

Disaster Response at the Federal, State, and Local Levels

What is YOUR role?

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Disasters happen to other people?

Disaster strikes anytime, anywhere. It takes many forms – hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes floods, hazardous spills, or acts of terrorism.

On August 28, 2005 the National Weather Service issued a hurricane prediction of "devastating" damage rivaling the intensity of Hurricane Camille.

On August 29, 2005 its storm surge breached the levee system. Most of New Orleans was subsequently flooded. Heavy damage was also inflicted onto the coasts of Mississippi and Alabama.

The official combined death toll now stands at 1,383, the fourth or fifth highest in U.S. history. As of January 18, 2006 more than 3,200 people are still missing.

Can it happen here in Kentucky?

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) took over the federal, state, and local operations officially on September 30, 2005. The storm surge hit August 29, 2005. We must be prepared to help ourselves until outside help can come in.

Yes. It happens in Kentucky!

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- FEMA announced federal aid to supplement the Commonwealth of Kentucky and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and tornadoes on November 15, 2005.

What is the role of Emergency Management?

FEMA, a federal agency since 1979, joined the Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.

FEMA's mission is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all potential disasters and to manage the federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident — whether natural or man-made.

FEMA responds only when a disaster overwhelms a state's resources and the governor requests federal help.

We have many disasters each year in Kentucky which do not require federal assistance, because individually they do not overwhelm the local and state resources. What isn't considered a Federal Disaster?

- 12 miners die in TALLMANSVILLE, W.Va
- 2 miners die in MELLVILLE, W.Va
- 1 miner dies in PIKEVILLE, KY

What are the issues in Kentucky?

Natural Hazards

- Floods
- Tornado
- Thunderstorms and Lightening
- Winter storms extreme cold
- Earthquakes
- Plant and Animal Disease

Technological Hazards

- HazMat Incidents
- Household Chemical

Terrorism

- Explosions
- Biological Threats
- Chemical threats
- Radiological threats

We do have plans for addressing these potential disasters:

State Emergency Operations Plan

When more than two state agencies respond to an emergency or disaster, KyEM (Kentucky Emergency Management) shall coordinate the response operations of the agencies involved if the incident is managed by state personnel.

Local Emergency Operations Plan

Each city, county, and urban-county government is required by Chapter 39B.010 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes to create, support, and maintain a local Emergency Management agency and program.

These plans contain a great deal of detail:

- Direction and Control
- Communications
- Warning
- Hazard Preparedness
- Public Information
- Reception And Care
- Military Support
- Transportation
- Radiological Protection
- Law Enforcement
- Fire Services
- Search and Rescue Services
- Health and Medical
- Manpower Coordination
- Resource Management
- Energy Supply Management
- Hazardous Materials
- Engineering and Public Works
- Food Management
- Volunteer Organizations
- Reporting System
- Recovery Operations
- Training and Exercising
- Fixed Nuclear Facilities
- Mass Destruction/Conventional War
- Emergency Repatriation
- Terrorism
- Agriculture Resource Management
- Water Resources Management
- Earthquake Preparedness
- Evacuation
- Schools
- Aircraft Incidents
- Civil Disturbances
- Flood Preparedness

SO how do we prepare for the inevitable disaster?

Reduce Risk – Prepare – Respond – Recover

Reduce Risk:

Hazard Mitigation is any action taken to eliminate or reduce the long-term risk to human life and property from natural and technological hazards.

Examples of mitigation include:

- Management of development in flood-prone areas
- Enactment and enforcement of building codes
- Seismic retrofit of buildings
- Tornado safe rooms and community shelters
- Utility protective measures
- Storm water management and localized flood control projects.

Prepare:

- KyEM Training (<http://kyem.ky.gov/programs/training/>)
- FEMA Independent Study Program (<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp>)

Response and Recovery:

- The Public Assistance Program
- The Individual & Family Grant Program

What can you do to help?

At HOME:

YOUR Family First!

- Are you prepared?
- Do you have children or livestock?
- What would you do if basic services were gone?
- What if you had to evacuate?
- What if you had to shelter in place?

