

Preparedness Resource Handbook



Clark County faces four major physical hazards: extreme heat, flooding, wildfires, and earthquakes, each capable of triggering widespread disruption, including power outages. These events impact our community's health, safety, and well-being. By taking proactive steps to prepare, residents can help build a safer and more resilient Clark County.

The All-In Clark County Hazard Preparedness Guides offers practical tools, helpful tips, and local resources to support residents in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from weather emergencies.

Being prepared for natural hazards means having essential supplies readily available to sustain your household for several days. Establishing an emergency kit and reviewing it regularly with family members ensures everyone knows how to respond when an emergency occurs. By working together, Clark County residents can reduce risks, safeguard one another, and build a stronger, more resilient community in the face of natural hazards.



**Emergency
Planning Calendar**
Download from the Southern
Nevada Health District

Recommended Items to Include in Your Emergency Grab & Go Bag



Several days' supply of water & non-perishable food
(include a manual can opener)



Blankets or sleeping bags



Personal hygiene items and hand sanitizer



Extra clothing and durable footwear



Flashlight, extra batteries, and a portable phone charger



First aid supplies and essential prescription medications



Items to meet the specific needs of family members and pets



Important documents, such as identification and insurance information, stored in a waterproof container

If assembling a kit independently is not feasible, organizations such as the American Red Cross ([tinyurl.com/RCKits](https://www.redcross.org/RedCrossKit)) offer pre-assembled emergency kits available for purchase.



**BEAT
THE
HEAT!**



**« SCAN TO
REVIEW**

**Southern Nevada
Health District's Beat
the Heat Resources**

Extreme Heat

Preparedness Guide

Extreme heat in Clark County occurs when temperatures exceed seasonal averages for prolonged periods. These events can lead to serious health risks, including heat exhaustion and heat stroke, especially among older adults, young children, and individuals with chronic health conditions. In 2024, Clark County experienced 112 days with temperatures exceeding 100°F, resulting in 3,807 heat-related medical visits and 526 reported deaths.¹

To stay safe during extreme heat events, follow these guidelines:



Preparing for Extreme Heat

Keep your home cool by covering windows with shades and sealing gaps around doors and windows with weather stripping.

Monitor local forecasts and heat advisories through trusted news and weather sources.

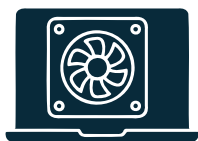
Learn the warning signs of heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke (tinyurl.com/RCXheat).



Stay Hydrated

Drink plenty of water throughout the day.

Avoid sugary, caffeinated, and alcoholic beverages, which can worsen dehydration.



Stay Cool

Spend time in air-conditioned buildings or shaded, well-ventilated areas.

Avoid high-energy and outdoor activities during peak heat hours (typically 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.).

Wear lightweight, loose-fitting, and breathable fabrics such as linen and cotton.

Protect yourself from the sun with a hat and sunscreen.

Refer to Help Hope Home for cooling station information (tinyurl.com/HHHcool).



Stay Connected

Check on family, neighbors, and vulnerable individuals in your community.

Locate the nearest Cooling Station before extreme heat events occur (tinyurl.com/StayCoolCC).

Create and maintain a communication plan to reach your support network in case of emergencies.

Refer to the Stay Cool Clark County resources (tinyurl.com/CCStayCool).

¹ Engel, C., Choinard, A., Almanza, D., Wall, T., & Kimutis, N. (2025). Extreme heat risks in the Las Vegas Valley: A synthesis of heat health impacts and response strategies in Clark County, NV. Desert Research Institute & California Department of Food and Agriculture. tinyurl.com/LVExtremeHeatResources



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Flooding

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Flooding in Clark County occurs when intense rainfall, monsoons, or rapid snowmelt overwhelm the region's dry desert soil and limited drainage systems. These conditions often lead to dangerous flash floods that can damage roads, homes, and critical infrastructure with little to no warning. From July to September, monsoon storms bring short, powerful bursts of rain that can quickly fill flood channels and roadways across the region. Since 1996, there have been over 380 flood events in the region, underscoring the need for awareness and preparedness.²

To stay safe, residents should stay alert, avoid flooded areas, and plan ahead before storms occur.



Preparing for a Flood (tinyurl.com/RegionalFlood)

Know your flood risk. Check the Regional Flood Control District (tinyurl.com/FloodDistrict) and Flash Flood Warning (tinyurl.com/CCflood) to learn if you are at risk.

If you live near flood channels or in a designated flood-prone area, consider whether flood insurance makes sense for your household.

Plan evacuation routes to higher ground and identify alternate plans out of your neighborhood. Store important documents in waterproof containers and have digital backups.

Clear debris from drains and gutters.



During a Flooding Event

Move to higher ground immediately!

Turn around, don't drown! Avoid washes, storm drains, and low-lying roads.

Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters, as little as six inches of moving water can knock you down, and one foot of water can carry away a vehicle.

Stay off crossing bridges over fast-moving water.



After a Flood

Continue monitoring weather reports from the Southern Nevada Community Preparedness App (tinyurl.com/SNprepApp).

Wear heavy gloves and boots during clean up.

