

TOWN OF AMHERST
FLOOD MITIGATION PLAN REPORT

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ACRONYMS

AFPC	Amherst Flood Planning Committee
cfs	Cubic feet per Second
COE	(United State Army) Corps of Engineers
CRS	Community Rating System
ECWA	Erie County Water Authority
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIA	Flood Insurance Administration
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FMA	Flood Mitigation Assistance (program)
FMP	Flood Mitigation Plan
FPO	Floodplain Overlay District
FSC	Floodplain Storage Capacity
HMGP	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
ICC	Increased Cost of Compliance (FEMA program)
I/I	Infiltration/Inflow
LMA	Lease-Management Agreement
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
NYSDOS	New York State Department of State
NYSEMB	New York State Emergency Management Office
OS	Open Space
PCF	Protect Critical Facilities
RFE	Regulatory Flood Elevations
SEMO	(New York) State Emergency Management Office
SFHA	Special Flood Hazard Area
SPDES	(New York) State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Town of Amherst has given URS Corporation (URS) the task of preparing a Flood Mitigation Plan for the Town. This Flood Mitigation Plan accomplishes three goals, which are:

- 1) Identify activities and flood protection measures that will lessen the potential for flooding and flood damages in the Town.
- 2) Assist the Town in becoming eligible for funding assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) for implementing flood mitigation measures identified in this report.
- 3) Request a review under the Community Rating System (CRS) of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to obtain reduced flood insurance rates for the residents of the Town.

The project area consists of the Town of Amherst Corporate limits. URS's study focused on the primary flooding sources within the Town, which include Ellicott Creek, Tonawanda Creek, Ransom Creek, French Creek, Black Creek, and Gott Creek.

URS reviewed the historic flood problems, identified the causes of the flooding, and assessed the problem as it affects specific structures or classes of structures. URS also identified flood mitigation measures, evaluated each measure for application within the Town, and prepared budgetary cost estimates.

The Flood Mitigation Study determined that there are several flood mitigation measures which should be undertaken by the Town, many of which can be implemented at a relatively low cost. These measures include educating the public, coordinating with the disaster coordinators of other neighboring municipalities, establishing a flood early-warning system, flood-proofing individual structures, establishing a stream channel maintenance program, and developing regulations that are consistent with the relevant federal and state standards.

1.0 PURPOSE OF FLOOD MITIGATION PLAN

The intent of this Flood Mitigation Plan is to present goals, initiatives, recommendations, and strategies for land-use, legislative, regulatory, and other mitigative activities that will:

- 1) lessen the economic effects of flooding on people and property within Amherst.
- 2) provide guidance for future activities that complement Amherst's goals of effective floodplain management.
- 3) identify funding sources for the implementation of identified flood mitigation activities.
- 4) reduce costs of flood disaster response and recovery.
- 5) advance Amherst's current class in FEMA's community rating system and, thereby reduce flood insurance costs for residents.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Flood Mitigation Plan is to recommend, encourage, and support the implementation of activities aimed at lessening the severity of flooding and flood damages. The Flood Mitigation Plan is the product of evaluation and assessment efforts performed by the Amherst Flood Planning Committee (AFPC). A listing of the AFPC members is attached as Appendix A.

This Plan is made in compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), in which the Town of Amherst (Town) and the Village of Williamsville (Village) participate; the State's 409 Plan; and the Federal Guidelines published by FEMA for preparation of mitigation plans. The Plan reflects the desire of the Town and Village to prevent future flood loss and damage to public and private property and infrastructure throughout the Town and Village, regardless of property flood insurance coverage.

The implementation of the tasks and strategies to advance the Flood Mitigation Goals and Initiatives included in this Plan, when added to Amherst's current level of floodplain management and proposed future initiatives will greatly advance Amherst's mitigation initiatives.

Many of the proposed Flood Mitigation Initiatives are dependent upon the availability of funding; therefore, this Plan recognizes as a primary objective the identification of supplemental funding to augment local funds for implementation of Flood Mitigation Initiatives. Some of the administrative initiatives may be implemented at modest expense to the Town and not require outside assistance. A listing of sources of technical and financial assistance for mitigation is included in Appendix B.

The approval of this Flood Mitigation Plan by the Town and its subsequent approval by the State and FEMA is intended to satisfy the planning requirements of the FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program, so that the Town of Amherst and the Village of Williamsville will be eligible to participate in, and receive funding from, the FEMA FMA Program. The non-disaster-related FEMA FMA funding program provides funding to implement such flood mitigation activities as awareness, planning, construction, and real property acquisition initiatives. Many of the Flood Mitigation Initiatives included in this Plan represent those activities considered eligible for FEMA FMA Program funding. (Refer to Appendix C for further information.)

