Tech For Prep – Preparing For Disaster Through Technology

By Denise Fletcher

KEEP CALM AND PLAN ฿ ON

Objectives

- The role of technology in preparedness
- Apps that can help before/during/after disasters
- Protecting your technology
- Gathering information

Download This Presentation

- http://tinyurl.com/Prep-Forms

The Role of Technology

- Reunite with loved ones
- locate food and shelter
- Determine evacuation routes
- Obtain medical care, and
- Help others, near and far

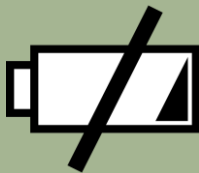# Protecting Your Technology

Backing up

- The Cloud
  - Google Drive
  - One Drive
  - Drop box
  - Share data with others
- External hard drives
- USB drives
  - Backup your personal data to a separate USB
  - Backup all your preparedness info to a separate USB
  - PDFs
  - Food inventory, Recipes, etc.
- Consider encrypting private data
  - Not everything!
- TrueCrypt – most popular

Spare Parts

- Hard drives
- Fans for the chassis
- Cables
- Network cables
- Power cords
- See what you have, have a spare

Power for your tech tools

- Have multiple sources
- Solar
- Wind
- Rechargeable batteries
- Extra batteries
- Generator
- Hand crank devices
- New devices come online all the time
  - e.g. http://www.biolitestove.com/products/biolite-campstove

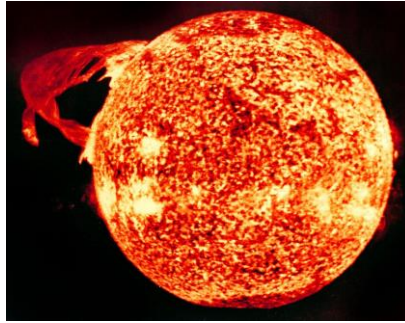## Apps For Mobile Devices

- American Red Cross Mobile Apps
  - Many free apps
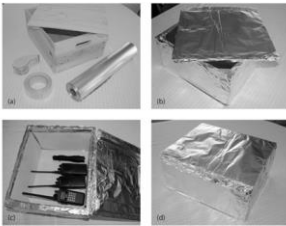 - Search for Red Cross on your mobile device

American Red Cross Emergency – Free

- Encompasses several other tools
  - Earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, wildfires
  - Each of these topics has their own app, but *Emergency* encompasses them all
- Other features
  - Hazards, tsunamis, winter storms, thunderstorms, extreme heat
- Notifications
  - Sends a notification to your phone
  - With/without an audible alarm
- Set multiple locations to "watch"
- One-touch post to social media or text about your status
- See download links here
  - http://www.redcross.org/get-help/prepare-for-emergencies/mobile-apps

EMP/Solar Flares

Faraday Cages

- An enclosure made from conducting material such as steel or copper
- When closed, the Faraday cage blocks external static and non-static electric fields
- Protects sensitive electronic devices from an EMP (electro-magnetic pulse)
- If they are not protected in a Faraday cage, most electronic devices will be not work after an EMP

Faraday Cages - Continued

- Pre-existing containers
  - Ammo cans, metal garbage cans, anti-static bags, and even old microwave ovens, truck tool boxes
- Simplest – Wrap item in several layers of foil
  - Minimum three layers
- Most effective
  - Create from steel or copper enclosure

Faraday Cages - Continued

- Test - IMPORTANT
  - Put a cell phone into the "cage" and try calling it from another phone
    - If it rings, your cage isn't working
  - Put a battery powered radio into you cage, and close the lid
    - If you can hear it, your cage isn't working
- Larger enclosures
- Get the report on the government's assessment of the threat of an EMP attack
  - http://tinyurl.com/Prep-EMPCommisionExec
  - http://tinyurl.com/Prep-EMPCommissionFull

Information and Communication

Applications

- Skype
- Twitter
  - Short easy posts to say you're ok
- Voxer
  - Like a walkie talkie
  - Text messages for voice
  - Can use over Wi-Fi
- Text messages
- Facebook private chat
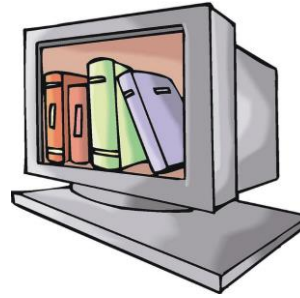- What's App
- Police Scanner App

Information

- Important papers
  - Birth/marriage certificates, SS cards, etc.
- Directory
  - Local business/people that could help in survival situation
    - e.g. Battery store – charge car battery
- Emergency contact info
  - Phone and addresses for
    - Family
    - Doctors
- Inventory
  - Food, prep stuff, clothing, etc.
- Family history

How to Keep your Info

- Download to your computer
- Print it out
  - Consider laminating important files to protect
    - Water damage
    - Usage

Preparedness Information To Store

- Books or PDFs
- Survival guides
- Other preparedness info
- We have over 5 TB of information on preparedness, disaster recovery, survival
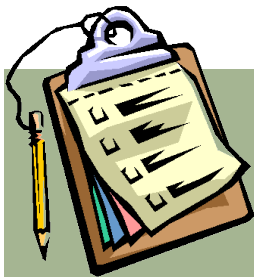
Kindle/E-Readers

- Download books/PDFs to your device
  - Preparedness/survival, Gardening, Canning, Water purification, Creating shelters, etc.
- Free apps available for your phone/tablet/mobile device
  - Amazon
  - https://read.amazon.com/

Send Info To Your Kindle From A Browser

- As a PDF
  - Takes out adds and white space
  - Makes the docs readable by your device via accessibility features
- Send to Kindle
  - For PCs
  - http://www.amazon.com/gp/sendtokindle/pc
- By email
  - http://www.amazon.com/gp/sendtokindle/email
- Via Chrome
  - http://tinyurl.com/Prep-SendToKindle

Forms

- Emergency Contact and Medical Information
- Emergency Phone List
- Babysitter instructions
- Home Inventory Contents List
- Master Information Kit
  - Spreadsheet template
- The Big Book of Everything - Information Organizer v2
- List of Lists
- Download these from me at
  - http://tinyurl.com/Prep-Forms

Be Prepared with Your Tech!