

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

Disasters happen. Often they're the kind you weren't expecting — and aren't prepared to handle, especially when they affect your IT systems. Having a disaster recovery (DR) plan can help. But it won't necessarily help much if it doesn't take into account the full spectrum of potential disasters that could affect your business operations and IT systems.

The following provides a good starting point for creating a checklist to make sure your organization is covered for all potential IT disasters. Add other items as appropriate. From here, you can then determine the steps necessary to prepare your organization for the occurrence of these events.

Natural Disasters

- Bad weather, including lightning storms, extreme heat or extreme cold
- Hurricanes, tornadoes, storm surges, flooding, earthquakes, wildfires, sinkholes, landslides, and volcanoes
- Pandemics or other health issues for your staff
- _____
- _____

Physical Disasters

- General infrastructure failures, such as loss of power or water
- Building collapse or other building structural damage
- A facility problem, such as a burst pipe, collapsed roof, flooded server room, or office fire
- Break-ins or physical security breaches
- Heating and cooling issues, which could make a workplace or the equipment in it unusable
- _____
- _____

Technology-based Disasters

- Major ISP outages
- Network infrastructure failure
- Server hardware or other equipment failure
- OS and application failure
- Exploits of software vulnerabilities / unpatched vulnerabilities
- Ransomware and malware
- Social Engineering, including phishing incidents and business email compromise
- Viruses
- Hacking and other types of cyberattacks
- Third-party SaaS / cloud failure
- Data and security breaches
- _____
- _____

Other Disasters

- Human error / negligence
- Malicious human actions
- Protests, bombings, terrorist attacks
- _____
- _____

Partner for Better IT Security

The best IT security strategy is one in which all parties — service providers, customers and all third-party companies — work together. For more information on or assistance with DR planning, contact US Signal.