1.2 Authority

The preparation of this Flood Mitigation Plan was authorized by Town Board resolution. Input to the planning effort was provided by representatives of the New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) Mitigation Section, and State and regional agencies. The public and all special interest groups were invited to participate in the planning and preparation of the Flood Mitigation Plan and to offer comments prior to the finalization and adoption of the Plan. A notification of the invitation to attend all meetings was posted in local newspapers, on all Town and Village bulletin boards, and on the Town's web site.

The activities and tasks presented by this Flood Mitigation Plan are consistent with the goals and objectives of the National Flood Insurance Program, in which Amherst and Williamsville both participate, as well as with the National Mitigation Strategy Partnerships for Building Safer Communities; New York State's 409 Hazard Mitigation Plan; and the Requirements of Subpart M, 44 CFR 206.405 and 206.406, the Federal Guidelines required by FEMA for preparation of mitigation plans. The planning process utilized the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) Guidelines for Community Flood Damage Reduction Planning and Floodplain Management Plans, January 1999 Edition; the FEMA-NFIP-CRS Example Plans Manual, January 1999 Edition; and the FEMA Region II Hazard Mitigation Procedural Guidelines for Developing a Hazard Mitigation Plan.

This Flood Mitigation Plan is authorized by New York State Law which encourages hazard mitigation planning and project implementation at the local level. This Flood Mitigation Plan is further authorized through the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288, as amended); Section 409 (New York State 409 Plan); the National Flood Insurance Reform (NFIR) Act of 1994, Subtitle C – Ratings and Incentives for Community Flood Management Programs, and Subtitle D – Mitigation of Flood Risks; and New York State's General Municipal Law.

1.3 Community Description

The Town of Amherst (Town) is a Western New York community in the County of Erie with a population of approximately 116,500 as of the 2000 census. The Village of Williamsville, which is located within the Town boundary, has a population of about 5,600. Amherst is located northeast of the City of Buffalo, south of the City of Niagara Falls, west of the City of Batavia, and east of the Town of Tonawanda. Amherst has three major interstates running parallel to or through the area and is on the northern border of the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport. The Town has a total area of approximately 54 square miles, larger than that of the City of Buffalo. Amherst has 44 public/private schools and three college campuses within its boundaries.

The area enjoys East Coast Continental climates common to the lower Great Lakes and Northeastern Seaboard. The climate is characterized by day-to-day and seasonal variations sufficient to produce extremes of heat and cold. Winter temperatures range from an average high of 32.9 and a low of 20 degrees Fahrenheit (°F). Summer temperatures usually run from the high seventies to high fifties. No temperature higher than 100° F or lower than – 18° F has ever been recorded in the county.

The average annual precipitation is 39 inches per year and is remarkably stable; in most of the county, it ranges from 25-30 inches. Annual snowfall averages about 60 inches. The area's close proximity to the shores of Lake Erie subjects it to lake effect snowfalls for much of the early stages of winter. December and January usually produce the most snowfall as winds pick up moisture from the unfrozen lake. This phenomenon tapers off when the lake freezes around mid-January.

Ellicott Creek, a tributary to Tonawanda Creek, flows northwest through the Town of Amherst. The northeast portion of the town is drained by Ransom, Black and Gott Creeks into Tonawanda Creek. The floodplain of Ellicott Creek, between the northern corporate limits of the Village of Williamsville and Niagara Falls Boulevard, is comprised of large areas of low, flat terrain and is used primarily for residences, with few commercial establishments. Three golf courses are located within this portion of the floodplain. Development within the floodplain of Ransom Creek, between Dodge Road and its confluence with Tonawanda Creek, has changed from agricultural to middle- and upper-income residential. Development within the floodplains of Black Creek and Gott Creek is primarily residential.

Soils within the town were formed from glacial till and lake deposits. The predominant soils are composed of unsorted rock, forming a thin layer over bedrock in the southern portion of the town; thicker layers of interbedded clay, silt, and fine sand are in the remainder of the town. The soils are generally poorly drained. Elevations within the community vary from 575 feet to 710 feet.

2.0 THE PLANNING PROCESS

This Section addresses the review and evaluation process and activities undertaken by Amherst in the development and subsequent approval of this Flood Mitigation Plan. It demonstrates that Amherst has followed recognized planning policies in the completion of the tasks necessary to assess flood hazards in the Town and to recommend and subsequently approve a Flood Mitigation Plan.

