Evacuation and Shelter Location Guidelines for City of Denton Residents
# RECORD OF CHANGES

Evacuation and Shelter Location Guidelines for City of Denton Residents

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>07/08</td>
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EVACUATION AND SHELTER LOCATION GUIDELINES
FOR CITY OF DENTON RESIDENTS

I. AUTHORITY

A. FEDERAL

1. ROBERT T. STAFFORD DISASTER RELIEF & EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ACT, (AS AMENDED), 42 U.S.C. 5121
2. EMERGENCY PLANNING AND COMMUNITY RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT, 42 USC CHAPTER 116
3. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND ASSISTANCE, 44 CFR
4. HAZARDOUS WASTE OPERATIONS & EMERGENCY RESPONSE, 29 CFR 1910.120
5. HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002
6. HOMELAND SECURITY PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE. HSPD-5, MANAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC INCIDENTS
7. HOMELAND SECURITY PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE, HSPD-3, HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY SYSTEM
8. NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
9. NATIONAL RESPONSE FRAMEWORK
10. NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR HOMELAND SECURITY, JULY 2002
11. NUCLEAR/RADIOLOGICAL INCIDENT ANNEX OF THE NATIONAL RESPONSE FRAMEWORK
12. PRESIDENTIAL POLICY DIRECTIVE 8 – NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS

B. STATE

1. GOVERNMENT CODE, CHAPTER 418 (EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT)
2. GOVERNMENT CODE, CHAPTER 421 (HOMELAND SECURITY)
3. GOVERNMENT CODE, CHAPTER 433 (STATE OF EMERGENCY)
4. GOVERNMENT CODE, CHAPTER 791 (INTER-LOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACTS)
5. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE, CHAPTER 778 (EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COMPACT)
6. EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
7. EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR RELATING TO THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
8. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, TITLE 37, PART 1, CHAPTER 7 (DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT)
10. THE TEXAS HOMELAND SECURITY STRATEGIC PLAN, PART III, FEBRUARY 2004

C. LOCAL

2. Inter-local Agreements & Contracts
II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for the orderly and coordinated evacuation of the City of Denton, if it is determined that such action is the most effective means available for protecting the population from the impact of an emergency situation. This document also includes a listing of potential shelter sites as managed by the American Red Cross office in Denton.

III. EXPLANATION OF TERMS

A. Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>EOC</td>
<td>Emergency Operating or Operations Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICP</td>
<td>Incident Command Post</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICS</td>
<td>Incident Command System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IC</td>
<td>Incident Commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIMS</td>
<td>National Incident Management System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIO</td>
<td>Public Information Office or Officer</td>
</tr>
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</table>

B. Definitions

**Evacuation.** The National Incident Management System (NIMS) defines evacuation as an organized, phased, and supervised withdrawal, dispersal, or removal of civilians from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.

**Shelter.** Providing assistance to those who have been displaced due to a hazardous situation or the threat of such a situation. Mass care for these individuals may include providing temporary housing, food, and other essential services. These services are typically provided through shelter agreements with the American Red Cross.

IV. SITUATION & ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. There are a wide variety of emergency situations that might require an evacuation of portions of the City of Denton.
   a. Limited evacuation of specific geographic areas may be needed as a result of a hazardous materials transportation accident, major fire, natural gas leak, or localized flash flooding.
   b. A large-scale evacuation could be required in the event of a major hazardous materials spill, terrorist attack, extensive flooding, or a tornado strike.

2. **Authority for Evacuations.** State law provides a mayor or county judge with the authority to order an evacuation of all or part of the population from a stricken or threatened area within their respective jurisdictions. Hence, the mayor may order a mandatory evacuation of the City of Denton upon issuing a local disaster declaration. The mayor may also take subsequent action to control re-entry, curtail movement, and deny building occupancy within a disaster area.
B. Assumptions

1. Most people at risk will evacuate when local officials recommend that they do so. A general estimate is 80 percent of those at risk will comply when local officials direct an evacuation. The proportion of the population that will evacuate typically increases as a threat becomes more obvious to the public or increases in severity.

2. Regardless of the threat, some individuals will refuse to evacuate.

3. When there is sufficient warning of a threat, many individuals who are not at risk will evacuate.

4. Evacuation planning by residents for known hazards in their neighborhoods should be done in advance.

5. While some emergency situations are slow to develop, others may occur without warning. For this reason, there may be time for deliberate evacuation planning or an evacuation may have to be conducted with minimal preparation time. In a short notice evacuation, there may be little time to obtain the needed personnel and equipment from external sources to support evacuation operations.

6. The need to evacuate may become evident during the day or at night and there could be little control over the evacuation start time.

7. In most emergency situations, the majority of evacuees will seek shelter with relatives or friends or in commercial accommodations rather than in public shelter facilities.

8. Most evacuees will use their personal vehicles to evacuate. However, transportation may need to be provided for evacuees without personal vehicles.

9. When confronting a major disaster or catastrophic incident, it may be necessary to employ all modes of transportation including state and/or federal assistance to effectively evacuate the affected population.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. Evacuation is one means of protecting the public from the effects of a hazard. Protection is achieved by moving people away from the hazard. The characteristics of the hazard and its magnitude, intensity, speed of onset, and anticipated duration are all significant factors in planning for an evacuation. These characteristics and factors will determine the number of people to be evacuated, the distance people must be moved to ensure their safety, the need for reception facilities, and the extent of traffic control and security required.
2. The public must be personally prepared for the possibility of an evacuation at all times both from known hazards and from unexpected incidents. The City of Denton, along with other North Central Texas governments, have developed an emergency preparedness website to guide the public through how to develop a personal emergency preparedness plan, including what items to assemble in a disaster supplies kit and how to utilize the kit in the event of an evacuation. Visit http://www.knowwhat2do.com for more information.

B. Evacuation Decision

1. The City of Denton Public Safety Incident Commander, usually a high ranking member of the fire or police departments, shall assess the need for evacuation. For large-scale evacuations, the City of Denton Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be activated and staffed to assist with evacuation and shelter efforts.

