Emergency Preparedness
Merit Badge Workbook

Read "the merit badge pamphlet on the subject...meet the requirements as they are stated." - Boy Scout Requirements pp. 22-23

Each "Scout must be reviewed individually by the counselor." - Advancement Policies p. 26 See the Online Resources.


Scout’s Name: ___________________________________________ Unit: __________________________
Counselor’s Name: _______________________________________ Counselor’s Ph #: ___________________

1. Earn the First Aid merit badge. __________________________

(Per National, other requirements may be completed before you earn First Aid merit badge because: "Unless otherwise specified, work for a requirement can be started at any time." - Boy Scout Requirements p. 22)

2. Do the following:

a. Discuss with your counselor the aspects of emergency preparedness:

1. Prepare for emergency situations ____________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

2. Respond to emergency situations __________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

3. Recover from emergency situations ________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

4. Mitigate and prevent emergency situations __________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

Include in your discussion the kinds of questions that are important to ask yourself as you consider each of these.

b. Make a chart that demonstrates your understanding of each of the three aspects of emergency preparedness in requirement 2a with regard to 10 of the situations listed below. You must use situations 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 below in boldface but you may choose any other five listed for a total of 10 situations. Discuss this chart with your counselor.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation</th>
<th>Prepare</th>
<th>Respond</th>
<th>Recover</th>
<th>Mitigate</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Home kitchen fire</td>
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<td>2. Home basement/storage room/garage fire</td>
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<td>3. Explosion in the home</td>
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<td>4. Automobile accident</td>
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<td>5. Food-borne disease (food poisoning)</td>
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<td>6. Fire or explosion in a public place</td>
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<td>7. Vehicle stalled in the desert</td>
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<td>8. Vehicle trapped in a blizzard</td>
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<td>9. Flash flooding in town or the country</td>
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<td>10. Mountain/backcountry accident</td>
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<td>11. Boating accident</td>
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<td>12. Gas leak in a home or a building</td>
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<td>13. Tornado or hurricane</td>
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<td>14. Major flood</td>
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<td>15. Nuclear power plant emergency</td>
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<td>16. Avalanche (snowslide or rockslide)</td>
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<td>17. Violence in a public place</td>
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</table>
c. Meet with and teach your family how to get or build a kit, make a plan, and be informed for the situations on the chart you created for requirement 2b. Complete a family plan. Then meet with your counselor and report on your family meeting, discuss their responses, and share your family plan.

3. Show how you could safely save a person from the following:
   a. Touching a live household electric wire
   b. A room filled with carbon monoxide
   c. Clothes on fire
   d. Drowning using nonswimming rescues (including accidents on ice)

4. Show three ways of attracting and communicating with rescue planes/aircraft.

5. With another person, show a good way to move an injured person out of a remote and/or rugged area, conserving the energy of rescuers while ensuring the well-being and protection of the injured person.

6. Do the following:
   a. Tell the things a group of Scouts should be prepared to do, the training they need, and the safety precautions they should take for the following emergency services:
      1. Crowd and traffic control
         Be prepared to do: ____________________________
         Training they need: ____________________________
         Safety Precautions: ____________________________
      2. Messenger service and communication
         Be prepared to do: ____________________________
Emergency Preparedness p. 4

Training they need:__________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Safety Precautions: ____________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. Collection and distribution services

Be prepared to do:__________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Training they need:__________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Safety Precautions: ____________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

4. Group feeding, shelter, and sanitation

Be prepared to do:__________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Training they need:__________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Safety Precautions: ____________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
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________________________________________________________________________

b. Identify the government or community agencies that normally handle and prepare for the emergency services listed under 6a, and explain to your counselor how a group of Scouts could volunteer to help in the event of these types of emergencies.

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________________________________________________________________________
c. Find out who is your community’s emergency management director and learn what this person does to prepare, respond to, recover from, and mitigate and prevent emergency situations in your community.

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Discuss this information with your counselor and apply what you discover to the chart you created for requirement 2b.

________________________________________________________________________
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7. Take part in an emergency service project, either a real one or a practice drill, with a Scouting unit or a community agency.
8. Do the following:

a. Prepare a written plan for mobilizing your troop when needed to do emergency service. If there is already a plan, explain it. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
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   __________________________________________________________

Tell your part in making it work. ________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
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b. Take part in at least one troop mobilization. __________________________________

Before the exercise, describe your part to your counselor. __________________________
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Afterward, conduct an "after-action" lesson, discussing what you learned during the exercise that required changes or adjustments to the plan. __________________________________________________________
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b. Prepare a personal emergency service pack for a mobilization call.

