

WARREN COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES

RESPONSE TO TERROR ALERT STATUS CHANGE



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The information provided within this packet has been compiled from various resources, the largest of which is the U.S Fire Administration's Critical Infrastructure Protection Center.

It is designed to give your organization both explanation of the various Terror Alert Levels and a guide to use when the Terror Alert Level changes.

Should anyone see any unusual or suspicious activity, please contact the State Counter – Terrorism tips line at 1 – 866 SAFE NYS.

If you have any questions, please contact your Fire or EMS Coordinator at the numbers below.

Marv Lemery, Fire Coordinator 761-6542 Office

Gary Scidmore, EMS Coordinator 761-6542 Office

232-4292 Cell

Remember stay safe and remain vigilant.

Threat Conditions and Associated Protective Measures

The world has changed since September 11, 2001. We remain a Nation at risk to terrorist attacks and will remain at risk for the foreseeable future. At all Threat Conditions, we must remain vigilant, prepared, and ready to deter terrorist attacks. The following Threat Conditions each represent an increasing risk of terrorist attacks. Beneath each Threat Condition are some suggested Protective Measures, recognizing that the heads of Federal departments and agencies are responsible for developing and implementing appropriate agency-specific Protective Measures:

1. **Low Condition (Green).** This condition is declared when there is a low risk of terrorist attacks. Federal departments and agencies should consider the following general measures in addition to the agency-specific Protective Measures they develop and implement:
 1. Refining and exercising as appropriate preplanned Protective Measures;
 2. Ensuring personnel receive proper training on the Homeland Security Advisory System and specific preplanned department or agency Protective Measures; and
 3. Institutionalizing a process to assure that all facilities and regulated sectors are regularly assessed for vulnerabilities to terrorist attacks, and all reasonable measures are taken to mitigate these vulnerabilities.

2. **Guarded Condition (Blue).** This condition is declared when there is a general risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the Protective Measures taken in the previous Threat Condition, Federal departments and agencies should consider the following general measures in addition to the agency-specific Protective Measures that they will develop and implement:
 1. Checking communications with designated emergency response or command locations;
 2. Reviewing and updating emergency response procedures; and
 3. Providing the public with any information that would strengthen its ability to act appropriately.

3. **Elevated Condition (Yellow).** An Elevated Condition is declared when there is a significant risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the Protective Measures taken in the previous Threat Conditions, Federal departments and agencies should consider the following general measures in addition to the Protective Measures that they will develop and implement:
 1. Increasing surveillance of critical locations;
 2. Coordinating emergency plans as appropriate with nearby jurisdictions;
 3. Assessing whether the precise characteristics of the threat require the further refinement of preplanned Protective Measures; and
 4. Implementing, as appropriate, contingency and emergency response plans.

4. **High Condition (Orange).** A High Condition is declared when there is a high risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the Protective Measures taken in the previous Threat Conditions, Federal departments and agencies should consider the following general measures in addition to the agency-specific Protective Measures that they will develop and implement:
 1. Coordinating necessary security efforts with Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies or any National Guard or other appropriate armed forces organizations;
 2. Taking additional precautions at public events and possibly considering alternative venues or even cancellation;
 3. Preparing to execute contingency procedures, such as moving to an alternate site or dispersing their workforce; and
 4. Restricting threatened facility access to essential personnel only.

5. **Severe Condition (Red).** A Severe Condition reflects a severe risk of terrorist attacks. Under most circumstances, the Protective Measures for a Severe Condition are not intended to be sustained for substantial periods of time. In addition to the Protective Measures in the previous Threat Conditions, Federal departments and agencies also should consider the following general measures in addition to the agency-specific Protective Measures that they will develop and implement:
 1. Increasing or redirecting personnel to address critical emergency needs;
 2. Assigning emergency response personnel and pre-positioning and mobilizing specially trained teams or resources;
 3. Monitoring, redirecting, or constraining transportation systems; and
 4. Closing public and government facilities.

PREPARING FAMILIES

Common leadership theories sustain that subordinates will function with greater enthusiasm and dedication if they are confident about the emergency preparedness and safety of their families. Therefore, it is essential for leaders to promote preparedness activities among the families of their emergency responders for all contingencies and circumstances.

