

KEY CENTER WARD

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Disasters by their very nature strike quickly without warning. Vigilance, education, preparation, faith and prayer are the only tools we have against them.

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TYPES OF PREPARATION

In all cases members of the Church should consider the area in which they live and prepare for the most likely types of disaster that could affect their area. Specifically, the Puget Sound region is very active seismically, with experts anticipating a major earthquake. Additionally, preparations should also be made for financial disaster, shipping and trucking disruptions terrorist activity, avian flu, and wind/storm damage and volcanic eruption.

PERSONAL PREPARATION

The responsibility for Family Emergency Preparedness starts with each individual family. The church is there as a backup support to the individual family. In early stages of an emergency, immediate aid should not be expected from civil authorities or from the church, as these services will be overwhelmed and may also not be able to get thru to your area. Church members are urged by the Prophet to prepare a supply of food, water, clothing, medicine and where possible, fuel. Examples of fuel are: firewood, 5 gallon tanks of propane for barbeques, 5 gallon gas containers for power saws, generators and vehicles.

WARD EMERGENCY PERSONNEL

The Ward Emergency Director is the Bishop. If he is unavailable or cannot function in this capacity, the role is assumed first by one of his counselors, then by the High Priest Group Leader or Elder's Quorum President. The Ward Emergency Director is assisted by the Ward emergency Supervisors.

Bishop Bruce Monson

First Counselor – Brother Michael Norton

Second Counselor – Brother Mark Caviness

High Priest Group Leader – Brother John Berg

Elder's Quorum President – Brother Michael Gaudio

Ward Emergency Specialist – Brother Ken Proctor

Ward Emergency Specialist – Brother Terry Mann

NOTE: If you want to print this Key Center Ward Emergency Preparedness Plan out for our own use, please go to www.lds.org/units and log in to the Key Center Ward Web page Membership Directory. There you can get the phone numbers for these leaders and write them in beside their name so you will have them if there is a disaster. We did not want to publish those phone numbers here on this web page.

WARD EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

A. Introduction –

The Ward Emergency Management Team has prepared this document to assist Key Center Ward Members in being prepared in the event of a disaster.

B. Before the Disaster –

Ward Emergency Specialists will:

1. Prepare a large map of the Ward with neighborhood block boundaries, locating where each family or single member lives. Block maps will also be prepared showing the location of each family or single member and block captains will be assigned.
2. Distribute emergency preparation material to all members.
3. Conduct emergency preparation training.
4. Encourage members to maintain a supply of food, water, clothing, medicine and fuel.
5. Keep Ward roster of helpful members, i.e. doctors, nurses, police, fire, CERT trained, etc.
6. Encourage all members to locate and know how to turn off main shut-off valves for gas, water and electricity.

C. During the Disaster –

All members should:

1. Seek shelter or some kind of protection from the event.
2. Assess yourself and your family for injuries and treat to the best of your abilities. Check your home and surroundings for stability. **Do not stay** in an **Unsafe** home or in **Unsafe** surroundings. Pick a safe place close to your home or where you are and stay there. **Do not go to your Ward Building.**

D. After the Disaster is Over –

1. Block captains, after caring for their own family, and with the help of other members in their block will contact and assess the condition of all members in their block neighborhood.
 - a. Rescue people whose lives are threatened
 - b. Prevent or limit danger to people
 - c. Provide shelter, food, water, first-aid and supplies
 - d. Prevent or limit property damage.

2. Block captains report their findings, assessments, help given and needs to the Ward Emergency Specialist, who will then report to the Ward Emergency Director. In case conditions do not allow this reporting system to work by telephone or radio and if it is safe to do so, Aaronic Priesthood and young Women working in pairs with good physical condition could assist by acting as messengers traveling on bicycles.
3. Church members with enough property and supplies may need to be prepared to live on their property in a tent camping site for an undisclosed period of time.
4. Remember to include your neighbors with a caring and helping hand during and following disaster.
5. Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams (PC-NET) has some good literature and ideas for Emergency operations in a small neighborhood.

<http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/abtus/ourorg/dem/pcnet.htm>

Return to Normalcy

The Ward Emergency Management Team will supervise the return to normalcy as emergency conditions are resolved. As soon as conditions begin to stabilize, the Church can provide manpower and materials for cleanup, moving and or rebuilding. The spirit of rebuilding can help restore emotional stability and provide members with feelings of purpose.