2011

READY SUFFOLK COUNTY

Residential Guide to Emergency Preparedness

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

A HOUSEHOLD PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

An informational Resource for WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

- What to Have in Your Head - What to Have in Your Hand - What to Have in Your Home

Suffolk County continues to work hard to prepare for emergencies. Our County government, planning partners and first responders continue to plan and drill regularly. Although the Emergency Services are prepared to respond to disasters, only you can prepare yourself and your household for emergencies. As you read this guide, you'll see how easy it is to prepare. *Ready Suffolk County* describes what you will need to manage the many emergencies we could face as New Yorkers and provides important information on how to respond and prepare. Following this advice will help you and your household take control of disasters. Please read this guide carefully and keep it close at hand. Share the information with your family, friends and neighbors. **Emergency Planning is Key to Being Prepared!**

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"Suffolk FRES"

GENERAL WEATHER EMERGENCY RESPONSE

EVACUATION

In some cases, it may be necessary to evacuate your home or neighborhood. County officials will tell you when to evacuate through the media and direct warnings. Evacuation is used as a last resort when a serious threat to public safety exists.

Emergency Preparedness Advice for you and your Family.

Emergency preparedness is as simple as planning ahead. It's easy and inexpensive for anyone. Go over this information with your household to determine how you can take control of an emergency. Check and update your kits when you change your clocks during daylight-saving times. Make sure they are complete and ready to go.

What to Have in Your Head Household Disaster Plan Checklist

Consider developing a disaster plan with your household members that outlines what to do, how to find each other, and how to communicate in an emergency.

-Decide where your household will reunite after a disaster. Identify two places to meet: one right outside your home and another outside your neighborhood, such as a library, community center, or place of worship.

-Make sure everyone knows the address and phone numbers of your second meeting place.

-Designate an out-of-state friend or relative that household members can call if separated during a disaster. If phone circuits are busy, this out-of-state contact can be an important way of communicating between household members. When local phone circuits are busy, long distance calls may be easier to make.

-Account for everybody's needs, especially seniors, people with disabilities, and non-english speaking individuals.

-Practice your plan with all household members.

-Familiarize yourself with emergency plans for your work place, school, child's school or daycare, and other relevant institutions.

Tip for Pet Owners

Pet owners should include provisions for their pet in a household disaster plan. Please note that pets are not allowed in Red Cross Shelters (only service animals are allowed in shelters). Therefore, it is important that you have a plan for your pet in case of an evacuation.

-Contact friends or relatives outside your area to see if they would be willing to accommodate you and your pets in an emergency.

-Transport your pets in a carrier for the duration of the disaster.

-Make sure each pet has a license and ID tag.

-Include copies of current vaccinations, health records, license number, and photo in your plan.

In severe conditions the County will have pet friendly shelters. See p. 5

What to Have in Your Hand

Go Bag Checklist

Every Household should consider assembling a "Go-Bag" a collection of items you may need in the event of an evacuation. Each household member's Go-Bag should be packed in a sturdy, easy-to-carry containers such as a backpack or suitcase on wheels. A Go Bag should be easily accessible if you have to leave your home in a hurry. Make sure it is ready to go at all times of the year.

-***Copies of your important documents*** in a waterproof and portable container (insurance cards/policies, birth/marriage certificates, deeds, photo ID, proof of address, etc.)

-***Copy of your contact and meeting place information*** for your household, and a small regional map.

-***Extra sets of car and house keys***

-***Credit and ATM cards, and cash***, especially in small denominations. We recommend you keep at least $50-$100 on hand.

-***Bottled water and non-perishable food*** such as energy or granola bars.

-***Flashlight, battery operated AM/FM radio, and extra batteries***. You can also buy wind-up radios that do not require batteries at retail stores.

-***Medication for at least one week and other essential personal items.*** Be sure to change medications before they expire. Keep a list of the medications each member of your household takes, their dosage or copies of all your prescription slips, and your doctor's name and phone number.

-***Sturdy, comfortable shoes, lightweight rain gear, and a mylar blanket.***

-***First-aid kit and personal hygiene products***

-***Child care supplies or other special care items for the elderly, pets or loved ones with special needs.***

What else you can do to prepare your household for emergencies:

Learn first-aid and CPR

Install and routinely check all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in all areas of your house. Change batteries and check on emergency supplies twice a year during daylight-saving times.

GET A KIT

BE INFORMED

What to Have in Your Home

Emergency Supply Kit Checklist

Keep enough supplies in your home to survive on your own for at least three days. If possible, keep these materials in an easily accessible, separate container or special cupboard. You should indicate to your household members that these supplies are for emergencies only.

