The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency is encouraging residents to prepare for emergencies and provided the following tips that township officials can share with their residents:

Preparing for emergencies doesn't have to be overwhelming. Here are 12 simple steps you can take to ensure that you and your family are ready for whatever comes your way:

- 1. Make a Plan: Create an emergency plan for your family, including communication methods and meeting spots.
- 2. Build a Kit: Assemble a supply kit with essentials like water, food, and first aid.
- 3. Stay Informed: Sign up for local alerts and make sure your phone can receive emergency notifications.
- 4. Prepare for Evacuations: Know your evacuation routes and where you can go, including plans for pets.
- 5. Secure Important Documents: Keep important documents safe and consider making digital copies.
- 6. Check Your Insurance: Review your insurance policies to make sure you're covered for disasters.
- 7. Strengthen Your Home: Take steps to protect your home, like securing heavy furniture and reinforcing doors.
- 8. Plan for Family Needs: Consider special needs for children, older adults, and family members with disabilities.
- 9. Prepare for Power Outages: Have backup power sources for medical devices and know how to keep medications safe.
- 10. Educate Your Family: Make sure everyone in your household knows the emergency plan and how to use the supplies.
- 11. Get Involved in Your Community: Join or start a local preparedness group to help your community be ready.
- 12. Practice Your Plan: Regularly review and practice your emergency plan so everyone knows what to do.

For more details and additional resources, visit <u>here</u>. Taking these small steps now can make a big difference in keeping your family safe!