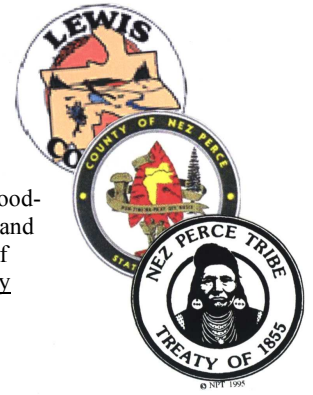
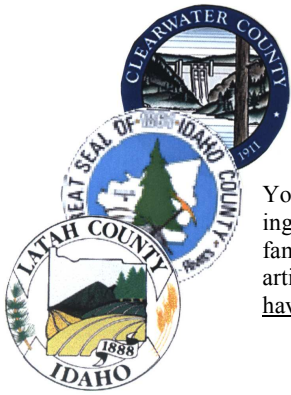


# Get Pandemic Ready



Your Office of Emergency Management plans and prepares for disasters, ranging from localized flooding to worldwide events. Preparation includes local government, the private sector and individuals and families. Pandemic flu is a rapidly emerging threat affecting all of us. The purpose of this series of articles is to inform citizens of what they can do to protect themselves. We recommend each family have three months of food, water, medications, and other supplies on-hand.

## Issue 12: Emergency Lighting

If the power goes out for any extended time, emergency lighting will become very important. Our recommendations in prioritized order, are:

### Indoor or Outdoor

1. Crank or wind-up lights. The LED ones provide the longest time between wind-ups. These are a good foundation for your lighting backup. Since no batteries are needed, these should last through multiple pandemic waves.
2. Solar lights. Battery-powered, but convenient since the sun does the battery re-charging.
3. Lights/lanterns that use batteries. These come in a variety of shapes from the traditional flashlight, to battery-powered camp lanterns.

**WARNING :** If used indoors, provide ventilation with a window or door open 1 inch, with the lamp/lantern placed close to this opening

**WARNING :** Place all open flame emergency lamps/lanterns on a fireproof surface

4. Oil lamps/lanterns that use wicks. Proven technology. Wicks are more durable than mantle-type lights. Two issues are smell and amount of light.
  - A high grade kerosene or lamp oil will minimize the smell
  - The “cold blast” type (some Dietz lanterns, for example) provides brighter light than does the “hot blast” or “dead flame” lanterns. See [www.lanternnet.com/faqs.htm](http://www.lanternnet.com/faqs.htm) for more information.
5. Candles. Last choice, since they are a fire hazard. Use an appropriate safe glass-enclosed holder. Improve lighting by placing in front of a mirror, or piece of tin foil

### Outdoor only

1. lamps/lanterns that use propane or coleman fuel/white gas.

### Essential Supplies

- Batteries - lots of them. Consider a solar charger and rechargeable batteries
- Matches - wooden, strike anywhere
- Fuel - check with your fire department for safe storage

Contact #'s
<b>Clearwater County</b> Emergency Management 476-4064
<b>Idaho County</b> Emergency Management 983-3074
<b>Latah County</b> Disaster Services 883-2265
<b>Lewis County</b> Emergency Management 937-2380
<b>Nez Perce County</b> Emergency Management 799-3084
<b>Nez Perce Tribe</b> ERWMM 843-7375 ext. 2377

For more information, or to participate in local pandemic flu planning, contact your local Emergency Manager.