- ***One gallon of drinking water per person per day***
- ***Non-perishable, ready-to-eat canned foods, and a manual can opener.***
- ***First-aid kit, medications, and prescriptions***
- ***Flashlights, battery-operated AM/FM radio, and extra batteries***
- ***Whistle, and battery operated lantern***
- ***Personal items*** such as soap, feminine hygiene products
- Sturdy shoes, heavy gloves, warm cloths, a mylar blanket, and light weight rain gear
- ***Extra fire extinguisher, battery operated smoke and carbon monoxide detectors***
- ***Phones that does not rely on electricity***
- ***Supplies for the elderly, children, individuals with special needs and pets***
- ***One quart of unscented bleach*** (for disinfecting water ONLY if directed to do so by health officials) and eyedropper (for adding bleach to water)

In Case of Emergency

ICE is a program that enables first responders, such as paramedics, firefighters, and police officers to identify victims and contact their next of kin to obtain important medical information. It encourages people to enter emergency contacts in their mobile phone address book under the name "ICE". Alternately, a person can list multiple emergency contacts as "ICE1", "ICE2", etc.

Information for you and your loved ones with special needs

When a disaster or local emergency strikes, special shelters and transportation assistance may be available to eligible individuals who require assistance.

Suffolk County Joint Emergency Evacuation Program (JEEP) is a voluntary reporting program for individuals who require functional or special needs assistance. To be eligible for this program, you must pre-enroll and provide the county with specific information allowing us to plan for your needs.

Visit https://gis.suffolkcountyny.gov/spns to apply online or call 631.852.4900 to schedule a application interview.

Seniors and people with disabilities may need to take additional steps to prepare for emergencies. If you or someone in your household has special needs, consider the following tips when preparing your disaster plans.

- Keep a 7-14 day supply of necessary medications on hand at all times.
- Develop a personal emergency plan for each place where you spend time- at home, work, school, and in the community. Include contact information for family, friends, neighbors, physician and home care services.
- If you are dependent on electric for life sustaining devices or mobility, plan for a loss of power. Contact LIPA "Critical Care Program" to report life-support equipment by calling 1-800-490-0025.
- The hearing impaired may need to make special arrangements to make sure they receive emergency warnings. Please see p.5 Code Red.
- People with special dietary needs should have an adequate emergency food supply.
- If you have a service animal, make sure that it is registered for a service tag.
- Individuals with cognitive disabilities can be voluntarily registered with the Suffolk Police Departments "Silver Alert" program. The intention of this program is to have this information furnished to police officers who may be responding to an emergency situation involving that person so that they can better care for the person's needs. For additional information visit the county website or call ***631-852-6983.***

Do you live in a Flood Zone?

Suffolk County has participated extensively with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to identify the County Flood Zones. You can check if your address is in a flood zone by visiting our website under "Emergency Services" to view storm surge maps.

Shelter-in-Place or Evacuate?

In some cases, evacuation may not be appropriate nor possible, and you may be asked to shelter-in-place. County officials will notify you when to shelter-in place. If you are to do so, you should remain indoors, whether at home, work or any other location.

Some emergencies may require that you leave your home and travel to an emergency shelter. Suffolk County has identified 130 shelters throughout the county. To view where shelters are, visit our interactive shelter locator map on our website.

County officials will notify you when and where a shelter is open, the best driving route and evacuation buses routes for those in flood zones. Listen to local news and/or view the county website for important information including Evacuation Bus Pick-Up Points.

Remain Informed with

CODERED™

Emergency Communication Made Easy.

Suffolk County is using CodeRED, a high-speed mass notification system to contact Suffolk Residents in the event of an actual or impending emergency. CodeRED can deliver customized recorded emergency messages directly to Suffolk County homes and business. CodeRED also has high speed email, text messaging and TTY/TTD capabilities.

Sign up to receive Emergency Notifications at the link provided at the County's website: www.suffolkcountyny.gov. Those without Internet access may call the Office of Emergency Management's Customer Service Center (631-852-4900), Monday through Friday, (9AM-5PM) to supply their information over the phone.

"PET SURVIVAL GO-KIT"

- Copy of all current vaccination and health records, license numbers and microchip numbers.
- Contact information for veterinarian
- Photo of your pet
- Water, food and containers
- Leash/muzzle/harness
- Medication for your pet
- Pet carrier or cage
- Plastic Bag for pick up
- Kitty litter & container for cats newspaper for other.

HELPING YOU!

Stay Informed

Listen to warnings. Pay attention to the news. Know your local radio and television stations. If possible get a NOAA Weather Radio. Listen for important weather watches, warnings and understand their meanings.