1. DEVELOP AN EMERGENCY METHOD TO COMMUNICATE WITH FAMILY MEMBERS.
2. SELECT AN OUT OF STATE RELATIVE TO BE THE FAMILY'S SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT.
3. ESTABLISH A PREDETERMINED MEETING PLACE AWAY FROM YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.
4. CHOOSE ANOTHER FAMILY ASSEMBLY POINT OUTSIDE OF THE MUNICIPALITY.
5. ENSURE FAMILY MEMBERS KNOW THE ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER OF MEETING PLACES.
6. LEARN THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS OF APPLICABLE SCHOOLS, EMPLOYERS, ETC.
7. PREPARE TO "SHELTER IN PLACE" WHICH MEANS STAY INSIDE YOUR HOME.
8. ASSEMBLE DISASTER SUPPLY AND FIRST AID KITS FOR USE AT HOME OR IF EVACUATED.
9. INSERT IN KITS, BABY FORMULA, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, EYEGASSES, BOTTLED WATER, ECT.
10. MAINTAIN CURRENCY OF LIFE, PROPERTY, HEALTH, AND OTHER INSURANCE POLICIES.
11. DETERMINE WHAT WILL BE DONE WITH PETS SINCE SHELTERS DO NOT ALLOW THEM,
12. KEEP POSITIVE ATTITUDE FOR THE BENEFIT OF YOUNGER FAMILY MEMBERS.
13. CALL 911 TO REPORT WHAT YOU ARE SEEING, HEARING, SMELLING, AND FEELING.
14. LISTEN TO THE DIRECTIONS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

**FIRE / EMS ACTIVITIES FOR LEVEL
(ELEVATED).**

YELLOW

1. KEEP PERSONNEL INFORMED IN ORDER TO STOP RUMORS AND PREVENT UNNECESSARY ALARM.
2. PERIODICALLY INSPECT THE SECURITY AND CONDITION OF ALL FACILITIES AND HVAC SYSTEMS.
3. USE EXTERIOR LIGHTING DURING PERIODS OF LIMITED VISIBILITY.
4. LOCK ALL FACILITIES AND REQUIRE ACCESS CONTROL.
5. SECURE ALL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT WHEN NOT IN USE.
6. WATCH FOR AND REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES INSIDE AND OUTSIDE ALL FACILITIES.
7. FAMILIARIZE PERSONNEL WITH FIRE STATION AND COMMUNITY EVACUATION PLANS.
8. ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF SURPLUS FOOD, WATER, NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES.
9. GUARANTEE PROCEDURES EXIST FOR APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE UNDER EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES,
10. INCREASE CAPABILITIES FOR DEALING WITH HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.
11. TEST SECURITY AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT, PROCEDURES, AND PROTOCOLS.
12. UPDATE AND EXPAND DEPENDABLE COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES FOR EXCHANGING OPERATIONAL INFORMATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS.
13. NETWORK WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR INTELLIGENCE APPLICABLE TO FIRE/EMS MISSIONS AND THE PROTECTION OF DEPARTMENT CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURES.
14. CONDUCT A NEW THREAT ANALYSIS AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT OF DEPARTMENT CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURES.
15. APPLY COUNTERMEASURES TO PROTECT THREATENED AND VULNERABLE INFRASTRUCTURES.
16. IMPLEMENT SCREENING PRACTICES FOR INCOMING POSTAL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL, PHONE CALLS, DELIVERIES, AND VISITORS.
17. ORGANIZE FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM FROM AMONG THE SPOUSES OF FIREFIGHTERS AND EMS PERSONNEL TO CARE FOR EACH OTHER DURING EMERGENCIES.
18. FAMILIARIZE WITH ACTION PLANS OF LOCAL SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, BUSINESSES, AND INDUSTRY.
19. REVIEW, REVISE IMPLEMENT AS NECESSARY THE INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM AND UNIFIED COMMAND SYSTEM.

20. IDENTIFY THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY DURING MAJOR INCIDENTS AND CONSIDER THE STRATEGIC LOCATION OF NECESSARY RESOURCES TO MEET THOSE NEEDS.
21. ASSESS THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES ACROSS THE COMMUNITY TO CREATE SPECIFIC RESPONSE PLANS FOR KEY LOCATIONS.
22. ASCERTAIN THE CHANGES MADE AT THE COUNTY AND STATE LEVELS AND HOW THOSE CHANGES MAY AFFECT LOCAL OPERATIONS.
23. REFINE ALTERNATE ROUTE PLANS TO COMMUNITY CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURES TO REFLECT CURRENT ROAD AND TRAFFIC CONDITIONS.

