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Being Prepared

The **Merrickville Fire Department** is encouraging residents to prepare for emergencies by reviewing these tips and taking action now:

- If your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms are connected to your home's electrical system, make sure they have battery-backups so they will still work during a power outage.
- Flashlights, glow lights and battery-operated lanterns are a safer option than candles. Keep several on hand, along with fresh batteries.
- Keep a supply of ready-to-eat tinned and packaged foods. Barbecues must never be used indoors. • Invest in a battery-operated or hand crank radio so you can stay up to date with the latest emergency information.
- Remember that cordless phones require electrical power to operate. Keep your cell phone charged and consider purchasing a phone that does not require electricity.
- Create a family Emergency Preparedness Action Plan using the online tool developed by the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management.

The plan can be found at:

<https://beprepared.emergencymanagementontario.ca/myplan>