
TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Disaster Preparedness: Be Prepared In Case of an Emergency!

Emergencies can happen anywhere at anytime. Would you know what to do if you or a loved one needed help? Here's a quick checklist to see if you and your home are safe:

- Keep a well-stocked first aid kit. Store medication in a locked cabinet so kids can't access it. Keep cleaning agents and dangerous chemicals out of reach. Keep all substances in their original containers.
 - Fire extinguishers are affordable. Keep one near the furnace, in the garage, and anywhere else a fire may start. Make sure everyone knows how to use them.
 - Never leave a burning candle unattended or sleep while a candle is burning.
 - Space heaters can be dangerous if not used correctly. Make sure yours will shut off if accidentally tipped over.
 - Install smoke, gas and carbon monoxide detectors outside each sleeping area in your home, and change batteries regularly.
 - Make sure family members know how to shut off utilities, and post the phone numbers for gas, water and electricity providers.
 - Create and practice a home emergency/escape plan. Determine a meeting place where your family can go if forced to leave the home; post a note on your door telling others the date and time you left, and where you're going.
 - Keep a bag stocked with cash, nonperishable food and water (3 days' worth for each family member), battery-powered radio, flashlight, first-aid kit, extra eyeglasses and prescription drugs, change of clothes and sturdy shoes, keys, pet supplies, and blanket or sleeping bag. Make sure all family members know where the bag is kept.
 - Keep a radio, blanket, flashlight, first-aid kit, and fresh batteries in every vehicle.
 - Keep a phone list of emergency contacts in your vehicle and wallet or purse.
 - Children should know their street address and last name, and how to dial 911.
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Disaster Preparedness

If a local disaster strikes, you may not have much time to act. Prepare now for a sudden emergency. Learn how to protect yourself and cope with disaster by planning ahead. This checklist will help you get started. Discuss these ideas with your family, then prepare an emergency plan. Post the plan where everyone will see it--on the refrigerator or bulletin board. For additional information about how to prepare for hazards in your community, contact your local emergency management office and your American Red Cross chapter.

Emergency Checklist:

- Call Your Emergency Management Office or American Red Cross Chapter
- Find out which disasters could occur in your area.
- Ask how to prepare for each disaster.
- Ask how you would be warned of an emergency.
- Learn your community's evacuation routes.
- Ask about special assistance for elderly or disabled persons.
- Ask your workplace about emergency plans.
- Learn about emergency plans for your children's school or day care center.

Create An Emergency Plan

- Meet with household members. Discuss with children the dangers of fire, severe weather, earthquakes, and other emergencies.
- Discuss how to respond to each disaster that could occur.
- Discuss what to do about power outages and personal injuries.
- Draw a floor plan of your home. Mark two escape routes from each room.
- Learn how to turn off the water, gas, and electricity at main switches.
- Post emergency telephone numbers near telephones.
- Teach children how and when to call 911, police, and fire.
- Instruct household members to turn on the radio for emergency information.
- Pick one out-of-state and one local friend or relative for family members to call if separated by disaster (it is often easier to call out-of-state than within the affected area).
- Teach children how to make long distance telephone calls.
- Pick two meeting places.
 - A place near your home in case of a fire.
 - A place outside your neighborhood in case you cannot return home after a disaster.
- Take a Basic First Aid and **CPR** Class
- Keep family records in a water-and fire-proof container.

Prepare a Disaster Supplies Kit

Assemble supplies you might need in an evacuation. Store them in an easy-to-carry container, such as a backpack or duffle bag. Include:

- A supply of water (one gallon per person per day). Store water in sealed, unbreakable containers. Identify the storage date and replace every six months.
- A supply of non-perishable packaged or canned food and a non-electric can opener.
- A change of clothing, rain gear, and sturdy shoes.
- Blankets or sleeping bags.
- A first aid kit and prescription medications.
- An extra pair of glasses.
- A battery-powered radio, flashlight, and plenty of extra batteries.
- Credit cards and cash.
- An extra set of car keys.
- A list of family physicians.
- A list of important family information; the style and serial number of medical devices, such as pacemakers.
- Special items for infants, elderly, or disabled family members.

Escape Plan

In a fire or other emergency, you may need to evacuate your house, apartment, or mobile home on a moment's notice. You should be ready to get out fast.

Develop an escape plan by drawing a floor plan of your residence. Using a black or blue pen, show the location of doors, windows, stairways, and large furniture. Indicate the location of emergency supplies (Disaster Supplies Kit), fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, collapsible ladders, first aid kits, and utility shut off points. Next, use a colored pen to draw a broken line charting at least two escape routes from each room. Finally, mark a place outside of the home where household members should meet in case of fire. Be sure to include important points outside, such as garages, patios, stairways, elevators, driveways, and porches. If your home has more than two floors, use an additional sheet of paper. Practice emergency evacuation drills with all household members at least two times each year.

Home Hazard Hunt

In a disaster, ordinary items in the home can cause injury and damage. Anything that can move, fall, break, or cause a fire is a potential hazard.

