

Telecommunications Survival Plan Personal



Many of us have plans in place in case of fire, extreme weather or other emergencies, however it is important to ensure that the communications systems we rely on are included as well.

A personal telecommunications survival plan can help you and your family stay in touch with vital services including warning systems, healthcare and work. Remember that telecommunications do fail and this could affect you and your family for up to one month.

Things to consider are:

- Identify a list of essential services, personal and work contacts to contact if telephones, the internet and ATMs fail. You may need to use a pay phone outside the affected region, a telephone service on a different network or a mobile internet network to contact others.
- Make a list of family and friends that might need help.
- Find out the nearest suburb/town outside the boundary of your telecommunications region – use this if you need to travel to find a working service.
- Monitor ABC television, radio or ABC online for official emergency broadcast information. Listen out for advice on changes in how to contact emergency services.
- Check if your local council provides backup telecommunications services and on what basis.
- Make sure your general survival plans are stuck to – including keeping cash or supplies.
- Check school and childcare policies on whether they will accept children when telecommunications have failed.
- Identify alternative payment arrangements if you cannot pay bills using your internet service.
- Consider how you would obtain a satellite phone if needed.

Remember to give a copy of your personal telecommunications survival plan to family or friends that live outside your telecommunication region.

If there is a telecommunications failure, remember to help others in the community – this will help minimise the impact of the failure.