2. The decision to evacuate includes the following considerations:
   
a) What areas or facilities are at risk and should be evacuated?
   b) What method of communication will be used to advise the public of what to do?
   c) What materials and supplies do evacuees need to take with them?
   d) What travel routes should be used by evacuees?
   e) What transportation support is needed and available?
   f) What assistance will any special needs population require?
   g) What traffic control is needed?
   h) Does the anticipated duration of the evacuation make it necessary to activate shelter(s) and mass care facilities?
   i) How will evacuated areas be secured?

3. Incidents that occur without warning that require an evacuation may need to be planned quickly and carried out solely on resources that can be mobilized rapidly.

4. The decision to recommend an evacuation of the populace in and around the area of an incident site rests with the Incident Commander managing the incident. In general, the Mayor shall issue the order for large-scale evacuations.

C. Shelter-in-Place

Shelter-in-place may be recommended by the Incident Commander if it is determined that the movement of people beyond their residence, workplace, or school will endanger the health and safety of the public more so than allowing them to try and evacuate their location. People will need to stay inside, close doors and windows, and shut off heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. The goal is to try and keep as much outside air from coming inside the structure as possible. It may also be recommended to tape and seal a room if the residents have those resources available. See Appendix C for more information.

D. Transportation

1. Individuals. It is anticipated that the primary means of evacuation for most individuals will be personal automobiles. Some residents do not own vehicles and should try and make transportation arrangements with nearby friends and neighbors for evacuation planning purposes.
2. **Special Needs Facilities.** Public schools maintain transportation resources. Day Care Centers and other special need facilities may have limited transportation assets. Most other special needs facilities rely on commercial or contract transportation companies for their specialized transportation needs.

3. **Emergency Transportation.** School buses, Denton County Transportation Association (DCTA) buses, ambulances, and other vehicles may be provided for emergency transportation. In the case of large-scale evacuations with advance warning, pickup points may be designated or telephone banks established to receive and process requests for transportation.

4. **Public information.** Messages emphasizing the need for citizens to help their neighbors who lack transportation or need assistance will significantly reduce requirements for public transportation during an evacuation.

E. **Traffic Control**

1. Actual evacuation movement will be controlled by local law enforcement agencies.

2. When possible, two-way traffic will be maintained on all evacuation routes to allow continued access for emergency vehicles.

3. During a large-scale evacuation when time permits, traffic control devices, such as signs and barricades, will be provided by the Utilities, Streets, and/or the Parks Department.

4. When needed, law enforcement will request wrecker services to clear disabled vehicles from evacuation routes.

F. **Warning and Public Information**

1. The Incident Commander will decide if an evacuation warning should be issued in and around an incident site. The EOC will coordinate and disseminate warnings and public information for evacuations.

2. **Advance Notice of Possible Evacuation**

   a) For emergency situations that develop slowly, advance warning will be given to affected residents as soon as it is clear evacuation may be required. Such advance notice is normally disseminated through the media and use of the CodeRED Emergency Notification System. The City of Denton has a partnership with KNTU 88.1 FM to provide emergency public information during emergencies, including events requiring evacuation. Advance warning will address suitable preparedness actions such as securing property, assembling disaster supplies kits, shelter locations, and identifying evacuation routes.

   b) Advance warning will be made to special needs facilities, when possible, in a threatened evacuation area. During notification, special needs facility staff will be requested to review and prepare to implement their evacuation plans. Special needs facility staffs should report their periodic status and any requirements for assistance to the EOC.
3. **Evacuation Warning**

   a) Evacuation warning will be disseminated through a combination of available warning systems. See Appendix G for listing of local warning/public information systems.

   1) In the case of an immediate evacuation in and around an incident site, route alerting using siren and speaker-equipped vehicles moving through the affected area may be utilized. If enough resources are available, two vehicles may be employed—the first to get the attention of the people and a second will deliver the evacuation message. Door-to-door notification may be used for large buildings and in more rural areas where residences may be some distance from the road.

   2) Special needs facilities may be notified directly by on-scene authorities or by the EOC staff.

   3) Law enforcement personnel will sweep the evacuation area to ensure all those at risk have been advised of the need to evacuate and have responded. Persons who refuse to evacuate will be left until all others have been warned and then, time permitting, further efforts may be made to persuade these individuals to leave.

4. **Emergency Public Information**

   a) Warning messages disseminated through the EOC to alert the public as to an initial threat will provide basic instructions and information available at the time of the incident. These messages are usually short and to the point. The public will often require amplifying information regarding more specifics and follow-up instructions as an emergency situation develops. The City of Denton Public Information Officer (PIO) will ensure that such information is provided to the media on a timely basis for further dissemination to the public.

   b) Amplifying instructions for an evacuation may include information on the location of shelter and mass care facilities, specific evacuation routes, guidance on securing homes and businesses, and the need for evacuees to take certain items with them during an evacuation. When school children are evacuated, parents need timely information on where to pick them up. School evacuation and relocation of students to an alternate facility, including public information components, will be coordinated by Denton ISD officials.

   c) When the incident that generated the need for evacuation is resolved, evacuees will be advised through media outlets when it is safe to return to their homes and businesses.

G. **Special Needs Population**

   Special needs facilities are responsible for the welfare and safety of their students, clients, patients, and inmates. Virtually all of these facilities are required by state and/or federal laws to maintain an emergency plan that includes provisions for an emergency evacuation.
1. **Schools & Day Care Centers**
   a) If evacuation of public schools is required, students will normally be transported on school buses to other schools outside of the risk area where they can be picked up by their parents. The public be provided timely information on these arrangements by Denton ISD officials. In the case of a large-scale emergency situation with advance warning, schools will generally be closed and students returned to their homes so they can evacuate with their families.
   
   b) Any day care centers in the evacuation area typically maintain limited transportation resources and may require assistance in evacuating.

2. **Hospitals, Nursing Homes, & Correctional Facilities**
   If evacuation of these facilities is required, patients and inmates should be transported, with appropriate medical or security support, to a comparable facility. The facility operator is responsible for making arrangements for suitable transportation and coordinating use of appropriate host facilities. In the case of short-notice or no-notice emergency situations, facilities may be unable to make the required arrangements for transportation and may need assistance from local government with transportation and in identifying suitable reception facilities.

