

○ At Home

The American Red Cross (ARC) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have developed a series of brochures as a part of their Family Protection Program. They serve as guides for you to prepare your family and home for disasters and emergencies. Remember, disaster can strike with no warning. You and your family may be in different locations i.e., work, school, the car, at the store, etc., so you need a plan in place in advance.

Create a Disaster Plan

Pick two places to meet:

1. Right outside your home or outside your neighborhood in case you cannot return home
2. Establish an out of state contact to be your family's contact point.

Prepare family emergencies supplies:

1. Prepare enough supplies to meet your needs for at least three days..
2. Assemble a disaster supplies kit with items you may need in an evacuation.
3. Keep a smaller kit in your car.

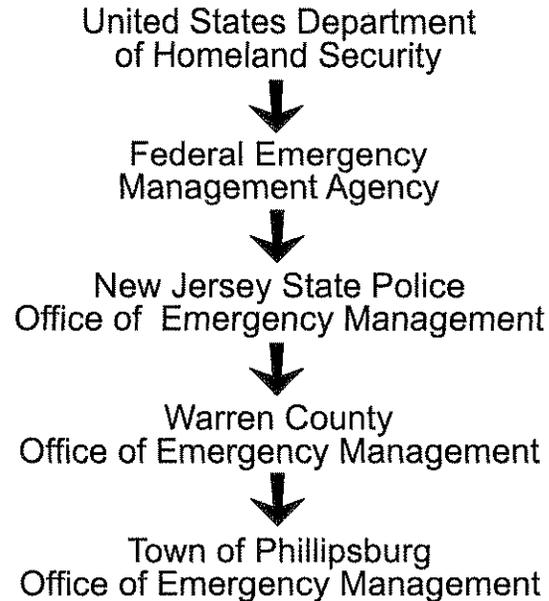
Survey your home for hazards:

1. Know how to turn off utilities safely.
2. Develop an evacuation plan.
3. Correct problems before disaster strikes.



PROTECT YOUR FAMILY FIRST

Structure ○ Authority



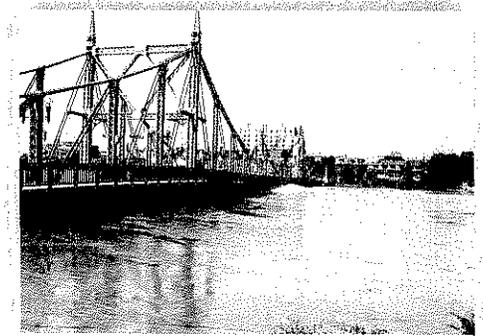
FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.fema.gov
www.nj.gov/njhomlandsecurity
www.citizenscorp.gov
www.dhs.gov
www.weather.gov
www.disasterhelp.gov
www.redcross.org
www.floodsmart.gov
www.phillipsburgnj.org



Prepared by the Office of Emergency Management • Town of Phillipsburg 2013

Town of Phillipsburg



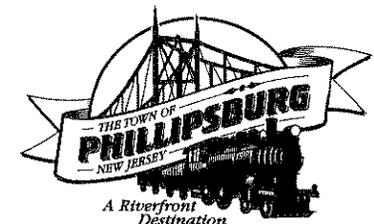
Office of Emergency Management

908-454-5500, EXT. 347

An Explanation Guide for all Citizens

No matter where we live or work, emergencies and disasters are a fact of life. Natural or manmade, disasters can strike with little or no warning, while others can be predicted with a few hours or days of advance notice.

The members of Phillipsburg's Municipal Government know their responsibilities during an emergency, but how do they interact with each other as well as an assortment of Country, State and Federal Agencies? Hazardous Materials Incidents, Hurricanes, Floods, Snowstorms, Acts of Terrorism, etc., all have the potential to severely tax our Town's resources. The Town of Phillipsburg, Office of Emergency Management acts as the coordinating agency during emergencies and disasters. It is the Office of Emergency Management's responsibility to plan, prepare and coordinate Phillipsburg's response to any type of emergency or disaster.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

New Jersey law requires every municipality and county to have a state approved Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) and to appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator, who in conjunction with local government, is responsible for coordinating the necessary actions to protect lives and property during times of disaster and emergency.

Municipalities must also appoint an Emergency Management Council (known as a Local Emergency Planning Council) for which the coordinator serves as the Chairperson. Representatives from all first responder agencies (fire, police and emergency medical), a member of Town Council, the Mayor, Business Administrator, local volunteer agencies, schools and local businesses form this council. Cooperatively the various agencies concerned develop the Emergency Operations Plan.

Emergency Management programs on all levels or our government include not only the public safety units, but volunteer and private entities, such as the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and many other organizations.

FOUR PHASES OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1. **PLANNING** - Identifying hazards, preparing for contingencies.
2. **RESPONSE** - The hands on, initial response to the emergency.
3. **RECOVERY** - Getting back to normal, re-establish services, etc.
4. **MITIGATION** - Prevent or reduce the impact of future emergencies.

THE EMERGENCY OPERATION PLAN

Successful reaction to emergency situation depends on a working emergency operation plan. The plan is to be used for responding to, planning for, and recovering from , emergencies and disasters. Every EOP must meet strict criteria set and approved by the New Jersey State Police Office of Emergency Management. It is subject to an annual review, and re-certification every four years. The plan should be tested at least once a year to be effective.

BASIC PLAN

This section on the plan deals with an overall description of your town, its location, population, and character. A vulnerability analysis focuses special attention on the hazards of your community.

ANNEXES

The remainder of the plan is made up of 16 functional annexes that address how different groups function and certain actions or activities associated with almost all emergencies and disasters are carried out.

1. Alert, Warning and Communications
2. Damage Assessment
3. Emergency Medical
4. Emergency Operations Center
5. Emergency Public Information
6. Evacuation
7. Fire and Rescue
8. Hazardous Materials
9. Law Enforcement
10. Public Health
11. Public Works
12. Radiological Protection
13. Resource Management
14. Shelter, Reception and Care
15. Social Services
16. Terrorism

Other specialized operation plans relate to special circumstances or situations, such as:

- Merrill Creek Reservoir Emergency Operation Plan
- Warren County Mass Casualty Plan
- Warren Hospital Disaster Operation Plan
- Phillipsburg School District Critical Incident Plan

TRAINING AVAILABILITY

1. Community Emergency Response Team - C.E.R.T. - This training is available on a local level. The twenty hour course is designed to train the interested citizen in basic knowledge of emergency management, first aid, fire suppression, search and rescue, terrorism and disaster psychology. For more information call the local Emergency Management Office.
2. Home Study - FEMA offers home study courses in various emergency management areas. Go to www.fema.gov and click on training.

"A disaster is any unusual incident resulting from natural or unnatural causes which endangers the health, safety or resources of the residents of one or more municipalities, or the state, and which is or may become too large in scope or unusual in type to be handled in its entirety by regular municipal operation services."