Inspect your home and property for damage.

Be aware of downed power lines, contaminated water, and structural damage.

Refer to the American Red Cross for disaster relief (tinyurl.com/ARCdiaster), assistance, and recovery resources.

² FlashFloodWarn. (n.d.). Clark County, Nevada flood risk. flashfloodwarn.com/nevada/clark



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Wildfires

Preparedness Guide

Wildfires in Clark County can ignite and spread quickly during hot, dry, and windy conditions. Rural and mountainous areas, including the Spring Mountains and Lake Mead National Recreation Area, face the greatest risk during late spring through early fall. While most residents in Clark County live in urban areas with low wildfire risk, smoke and poor air quality from wildfires can pose serious health risks across the region.

To stay safe, residents are encouraged to prepare their homes, stay alert during fire season, and know how to respond if evacuation orders are issued.



Be Smoke Ready

Check air quality regularly at AirNow.gov (tinyurl.com/AirNowNV).

Use resources like the Watch Duty App (watchduty.org) for fire updates.

Create defensible zone by clearing dry vegetation and flammable debris at least 30 feet from your home.

Prepare your home by sealing gaps, cleaning gutters, and storing outdoor furniture away from walls during fire season.



During a Wildfire

Listen to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio, or local alerting systems for current emergency information.

Follow evacuation alerts immediately and keep your emergency kit ready.

Reduce smoke exposure: close windows and doors, set air conditioning to recirculate, and use an N95 mask when outdoors.

Avoid additional indoor pollution. Refrain from using gas stoves, burning candles, or running vacuums when smoke levels are high.

Use a portable air purifier to improve indoor air quality.



After a Fire

Wait for official clearance before returning, and watch for hot spots, damaged utility lines, and debris.

Inspect your property safely. Wear gloves, boots, and an N95 mask when handling ash or cleaning up debris.

Support community recovery by checking on neighbors and reporting hazards to local authorities.

Refer to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief (tinyurl.com/ARCreief) resources for assistance and recovery support.

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Earthquakes

Preparedness Guide

Nevada is one of the most earthquake-prone states in the United States. Earthquakes are the sudden, rapid shaking of the earth, caused by the breaking and shifting of underground rock. Buildings may collapse and heavy items may fall, resulting in injuries and property damage.

To stay safe, residents are encouraged to prepare their homes for seismic activity, stay alert for earthquake risks, and know how to respond quickly during and after a quake.



Preparing for an Earthquake

Secure televisions, dressers, and wall hangings. Keep heavy and breakable objects lower on shelves.

Consider earthquake insurance policies. Standard homeowner's insurance does not cover earthquake damage.

Get more information at ShakeOut ([tinyurl.com/GreatNV](https://www.shakeout.gov)) - Get Ready!



During an Earthquake

Drop down to the ground! Cover your head and neck from falling debris! Hold on to any sturdy furniture!

Stay indoors. The greatest danger exists outside of buildings.

If you are in a bed, turn face down and cover your head with a pillow. If

you are in a vehicle, pull over and safely stop in a clear spot.

If you must leave a building, use the stairs, not the elevator.

DROP



COVER



HOLD



After an Earthquake

Expect aftershocks to follow the largest shock of an earthquake sequence. Look for damage in and around your home.

Open closets and cabinets cautiously.

If you are inside a damaged building, go outside and quickly move away from the building.

If you are trapped, send a text message or bang on a pipe or wall.





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Power Outages

Preparedness Guide

The four physical hazards can cause power outages. A power outage occurs when electrical service is unexpectedly interrupted. In Nevada, Clark County ranks first in total outages and second in the percentage of customers affected, among all 15 counties. Outages may be caused by extreme weather, equipment failure, high energy demand, or accidents.

Power outages can disrupt communication systems, close essential services such as grocery stores, and lead to food spoilage.

To stay safe, residents are encouraged to prepare their homes in advance, remain alert during an outage, and understand how to respond effectively.



Preparing for a Power Outage

Create an inventory of essential items you depend on that require electricity, such as your refrigerator.

Plan for batteries and other alternatives to meet all needs when the power goes out.

Review the supplies that are available in case of no power. Have battery powered flashlights, with extra batteries handy. Prepare enough nonperishable food, water, and medications.

Sign up for local alerts and warning systems.



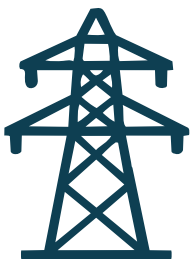
During a Power Outage

Keep freezers and refrigerators closed. The refrigerator will keep food cold for about four hours. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours. Use coolers with ice if necessary.

Use foods that do not require refrigeration.

Do not use a gas stove to heat your home.

Go to a community location with power.



After a Power Outage

Always assume a downed power line is energized and dangerous. Do not touch anything or anyone who has been in contact with a downed power line. Stay at least 100 feet away from the line.

When in doubt, throw it out! Throw away any food that has been exposed to temperatures 40 degrees or higher for two hours or more, or that has an unusual odor, color, or texture.

If the power is out for more than a day, discard any medication that should be refrigerated, unless otherwise noted on the label.