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NJOEM PIO Contact: 609-963-6818

GIVE YOUR LOVED ONES THE GIFT OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

TRENTON, N.J. — With the holidays fast approaching, New Jersey residents might want to consider giving gifts that will help protect their family members and friends during a future emergency. Supplies for an emergency preparedness kit can make unique — and potentially life-saving — holiday gifts.

Excellent emergency preparedness gifts include:

- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert.
- A quality flashlight and extra batteries.
- Solar-powered cell phone charger.
- Smoke detector and/or carbon monoxide detectors.
- First aid kit.
- Fire extinguisher and fire escape ladder.
- Enrollment in a CPR or first aid class.
- Books, coloring books, crayons and board games for the kids, in case the power goes out.
- Personal hygiene comfort kit, including shampoo, body wash, wash cloth, hairbrush, comb, toothbrush, toothpaste and deodorant.
- A waterproof pouch or backpack containing any of the above items, or with such things as a rain poncho, moist towelettes, work gloves, batteries, duct tape, whistle, food bars, etc.

Holiday shoppers might also consider giving a winter car kit, equipped with a shovel, ice scraper, emergency flares, fluorescent distress flags and jumper cables. For animal lovers, a pet disaster kit with emergency food, bottled water, toys and a leash is also a good gift.

The New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency urge Garden State residents to give at least one of these practical gifts – either as a present under the tree or as a stocking stuffer. It might just save the life of a friend or family member. For more information, preparedness tips or other gift ideas, visit www.Ready.gov.

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FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

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