

Emergency Preparedness Tip of the Week

By: Ed Mayer, Shady Cove Emergency Manager

When planning for a disaster, an important factor to consider is that your availability to cash may be very limited. Many types of disasters will result in the loss of electricity and telephones. These utilities are necessary to access ATM's or use your debit or credit cards. If stores are without these utilities and are still open and selling essential supplies, cash may be your only option. Banks are likely to be closed and many establishments do not accept checks. In your emergency preparedness kit or in another secure location, FEMA recommends you have an adequate amount of cash money for emergency purchases.

My son lives in New York City and recently experienced "Super Storm Sandy." He reported many people were caught without having cash money and that this became the single biggest source of frustration for many of his friends and neighbors.