

DEMA UPDATES- FALL 2021

The Dillsburg Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) engages in planning for natural and man-made disasters. Our mission is to provide for the protection of persons and property in disasters affecting Dillsburg Borough and the Northern York County community at large. DEMA is a member of the Northern York County Unified EMA (NEMA).

Severe Weather Reminder:

*The Atlantic Hurricane season is from June through November. As we've seen with Hurricane IDA, our area sustained high amounts of rain which caused localized flooding. Homeowners should clean spouts, patch roofs and trim trees to minimize damage to your home.

*Winter weather can bring us freezing rain and snow. Have your snow blower tuned up now and bring the snow shovels and scrapers out of storage.

Preparing for severe weather should include plans for "sheltering in place" and "evacuating". Consider not only your family, but your neighbors and **especially the elderly**. What will you do if you must remain indoors for a few days? What will you do if you must leave your home? Make plans with family and friends for both situations.

Prepare for Severe Weather by doing the following:

***Lighting**- Keep several battery-powered lights handy. Power outages will require you to rely on battery-powered lights to function. I like using headlamps which keep both your hands free. A larger portable camping-style lamp can provide enough lighting in a room.

***Prescription medications**- Keep your prescriptions current; try to always have at least a 30 day supply on hand.

***Water**- even in the winter, you must stay hydrated. Keep water (especially if you depend on a well) and other drinks in your pantry.

***Food**- expand your non-perishable food supply to at least 3 days. Buy what you eat, eat what you buy (buy foods you like and rotate the stock).

***Cash and Cars**- keep some cash handy; keep your fuel tanks full! Power outages will affect ATMs, credit card readers and gas pumps.

***Personal hygiene**- wash hands frequently, use alcohol-based sanitizers to conserve water, cover coughs, avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose, and sanitize surfaces frequently.

Preparedness Opportunity:

NEMA is sponsoring a **Basic First Aid class** on Sunday, November 14 from 1 to 3 pm at the Franklintown Fire Hall for local residents 16 years of age and older. You must register by sending an email to me by OCTOBER 31: dema@dillsburg.com I will send you a summary of the training. There is no fee. NEMA will supply masks, gloves and sanitizer as needed.

We will follow a nationally- recognized curriculum and use Athletic Trainers from Towson University. Topics will include Dressing/Bandaging wounds, Treating burns, Splinting, Treating hypothermia and hyperthermia and use of AEDs. The training will be "hands-on" with trainees rotating through stations where specific skills will be demonstrated.

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