

Disaster preparedness items might make good Christmas gifts

Winter storms, floods and even pandemic contagion – all have one thing in common: they remind us of the importance of pre-disaster preparedness. But good intentions need to turn into tangible deeds, and according to FEMA Regional Administrator Ken Murphy, there's no time like the holidays to start, by resolving to be ready before disaster strikes.

"The holiday season is a great time to give important, inexpensive gifts that say: 'I want you to be safe!' and reduce risk

exposure for friends and loved ones," said Murphy. "Gifts that can save lives are a wonderful way of welcoming in 2011. The dialogue and the mindset that goes along with it may mean even more than the gift itself."

Emergency and preparedness items that might make great gifts this Holiday Season include:

- Portable, battery powered radio with NOAA Weather Radio channels, and extra batteries.
- Enrollment in a CPR or

first-aid class.

- GPS units for vehicles.
- Emergency generators.
- Emergency cell phones.
- Carbon Monoxide and Smoke detectors.
- Appropriate fire extinguishers (kitchen, garage, car).
- Disaster kits for homes, offices and autos (first aid kits, food, water and prescription medications for 72 hours, eyeglasses, extra clothing, blankets, flashlights, spare batteries, heavy-duty work gloves, and sturdy pair of shoes).

- Emergency escape ladders for second-story exit in a fire.
 - Car kits (emergency flares, shovels, ice scrapers, flashlights and fluorescent distress flags).
 - Pet Disaster kits (food, water, leashes, dishes and carrying case or crate).
 - A camp stove with extra fuel.
 - The gift of a gardener to cut back combustible vegetation from wildfire-vulnerable homes.
 - National Flood Insurance.
- For more information on the

Ready Campaign and Citizen Corps, visit Ready.gov and CitizenCorps.gov.



"3-D Month" is for safe driving

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look both ways before crossing, even at an intersection.

- Buckle up, every trip, every time.
- Drive defensively at all times.

ODOT's travel and road conditions website, www.TripCheck.com, contains up-to-date incident information, weather reports, alerts and other valuable "know before you go" information.

Report impaired drivers by calling Oregon State Police at 1-800-24DRUNK (800-243-7865) or dialing 9-1-1.

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Happy Holidays!
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Many Blessings



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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year





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Photo by Lynn Smith

Merry Christmas

For your convenience we will be open
7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Christmas Eve.

We will be closed Christmas



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