- Repair defective electrical wiring and leaky gas connections.
- Fasten shelves securely.
- Place large, heavy objects on lower shelves.
- Hang pictures and mirrors away from beds.

- Brace overhead light fixtures.
- Secure water heater. Strap to wall studs.
- Repair cracks in ceilings or foundations.
- Store weed killers, pesticides, and flammable products away from heat sources.
- Place oily polishing rags or waste in covered metal cans.
- Clean and repair chimneys, flue pipes, vent connectors, and gas vents.

If You Need to Evacuate. . .

- Listen to a battery-powered radio for the location of emergency shelters.
- Follow instructions of local officials.
- Wear protective clothing and sturdy shoes.
- Take your Disaster Supplies Kit.
- Lock your home.
- Use travel routes specified by local officials.

If you are sure you have time ...

- Shut off water, gas, and electricity, if instructed to do so.
- Let others know when you left and where you are going.
- Make arrangements for pets. Animals are not be allowed in public shelters.

Prepare an Emergency Car Kit:

- Battery powered radio and extra batteries
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Blanket
- Booster cables
- Fire extinguisher (5 lb., A-B-C type)
- First aid kit and manual
- Bottled water and non-perishable high energy foods, such as granola bars, raisins and peanut butter.
- Maps
- Shovel
- Tire repair kit and pump
- Flares
- Fire Safety

Plan two escape routes out of each room.

- Teach family members to stay low to the ground when escaping from a fire.
- Teach family members never to open doors that are hot. In a fire, feel the bottom of the door with the palm of your hand. If it is hot, do not open the door. Find another way out.
- Install smoke detectors. Clean and test smoke detectors once a month.

- Change batteries at least once a year.
 - Keep a whistle in each bedroom to awaken household members in case of fire.
 - Check electrical outlets. Do not overload outlets.
 - Purchase a fire extinguisher (5 lb., A-B-C type).
 - Have a collapsible ladder on each upper floor of your house.
 - Consider installing home sprinklers.
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The Terror Alert System

Low Condition - Green



Low risk of terrorist attacks. The following Protective Measures may be applied:

- Refining and exercising preplanned Protective Measures
- Ensuring personnel receive training on HSAS, departmental, or agency-specific Protective Measures; and
- Regularly assessing facilities for vulnerabilities and taking measures to reduce them.

Guarded Condition - Blue



General risk of terrorist attack. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- Checking communications with designated emergency response or command locations;
- Reviewing and updating emergency response procedures; and
- Providing the public with necessary information.

Elevated Condition - Yellow



Significant risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- Increasing surveillance of critical locations;
- Coordinating emergency plans with nearby jurisdictions;

- Assessing further refinement of Protective Measures within the context of the current threat information; and
- Implementing, as appropriate, contingency and emergency response plans.

High Condition - Orange



Orange High risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- Coordinating necessary security efforts with armed forces or law enforcement agencies;
- Taking additional precaution at public events;
- Preparing to work at an alternate site or with a dispersed workforce; and Restricting access to essential personnel only.

Severe Condition - Red



Severe risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- Assigning emergency response personnel and pre-positioning specially trained teams;
- Monitoring, redirecting or constraining transportation systems;
- Closing public and government facilities; and
- Increasing or redirecting personnel to address critical emergency needs.

***REMEMBER:
IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!***

CALL 911

PANDEMIC FLU

Overview

A pandemic occurs in many localities - perhaps even worldwide - almost simultaneously. Because of this, much of the planning for a pandemic must be the responsibility of state and local governments. Community strategies that delay or reduce the impact of a pandemic (also called non-pharmaceutical interventions) may help reduce the spread of disease until a vaccine is available.

Planning Guidelines



[Community Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Mitigation \(PDF - 10.3 MB\)](#)

CDC guidelines on actions, designed primarily to reduce contact between people, that community government and health officials can take to try to limit the spread of infection should a pandemic flu develop.

The 50 states, the District of Columbia, three local jurisdictions (New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles County), five U.S. Territories and three Freely Associated States of the Pacific are sharing \$325 million in cooperative agreement emergency supplemental funds to fill gaps in their pandemic influenza preparedness plans and to test these plans. Funds were made available in two phases. Phase one, \$100M, was announced January 12, 2006. Phase two, \$225M, was announced July 11, 2006.

