

TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS FOR ROCHESTER



By Rochester Emergency Management

Although there have been no specific terrorism threats to Rochester or our region, there have been local questions or concerns, some of which, we have consolidated and attempted to answer in this pamphlet for you.

I am pleased to let you know that the City of Rochester has Emergency contingency plans for man-made and natural disasters of all types for Public Safety Agencies and our citizens. Our plans are exercised periodically and adjusted accordingly.

Our suggestions for terrorism planning for local residents is really very simple. You should be prepared to be sheltered in your own home as a first priority then to shelter elsewhere only if needed. Secondly you should keep aware of local and regional news and to not live your life in fear.

The advantage to being prepared and aware can be used as well for everyday emergencies, storm related emergencies and can give you a good piece of mind for you and your family.

Please feel free to contact the Rochester Fire Department at **335-7545** or visit our website at www.rochfd.org at any time for answers to your questions. We are pleased to offer answers or suggestions to any of your questions for your safety and your health.

Mark Dellner
Rochester Fire Chief
& Emergency Management Director



WHO IS ROCHESTER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT?

Our City's Emergency Management Team consists of Rochester Fire, Police, Frisbie Hospital, Schools, Public Buildings, Public Works, Health, Red Cross, the Mayor and City Manager and other agencies as designated depending on the emergency.

WHERE DO THEY MEET AND HAVE THEY BEEN USED AND TRAINED TOGETHER?

When needed, our agencies meet together at the Operations Center at the City's downtown Fire Station to coordinate efforts of all of our organizations to meet City wide needs. This has been done in past years for hurricanes, snowstorms and other weather related emergencies as well as numerous training sessions.

IS ROCHESTER READY TO HANDLE A DISASTER?

The City of Rochester has plans for both natural and man made disasters of all types. There is also a State of NH disaster plan should the disaster affect more than one community.

WHAT DO I DIAL FOR EMERGENCIES OR TO REQUEST INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS FOR ROCHESTER?

Any true emergency you should dial 911. For specific questions, concerns or information on local terrorism threats or evacuation and sheltering issues, call the Rochester Fire Department at 335-7545.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF THERE IS A DISASTER CONCERNING ROCHESTER RESIDENTS?

You will be alerted to a disaster by one of 3 ways:

1. The Fire Chief or City Manager can capture the Metrocast Cable System over-riding any TV channel for emergency messages.
2. It will be announced over the emergency radio broadcast system. WOKQ, WTSN, etc
3. Emergency personnel will come to your home.

WHAT IS THE BEST LOCAL TELEVISION CHANNEL TO HAVE ON IN MY HOME FOR ROCHESTER RELATED EMERGENCIES?

Channel 9 from Manchester would provide the best State and Local Region news and can be over-riden by Rochester Emergency Officials for more specific local information for the Greater Rochester Area covered by Metrocast

**WHERE IS ROCHESTERS EVACUATION SHELTER LOCATED
IF WE NEED TO LEAVE OUR HOMES?**

The Rochester Middle School on Brock St. is designated as our Evacuation Shelter.

**WHAT ABOUT OVERFLOW OR CONGESTION AT THE
MIDDLE SCHOOL?**

Other City Schools are back-up sites for evacuation if needed. Please pay attention to Emergency Broadcast instructions on what is open and where to go.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY FAMILY MEMBERS?

All residents will have to register at the shelter. Once you have registered, arrangements will be made to unite you with your other family members.

WHAT ABOUT MY PETS?

Pets are not allowed at the shelters. Should there be a need to evacuate your pets they will be taken to a local animal shelter where they can be picked up later. In most cases, you should leave your pet in the home with ample food and water.

SHOULD I BRING ANYTHING WITH ME?

It is recommended that you bring a few items with you:

- Extra clothes * Pillows * Medications
- Battery operated radio * Personal hygiene products
- Baby formulas

WHAT WILL BE PROVIDED TO ME AT THE SHELTER?

You will be provided with a cot and a blanket and three meals per day. One of the meals will be a hot meal. Emergency Medical Personnel will be there should you have a medical emergency.

WILL I ALWAYS HAVE TO LEAVE MY HOME?

No, depending on the nature of the emergency the best course of action may be to shelter you in place.

WHAT DO I NEED IF I'M SHELTERED IN PLACE?

It is recommended that you put together an Emergency Supply Kit. The kit should contain as a minimum the following item:

First Aid Kit * Medications * Clothing
Portable radio, battery operated * Extra batteries
Food and water * Tools * Personal Documents
Plastic sheeting and * Duct tape

WHAT ABOUT A TERRORIST ATTACK?

Currently Federal, State & Local Governments are formulating and instructing disaster plans for a terrorist attack. These plans are designed to handle the latest terrorist threats and is an on-going process.

HOW SERIOUS IS THE SMALLPOX THREAT?

The use of smallpox is now regarded as a possibility and the US is taking precautions to deal with this possibility, mainly in the nations urban areas.

HOW DANGEROUS IS SMALLPOX?

Smallpox is a Category A agent. Category A agents are believed to pose the greatest potential threat for adverse public health impact and have a moderate to high potential for large scale dissemination.

CAN I GET THE SMALLPOX VACCINE FROM MY DOCTOR?

The vaccine is currently not available to the general public. In the event of a smallpox outbreak, there is enough vaccine to vaccinate everyone who needs it.

HAS THERE BEEN A DIRECT THREAT TO ROCHESTER OR OUR REGION?

No, there has been no threat to our City or Region as of February 2003.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ON CITIZEN PREPAREDNESS FOR DISASTER PLANNING?

Some very informative information can be obtained by visiting the following websites:

www.fema.org
www.ready.gov
www.nhoem.state.nh.us
www.rochfd.org