3. **State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR)**
   The STEAR program is a free registry that provides local emergency planners and emergency responders with additional information on the needs of special needs populations in their community. Texas communities use the registry information in different ways. Registering yourself in STEAR registry DOES NOT guarantee that you will receive a specific service during an emergency. Registered users still need to call 911 for assistance during an emergency.
   
   a) Who should register?
   • People with Disabilities
   • People with access and functional needs
   • People who have limited mobility
   • People who have communication barriers
   • People who require additional medical assistance during an emergency event
   • People who require transportation assistance
   • People who require personal care assistance
   
   b) How to Register
   • Register Online at https://STEAR.dps.texas.gov
   • Dial 2-1-1 or use your video telephone relay option of choice to contact 211 at 877-541-7905 (Texas Information Referral Network)
   • Registration forms
     Nursing Home & Assisted Living STEAR Registration Form (PDF)
     STEAR Individual Registration Form (2015) (PDF)
     Registro para Asistencia de Emergencia del Estado de Texas (STEAR) (PDF)
c) **Required Information to Register**
   - Name
   - Address
   - Phone Number
   - Primary Language

d) **Additional questions asked to capture vital information for local emergency planners and responders**
   - Emergency Contact Information
   - Caregiver Information
   - Pets
   - Transportation assistance for home evacuation
   - Communication Barriers
   - Disability, Functional or Medical Needs

e) **Registration is voluntary**

**H. Handling Pets during Evacuations**

1. Evacuees who go to the homes of relatives, friends or commercial accommodations with their pets normally do not pose difficulties during evacuation. For health reasons, pets are not allowed in emergency shelters operated by the American Red Cross and most other organized volunteer groups. Loose pets remaining in an evacuated area may also create a public safety concern. The Denton Police Department Animal Control Office will coordinate these issues.

2. Depending on the situation and availability of facilities, one or more of the following approaches may be used to handle evacuees with pets:
   
a) Provide pet owners information on nearby kennels, animal shelters, and veterinary clinics that have agreed to temporarily shelter pets.
   
b) Direct pet owners to a public shelter with covered exterior corridors or adjacent support buildings where pets on leashes and in carriers may be temporarily housed.
   
c) Set up temporary pet shelters at the North Texas State Fairgrounds.

**I. Evacuation Routes**

Practically all major thoroughfares in the City of Denton are potential evacuation routes. Evacuation routes for items such as hazardous materials releases are complex and can change depending on the nature of the release. Where evacuees locate depend on a number of factors including wind direction, transportation routes, and where shelters are available. In many instances, it is safer for residents to shelter-in-place as opposed to evacuate. Caution should be taken to balance the potential need to evacuate vs. sheltering in homes, schools, or businesses until the hazardous material dissipates to a safe level. See Potential Evacuation and Shelter Map under separate cover.
J. Potential Shelter Locations

1. The City of Denton works closely with the American Red Cross, which provides staffing and shelter management during emergencies. The locations used for shelters depend on availability, the number of people being evacuated, size and type of shelter needed, and proximity to the incident. See Appendix A for specific shelter addresses and also Potential Evacuation and Shelter Map under separate cover.

Possible shelter locations include:
- Calhoun Middle School
- Camp Copass
- Denton High School
- Denia Recreation Center
- Denton Civic Center
- Denton Senior Center
- Guyer High School
- Immaculate Conception Church
- Martin Luther King, Jr., Recreation Center
- McMath Middle School
- North Lakes Recreation Center
- Ryan High School
- Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church
- Strickland Middle School
- University of North Texas (UNT)

2. In some cases, citizens may be directed to a staging area to wait until a shelter can be established.

3. One of the goals is to shelter people as close to their homes as is safe to do so. Where and what type of incident occurs, what hazardous material(s) are involved, weather conditions, available transportation routes, and shelter availability all impact where residents are directed.

NOTE: Do not automatically go to the closest potential shelter to your location. Listen for emergency public information (See Appendix G) to find out where a shelter is being established and what evacuation routes to take.

K. Access Control and Security

1. Security in evacuated areas is extremely important. Law enforcement will establish access control points to limit entry into evacuated areas and, where possible, conduct periodic patrols within such areas to deter theft. To the extent possible within the evacuated area, the fire department will take measures to ensure continued fire protection.

2. If an evacuated area has sustained damage and cannot be reoccupied for an extended period of time, a permit system may be implemented to limit access to emergency workers, homeowners, business owners, utility workers, and contractors restoring damaged structures and removing debris.
L. Return of Evacuees

1. For limited incidents, the Incident Commander will normally make the decision to return evacuees. For large-scale evacuations, the decision will normally be made by the Mayor, coordinated through the EOC Staff, and disseminated through the media.

2. The following conditions should prevail in the evacuated area before evacuees are authorized to return:
   a) The threat prompting the evacuation has been resolved or subsided.
   b) Sufficient debris has been removed to permit travel and roads and bridges are safe to use.
   c) Downed power lines have been removed; ruptured gas, water, and sewer lines have been repaired; and other significant safety hazards have been eliminated. However, utility services may not be fully restored.
   d) Structures have been inspected and deemed safe for occupancy.
   e) Adequate water is available for firefighting.

3. For return and re-entry, it may be necessary to provide transportation for those who lack vehicles. Traffic control along return routes may also be required.

4. Evacuees should consider the following upon return to their homes or businesses:
   a) Documenting damage for insurance purposes.
   b) Caution in reactivating utilities and damaged appliances.
   c) Cleanup instructions.
   d) Removal and disposal of debris from private property.

M. Public Education

The City of Denton, along with other North Central Texas governments, have developed an emergency preparedness website to educate the public about the importance of personal emergency preparedness, including sections on shelter-in-place and evacuation. Please visit http://www.knowhat2do.com for more information.

**Important Note:** If evacuating for a flash flood event, never drive or walk through flooded roadways. Six inches of fast moving flood water can knock a person off their feet. Twelve inches of water can carry away an automobile. Never drive around barriers that warn roads are closed. Road beds may be washed out under flood waters. If your vehicle is suddenly caught in rising water, leave it immediately and seek higher ground. **Turn Around, Don’t Drown!** For more information on potential flood areas in the City of Denton, refer to FEMA Flood Zone Maps under separate cover. Also see Appendix C – Flooding Preparedness.
VI. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

A. General

1. The Mayor has the general responsibility for ordering an evacuation, when deemed the most suitable means of protecting the public from a hazard.