[State and Local Funding Distribution Chart >>](#)

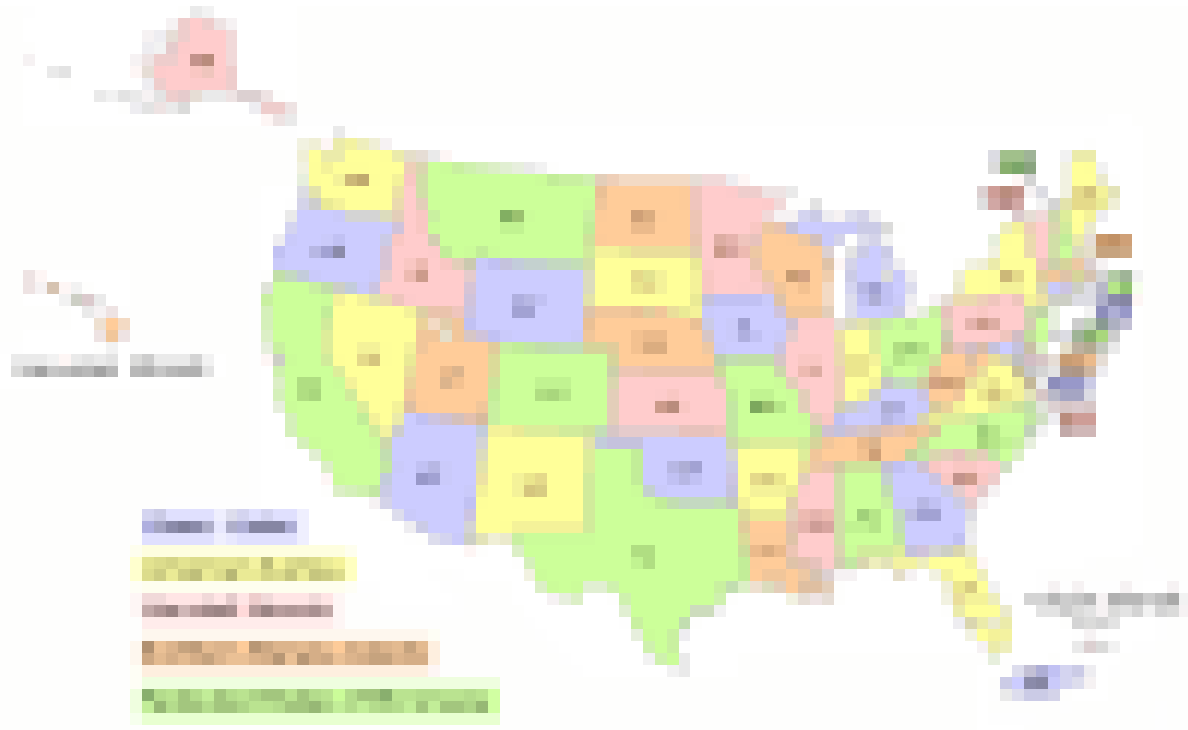
[Phase I Allocation Press Release >>](#)

[Phase II Allocation Press Release >>](#)

To help coordinate planning, HHS and other federal agencies are holding [pandemic planning summits](#) with public health, emergency management, and response leaders in each state. HHS has also prepared a [State & Local Planning Checklist](#), and will work with states to design exercises to evaluate preparedness.

State-by-State Pandemic Information

Each state page contains information about the state pandemic plan, summit materials, formal agreements, and other pandemic information pertaining to the state.



State Pandemic Plans

[State Pandemic Plans](#)

Access all state pandemic plans that are currently available.

Statewide Pandemic Influenza Operation Plans - Reports Due March 1, 2007

As part of the national strategy for pandemic influenza, states must submit information on their operations plans. [Template for State Pandemic Influenza Operations Plan \(PDF - 104 KB\)](#) ([DOC - 280 KB](#)) (U.S. Health & Human Services)

Instructions and template for states to submit by March 1, 2007.

[State & Local Pandemic Influenza Planning Checklist](#)

Planning Guides

[Providing Mass Medical Care with Scarce Resources: A Community Planning Guide](#) (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality)

For State, local, community, and facility planners, this guide discusses ethical and legal issues, and considerations regarding prehospital care, hospital/acute care, palliative care, and alternative care sites. Chapter 8 is a 29-page case study for a flu pandemic.

[Antivirals - State Allocations](#)

Chart showing the individual state allocations of antivirals from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services stockpile.

State Contacts

[Contact Information for State Departments of Agriculture, Wildlife, and Public Health](#)

Find information on how to contact the departments in your state, by mail and by phone. When available, fax numbers and Web addresses are also provided.

Emergency Management Assistance Compact

[Quick Tips](#) ([PDF - 36 KB](#)) (Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)

This document serves as a brief orientation to the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) for states. This document should be used by any entity of State government that wishes to request assistance from another state during a Governor-declared state of emergency.

[Pandemic Planning: A Convening of the States](#)

At the direction of President Bush, Secretary Mike Leavitt, HHS, convened senior state and local officials from across the country on December 5, 2005 to establish an integrated federal-state influenza-pandemic planning process. The White House Homeland Security Council, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture also participated in the meeting.

[The Great Pandemic of 1918: State by State](#)

Read stories and anecdotes of the impact of the Great Pandemic in individual states. This historical information was gathered for presentation at Pandemic Planning Summits held in each state.

Related Links

[Pandemic Influenza](#) (Association of State and Territorial Health Officials)

Access information and resources for state pandemic planning meetings.

[Preparing for a Pandemic Influenza: A Primer for Governors and Senior State Officials](#) ([PDF](#)) (1.12MB) (National Governors Association Center for Best Practices)

Read the NGA's report focused on the considerations states must make when developing policies in preparation for a potential pandemic.