

FI-Ready: Prepare In A Year 2024 - February

Welcome to ***Prepare In A Year***. Our goal is to help guide you to develop your desired level of preparedness in a series of small steps over the next eleven months (we are off to a bit of a late start). We will be suggesting action steps as well as recommending levels of preparedness. Here are the topics we will be covering by month:

Month	Topic
February	1) Communications Plan and 2) Action Plan
March	3) Water, Medications, and the Rule of 3's
April	4) Grab and Go Kits
May	5) Important Documents
June	6) 2 Weeks Ready (due to the bridge we recommend 4 weeks)
July	7) Fire Safety
August	8) Utility Safety
September	9) Under the Bed
October	10) Earthquake Preparedness – Drop, Cover and Hold on
November	11) Staying Warm and Shelter in Place
December	12) Home Hazard Hunt

Topic #1 – Communications Plan



Probably one of the worst things that could happen to any of us is being separated from family members in an emergency. Compounding that would be not knowing how to reach them, and not knowing how to get reunited. We suggest the following:

- Figure out how to reach each member (phone/radio/etc)
- Using the attached form, create a meeting place (suggest one for on-island and one for off-island) and list contact numbers for everyone. In an emergency you may not have your phone available to you with your contact lists. Put this list in your FI Family Emergency Manual (we will be rolling it out later this year – but nothing says you cannot start a folder or manual now and keep these documents on hand!).

Action Steps:

1. Fill out the attached form, suggest each family member have a copy.
2. Determine both on-and off-island assembly points.

Topic #2 – Action Plan

To create an action plan, you should know your hazards. The main hazards we face here on Fox Island are:



- Losing the Bridge
- Earthquakes, both from the Cascadia Subduction Zone and also from local crustal faults under Puget Sound.
- Severe Weather
- Fires, either wildfires or human-caused

What could impact you and your family the most?

How would you find out about these events?

How could you be alerted in time to get to safety?

Are you often off-island and far away?

Think about how these could affect you – what if your family is separated?

Additionally, many of us do not spend all of our time on Fox Island. Other coastal areas and places around us are more subject to Tsunamis and volcano eruptions (Mt. Rainier). As you travel, be aware of the hazard zones you might be entering and of any warnings.

Recommended Action steps:

1. Have each family member sign up for PC Alert at

<https://member.everbridge.net/453003085611267/login>

2. Verify your phones have Wireless Emergency Alerts enabled including the local notification. This service does NOT track you, but unless you enable this function you will not get local alerts – wherever you are. FYI – Local Alerts was not enabled in any of my family phones. We had never looked at it! Here is a website:

<https://www.weather.gov/media/wrn/WEA-factsheet-2021-final.pdf>

3. Figure out your vulnerability to the above scenarios and determine an initial response to the following scenarios:

- **Bridge Out:** This is why a family communication plan is important. Think about how you could shelter in place if need be. We will cover that in more detail in the months to come.

- **Earthquake:** Drop, Cover, and Hold On. Where would you find safety at home?

- **Severe Weather:** How do you get your weather information? Emergency information?

- **Wildfires:** Have a plan to escape your house, and long-term look at mitigating your property hazards. Granted, routes are limited on the island, but we will revisit this topic.

Useful Links

Fox Island YouTube Channel – FI Emergency Planning Video 01

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xlzDCMB6e0c>

Prepare in a Year – <https://mil.wa.gov/asset/5f171cc0a935f>

For the above topics look at months 1 & 2.

Ready.gov – has a good section on types of hazards and emergencies.

<https://www.ready.gov/be-informed>

“The Really Big One” – 1/26/2024 Seattle Times

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/northwest/on-this-day-in-1700-the-really-big-one-a-magnitude-9-0-earthquake-hit-western-washington/>

Ready.gov – has a good section on types of hazards and emergencies.

<https://www.ready.gov/be-informed>