

DISASTER EVENT SOG'S

EARTHQUAKE

PLANNING:

Prior to the earthquake event, EMA Directors should:

Earthquakes are unforeseen events and unpredictable therefore Prior planning is somewhat different than other disaster events.

- Plan for immediate opening of EOC and manning phones and response activities.
- Inform city/town officials and York County EMA of the plan for immediate response.
- Coordinate with department heads so they know their responsibility if an event occurs.
- Plan to utilize the county emergency alert system to inform citizens about the severity and damages and what they can expect.
- Communicate with the public information officer (PIO) regarding public information messaging. (pre-planned)
- Monitor the local broadcast media regarding Emergency Alert System activation.
- Communicate with schools, daycare centers, hospitals, etc. regarding proper precautions and emergency training actions prior to an earthquake.
- Monitor the US Geological Survey briefings for timely information affecting local jurisdictions.
- Coordinate and plan at least one exercise (table top or practical) tri-annually.
- Determine the availability of shelters and obtain shelter agreements if already not in place.
- Communicate with local volunteer groups or organizations which will staff the shelter and pet shelter.
- Communicate with York County EMA regarding electrical utilities and power outages.
- Inventory supply kits: portable radios, lights, medical supplies, drinking water, food.
- Establish shelter in place or evacuation plan including routes. (evacuation plans will be situation dependent)
- Ensure public works has a plan to deploy detour signage. (situation dependent and will need immediate response)
- Ensure internal staff/volunteer preparedness: supply kits at home, fuel in cars, generators fueled, etc. to reduce worry about their own families and allow for full engagement in disaster response effort.
- Communicate earthquake response plans with town/city officials, York County EMA, special teams and the volunteer groups or organizations which will staff shelters and pet shelters.

RESPONSE:

During the earthquake event, EMA Directors should:

- Activate the EOC.
- Establish ICS and communicate plan with team. (ensure communication is maintained or use backup systems)
- Maintain situational awareness at all times/ start immediate damage assessments and record details.
- Inform city/town officials and York County EMA of specific damages occurring or that has occurred.
- Utilizing the county emergency alert system, issue alert and warning to general public based on procedure, as warranted.
- Maintain communications with York County EMA and with special response teams.
- Through communications with responding agencies determine as quickly as possible:
 - *Number of killed or injured
 - *General boundary of the affected area
 - *The general extent of damages
 - *The general extent of power or other utility disruption

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- *Immediate needs of response forces
- *If voluntary evacuations of the population have begun
- *Location of any triage area
- *Location of any congregate care area established or ad hoc

- Monitor overall county situation.
- Establish ongoing reporting from the special response teams and private agencies.
- Establish incident command team and command post(s) as needed.
- On order, evacuate affected areas with assistance from special response teams or organizations.
- Conduct first staff briefing as soon as practical after EOC activation.
- Activate or establish rumor control through the public information officer (PIO).
- Establish a schedule for briefings.
- Brief city/town officials, York County EMA, and PIO with updated information.
- Provide special response teams with updated information, as appropriate.
- Utilizing the county emergency alert system, cause public information to be released, via the PIO as soon as practical.
- Issue action guidance as appropriate.
- Establish 24/7 duty roster for the EOC and/or command post.
- Develop and post any required maps or diagrams.
- Activate an events log.
- Review and follow resource procurement procedure.
- Inventory additional resources that may be used or called upon for use.
- Activate formal resource request procedure and resource tracking.
- Coordinate all resource requests being forwarded to the York County EMA.
- Activate financial tracking plan coordinated by the Finance Officer.
- Activate damage assessment and follow damage assessment procedure.
- Develop a 12 hour incident action plan outlining actions that must be accomplished in the next 12 hours.
- Conduct a “second shift” or relieving shift briefing and discuss with and present to your relief, the incident action plan for the next 12 hours.
- Track resource usage, personnel, financial expenditures, etc.
- Continue public information messaging with county emergency alert system.
- List any shelters that are open and routes to get there.
- Keep track of areas that were evacuated and the location to which citizens were evacuated.

