Essential Family Items to Bring to Red Cross Shelters When Disaster Strikes

When a disaster strikes, the American Red Cross is there for individuals and families in need of emergency relief. When going to a Red Cross shelter, the Red Cross asks residents to bring the following essential items for each member of the family:

- Prescriptions and emergency medications
- Foods that meet unusual dietary requirements
- Important personal documents
- Extra clothing, pillows, blankets, hygiene supplies and other comfort items
- Supplies needed for children and infants, such as diapers, formula and toys
- Special items for family members who are elderly or disabled
- Chargers for any electronic devices you bring with you
- Books, games and other ways to entertain your family and yourself

Note – Public health regulations do not permit pets in shelters; service animals are permitted.

The Red Cross is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If anyone needs emergency assistance from the Red Cross, please call 1-800-774-6066.