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My name is Ron Willis, and for those who don't know me, we've lived here at Springlake for about 11 years. I've served on the Board of Directors, twice as President, as well as the Bylaw Committee and Emergency Preparedness Committee. I've been asked by the Preparedness Committee to offer suggestions and ideas for individual preparedness in the event of emergencies, minor and not-so minor. I've been "prepping" for a few years, on a modest scale, collecting things which I feel may come in handy in the event of "*The Big One.*"

In future editions of the *SCOOP*, I'll be sharing some of the things I've done to prepare for emergencies, both small and the unthinkable, and offer suggestions for individual preparation. I'll also pass along what the Emergency Preparedness Committee has been up to, making Springlake and all of our members a bit safer within our community.

I'm by no means an expert in prepping, although I've read extensively on the subject and am fortunate to have received training and experience in my former career. Always open for suggestions or comments, if you wish to share a preparedness tip, please share it with us at; pioneer4111@gmail.com.

I'll begin with some definitions of terms which I may use from time-to-time.

BUG IN: *Shelter in place.* When there is no need to evacuate in the event of an emergency, often the best solution is to stay home. In most cases, such as temporary power outages, the problem will be solved within a relatively short period of time. In recent history in Oregon however, especially during winter storms, some communities were without power and snowed-in for up to two weeks. The Federal Government (FEMA) recommends that each home have a 3 day supply of food and water on hand for such emergencies. I would suggest at least one week's worth of food and water.

BUG OUT: *Get Out of Dodge.* On extremely rare occasions, an emergency may require evacuation of our homes. Such things as chemical spills, or leakages from railroad tank cars may become disabled nearby, wild fires, volcano eruptions, etc. Those kinds of emergencies will be ordered and coordinated by local government. As I said, these are very rare, but if you must leave your home suddenly, it is very helpful to have a plan, and have a "Go Bag" prepared and ready to go on a moment's notice. More on that in next month's *SCOOP*.

If you stay ready, you don't need to get ready. *Ron*