RECOVERY:

After the earthquake event has occurred, EMA Directors should:

- Inform city/town officials and department heads of the situation.
- Perform damage assessment activities.
- Update York County EMA of the situation and request any resources needed.
- Coordinate with mutual aid partners.
- Assess the need for evacuations and or sheltering in place.
- Gather financial information from the Finance Officer.
- As appropriate gather additional information to include:
 - *Personnel that responded and the time involved in the response.
 - *Time sheets or time logs.
 - *Supplies used.
 - *Contracts issued.
 - *Purchase orders issued.

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- *Any other expenditures.
- *Damages to public buildings, equipment, utilities, etc.
- *Loss of life of any public servant.
- *Documents regarding economic impact.
- Develop or generate reports for the following, as appropriate:
 - *City/Town Managers
 - *Local elected officials
 - *York County EMA
 - *Others requiring or requesting reports.
- Coordinate recovery organizations including federal and state agencies and private or volunteer relief organizations.
- Establish donated goods management based on policy and procedure.
- Assess shelter activities: how many are open, the need to remain open or demobilize and an estimate for how long and what resources are needed for both.
- Ascertain the number of injured and deceased from medical personnel.
- If a Presidential declaration of disaster is made, file “Request for Public Assistance” to apply for assistance as soon as possible with the state.
- Ensure public officials are made aware of the assistance application process, if applicable.
- Utilizing the county emergency alert system, the PIO will ensure the general public is made aware of the assistance application process, if applicable.
- Contact water district to establish whether or not water is safe to drink.
- Assess shelter activities: how many are open, the need to remain open or demobilize and an estimate for how long and what resources are needed for both.
- Ascertain the number of injured and deceased from medical personnel.

INCIDENT SPECIFIC

EARTHQUAKE

Lead Agency

Town of York EMA

Purpose

The purpose of this Annex is to provide for the coordination of emergency service efforts to respond to earthquake damage that may occur in and around the Town.

Situations

- The Town has been known to experience seismic activity in the past although most of these recorded earthquakes are of small magnitude. This activity demonstrates some vulnerability to earthquakes.
- The Town should use information from their State's earthquake hazard identification study to quantify the seismic hazard their community faces. This study addresses the magnitude, estimates the amount of ground shaking that could occur, and delineates the associated geological hazards (landslide, liquefaction, etc.) that may occur as a result of a catastrophic earthquake. It focuses on casualties and injuries; potential building losses and identifies the buildings most vulnerable to seismicity (including critical facilities such as hospitals, EOCs, mass care centers, emergency services organizations' work centers, water and waste management plants, power companies, etc.); medical needs versus available medical resources; loss of utilities and replacement/repair time; etc. caused by the earthquake and the collateral hazards it may trigger (e.g. fires, dam or levee failure, HAZMAT spills, etc.).
- The Town's emergency response resources might be overwhelmed in the event of a serious or higher magnitude earthquake.

Assumptions

- In the event of a United States Geological Survey (USGS)-identified earthquake that so warrants, the Town will inspect public structures to insure their integrity and for any possible damage.
- If necessary, the Town will provide assistance to those persons or businesses that may be substantially impacted by any such identified earthquake.
- Major consequences associated with an earthquake are the collapse of buildings and other structures, and landslides. In York, many people could be trapped and/or injured. These people will require immediate assistance. In such situations, it is likely that local, and

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possibly State emergency response resources would be overwhelmed by the demand for emergency services.

- In order to assist State and local governments to accomplish this critical lifesaving activity, the Federal Government has established Federal Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) teams. These teams are available to State and local jurisdictions upon request. These teams augment State and local emergency response efforts to locate, extract, and provide for the immediate medical treatment of victims trapped in collapsed structures.

Concept of Operation

It is essential for emergency response personnel to take immediate action to gather damage assessment information. This information is needed to determine the severity and extent of injuries and damages. Further, this data gathering effort should provide much of the information decision makers will need to implement and prioritize response actions for: search and rescue activities, access control and re-entry to the impacted area, debris clearance, restoration of utilities and lifeline repairs, and the inspection, condemnation, and or demolition of buildings and other structures.