2. In situations where rapid evacuation is critical to the continued health and safety of the population, the on-scene Incident Commander may recommend evacuation of people at risk in and around an incident scene and direct and control the required evacuation.

3. Large-scale mass evacuations and regional evacuations conducted on the basis of imminent threat where there is no current incident scene will normally be coordinated and directed by the EOC and Regional Unified Command (RUC).

B. Evacuation Area Definition

1. Areas to be evacuated will be determined by those officials with the authority to direct a mandatory evacuation based on the counsel of those individuals and agencies with the necessary expertise, the use of specialized planning materials or decision aids, the recommendations of state and federal agencies, and, where appropriate, advice from other subject matter experts. Evacuation recommendations to the public will, to the extent possible, clearly describe the area to be evacuated with reference to known geographic features, such as roads and neighborhood boundaries.

2. The hazard situation which gave rise to the need for evacuation will be continually monitored in case changing circumstances, such as an increase in rainfall or wind shift, change in the potential impact area and, thus, the area that must be evacuated.

VII. INCREASED READINESS ACTIONS

A. Know the Hazards in your Area

The first step to being prepared is to know what potential hazards are facing you and your loved ones. The potential hazards for the City of Denton include, but are not limited to: flash flooding, tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, hail, lightning, straight line winds (microburst), hazardous materials incident (including chemical releases at fixed site facilities, rail, highway, and pipeline), major transportation accident, multi-alarm structure fires, grass fires, plane crashes, winter weather, extreme heat, drought, and the potential for domestic terrorism.

City of Denton residents can consult the following resources, among others, for information on the potential hazards and emergency preparedness measures for our area:

DFW Region Public Education Web Site: http://www.KnowWhat2do.com
Flood Risk Profile: http://www.floodsmart.gov
Severe Weather for North Central Texas: http://www.srh.weather.gov/fwd/
Fire Safety: http://www.usfa.fema.gov
Chemicals in the Community: https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/tiertwo/
FEMA: http://www.ready.gov/
B. Be Prepared – Make a Plan and Know Where to Tune for Emergency Information

Once a determination is made as to what potential emergencies can occur, the next step is to get prepared. Residents should keep in mind that in certain large-scale events, city emergency services may not be immediately able to reach impacted areas. Citizens need to have plans and supplies in place to make it on their own, at least for a limited time, no matter where they are, regardless of what type or when an emergency happens.

One of the most important steps City of Denton residents can take is to have a personal emergency plan in the event an evacuation is ever needed. To learn how to create a personal emergency plan, visit www.KnoWhat2do.com.

1. Preplan for known hazards that could escalate to emergency situations.
2. For certain hazards that may require evacuation, be sure to include the following in your plan:
   - Places to meet within and outside of your immediate neighborhood.
   - Keep a half tank of gas in your car at all times in case you need to evacuate.
   - Familiarize yourself with alternate routes out of your area.
   - If you don’t have a car, plan other means of transportation.
   - Take an Emergency Supplies Kit with you.
   - Lock the doors behind you.
   - Take your pets with you, but understand that only service animals may be permitted in public shelters.
3. Develop an emergency supplies kit for your home and family.
4. Develop a vehicle emergency supplies kit.
5. Devise a communications plan.
6. Considerations for those with special needs.
8. Know the Community Warning and Public Information Systems:
   - KNTU 88.1 FM Radio. Listen to KNTU anytime the sirens sound
   - NOAA Weather Warning Radio (can be purchased at most electronic stores)
   - National Weather Service Office in Fort Worth Web site: www.srh.noaa.gov
   - City of Denton Emergency Notification System (CodeRED)
   - City of Denton Siren System
   - Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) on Smart Phones
   - City of Denton social media outlets
   - Nixie Alerts from the City of Denton Police Department
   - DFW Metroplex TV and Radio stations
   - Primary Emergency Alert System (EAS) Radio Station WBAP 820 AM
   - City of Denton Web site: www.cityofdenton.com
   - In some instances, fire and police personnel may drive through the streets making announcements on public address systems or go door-to-door.

C. Act Now and Get Involved!

You do not need to make a major time commitment to be a valuable volunteer. If you are interested in getting involved, there are hundreds of ways citizens can help Denton stay prepared and ready for an emergency, starting with personal responsibility. Developing a
personal emergency plan, disaster supplies kit, knowing your hazards, staying alert to severe weather, and participating in crime prevention reporting are all ways to stay proactive.

Most people do not realize that in the United States, less than one percent of the population is professionally-trained emergency responders. Those individuals handle with great efficiency the day-to-day emergencies that include: fires, medical treatment, law enforcement calls, etc. However, when a major event occurs, these resources are overwhelmed in short order. If Denton were to take a direct hit from a major tornado, for example, almost every able-bodied person could help out with first response activities to one extent or another. This is why it is so important to take advantage of free emergency preparedness public education and training opportunities.

City of Denton residents are fortunate to have access to several Citizen Corps programs. Denton County Emergency Services coordinates the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Denton County Health Department has the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), and the Denton Fire Department offers the Fire Explorers program. Another learning opportunity exists through the Denton Police Department’s Citizen Police Academy. In addition, the American Red Cross has been offering disaster training courses for decades. The Denton County Amateur Radio Association (DCARA) is always looking for volunteers to serve as trained severe storm spotters. Please take the time to participate in one or more of these important programs. The life you save may be your own.