Prepare a family kit (suitcase or waterproof box) for use by your family in case an emergency evacuation is needed. Explain the needs and uses of the contents.
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9. Do ONE of the following:

a. Using a safety checklist approved by your counselor, inspect your home for potential hazards. Explain the hazards you find and how they can be corrected. (Sample Home Safety Checklist) 

b. Review or develop a plan of escape for your family in case of fire in your home.

c. Develop an accident prevention program for five family activities outside the home (such as taking a picnic or seeing a movie) that includes an analysis of possible hazards, a proposed plan to correct those hazards, and the reasons for the corrections you propose.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Possible Hazards</th>
<th>Plan to correct</th>
<th>Reasons for corrections</th>
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Online Resources (Use any Internet resource with caution and only with your parent’s or guardian’s permission.)

► scouting.org  ► Scout  ► Tenderfoot  ► Second Class  ► First Class  ◦ Rank Videos
► Merit Badge Requirements  ► Advancement Policies  ► Guide to Safe Scouting

Merit Badge Books: www.scoutstuff.org  Please don’t post workbooks on your site. Please instead post these links:

Requirement Resources
These resources and much more are at: http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Emergency_Preparedness

1-9 American Red Cross - "After a Disaster" Series of Publications - FEMA
1. First Aid Merit Badge
2. Natural Disaster Program for Families - "After a Disaster" Series of Publications - American Red Cross - Disaster Safety - NFPA Natural Disasters Link
  2b. See the chart above.  2d. Swimming Merit Badge
4. SARBC - Survival: Signalling for Help  4b. FEMA
9a. The BSA Safety Checklist you need is in the Emergency Preparedness Worksheet
9b. The graph paper you need is in the Emergency Preparedness Worksheet
9c. A blank accident prevention program is in the Emergency Preparedness Worksheet.

General Resources
National Fire Protection Association: http://www.nfpa.org/
Sample Home Safety Checklist

Sample Checklist for Requirement 9 a. Check safety steps that are being taken in your home. Write N/A if the item is not applicable. Items left blank may present a safety hazard. This list provides some sample safety steps you might take. See your Safety Merit Badge pamphlet and counselor for more information. Ask your parent or guardian before making any changes.

Stairways, Halls, and Outdoor Steps
___ Stairways with three or more steps have a strong handrail.
___ Stairs/halls are kept free from boxes, toys, brooms, tools, etc.
___ Gates at top and bottom of stairs prevent children from falling.
___ The head and foot of stairs have no small or loose rugs.
___ Stair carpeting or covering is fastened securely.
___ Stairways & halls have good lighting, controllable at each end.

Kitchen
___ Matches are kept where children cannot get them.
___ Knives & sharp instruments are kept in knife drawers or holder.
___ Can openers don’t leave sharp edges on cans.
___ Disinfectants & cleaning products are out of reach of children.
___ Pan handles are turned away from stove edges.
___ Spilled grease, water, or bits of food are wiped up immediately.
___ Pot holders are within easy reach.
___ A fire extinguisher is mounted near the stove.

Bathroom
___ Tub and shower are equipped with strong handholds.
___ Tub floor has non-slip surface.
___ Poisons are marked, sealed shut, and out of reach of children.
___ Medicines are out of reach of children in childproof containers.
___ No one takes medicine in the dark.

Attic and Basement
___ Ladder is strong, solid, and sturdily constructed.
___ Stairway is sturdy and well lighted.
___ Children keep skates and play gear in a specific place.
___ Walls and beams are free from protruding nails.
___ Fuses or circuit breakers are the proper size.
___ Rubbish & flammable materials are in covered metal cans.
___ Wastepaper is kept away from furnace and stairs.

Living Room and Dining Room
___ Furniture is placed to allow easy passage in an emergency.
___ Before bedtime, furniture placement is checked for orderliness.
___ Furniture and woodwork solid, in good repair, and free from.
___ Fireplace screen fits snugly.
___ Rugs are fastened or laid on non-slip pads.
___ Rugs are kept from curling at their edges.
___ Wax on floors is thoroughly buffed.
___ Fire in fireplace is extinguished at bedtime.
___ Candles are in stable holders and fully extinguished after use.

Bedroom
___ Smoke alarm has fresh battery or electrical connection & is tested regularly.
___ Carbon monoxide detector has fresh battery or electrical connection and is tested regularly.
___ Furniture placement for clear passage between bed and door.
___ Light switch or lamp is within easy reach from bed.
___ A night-light illuminates bedroom or hall.
___ Bureau and dresser drawers are closed when not in use.
___ Bar across bunk beds helps prevent falls.
___ Children are taught not to lean against windows or screens.
___ Sturdily screen low windows to prevent children from falling.
___ Smoking in bed is prohibited.
___ Gas and electric heating devices are turned off at bedtime.