FIRE / EMS DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES FOR LEVEL (HIGH)

ORANGE

1. CONDUCT FREQUENT INSPECTIONS OF ALL FACILITIES AND HVAC SYSTEMS.
2. LEAVE ALL EXTERIOR LIGHTING ON DURING PERIODS OF LIMITED VISIBILITY.
3. KEEP ALL FACILITIES LOCKED AT ALL TIMES AND CONDUCT DELIBERATE ACCESS CONTROL.
4. LIMIT VISITORS TO THOSE ESSENTIAL FOR THE EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF THE STATION.
5. VALIDATE VENDOR LISTS FOR ALL NECESSARY DELEVERIES AND REPAIR SERVICES.
6. INSPECT ALL ARRIVING PACKAGES WHETHER ANNOUNCED OR UNANNOUNCED.
7. ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF SUFFICIENT FOOD IN THE EVENT NO ONE CAN LEAVE THE STATION.
8. SECURE ALL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT WHEN NOT IN USE.
9. MAINTAIN CONSTANT OBSERVATION OF APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT KEPT OUTSIDE OF THE STATION.
10. LOOK FOR ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES IN OR AROUND ALL FACILITIES.
11. REMAIN ATTENTIVE FOR UNEXPLAINED ODORS, POWDERS, LIQUIDS, ETC.
12. RESTRICT ALL VEHICLES PARKING CLOSE TO FACILITIES IF POSSIBLE.
13. QUESTION DRIVERS OF VEHICLES PARKED AT OR NEAR BY FACILITIES.
14. COORDINATE FOR PERSONNEL PROTECTION WHEN AT THE SCENE OF AN INCIDENT.
15. ARRANGE FOR AGGRESSIVELY RESTRICTED ACCESS TO THE PROXIMATE AREA OF AN INCIDENT.
16. DIVERSIFY OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES TO AVOID CONSISTENT PATTERNS.
17. INCREASE THE VIGILANCE OF ALL PERSONNEL REGARDLESS OF RANK OR POSITION.
18. ENCOURAGE PERSONNEL TO VARY THEIR ROUTINES AND HABITS.
19. INSTRUCT PERSONNEL TO PRE-PLAN EMERGENCY RESPONSES WITH SUPERVISORS AND FAMILY.
20. STAY AWARE OF CURRENT LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

FIRE / EMS ACTIVITIES FOR LEVEL (SEVERE)



1. PRIMARY CONCERN IS FOR SAFETY, BOTH YOURS AND THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF YOUR FIRE AND/OR AMBULANCE STATION.
2. ASSURE THAT BUILDINGS ARE LOCKED AT ALL TIMES.
3. USE PROPER LIGHTING AROUND THE PERIMETER OF THE BUILDING SO THAT THE AREA IS WILL LIT.
4. INVENTORY OF ALL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE DONE, SO THAT ANYTHING MISSING WOULD BE OBVIOUS.
5. IF APPARATUS AND PERSONNEL LEAVE THE BUILDING FOR A CALL, BUILDINGS SHOULD BE LOCKED AND/OR ONE PERSON LEFT TO OBSERVE.
6. ALL FIRE AND EMS PERSONNEL AT AN INCIDENT SHOULD WEAR PROPER IDENTIFICATION.
7. AT THE SCENE OF AN INCIDENT, A DRIVER SHOULD BE LEFT WITH EACH PIECE OF APPARATUS TO REMAIN AWARE OF ANYONE NEAR THE VEHICLE AND TO INSURE THE SAFETY OF THIS APPARATUS AND ITS COMPARTMENTS.
8. AFTER RETURNING FROM AN INCIDENT, CHECK EQUIPMENT AND APPARATUS AND BE SURE TO LOCK THE BUILDING WHEN LEAVING.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR RESPONSE TO INCIDENTS INVOLVING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

1. HAVE PLANNED ESCAPE ROUTE – AVOID TIGHT AREAS AND DEAD ENDS.
2. BE AWARE OF THE POTENTIAL OF EXPLOSIVE DEVICES.
3. ESTABLISH YOUR COMMAND POST IN AN AREA FAR AWAY FROM PARKED CARS OR PLACES WHERE EXPLOSIVES COULD BE HIDDEN.
4. BE AWARE OF SECONDARY DEVICES.