Helpful websites:
American Red Cross – Denton Office: www.redcross.org/tx/dallas-fort-worth
Denton FD Fire Explorers Program: www.dentonfire.com
Denton County Amateur Radio Association: http://www.dcara.net
Denton County CERT: www.dentoncountycert.org
Denton County Medical Reserve Corps: https://mrc.dentoncounty.com

VIII. APPENDICES

Appendix A………………………………………………………………………….. Potential Shelter Sites
Appendix B……………………………….. CodeRED Emergency Telephone Notification System
Appendix C………………………………………………………………………. Chemical Emergencies
Appendix D………………………………………………………………………… Evacuation Planning
Appendix E………………………………………………………………………… Flooding Preparedness
Appendix F………………………………………………………………………… Tornado Preparedness
Appendix G………………………………………………………………………… Warning & Public Information Systems
Appendix H………………………………………………………………………… Winter Storms
APPENDIX A

LIST OF FACILITIES WITH AMERICAN RED CROSS SHELTER AGREEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Zip</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Billy Ryan High School</td>
<td>5101 E. McKinney Street</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calhoun Middle School</td>
<td>709 Congress Street</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denia Recreation Center</td>
<td>1001 Parvin Street</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denton Civic Center</td>
<td>321 E. McKinney Street</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denton High School</td>
<td>1001 Fulton</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denton Senior Center</td>
<td>509 N. Bell Avenue</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guyer High School</td>
<td>7501 Teasley Lane</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immaculate Conception Church</td>
<td>2255 North Bonnie Brae</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr., Rec. Center</td>
<td>1300 Wilson Street</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McMath Middle School</td>
<td>1900 Jason Drive</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Lakes Recreation Center</td>
<td>2001 W. Windsor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strickland Middle School</td>
<td>324 E. Windsor Drive</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76209</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OTHER POTENTIAL SHELTER SITES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Zip</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Camp Copass</td>
<td>8200 E. McKinney Street</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Texas</td>
<td>North Texas Boulevard</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76201</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

POTENTIAL STAGING AREAS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Zip</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CH Collins Stadium Parking Lot</td>
<td>1500 Long Road</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Triangle Mall</td>
<td>2201 S. Interstate 35</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNT</td>
<td>North Texas Boulevard</td>
<td>Denton</td>
<td>76201</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Denton County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), Denton County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and/or Denton County Amateur Radio Association (DCARA) may assist during local shelter operations.
APPENDIX B

CODERED EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM
AND CODERED WEATHER WARNING

The City of Denton has instituted the CodeRED Emergency Notification System - an ultra high-speed telephone, text, and e-mail service for emergency notifications.

CodeRED is a geographical based system where street addresses are needed to select the telephone numbers that will receive emergency notification calls. Public databases have been used to collect telephone numbers for existing Denton home and businesses (within the City limits) and have been placed into the CodeRED database. However, sometimes the public databases contain outdated information, thus no one should automatically assume his or her telephone number is included. All individuals and businesses should register, especially if you have an unlisted phone number, have changed your phone number or address within the last year, or you use a cellular phone as your home phone. You may also enter your e-mail and text address during the registration process.

Examples of times when the CodeRED system could be utilized: drinking water contamination, utility outage, evacuation notice & route, missing person, major fires, severe weather, bomb threat, hostage situation, chemical spill or gas leak, and other emergency incidents where rapid and accurate notification is essential for life safety.

City of Denton Residents can also sign up for CodeRED Weather Warning while signing up for CodeRED. The CodeRED Weather Warning feature will automatically notify citizens when severe weather (tornado, flash flood, severe thunderstorm, and winter storm) warnings are issued by the National Weather Service for your address. The CodeRED Weather Warning System only makes notifications when warnings are issued and only if your address is in the path of the storm.

To register visit [www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com) and click on the CodeRED link at the top of the page.

Direct registration link: [https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/1E8C6AD27CB8](https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/1E8C6AD27CB8)
APPENDIX C

CHEMICAL EMERGENCIES

What to do in case of a chemical emergency...
The good things that chemicals bring into our lives have become indispensable to us. Although rare, there always remains a chance that a chemical emergency will occur in our community, despite the precautions that have been taken. This brochure will inform you of precautions you can take to lessen the chance of serious injury should a chemical release occur.

What actions might you want to take?
In case of a hazardous materials emergency, you may be asked to take one of three actions:

1. Protect Your Breathing
2. Shelter-In-Place
3. Evacuate

Be sure you are clear about each action. If you have neighbors who are hard of hearing, do not see well, or need additional assistance, please consider how these people might need to be helped. Be sure they know what to do in an emergency.

What if you are told to protect your breathing?

- Cover your nose and mouth with a damp cloth. Fold the cloth over several times
- Close all windows and doors in the building or vehicle.
- Turn off heating, cooling, or ventilation systems.

What if you are told to shelter-in-place?
The goal with sheltering-in-place is to protect yourself inside your house or any other building. This is a good action to take if there is a short release or small amount of hazardous materials in the air. If your children are in school, school officials will enact emergency plans to protect them.

Take these steps to protect yourself:

- Go inside and stay there until informed you can leave safely. This will most likely be no more than a few hours at most.
- Close all doors and windows.
- Turn off heating, cooling, or ventilation systems.
- Do not use fireplaces and close the damper.

What if you are told to evacuate?
If told to evacuate, you should move to the place designated by public officials. Follow these steps to get ready for the trip:

- Stay as calm as possible.
- Gather and pack only what you and your family will need the most. Try to include the following:
  1. This Information
  2. Extra clothing
  3. Eyeglasses, dentures, prescription drugs, important medicines, and a first aid kit
  4. Baby supplies (if applicable)
5. Portable / battery powered radio and flashlight
6. Checkbook and credit cards
7. Driver’s license or identification
8. Any prescription drugs you are taking

- Remember as you leave to do the following:
  1. Turn off lights, household appliances, heating, cooling, or ventilation systems
  2. Leave refrigerator and freezer on
  3. Lock your home
- **DO NOT** go to your children’s school to pick them up. This delays their movement to a safe place. Schools have emergency plans to take special care of the children.
- **DO NOT** try to call you children’s school. During an emergency, these phone lines are needed for official business.
- **DO NOT** listen to rumors. Tune to KNTU 88.1 FM or local TV stations for up-to-date information regarding the emergency (see notification information below).
- **DO NOT** use your phone. Only use the phone if you or someone you know is injured, too sick, or cannot otherwise evacuate. If you must use the phone, keep the call short and to the point.
- Use only one vehicle for your family. If you have room, please check to see if any neighbors need a ride, especially if these neighbors have special needs.
- Keep your car windows and air vents closed.
- Listen to local radio station KNTU 88.1 FM for reports about your route and other information.
- Drive safely, as traffic will likely be heavy. Law enforcement officers along the route will direct traffic.
- If you need a ride, try to go with a neighbor, nearby friend, or relative first. Otherwise, a City of Denton telephone number will be announced that evacuees can call to arrange for emergency transportation.
- Do not worry about the property you have left behind. Law enforcement officers will provide protection. National Guard troops can be called in to help if needed, and roadblocks will keep people out of the area you have left.
- If your children have to leave their schools for a safer place, they will be the first to move. Their teachers and other adults will take them to a designated place. You will be told by radio and TV where and when to pick up your children.