Nursery
___ Bars on cribs are closely spaced.
___ Crib is approved by Consumer Products or similar.
___ Crib is free from sharp edges or corners.
___ Sleeping garments and covers keep baby warm without danger of smothering.
___ Pillows are kept out of bassinet or crib.
___ No thin, plastic material is in or near the crib.
___ Children are taught not to give marbles, etc. to younger children.
___ Toys are sturdy & have no sharp edges.
___ Nontoxic paint is used on baby furniture and toys.
___ All houseplants are nonpoisonous.
Sample Home Safety Checklist (page 2)

Stoves, Furnaces, and Heaters

___ Stoves are away from curtains.
___ Stoves & furnaces are inspected & cleaned annually.
___ Gas burners are properly adjusted and free from leaks.
___ Water and space heaters are equipped with vents or flues.
___ Water heater or boiler has a safety valve & is checked yearly.
___ Flanges of gas burners are protected from drafts.
___ Insulating shield protects woodwork within 18" of furnace, etc.
___ Keep flammable materials away from stoves, furnaces, etc.
___ A wrench is stored near the shut-off valve of outside gas line.

Porch, Yard, and Garage

___ Railings and banisters are sound and inspected periodically.
___ Steps and walks are kept free from ice and snow.
___ Yard/play space are free from holes, stones, glass, etc.
___ Tools and dangerous articles are out of reach of children.
___ Dangerous products & chemicals are kept in original containers in locked storage areas.
___ Wires and low fences are brightly painted or clearly marked.
___ Wells, cisterns, and pits are kept securely covered.
___ Disposable materials are not burned outside.
___ An area is marked off in the garage for bicycles, wagons, etc.
___ Lawn mower is equipped with proper safeguards.

Workshop

___ Good ventilation exists, especially when sanding.
___ Safety goggles and/or face mask are available, with eyewash.
___ Baking soda is kept handy to neutralize acid burns.
___ All electrical tools are either three-wire or double-insulated.
___ Work area is well lit & free of clutter, scraps, rags.
___ All tools have a place & are in their place.
___ Guards are in place on all power tools.
___ A push stick is available for use with power saws.

Electrical Devices and Fixtures

___ Electrical fixtures and appliances are located & used beyond arm's length of the sink, stove, tub, shower, or other grounded metal unless outlet is protected by a ground-fault interrupter.
___ Do not touch electrical fixtures or appliances with wet hands.
___ Disconnect seldom-used appliances when not in use.
___ All pull-type sockets have an insulating link.
___ Household appliances are disconnected before repairs.
___ Unused, open, screw-type sockets are plugged closed.
___ Frayed or worn electric cords are promptly replaced.
___ Long trailing cords are not in evidence.
___ Cords are kept out from under rugs, doors, and furniture.
___ UA-approved extension cords are the proper size.
___ Children are taught never to touch electric sockets or fixtures.
___ Fuses are adequate for the load and are not bypassed.
___ Circuit breakers are not overloaded.

General

___ At least one smoke detector in each bedroom & garage.
___ Everything has a place and is in its place.
___ Stepladders are in good repair and stored out of the way.
___ Window screens and storm windows are securely fastened.
___ Guns are stored unloaded and in locked cases.
___ Guns and ammunition are stored separately.
___ Children are permitted to use only blunt-end scissors.
___ Housework clothing has no drooping sleeves, sashes, or frills.
___ Shoes worn for housework have low heels.
___ All shoes are in good repair.
___ Kerosene, gasoline, paint thinners, and other volatile materials are stored outside in special, clearly marked metal containers.
___ Oil mops, dust rags, painting equipment, and other oily materials are stored outside in open metal containers.
___ Everyone turns on a light before entering a dark room.
___ Matches are extinguished before they're thrown away.
___ Children are never permitted to play with matches.
___ Fire extinguishers are readily available.

For Emergency

___ Know how to get emergency help (911, poison control, etc.).
___ Be able to find water, gas, & electric shutoffs. Check annually.
___ First aid kit approved by your doctor/American Red Cross.
___ Know basic first aid procedures.
___ Have a fire escape plan from your home.
___ Emergency water supply.
___ Handheld flashlights readily available.
___ In earthquake-prone areas, make sure that the water heater and bookcases are bolted to the walls.