EMERGENCY REFERENCE CARD

Household Emergency Information

Contact information for household members.
Please complete this form and keep it up to date and secured.

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ SS# _____

Evacuation meeting location: _____

Medical Information: _____

Work, School or Other Address _____

& Telephone Numbers: _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ SS# _____

Evacuation meeting location: _____

Medical Information: _____

Work, School or Other Address _____

& Telephone Numbers: _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ SS# _____

Evacuation meeting location: _____

Medical Information: _____

Work, School or Other Address _____

& Telephone Numbers: _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ SS# _____

Evacuation meeting location: _____

Medical Information: _____

Work, School or Other Address _____

& Telephone Numbers: _____

Household Disaster Plan:

Local Meeting Place Name / Address: _____ **Phone #**

Out-of-State Contact Name /Address: _____ **Phone #**

Other Information: _____.

MEDICAL INFORMATION	NAME	TELEPHONE #	POLICY #
Doctor(s):			
Other:			
Pharmacist:			
Medical Insurance:			
Home Owners/Rental Insurance			

MORE RESOURCES

Learn more about emergency preparedness and emergency management:

Suffolk County www.suffolkcountyny.gov

- Office of Emergency Management
- Health Services
- Office of Handicapped Services

New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services:

1-518-457-2200 or www.dhses.ny.gov/

www.nyalert.gov/ ensures that any or all portions of New York State could be notified of an impending emergency and provided with vital life safety information through the latest cutting-edge technology.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):

FEMA Published a longer, more detailed guide to emergency preparedness called "Are You Ready? A Guide to Citizen Preparedness." To order this publication, call FEMA's distribution center at 1-800-480-2520 or visit www.fema.gov/library. The FEMA website, www.fema.gov also contains a great deal of information about preparing for and responding to emergencies.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security:

1-800-BE-READY (1800-237-3239) or www.ready.gov

U.S. Center for Disease Control & Prevention:

1-800-311-3435 or www.cdc.gov

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:

1-800-424-8802 or www.epa.gov

National Weather Service: www.weather.gov

NOAA All Hazards Radio: www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr

Long Island Power Authority

http://www.lipower.org/stormcenter

American Red Cross on Long Island

1-877-733-2767 or www.nyredcross.org

For Parents and Families:

FEMA: www.fema.gov/kids/

American Red Cross: www.prepare.org/children/bereadybook.pdf

American Academy of Pediatrics: www.aap.org

The Sesame Workshop's safety page:

- www.sesameworkshop.org/parents/solutions/safety

Call 911:

- When you are in immediate danger or witness a crime in progress.
- For a serious injury or medical condition.
- Any other situation needing urgent attention.
- DO NOT call 911 for non-emergencies or to report a power outage (to allow telephone capacity for emergency calls).

Emergency Telephone Tips:

If you call 911, specify the type of emergency (fire, medical, police) and be prepared to answer questions. These questions do not delay the dispatch of emergency services. During a medical emergency, you will be given life safety instructions to help the victim. Send someone to turn a light on and wave down the emergency responders so they can find your home.

During major emergencies, please use the telephone only when absolutely necessary to keep the lines free for emergency calls.

The 852-COPS line is a phone number which will free up 911 for True Emergencies and Allow Citizens to File Quality-of-Life Complaints with the Police Department for Follow-Up.

HOW YOU CAN HELP THE COUNTY

Many of the tips in this guide are designed to help you and your household. Here's what you can do to help the County prepare, respond, and recover from all kinds of emergencies.

Become a VOLUNTEER:

Would you know what to do if you were the first to arrive at the scene of an accident? What if a hurricane or other disaster crippled Suffolk County and left scores of families homeless or in life-threatening danger, ***would you know what to do?***

Would you like to?

It is best to affiliate with a recognized disaster / emergency response agency before a disaster happens. Suffolk County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services is the County's focal point for matching civil-minded individuals and groups with such vital programs as the Community Emergency Response Team... Volunteers in Police Service... the Medical Reserve Corps... and the 136 Volunteer Fire and EMS Agencies. Volunteer and you'll be trained to play a vital role whenever an emergency or disaster occurs. Joining a program means you'll receive valuable, professional training absolutely free, as well as the knowledge that you're serving your country and making a genuine contribution to the safety and security of Suffolk County. Now that you know how you can make a real contribution to the safety and security of Suffolk County...and our nation...give us a call at **1-877-932-9268.**

Call us and we'll help find the job that's right for you.
1-877-WE2-WANTU

Volunteer today!

www.suffolksbravest.com

852-COPS NON-EMERGENCY POLICE RESPONSE

SUFFOLK COUNTY

Office of Emergency Management

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