

Mercer County Division of Public Health Public Evacuation/Medical Needs Sheltering

What is a Medical Needs Shelter (MNS)?

- The Medical Needs Shelter is a location in a shelter area or stand-alone location for evacuees with chronic health and/or minor medical condition(s) requiring oversight by a medical professional.
- The purpose of the MNS is to support **basic short-term health and/or minor medical condition(s)** during a disaster when persons evacuate their home. These persons cannot be accommodated in a general population shelter due to a specific minor medical need(s).
- If a disaster requires evacuation and sheltering, the Medical Needs Shelter will provide a **safe sheltering location, environment**, and basic medical assistance/care for the support or maintenance of chronic health or minor medical condition(s) based on an individual's level of health.
- Caregivers (home health care, visiting nurses and family support members) are allowed and encouraged** to come into the MNS portion of the shelter and continue to provide care for their clients.
- Service animals are allowed in the Shelter. The owner is responsible for the conduct of the service animal.

What Should I Bring With Me? (Checklist)

- Personal identification, medical cards, health & prescription insurance cards (Including Medicare & Medicaid).
- Any/All** prescription medications you are currently taking in the original bottles with prescription labels, including insulin and all your over-the-counter medications.
- All parents/caretakers of infants and children with specialized medical care should bring formulas, as well as disposable diapers and wipes.
- Any blood glucose monitoring devices.
- Eyeglasses, dentures and hearing aids.
- Any portable medical equipment including wheelchairs, walkers or canes.
- Your oxygen cylinder and an oxygen concentrator.
- Your cell phone and charger.
- A list of personal contacts including family members, your doctor(s)'s, pharmacy and medical supply company.
- Your medical appointment calendar.
- Clothing and footwear for several days, including night garments and under garments.
- Toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothbrush)
- Incontinence supplies (liners, briefs and pads) and personal hygiene supplies
- Any non-perishable food or snacks that support a special diet (liquid-nutrition, gluten-free, casein-free etc).

JOIN TODAY: **PREPARING IS CARING ARE YOU REGISTER READY?**

"Register Ready" is a free, voluntary and confidential web-based program designed to identify the needs of people who may find it difficult to get to safety in the event of an emergency.