

DISASTER – ARE YOU READY?

The following information was obtained through Citizen Corps E-News (www.citizenscorp.gov)

Are You Ready? A Guide For Citizen Preparedness offers specific protective measures that you can take for a "High Condition (Orange)" threat level. These include:

- Develop a household disaster plan -- have a household meeting to discuss what members would do and how they would communicate in the event of an incident;
- Assemble a disaster supply kit with food, water, and first aid supplies at home, at work, and for your car;
- Be sure to have a battery operated radio and extra batteries to stay informed;
- Have a list of emergency contact numbers, including fire, police, and hospitals, near the phone;
- Review and practice evacuation plans;
- Learn about community sheltering resources and how to "shelter in place;"
- Check with school officials to determine their plans for emergency procedures;
- Apartment residents should discuss emergency procedures with building managers;
- Contact neighbors to discuss their plans and needs and how you can help each other;
- If you have special needs, be sure to discuss your plans with family, friends, and your employers;
- Be observant of any suspicious activity and report it to authorities;
- Avoid high profile or symbolic locations;
- Exercise caution when traveling; and
- Schedule a course in first aid training and CPR and work with your local fire department, emergency managers, and law enforcement to help expand CERT training in your community.

IMPORTANT! Be sure to listen to what LOCAL AUTHORITIES tell you about the situation in your area.

Please review the "[Are You Ready?](#)" chapters on General Preparedness, Emergency Planning and Disaster Supplies, Evacuation, and Shelter - available online in Acrobat Reader and in Word Document format. Remind others to learn how to be more prepared in their community!

Are You Ready? A Guide for Citizen Preparedness also has a separate chapter on National Security Emergencies, including terrorism, chemical and biological weapons, and nuclear and radiological attack.

These web sites also provide relevant information:

- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security priority is to protect the nation against further terrorist attacks.. Find facts about the DHS, the latest news and homeland security advisories. (www.dhs.gov/dhspublic)
- Texas Department of Public Safety – Division of Emergency Management – Texas Homeland Security – Taking Care of Texans – How should Texans Prepare for a Terrorist Incident Special (www.demwmd.net)
- American Red Cross – offers biomedical, blood-donation, disaster, and emergency services. Check the press room and learn about how to donate or volunteer. (www.redcross.org)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – offers plans, services, hiring, and post-disaster help info from agency managing preparation, response, and recovery in the event of natural disasters. (www.fema.gov)
- FEMA – Disaster Fact Sheets and Backgrounders – Federal Emergency Management Agency provides fact sheets about preparing for natural and technological disasters. (www.fema.gov/library/factshts.shtm)
- FEMA – Preparation and Prevention - Access Federal Emergency Management Agency documents on floods, fire, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, and other natural disasters. www.fema.gov/library/prepandprev.shtm
- FEMA: Are You Ready? A Guide to Citizen Preparedness brings together facts on disaster survival techniques, disaster-specific information, and how to prepare for and respond to both natural and man-made disasters. Revised in September 2002. ([http://www.fema.gov.library.csuhayward.edu/areyouready](http://www.fema.gov/library.csuhayward.edu/areyouready))
- FEMA for Kids Guide to National Security Emergencies - (www.fema.gov/kids/nse)
- Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – (www.cdc.gov)
- Department of Justice (www.usdoj.gov)
- Department of Health and Human Services (www.hhs.gov)

Questions or Concerns?

The members of the Bedford Police Department stand ready to help at any given time, especially during times of disaster. If you have any questions or concerns that you would like to discuss, we welcome your call – 817-952-2440.