



See inside  
for details.



**When emergencies strike,  
this guide can help safeguard  
your household.**



**Marjorie  
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**Courtesy of  
Assemblywoman  
Marjorie Byrnes**



**Emergencies Happen.**  
A Resource Guide from  
Assemblywoman Marjorie Byrnes



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**Emergencies often happen when  
we are least prepared for them.**

**To prepare your home for a variety of emergencies,** including falls, fires, accidental poisonings, scalds, suffocation, drowning, air quality and more, please download a copy of the Home SAFE Home checklist reference guide courtesy of NYS Department of Health: <https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/3106.pdf>

**For information on how to build an emergency supplies kit and the Four Steps to Preparedness,** please go to the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services' website: <https://www.dhSES.ny.gov/emergency-happens>

**Sign up for emergency alerts:** <https://alert.ny.gov>

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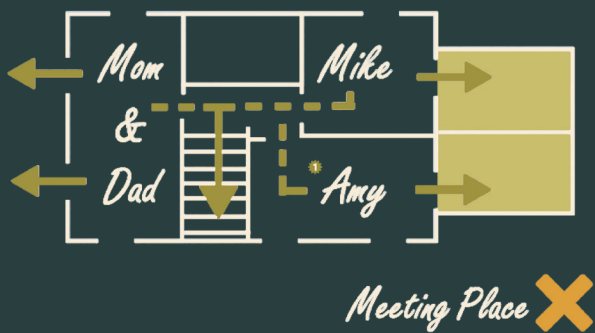


# When Emergencies Strike, You'll be Glad You Planned Ahead



## “E.D.I.T.H.” or Exit Drills in the Home:

Knowing how to exit your home in an emergency, like a fire, and having a safe place to meet nearby will help your family stay safe during an actual emergency. This is an important family activity, and I encourage you to follow these three easy steps:



- 1 **Plan the escape:** draw a floor plan of your home, showing every floor where people sleep and add details like doors, windows, roofs, hallways and stairs that could be used as fire escapes. Be sure to test the accessibility of these options. Draw arrows showing the best routes for each family member to get out most quickly and safely. Pick a nearby safe meeting place, like a fire hydrant, stop sign or distinguished neighborhood tree to meet after leaving your property.
- 2 **Share the plan:** meet with all members of your household, grandchildren and regular guests to discuss the plan and share safety tips, such as rolling out of bed and staying low if there is smoke and feeling the door. Never open a hot door; instead, use your second way out. Once out of the home, stay out and make sure someone (a neighbor or emergency contact) has called 911.
- 3 **Practice it:** to help your family feel less panic in a real emergency and to troubleshoot problems that may arise, test your plan. Start with everyone in their bed. In the first test, everyone can use the normal exit. For the second test, everyone should practice their alternative route to safety. After each test, discuss the drills with your household and iron out any issues. It is recommended to practice twice a year.



**Don't forget to check your smoke alarms and CO2 detectors!**



**When your smoke detector sounds, you may have less than 2.5 minutes to get out.**

Want to help protect our community from fires and other emergencies as a volunteer firefighter – and get benefits like health coverage, education and tax credits? **Learn more at [www.fireinyou.org](http://www.fireinyou.org).**



**To help keep our community even safer, Marje Byrnes is sponsoring legislation to:**

- ✔ **Create a dedicated Local Emergency Services fund** to allow local emergency services to purchase necessary equipment, vehicles and apparatus, and preventative protection equipment (A.4761).
- ✔ **Increase training opportunities for volunteer firefighters & create tax incentives for their employers** (A.2267), grant leave to civil servants who are also volunteer emergency personnel during declared states of emergency (A.3668), and create a wage tax credit for those who employ New York National Guard members, reservists, volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel (A.2044).
- ✔ **Create the Omnibus Emergency Services Volunteer Incentive Act** (A.5157) and reimburse volunteer emergency service personnel for motor vehicle mileage (A.4094).



**For more information on any state issue, please contact Assemblywoman Marjorie Byrnes:**  
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