

What are special needs?

According to House Bill 7121 passed during the 2006 State Legislature, special needs is defined as “persons who would need assistance during evacuations and sheltering because of physical, mental, cognitive impairment, or sensory disabilities.” The bill further states: “Each local emergency management agency in the state shall maintain a registry of persons with special needs located within the jurisdiction of the local agency.”

Stay in Touch

Create a personal network of people you trust such as friends, family, neighbors, or co-workers. Organize a network that includes your home, school, workplace, volunteer site, and any other places where you spend a lot of time. Remember to listen to the radio or television, if available, following any emergency. Other ideas to keep updated is to check online websites and newspapers.



For further references, please see the following websites:

<http://readync.gov/>

<http://www.ready.gov/>

<http://www.richmondnc.com/departments/emergsvcs.aspx>

<http://www.fema.gov/>

<http://www.redcross.org/prepare>

Richmond County Emergency Services
PO Box 504
Rockingham, NC 28380
910-997-8238 Office
910-997-8233 Fax

RICHMOND COUNTY'S SPECIAL NEEDS REGISTRY PROGRAM



Emergency Preparedness
Voluntary Registry

REGISTER TODAY!



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Why Register?

The registry serves as a reliable way to identify people with special needs during an emergency, or when power has been lost. Local and state emergency management will share information with local police and fire departments in order to protect the lives of our community.

What type of accommodations are available at the shelter?

Richmond County will always suggest to stay with a support member, as it will be more comfortable. Special needs shelters will have limited supplies such as food requirements, medications, and nurses. If you are in need of anything special, please note it on the form. If you have a caregiver, they must stay with you during your stay at the shelter. All service pets will be accommodated. House pets will need to be housed at the local pet shelter. Please remember to bring your pet's food and any medication they need.



How To Register

The Richmond County Emergency Services Office is encouraging people with special needs that live in private personal homes to enroll in the County Special Needs Emergency Registry.

Anyone who uses life-sustaining medical equipment or takes life-sustaining medications should register.

Residents can register with any of the two ways:

- By Phone, call (910) 997-8238
- Mailing completed registration form to Richmond County Emergency Services

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Family members can register loved ones, if they are unable to do so themselves. Each person with special needs in the same household should complete their own registry form.



Personal Preparedness Recommendations

If you or someone in your family has a special healthcare need, remember to take it into consideration when preparing your emergency supply kit. If you take medication or use a medical treatment on a regular basis, be sure you have what you need to care for yourself for at least three days.

Some common items that you should consider having in your home include extra:

- eyeglasses
- hearing aids and hearing aid batteries
- wheelchair batteries
- oxygen

Other things to collect and keep handy include:

- a list of prescriptions, including dosage and treatment
- a list of allergies
- copies of your health insurance card(s)
- contact information for your doctors, pharmacist, and medical supply providers