Therefore, provisions should be made, as appropriate, to address the following planning considerations:

- a. Damage Assessment Conduct of ground and aerial surveys to determine the scope of the damage, casualties, and the status of key facilities.
- b. Search and Rescue - removal of trapped and injured persons from landslides, buildings collapses, and other structural collapses, administering first aid, and assisting in transporting the seriously injured to medical facilities. This activity involves the use of professional and volunteer search teams including the use of dog teams.

Consideration should be given to:

- Use of damage assessment information to identify the facilities and areas where search and rescue operations are to be conducted and to establish a priority for conduct of these operations.
- Request for Federal assistance to perform search and rescue operations. (Refer to Assumptions above.)

Evacuation

Immediately following an earthquake people may need to be evacuated. People should be evacuated from structures that have been damaged and are likely to receive more damage when hit by one or more of the aftershocks. An appendix to an evacuation annex should

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address special provisions for moving the residents of custodial facilities (hospitals, jails, mental health facilities, nursing homes, retirement homes, etc.) following an earthquake.

Access Control and Re-Entry

This response deals with the immediate actions to be taken, as soon as conditions permit, in the area that was severely impacted by an earthquake.

Relevant considerations include:

- Control of access to the area until it is safe. Only those people directly involved in emergency response operations should be allowed to enter.
- Determining the appropriate time to allow evacuees and the general public to re-enter the area that was severely impacted.

Debris Clearance

The identification, removal, and disposal of rubble, landslides, wreckage, and other material which block or hamper the performance of emergency response functions should be a high priority action.

Activities may include:

- Demolition and other actions to clear obstructed roads.
- Repair or temporary reinforcement of roads and bridges.
- Construction of emergency detours and access roads.

Inspection, Condemnation, Demolition

Inspection of buildings and other structures to determine whether it is safe to inhabit or use them after an earthquake has occurred.

Activities may include:

- Inspection of buildings and structures which are critical to emergency services operations and mass care activities. Designate those that may be occupied and identify/mark those that are unsafe. Inspection of buildings and structures that may threaten public safety. Identify/mark those that are unsafe and may not be occupied.
- Inspection of dams.
- Inspection of less critical damaged structures. Designate those that may be occupied and identify/mark those that are unsafe to occupy.

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- Arrangements for the demolition of condemned structures.

Utilities and Other Life-line Repairs

Restoration and repair of electrical power, natural gas, water, sewer, telephone and other communications systems to minimize the impact on critical services and the public.

Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

The York Police Department will:

- a. Remove bystanders and control access to areas where building damage has occurred.
- b. Initiate and conduct evacuation if ordered.
- c. Assist in rescue operations as appropriate.
- d. Conduct other law enforcement activities as appropriate.
- e. Maintain liaison with EOC and other officials, as appropriate.

The York Fire Department will:

- a. Assume on-scene control.
- b. Perform fire fighting and EMT duties as needed and as appropriate.
- c. Order evacuation if the situation warrants.
- d. Keep EOC, if activated, informed of the situation.

The York Public Works Department will:

- a. Assess Building Damage.
- b. Support Power Company operations with restoration or power.

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will:

- a. Activate EOC, if appropriate
- b. Monitor conditions in other municipalities and counties.
- c. Coordinate outside assistance if needed.
- d. Keep local, state and federal government officials apprised of the situation.
- e. Coordinate preparation of news release as appropriate.
- f. Coordinate other emergency response as needed.
- g. Assist law enforcement with evacuation of residences, if necessary.

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The York and Kittery Water Districts will:

- a. Provide and/or maintain emergency generators for critical facilities such pump stations, water tanks.

The American Red Cross will:

- a. Coordinate temporary shelters for evacuees, if needed, out of the affected area.
- b. Notify Salvation Army of food and clothing needs.

Administration and Logistics

A record of the costs and expenses incurred in the direct support of the emergency situation will be maintained in the event reimbursement claims are made available by the state or federal government.

Assets/Resource List

None identified for this specific Annex.