**What should you do if you know there is a chemical release and it is coming towards you?**
Be prepared to get yourself and your family out of the area if directed to do so by the local authorities (police or fire department). You should also be prepared to protect yourself wherever you are if evacuation is not possible or is unnecessary.

Studies have shown that even poorly sealed buildings can give some protection from chemical releases entering the building. Results from these studies indicate that if you are outside, you should go into your home, enter a nearby public building, or get in your automobile. Once inside, close off all outside ventilation, such as windows, or the air conditioner. Stay inside and wait for the release to pass.
If you do feel sense that a chemical release is entering the building and you might be in danger, a wet cloth or towel placed over your nose and mouth will act as a filter and offer some protection. Staying inside is safer than trying to outrun a release.

If you are outside and cannot possibly get inside, move crosswind (in a direction as the wind is blowing from your left to right or vice versa, but not into your face or from behind). This offers the best advantage for getting out of the path of the release.

In either case, remain calm and follow directions provided by local emergency services.

**How will you be notified?**

The City of Denton has a variety of methods and partnerships available to inform the public during a chemical release or other emergency. These include:

- KNTU 88.1 FM Radio. Listen to KNTU anytime the sirens sound
- NOAA Weather Warning Radio (can be purchased at most electronic stores)
- National Weather Service Office in Fort Worth Web site: [www.srh.noaa.gov](http://www.srh.noaa.gov)
- City of Denton Emergency Notification System (CodeRED)
- City of Denton Siren System
- Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) on Smart Phones
- City of Denton social media outlets
- Nixle Alerts from the City of Denton Police Department
- DFW Metroplex TV and Radio stations
- Primary Emergency Alert System (EAS) Radio Station WBAP 820 AM
- City of Denton Web site: [www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)
- In some instances, fire and police personnel may drive through the streets making announcements on public address systems or go door-to-door.

For more emergency planning information, visit [www.KnoWhat2do.com](http://www.KnoWhat2do.com).
APPENDIX D

EVACUATION PLANNING

Evacuation routes for items such as hazardous materials releases are complex and can change depending on the nature of the release. Where evacuees go depends on a number of factors including wind direction, available transportation routes, and where shelters are open. In many instances, it is safer for residents to shelter-in-place as opposed to evacuate. Since evacuations may be time consuming, labor intensive, and logistically challenging, care must be taken not to expose people to hazardous substances during lengthy evacuation efforts. If evacuation is not recommended, sheltering in homes, schools or businesses until the material dissipated may be necessary.

The decision to evacuate any area of the City of Denton for a chemical spill or other emergency will be made by the Incident Commander or Unified Command. In some instances, the Mayor of the City of Denton may order an evacuation.

Evacuation Routes:
Practically all major thoroughfares in the City of Denton are potential evacuation routes. These include, but are not limited to:

North/South:
- I-35, I-35E, I35W
- U.S. 377/Fort Worth Drive/Elm
- U.S. 77/Dallas Drive/Locust/N. Elm
- Loop 288
- Sherman Drive/FM428
- North Locust/FM2164
- Bonnie Brae Road
- Mayhill Road
- Colorado/Woodrow/Audra/Nottingham
- Cooper Creek Road
- Teasley Lane/Lillian Miller
- Post Oak
- State School Road
- FM1830/County Club Road
- Carroll Boulevard
- Western Boulevard
- Country Club Drive

East/West:
- I-35E, I35W
- U.S. 380/University Drive
- U.S. 377/E. University
- Loop 288
- Jim Cristal Road
- W. & E. McKinney Street
- Hobson Lane
- Hickory Street
- Ryan Road
- Spencer Road
- Airport Road
- Tom Cole Road
- W. & E. Oak Street
- Windsor
- FM2449/Vintage Blvd.
- Robson Ranch Road
- Crawford Road

See Potential Evacuation Routes and Shelter Locations Map on the City Web site for a listing of specific evacuation routes.

Shelter Locations:
The City of Denton works closely with the American Red Cross, which provides staffing and shelter management during emergencies. The locations used for shelters will depend on availability, the number of people being evacuated, size and type of shelter needed, and proximity to the incident.
Possible Shelter Locations Include:
City of Denton Recreation Centers, Civic Center or Senior Center
Certain Denton ISD Schools
Certain Religious Institutions
University of North Texas
Camp Copass

See Appendix 1 for a listing of potential shelter locations. Also refer to Potential Evacuation Routes and Shelter Locations Map, under separate cover, for specific shelter locations.

In some cases, citizens may be directed to a staging area to wait until a shelter can be established.

One of the goals in many situations is to keep people as close to their homes as is safe to do so. Where and what type of incident occurs, what hazardous material(s) are involved, weather conditions, available transportation routes, and shelter availability all impact where residents may be directed.

How to Prepare for Evacuation:

One of the best things citizens can do is to have a disaster supplies kit ready to take with them in case an evacuation is needed. A checklist of items to have on-hand can be found at the North Central Texas Public Education Website at www.KnoWhat2do.com. Residents should also have a communications plan and know how to contact friends and family members in order to ensure their accountability. If you need a ride, try to go with a neighbor, nearby friend, or relative first. Otherwise, a City of Denton telephone number may be announced that residents can call to arrange for supplemental transportation, as needed.