Preparing Families

Fact Sheet "Preparing for Disasters and Emergencies: Your Family Plan" can be found on page 23 of the *Agroterrorism and Disaster Preparedness Program* booklet. This document can also be found on the internet at <http://www.agwx.ca.uky.edu/EDEN/eden-1.pdf>.

1. GET INFORMED
 - Community Hazards
 - Community Disaster Plans
 - Community Warning Systems
2. MAKE A PLAN
 - Meet with Your Family Members
 - Choose an "Out-of-Town" Contact
 - Decide Where to Meet
 - Complete a Family Communication Plan
 - Escape Routes and Safe Places
 - Plan for those with disabilities and other special needs
 - Plan for your pets or livestock
 - Prepare for different hazards
3. ASSEMBLE A DISASTER SUPPLIES
 - Basic items a family would probably need to stay safe and be more comfortable during and after a disaster.

For Example:

- Three-day supply of nonperishable food and manual can opener.
- Three-day supply of water (one gallon of water per person, per day).
- Portable, battery-powered radio or television and extra batteries.
- Flashlight and extra batteries.
- First aid kit and manual.
- Sanitation and hygiene items
- Special needs items such as prescription medications, eye glasses, contact lens solution, and hearing aid batteries.
- Items for infants, such as formula, diapers, bottles, and pacifiers
- Appropriate clothes
- Pet supplies

Fact Sheet "Preparing for Disasters and Emergencies: Your Disaster Supplies" can be found on page 24 of the *Agroterrorism and Disaster Preparedness* Program booklet. This document can also be found on the internet at <http://www.gwx.ca.uky.edu/EDEN/eden-2.pdf>.

For more information on Family Disaster Plans, review pages FP-1 through FP-13 in the "Talking about Disaster" guide located in the red *Disaster Preparedness Manual* located in your county office. It can also be found on the web at http://www.disastereducation.org/library/public_2004/Family_Disaster_Plan.pdf.

At WORK:

Mission: *The Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serves as a link between the counties of the Commonwealth and the state's land grant universities to help people improve their lives through an educational process focusing on their issues and needs.*

4-H Agents

- Camp Concerns?
 - Evacuation Plan
- Biosecurity Considerations When Exhibiting Animals.
- Take Home Messages.
- Children's Response to Crisis
- Resources for Parents and Teachers located at <http://www.fema.gov/kids/teacher.htm>
 - School Safety
 - Disaster resources
 - Terrorism related resources
 - Fire Safety

Family Consumer Science Agents

- Helping Families Prepare
- Family Disaster plan
- Food safety when the power goes out
 - Keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed - an unopened refrigerator will keep food cold for about 4 hours
 - It's important that the food is thoroughly cooked to destroy food borne pathogens
 - Wash fruits and vegetables with safe water
 - For infants, use prepared, canned baby formula that requires no added water

Agriculture Agents

- Plant and Crop Concerns
 - Threat of both intentional and unintentional introduction of pests and pathogens to crops
 - How to mitigate plant biosecurity hazards and security risks
 - How to prepare for a rapid and appropriate response
 - What recovery activities are needed in the event a plant biosecurity problem?

- Animal Agriculture Recommendations
 - Restrict Human Traffic to Farmstead
 - Restrict vehicles from entering Farmstead
 - Keep record of stock movement onto and off the farm
 - Keep dogs, cats, birds, wild game and vermin under control
 - Report to your veterinarian any unusual signs of animal sickness or death

State Animal Response Team (SART)

Interagency state organization dedicated to preparing, planning, responding and recovering during animal emergencies in the United States. Goal of addressing animal issues during disasters. SART programs train participants to facilitate a safe, environmentally sound and efficient response to animal emergencies.

In your COMMUNITY:

- Helping neighbors during a disaster
- Medical volunteers to assist during a disaster
- Assist in public training and outreach
- Crime prevention including terrorism awareness
- Assist law enforcement

Future Educational Opportunities:

National Incident Management System

NIMS is the first-ever standardized approach to incident management and response. Developed by the Department of Homeland Security and released in March 2004, it establishes a uniform set of processes and procedures that emergency responders at all levels of government will use to conduct response operations.

See Pages 7 and 8 of the *Agroterrorism and Disaster Preparedness Program* booklet in your red packet for more information on Independent Study Programs offered by FEMA.