



MODULE 1

**PERSONAL
EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS**

1F

**Emergency Financial
“First Aid” Kit**



**PERSONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
MODULE 1F: YOUR PERSONAL DISASTER PLAN**

**Emergency Financial
“First Aid” Kit**

Materials Needed:

1 copy of the FEMA Emergency Financial First Aid Kit for each household

1 copy of the letter to send, out-of-town, with the packet.

- 1. FEMA Packet** - A member of each household will need to complete the FEMA packet. This may seem like a lot of unnecessary paperwork, but in fact, this very packet could save you a great deal of time, effort and heartache. After large-scale disasters such as Hurricane Katrina, survivors realized that recreating their paperwork was an unbelievably daunting task, which in some instances took many months to complete. This packet will take a lot less time to complete now, rather than having to recreate your financial life after a disaster.
- 2. Make Copies** - After each family has completed their packet, they will want to make at least a couple of copies of it. They will want to keep one packet with their household paper. The second packet should be sent to a trusted friend or family member in a city, or even part of the country, to store for them, in case their copy is destroyed in a disaster.
- 3. Copy the Letter** - We have included a letter, that you are welcome to copy, to send to a friend or relatives, with your FEMA packet. Feel free to use any or all of this letter. You have permission to make any changes that you find necessary.
- 4. Send Your Packet** - Please consider sending your packet to friends or family that do not live in your vicinity, so the chances of their area sharing in the same disaster is minimal.



Neighborhoods that are prepared for emergencies and disaster situations save lives, reduce the severity of injuries and trauma, and reduce property damage.

Dear _____,

As you know, we live in a vulnerable world, where it is likely that we will, at some point, be affected by an emergency, disaster, public health event, or even a crime. Knowing that emergencies often happen when we least expect them, it seems like a good idea to get prepared. I have decided to become involved in my community's preparedness project, called "Neighbors Helping Neighbors". My neighborhood is holding meetings, exercises and drills designed to prepare us for any emergency or disaster we may face. One of our meetings is focused on filling out and preserving our financial documents. After large-scale disasters such as Hurricane Katrina, survivors realized that recreating their paperwork was an unbelievably daunting task, which in some instances took many months to complete. The Neighbors Helping Neighbors project is encouraging us to fill the FEMA Financial First Aid packet out now. In the case that we ever need it, it will be much easier to make adjustments to this completed packet, rather than having to recreate our entire financial history.

Since these documents could actually be lost in a disaster, I would like to send a copy of my packet to you for safe storage. I have enclosed copies of some other important documents and photos as well. I sealed the package, and would appreciate it if you could put it in a safe place, out of your way. Hopefully, I will never need this package, but I am much more comfortable knowing that this second copy exists.

Thank you so much for storing these items for me. If you would like to prepare a similar packet, I would be happy to store it for you.

Thanks again, I do appreciate it.

Sincerely,