How you will be Informed of an Evacuation:

- If a hazardous materials incident or other emergency should require an evacuation, citizens should monitor official information on KNTU Radio 88.1 FM, CodeRED Emergency Notification System, and local media outlets. If an evacuation is ordered, fire and police personnel will direct residents to the appropriate route to take and will provide information on where to locate. Fire and police personnel may also drive through the streets making announcements on public address (PA) systems and/or go door-to-door, if needed.

For more emergency planning information, visit www.KnoWhat2do.com
APPENDIX E

FLOOD PREPAREDNESS

What to do in case of a flood...

Flooding can take many forms in the City of Denton

*Urban/Area floods* are due to the conversion of fields or woodlands to roads, parking lots, and other impervious surfaces. The impervious cover associated with urbanization can increase runoff 2 to 6 times over what would occur on natural terrain. Because of increases in runoff, some streets can become impassable and low-lying areas can flood during heavy rain events.

*Backwater flooding* occurs as creeks, ponds, and lakes become full and water levels begin to rise. Backwater flooding tends to occur adjacent to lakes and within floodplains when runoff volumes exceed the drainage capacity of the system.

*Flash flooding* occurs within a few minutes or hours of unusually intense rainfall events. The rapidly rising waters can reach heights from a few inches to several feet and can destroy roads, topple trees, and impact buildings and bridges.

Did you know?

1. Nine out of ten Presidential Disaster Declarations result from natural phenomena in which flooding is involved.
2. Eighty percent of flood deaths occur when people drive into water or walk into moving water.
3. It only takes two feet of water to make a large vehicle buoyant enough to lose traction and float away.

What to do before flooding occurs

- Know the flood risk and the elevations above flood stages for your area. If you are in a flood zone be prepared to move to a place of safety.
- Find out if any areas in your neighborhood are prone to flooding. Contact the City Engineer’s Office or Street Department for more information.
- Keep your automobile fueled. If electrical power is out, gas stations may not be able to operate.
- Assemble a disaster supplies kit.
- Keep a NOAA Weather Warning Radio, a battery powered radio, and flashlight in working order.
- Contact the City of Denton Office of Emergency Management for information and helpful brochures regarding flood preparedness.

Stay informed about the storm

The City of Denton will coordinate emergency services, public information, and recovery efforts to assist the community in the event of a flood emergency. The City of Denton partners with KNTU 88.1 FM to disseminate emergency news advisories.

Citizens in the City of Denton should…
Listen to NOAA Weather Warning Radio and local radio and television stations for the latest severe weather information.

Be aware that the NOAA Weather Warning Radio is the best means to receive warnings of impending natural disasters, from the National Weather Service (NWS). The NWS continuously broadcasts updated weather and forecasts, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, which can be received on a NOAA Weather Warning Radio.

Sign up to receive CodeRED Weather Warning Notifications on the City Web site.

What to listen for...

**FLASH FLOOD or FLOOD WATCH**
Flash flooding or flooding is possible within the designated watch area. Citizens should be alert for further developments.

**FLASH FLOOD or FLOOD WARNING**
Flash flooding or flooding has been reported or is imminent. Citizens should take necessary precautions at once.

**URBAN and SMALL STREAM ADVISORY**
Flooding of small streams, bayous, streets, and low-lying areas (i.e. railroad underpasses, urban storm drains) is occurring.

**FLASH FLOOD or FLOOD STATEMENT**
Follow-up information regarding flash flood or flooding event.

Take Action…
The action to take in a flooding situation is simple:

*Head for higher ground and stay away from flood waters.*

- Get out of areas subject to flooding; including dips, low spots, and flood prone areas.
- If driving, be aware that any flooded roadways may not be intact or passable. Turn around and find another route. *Never drive through flooded roadways.* If your vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground. Rising water may engulf the vehicle and its occupants, and can easily sweep them away.
- Be especially cautious at night, when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.

Simple steps to protect life and property…

*Protect your past* by placing valuables in plastic storage containers and move them to the attic or other elevated location.

*Protect your present* by purchasing flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). It will help you recover from a loss financially due to flooding.

*Protect your future* by elevating expensive items such as outside air conditioning units. Seal vents to basements to prevent flooding. During a flood, immediately shut off your electricity at the circuit breakers.

*Protect your peace of mind* by learning if your neighborhood is prone to flooding. Remember you may need to know more than one way to escape rising water. Monitor NOAA Weather Radio to ensure you know the latest weather developments, and always avoid driving on flooded roads.

After the flood…

- If advised to evacuate; do so immediately.
- Move to a safe area before access is cut off by the flood.
- Avoid areas subject to sudden flooding.
• Avoid flooded roads. The dangers are greater than the inconvenience of finding an alternate route.
• Children should never play around high water or storm drains.

Staying healthy…
A flood can cause emotional and physical stress. You need to look after yourself and your family before focusing on the cleanup and/or repair to your property.

• Rest often and eat well.
• Keep a manageable schedule; make a list and do jobs one at a time.
• Discuss your concerns with others and seek help. Contact the American Red Cross for information on emotional support available.

Getting help…
Monitor KNTU 88.1 FM to find out where to go for assistance, or contact the American Red Cross at (940) 349-0880. Following a flood disaster, you can also visit the City of Denton website at www.cityofdenton.com to find out what types of federal assistance may be available. Contact your insurance agent as soon as possible to discuss any claims. If you hire cleanup or repair contractors, be sure they are qualified. Be wary of people driving through the neighborhood offering help in cleaning up or repairing your home. Check references and ask to see business licenses.

Know your flood risk…
Visit www.floodsmart.gov to find out if your location is subject to flooding, to obtain an estimated cost of purchasing flood insurance, and information on how to contact a flood insurance agent.

For more emergency planning information, visit www.KnoWhat2do.com.
APPENDIX F

TORNADO PREPAREDNESS

What to do in case of a tornado...

What is a tornado?
A tornado is a rotating column of air extending from a thunderstorm. The most violent
tornadoes are capable of tremendous destruction with wind speeds of 250 mph. Tornado paths
can be in excess of one mile wide and 50 miles long.

Did you know?
The primary tornado season for the City of Denton occurs from late February through the end of
May. However, tornadoes can strike at any time of year and any time of day

Tornado Q&A
Myth: Areas near rivers, lakes, and mountains are safe from tornadoes.
Fact: No place is safe from tornadoes. In the late 1980’s, a tornado swept through Yellowstone
National Park leaving a path of destruction up and down a 10,000 ft. mountain.

