



**American  
Red Cross**

**Be Red Cross Ready**

### **Why should families care about disaster preparedness?**

- Every region of our country is vulnerable to disasters of some type like flooding, severe storms, high winds, power outages, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, or wildfire. In fact, just last year the American Red Cross responded to almost 75,000 disasters.
- Having children is an important reason to plan for an emergency. In situations where care may be delayed, families will want to make sure they have the necessary supplies and a plan that the entire family knows about and has practiced.
- Only seven percent of Americans are considered “Red Cross Ready” for a disaster, meaning they have a disaster supplies kit, a communication plan and are prepared to respond to disasters and everyday emergencies.
- 64% of Americans have no evacuation plan, even though 27% have had to leave home for at least one night because of a disaster or other emergency.
- 69% of Americans living in hurricane-prone states don't have a disaster supplied kit, and sixty percent don't have an evacuation plan.
- 60% of American households have a pet, yet only 37% have a plan to care for their pets in case of a disaster.
- 90% of Americans who have a disaster kit feel prepared, but only 28% have one.

### **How can families prepare for a disaster?**

- The American Red Cross is committed to not only responding to help meet the needs of people affected by disaster, but also teaching people the skills they need to help keep their families safer in an emergency. Disaster preparedness shouldn't be overwhelming or scary, nor is it expensive or time consuming. Families can prepare for a disaster by taking three simple actions: get a kit, make a plan, and be informed.

Attend an informative training at **Local IBEW 8**, 807 Lime city Road, Rossford, Ohio 43460, on Saturday, **September 22, 2007, from 10:00 am to 12:00 NOON**. This training is free service of the Greater Toledo Area Chapter of the American Red Cross. Please call 419-329-2672 to register.