Soap

☐ Hand sanitiser

☐ Antiseptic wipes

☐ Baby wipes

☐ Toothbrushes

☐ Toothpaste

☐ Personal hygiene products

☐ Nitrile gloves

☐ Heavy-duty contractor bags

☐ Approximately 3 mm contractor bags where appropriate

☐ Woodchip

☐ Woodchip cat litter

☐ Bucket

☐ Cleaning cloths

☐ Disinfectant

☐ Unscented plain bleach suitable for intended use

☐ Appropriate hydrogen peroxide product

☐ N95/appropriate respirators

☐ Eye protection

☐ Protective clothing

TOOLS

☐ Hammer

☐ Screwdrivers

☐ Pliers

☐ Adjustable wrench

☐ Spanners

☐ Utility knife

☐ Hand saw

☐ Hacksaw

☐ Files

☐ Chisel

☐ Hand drill

☐ Drill bits

☐ Tape measure

☐ Spirit level

☐ Crowbar

☐ Axe

☐ Folding saw

☐ Secateurs

☐ Shovel

☐ Garden fork

☐ Hoe

☐ Rake

REPAIR KIT

☐ Duct tape

☐ Electrical tape

☐ Rope

☐ Cordage

☐ Wire

☐ Cable ties

☐ Screws

☐ Nails

☐ Nuts

☐ Bolts

☐ Washers

☐ Hose clamps

☐ Epoxy

☐ Superglue

☐ Wood glue

☐ Sewing thread

☐ Needles

☐ Patches

☐ Rubber sheet

☐ Plastic sheet

☐ Spare fuses

☐ Spare hose

NAVIGATION

☐ Compass

☐ Detailed local map

☐ Ordnance Survey map

☐ Road atlas

☐ Smartphone

☐ Offline maps

☐ GPS

☐ Pencil

☐ Waterproof map case

TRANSPORT

Vehicle

☐ Vehicle maintained

☐ Fuel at least half full where practical

☐ Jump leads

☐ Tyre inflator

☐ Tyre pressure checked

☐ Spare wheel/repair equipment

☐ Torch

☐ First-aid kit

☐ Water

☐ Blanket

☐ Phone charger

☐ Basic tools

☐ Reflective equipment

☐ Vehicle documents

Bicycle

☐ Bicycle maintained

☐ Pump

☐ Puncture repair kit

☐ Spare inner tube

☐ Tyre levers

☐ Basic tools

☐ Lubricant

☐ Lights

☐ Reflective equipment

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

☐ Identification

☐ Passport where applicable

☐ Driving licence

☐ Insurance information

☐ Household information

☐ Emergency contacts

☐ Family contacts

☐ Utility information

☐ Important telephone numbers

☐ Appropriate medical information

☐ Prescription information

☐ Property information

☐ Copies stored securely offline

FAMILY & COMMUNITY

☐ Family contact list

☐ Friends' contact list

☐ Neighbour contact list

☐ Emergency meeting point

☐ Secondary meeting point

☐ Out-of-area contact

☐ Local emergency information

☐ Vulnerable-neighbour welfare arrangements

☐ Child arrangements

☐ Pet arrangements

MONTHLY CHECK

Date: _____

☐ Water

☐ Food

☐ Medicines

☐ First aid

☐ Torches

☐ Batteries

☐ Radio

☐ Power banks

☐ Clothing

☐ Fire equipment

☐ Smoke alarms

☐ CO alarms

☐ Sanitation supplies

☐ Tools

☐ Vehicle

☐ Documents

☐ Emergency contacts

SIX-MONTHLY PRACTICAL CHECK

Date: _____

☐ Fire-starting practice

☐ Emergency cooking

☐ Water treatment

☐ First-aid practice

☐ Navigation practice

☐ Shelter setup

☐ Radio practice

☐ Evacuation drill

☐ Family meeting-point drill

☐ Communication failure drill

☐ Emergency sanitation review

☐ Vehicle evacuation review

☐ Pet evacuation review

ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD EVACUATION EXERCISE

Date: _____

Simulate a realistic emergency.

☐ Alarm/notification received

☐ Household members accounted for

☐ Emergency bags collected

☐ Essential medication collected

☐ Pets accounted for

☐ Communications checked

☐ Primary route identified

☐ Alternative route identified

☐ Household evacuated

☐ Meeting point reached

☐ Everyone accounted for

☐ Equipment inspected afterwards

☐ Problems recorded

☐ Improvements agreed

Lessons Identified

Improvements Required

FINAL HOUSEHOLD RULE

PEOPLE → MEDICAL NEEDS → WATER → COMMUNICATION → SHELTER → FOOD → EQUIPMENT → PROPERTY

When evacuation is necessary:

Leave early when instructed.

Take people before possessions.

Do not delay evacuation for non-essential equipment.

Follow emergency-service and official evacuation instructions.

A checklist is useful only if the household practises using it.

© Daran Oswyn Jones 2026