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Isaac M. O'Bannon • Aug. 20, 2012

A person is holding a white brochure with the 'Ready' logo. The brochure lists tips for preparing for a disaster, such as having a kit, having a plan, and having a go bag. In the background, there is a white plastic bin filled with various supplies, including canned food, a box of instant noodle soup, and a box of instant ramen. The bin is sitting on a brick floor. The overall theme is disaster preparedness.

1 2 3 4 5

**SEPTEMBER IS
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

A TIME TO GET PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES

COMMUNITY
Pledge to Prepare by Joining the National Preparedness Coalition

COMMUNITY
Share best practices with others from around the country

DISCUSSION FORUMS
Connect & collaborate with other in you area

September is the height of hurricane season, and also National Preparedness Month in the U.S., which makes it a good time to remember the importance of preparing your business for an emergency. [CrashPlan](#), a backup service provider, has compiled a list of tips to keep in mind when preparing your home and family for any emergency.

Make a Plan

You never know when a disaster might hit. You might not be with your family, so it's

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shutting down and unplugging sensitive electronics, you help prevent damage that may occur during a lightning storm or power outage. However, it is not necessary to turn off water heaters or other gas appliances.

Portable Power

If a weather emergency were to occur, resulting in a power outage, then you will want to have a secondary source of power to charge cell phones and other electronics. Consider whether you might have need for a small generator to preserve food or climate. Even keeping an extra set of batteries in the house could be a priceless purchase.

Build a Kit

In a serious emergency or imminent natural disaster, it's critical to have certain supplies (flashlight, potable water, first aid kit, etc.) set aside beforehand. FEMA has an excellent list of what should be in your [Disaster Supplies Kit](#).

Don't Forget your Four-Legged Family Members

Have a "Go" bag packed with a few days of food, some bottled water, any medicine your furry friends need, and a spare leash. Also, keeping an up-to-date copy of their immunizations is helpful if you need to board them in a new kennel that can't access computerized records.

Backup Your Data

The best way to prevent data loss is to back up your computer on a regular basis. With an automated, cloud-based backup solution like CrashPlan+, your files are always protected. Even if you can't get to your computer, you can access important files (like your [Family Emergency Plan](#)) on your [mobile device](#). As for important

paper documents that have not yet been scanned to your computer and backed

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