



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 146

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Second Class Requirement 6d2

"Explain what to do in case of accidents that require emergency response in the home"

NOTE: READ THIS PAGE FIRST! IT HAS ALL THE ANSWERS!

_____ Name

THE TEXT BELOW WAS COPIED FROM THE SCOUT HANDBOOK.

You probably spend more time in your home than in any other place. Staying safe there is different-but no less important-than staying safe on campouts and other Scouting trips. As in other settings, being safe means being prepared.

EMERGENCY KIT

Use the contents list of the home or patrol/troop first-aid kit to build your own home first-aid kit. With the help of your parent or guardian, you can create a larger emergency-preparedness kit that includes the items listed plus flashlights, a battery- or crank-powered radio, and a three-day supply of drinking water and nonperishable food for each person in your family, as well as a means of creating water to drink. Having these items on hand will better prepare your family for storms, floods, power outages, and other emergencies. Store your emergency supplies in a cool, dry place, and occasionally check the expiration dates on stored food and medicine.

EMERGENCY PLAN

Work with your parents to develop a plan in case of a fire, storm, power outage, or water outage. Post emergency numbers in a prominent place. Create a map showing two escape routes from each bedroom, and hold a fire drill once a year. (If any bedrooms are on the second floor, consider buying portable fire-escape ladders for those rooms.) Designate a meeting place well away from the home, such as a neighbor's house, where everyone knows to go in case of an emergency.

KEEPING YOUR HOME SAFE

Among young children, poisoning is one of the most frequent causes of accidental death. They might swallow almost anything: fuels, battery acid, peeling wall paint, pills from a medicine cabinet, cosmetics, pesticides, cleaning products, and other household chemicals and poisons. If you see items in your home that could be dangerous to a child, store them in a safe place, out of children's reach.

Older people can be hurt as well. Make sure rugs are secure, especially on staircases, and that dangerous items are stored properly.

Properly dispose of partially filled or unneeded cans of paint and varnish, paint-soaked brushes, and oily rags. Keep turpentine and paint thinners in airtight cans. Store gasoline, benzene, naphtha, charcoal lighter fluid, camp-stove fuel, and other highly flammable liquids in tightly closed metal containers outside the home.

Another part of safety is making sure that there are working smoke detectors inside each bedroom, outside each sleeping level, and on each level of the home, including the basement. If the smoke detectors are battery-operated (instead of connected to the home's electrical supply), replace the batteries twice a year.

PREVENTING CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

The most common inhaled poison is carbon monoxide, a gas given off by gasoline engines, natural gas appliances, charcoal grills, furnaces, and fireplaces. Carbon monoxide is especially dangerous because it has no odor. To avoid carbon monoxide hazards, do not operate a car or lawn mower in a closed garage or shed. Do not cook indoors over wood or charcoal, and never use gas stoves, ovens, candles, or other flames in tents.

Carbon monoxide detectors installed in homes will sound a warning if carbon monoxide reaches dangerous levels. These detectors should be placed on each level of a home, including the basement, and outside of each sleeping area.

UTILITIES

Many home emergencies are related to utilities. A burst pipe can cause flooding, a gas leak or electrical problem can cause a fire. Talk with your parents about what utilities your home has and how to shut them off. Here are some notes about common utilities.

Electric Power: The power to your home comes through an electrical panel. Typically, there is a main power disconnect switch at the top of the panel that will cut power to the entire home.

Water: Cutoff valves can be found near sinks, toilets, and faucets. There should also be a main cutoff valve that lets you turn off all water to the home.

Gas: If you smell gas, leave your home immediately and call 911, your local emergency number, or the gas company from a neighbor's house or your cell phone once you are outside. Looking for the source of a leak yourself could lead to an explosion because many things can be an ignition source—even such things as flashlights, mobile phones, light switches, and garage door openers.

FIRST A REVIEW

IF YOU DON'T HAVE THESE 8 STEPS MEMORIZED, REFER TO YOUR SCOUT HANDBOOK.

If you come upon an emergency scene and take charge, the Scout handbook gives step-by-step advice for what to do -- 8 steps in all. Troop 146 uses this mnemonic to help memorize the 8 steps:

CHAT-W-SEA (note: "W" stands for "worse")

1. "C" = _____
2. "H" = _____
3. "A" = _____
4. "T" = _____
5. "W" = _____
6. "S" = _____
7. "E" = _____
8. "A" = _____

EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN THE HOME

1. Emergency Kit

Assume that your home already has a basic first aid kit. What are the additional items needed to create an emergency-preparedness kit?

- a. *[Hint: When the lights go out]* _____
- b. *[Hint: When your TV isn't working]* _____
- c. *[Hint: When the water is cut off]* _____
- d. *[Hint: When the supermarket is closed]* _____
- e. What special attention is needed for emergency supplies of food and medicine?

2. Emergency Plan

The whole family should be involved in developing an emergency plan to use in case of a fire, storm, or utility outage. What gets covered by the plan?

- a. *[Hint: Phone numbers]* _____
- b. *[Hint: Map or floor plan]* _____
- c. *[Hint: Fire drill]* _____

d. *[Hint: Meeting place]* _____

3. Keeping Your Home Safe

What are **things to look for** when you walk around your home looking for potential safety hazards? **What to do** when you spot something?

a. Problem: Young children and poisoning

Walk around and look for: _____

If found, do this: _____

b. Problem: Old people living in or visiting your home

Walk around and look for: _____

If found, do this: _____

c. Problem: Flammable stuff left over from painting the walls or furniture, etc.

Walk around and look for: _____

If found, do this: _____

d. Problem: It's important to have working smoke detectors

Walk around and look for: _____

If found, do this: _____

4. Preventing Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

What are some "DON'Ts" related to carbon monoxide poisoning?

a. *[Hint: Don't do this with cars]* _____

b. *[Hint: Don't do this with power lawn mowers]* _____

c. *[Hint: Don't do this inside a tent]* _____

Where to install carbon monoxide detectors?

d. *[Hint: If your home has multiple floors]* _____

e. *[Hint: What about sleeping areas?]* _____

5. Utilities - Electric, Water, and Gas

a. **Homework:** In your home, find out where the circuit breakers are installed. It's called the "breaker box," but old-timers might call it a "fuse box."

Where is it? _____

b. **Homework:** In your home, find out if there is a single switch that will cut off all electric power to the entire home.

Where is it? _____

c. **Homework:** In your home, select one toilet. Pretend that you have to make a repair and you have to temporarily shut off its water supply during the repair. Go ahead and shut it off.

Where you successful? Yes___ or

No, because: _____

d. **Homework:** In your home, find out if there is a single valve that will cut off all water in the entire home.

Where is it? _____

e. If you smell gas in your home, where is the safest place to be?

f. If you smell gas in your home, who do you call while standing outside?

g. If you smell gas in your home, name some stupid things someone might do that could cause an explosion.