Myth: As the tornado passes overhead the low pressure causes buildings to “explode.”
Fact: Most structural damage is caused by violent winds and debris slamming into buildings.

Myth: Windows should be opened before a tornado approaches to equalize pressure and
minimize damage.
Fact: Opening windows allow damaging winds to enter the structure. Leave windows closed; instead, immediately go to a safe place.

What to do before a storm
- Develop a plan for yourself and your family. Don’t forget to include any family pets in your
  planning efforts.
- Make a disaster supplies kit.
- Have a NOAA Weather Warning Radio, with battery backup, to receive warnings.
- Listen to local radio and television stations for information. The City of Denton partners with
  KNTU 88.1 FM to disseminate emergency public information during tornado warnings.
- If planning a trip outdoors, listen to the latest forecast and take necessary action if
  threatening weather is possible.

Stay informed about the storm
The City of Denton will coordinate emergency services, public information, and recovery efforts
to assist the community in the event of a tornado. The City of Denton partners with KNTU 88.1
FM to disseminate emergency news advisories.

Citizens in the City of Denton should...
- Listen to NOAA Weather Warning Radio and local radio and television stations for the latest
  severe weather information.
- Be aware that the NOAA Weather Warning Radio is the best means to receive warnings of
  impending natural disasters from the National Weather Service (NWS). The NWS
continuously broadcasts updated weather conditions and forecasts, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- Contact the City of Denton Office of Emergency Management for further information on the weather alert measures currently available in the community.

What to listen for...

**TORNADO WATCH**  
Tornadoes are possible in our area. Remain alert for approaching storms.

**TORNADO WARNING**  
A Tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. If a tornado warning is issued for your area, move to your pre-designated place of safety.

**SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCH**  
Severe thunderstorms are possible in our area.

**SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING**  
Severe thunderstorms are occurring.

Take Action!

If a warning is issued or if threatening weather approaches:

- If in a home or building, move to a shelter, such as a tornado shelter or basement.
- If an underground shelter is not available, move to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor. Put as many walls between you and the outside of the building as possible. Stay away from windows.
- Get out of automobiles; do not try to outrun a tornado in your car. If caught outside or in a vehicle, lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression.
- Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes and should be abandoned. Try to find a nearby friend or neighbor in a more sturdy structure or seek shelter in a ditch or depression.

**Sirens vs. Weather Radios**

The City of Denton has 16 outdoor warning sirens. Outdoor warning sirens are designed to notify people engaged in outdoor activities to take shelter indoors. They are not designed to serve as an indoor warning system. For indoor notification, be sure to have a NOAA Weather Warning Radio. These radios can be purchased at most electronics stores. Weather radios are just as important as a smoke alarm for your home, school or place of work.

For more emergency planning information, visit [www.KnoWhat2do.com](http://www.KnoWhat2do.com).
APPENDIX G

WARNING AND PUBLIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

How to receive important information before, during or following an emergency event:

The City of Denton has a variety of methods and partnerships available to inform the public of an emergency. These include:

- KNTU 88.1 FM Radio. Listen to KNTU anytime the sirens sound
- NOAA Weather Warning Radio (can be purchased at most electronic stores)
- National Weather Service Office in Fort Worth Web site: www.srh.noaa.gov
- City of Denton Emergency Telephone Notification System (CodeRED)
- City of Denton Siren System
- Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) Transmit Amber and Emergency Information
- City of Denton social media outlets
- Nixle Alerts from Denton Police Department
- DFW Metroplex TV and Radio stations
- Primary Emergency Alert System (EAS) Radio Station WBAP 820 AM
- City of Denton Web site: www.cityofdenton.com
- In some instances, fire and police personnel may drive through the streets making announcements on public address systems.
- In some instances, fire and police personnel may go door to door.

For more emergency planning information, visit www.KnoWhat2do.com
APPENDIX H

WINTER STORMS

What to do in case of a winter storm...

Know “Winter Storm” and “Extreme Cold” Terms
Familiarize yourself with the following terms to help identify the types of winter storm hazards.

Freezing Rain
Rain that freezes when it hits the ground, creating a coating of ice on roads, walkways, trees, and power lines.

Sleet
Rain that turns to ice pellets before reaching the ground. Sleet also causes moisture on roads to freeze and become slippery.

Winter Storm Watch
A winter storm is possible in your area. Tune in to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television for more information.

Winter Storm Warning
A winter storm is occurring or will soon occur in your area.

Frost/Freeze Warning
Below freezing temperatures are expected.

Winter Weather Tips

Prepare your home and family...

Winterize your home to lower your energy costs by insulating walls and attics, caulking and weather-stripping doors and windows, and installing storm windows or covering windows with plastic. Clean out rain gutters, repair roof leaks, and cut away tree branches that could fall on a house or other structures during a storm.

Insulate pipes with insulation or newspapers and plastic and allow faucets to drip a little during cold weather to avoid freezing.

Keep fire extinguishers on hand, and make sure everyone in your house knows how to use them. House fires pose an additional risk during cold weather, as more people turn to alternate heating sources and may not take the necessary safety precautions.

Learn how to shut off water valves in case a pipe bursts.

Know ahead of time what you should do to help elderly or disabled friends, neighbors, or employees.

Prepare your car...

Check (or have a mechanic check) items on your car.

Install good winter tires. Make sure the tires have adequate tread. All-weather radials are usually adequate for most winter conditions. However, some instances may require chains or snow tires.

Maintain at least a half tank of gas during the winter season.

Place a winter emergency kit in each car.
Dress for the weather…

Wear several layers of loose fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing. The outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent.
Wear gloves to protect your hands.
Wear a hat to minimize heat losses through your head.
Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs.

Be Informed…

Listen to NOAA Weather Warning Radio and local radio and television stations for the latest winter weather information. Be aware that NOAA Weather Warning Radio is the best means to receive information of impending severe winter weather from the National Weather Service (NWS). The NWS continuously broadcasts updated weather and forecasts, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

For more emergency planning information, visit www.KnoWhat2do.com.