

# What to do After an Emergency



After an emergency is over, there can still be danger ahead. What you do following an emergency can save your life and the lives of others around you. This resource includes a list of tips on what you should do and what you should avoid doing after an emergency happens.

- 1 Stay calm. If you can, help family members or neighbors who are nearby.
- 2 Check the area around you for safety.
- 3 Listen to your local emergency station for updates and instructions. If a natural hazard has happened (like a storm or earthquake) these may continue for the next several days.
- 4 Keep small wounds clean by using soap, water, and a new bandage.
- 5 Unless you have been told to leave your area, stay off the roads so that emergency vehicles can get by. If you must drive, use caution.
- 6 Avoid using the telephone to keep phone lines open for emergency responders and contacts.
- 7 Turn off electrical equipment.
- 8 Keep your refrigerator and freezer doors closed so that they remain cold.
- 9 Do not use the stove to make your home warm. This is dangerous.
- 10 9-1-1 should only be used for emergency situations. Do not call 9-1-1 to report a power outage.