

EMERGENCY PLANNING

The Fulton County Health Department participates in community preparedness to ensure public health issues are addressed in an emergency. The Health Department may take the lead in an emergency if it is a health disease related emergency, or support other organizations in the community as needed. Planning at Health Departments became a priority after 9/11 and other incidents that followed, and gradually preparedness has significantly improved by raising the bar each year.

Preparation is the key to responding to an emergency. Planning, procedures, drills, exercises, training, and assessment of inventory of supplies and equipment all need to take place on a regular basis to be ready for any situation. The Health Department staff performs all these important actions on a regular basis to improve on their ability to respond to an incident. There are required and continuing training for all Health Department employees to ensure all employees are able to be effective in a response in the community.



The Health Department has partners in the community, consisting of government agencies, organizations, and businesses working together to share and exchange information and exercise together to learn, improve, and further build their relationships. These relationships are critical to an effective response, which may require many different organizations to respond.



An annual exercise involving community partners occurs each year to evaluate the Fulton County Health Department's ability to respond to an emergency. The exercise evaluates a different emergency response area each year so improvements may be made to plans, training, and

equipment. These exercises may involve the Emergency Management Agency, Emergency Medical Services, county healthcare facilities, hospitals, County Coroner, Sheriff's Office, local government, fire, law enforcement, schools, non-profits such as the Red Cross and United Way, and other businesses and organizations.

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The Health Department has developed plans, policies, and procedures to respond to infectious disease outbreaks and respond to various other natural or manmade situations that may affect the community. The Emergency Response Plan is the basic plan that the Health Department uses during an emergency and is available to anyone to review on request.

Learn more at the Homeland Security Ready website "Plan Ahead for Disasters" at <https://www.ready.gov>

As you can see, preparing for an emergency takes a little effort up front to plan for different emergencies that may happen. Residents of Fulton County should take a similar approach by preparing a home fire plan, severe weather plan, and an emergency to go kit with basic supplies to get you or your family through 3 days with little or no assistance from outside agencies. Preparing may make all the difference to surviving an incident without loss of life or injury. Remember to become informed, plan for it, practice the plan, and keep supplies available.



Basic Emergency Supply Kit

The information on this page is the FEMA recommended disaster supplies kit and it should be considered as the minimum kit that everyone should have ready.

	First aid kit		Local maps, have an evacuation plan ready.
	Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio.		Dust mask to help filter contaminated air, plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place.
	Battery-powered or hand crank flashlight with extra batteries		Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food. Manual can opener for food.
	Whistle to signal for help		Garbage bags, moist towelettes and plastic ties for personal sanitation.
	Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities		Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
	Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger		



Visit our website at www.fultoncountyhealthdept.com for more information.