As part of the planning process, the members of the AFPC identified local flood-prone areas within the Town and Village, including mapped FEMA FIRM areas and localized flood-prone areas. The first public meeting was held on April 25, 2001. All residents of the Town and Village plus State and Regional agencies were invited to attend. URS collected and compiled flood hazard data for the Town area which the AFPC utilized to address development trends and constraints, critical facilities located in the areas, natural and beneficial functions of the identified areas, and other Town/Village goals. Additional comments and inputs were obtained from residents, consultants, and local and state agencies. During the planning process, questionnaires were mailed to residences and businesses located in flood-prone areas within the Town. Figure 1 indicates those property owners who have reported with flooding as well as other risks identified in the town.

AFPC members and numerous residents were interviewed and their comments obtained regarding the specific flood mitigation issues and activities identified by the AFPC. These comments, the overall evaluation of the Town's Floodplain Management activities, and their impact in reducing flooding risks are the basis for this Flood Mitigation Plan.

Upon completion of the evaluation of the Town's flood-prone areas and Floodplain Management activities, and the formulation of a recommended Flood Mitigation Plan, a final public review process concluded with a public meeting. (Copies of the legal notices are attached in Appendix D.) Comments were received from attendees. The draft plan was sent to all invited outside agencies for comment. The draft plan also was posted on the Town's web site and made available at the local library. Town residents were informed of the plan via advertisement in the Amherst Bee (i.e., the official town newspaper). Following the public meeting, and subsequent receipt and evaluation of written comments, the recommended Flood Mitigation Plan was revised as appropriate, presented to the Town Board of Trustees, and subsequently approved. (The resolution is attached as Appendix E.)

3.0 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Flood hazard mitigation is an action taken to permanently reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and their property from the effects of floods.

3.1 What Mitigation Can Do for Amherst

This flood mitigation plan evaluates the potential flood hazard, analyzes its impacts, develops and evaluates alternatives for mitigating flood impacts, and recommends mitigation measures to reduce those impacts. A well-constructed, comprehensive flood mitigation plan can result in the reduction of flood insurance rates charged to the municipality and its residents. Once a flood mitigation plan is developed and approved by the local governing body, the potential exists for acquiring funding to implement the recommended mitigation measures. Without an accepted plan, funding is difficult to obtain with the exception of extreme emergency situations, such as may occur following a major flood event.

This Flood Mitigation Study has been conducted for the Town of Amherst to assist in State and federal mitigation planning and funding efforts. This document also has been prepared to serve as a floodplain management plan to be credited under the Community Rating System (CRS) of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

3.2 Amherst's Vision Statement

This document incorporates the vision statement in the Amherst Comprehensive Plan, which is written as follows:

In the Vision of Amherst in the Year 2018, the Town is renowned for an **exceptional quality of life** that derives from three fundamental attributes:

- **Livability:** Our healthy neighborhoods, outstanding public facilities and services, and active community life make Amherst an exceptional place to live and raise a family.

- **Community Character:** We wisely manage growth to preserve natural and historic resources, maintain green space throughout the community, and revitalize older neighborhoods and commercial areas while accommodating quality new development.
- **Shared Direction:** As partners in the renewed prosperity of the Buffalo-Niagara region, we work together with neighboring communities and institutions and balance our multiple roles as a premier residential community and a complementary regional center of economic, cultural, and educational activity.

In this Vision of the Future, we define our quality of life by the following valued **characteristics of the community.**

Livability

- Our **livable neighborhoods** offer a range of lifestyle and housing choices in urban, suburban, and rural settings.
- Pedestrian-friendly, interconnected, mixed-use **development patterns** provide citizens with convenient access to services and facilities and encourage walking, biking, and use of public transportation as alternatives to automobile trips.
- A safe, functionally efficient, and well-maintained **transportation system** provides choices for citizens through interconnected roadways, sidewalks, bike lanes, multi-use trails, and transit options.
- The **community facilities and services** offered by the Town and other providers (such as accessible parks and recreational programs, outstanding public schools, and public safety services that help maintain our reputation as one of the safest communities in America) are an integral part of our exceptional quality of life.

- Our active **community life** – culture and entertainment, sports and recreation, programs for people of all ages, and other activities, events, and places for people to gather – provides opportunities for all citizens to participate and enjoy shared experiences.
- We are an **inclusive community** that provides opportunities for citizens of diverse cultural, racial, and economic backgrounds to participate in our high quality of life.

Community Character

- Vibrant **older neighborhoods**, such as Eggertsville, Snyder, Swormville, Getzville, and Williamsville and the **commercial area** serving them, are revitalized and attract continuing investment.
- We protect and preserve valued **open spaces** and **natural and scenic resources** throughout the community.
- We respect our **history and heritage** by encouraging preservation of historic resources and by remembering and interpreting Amherst’s history for future generations.
- We maintain a clean, **healthy environment** by dedicating resources to protect against noise, light, air, and water pollution.
- We set high standards for the **quality of development and redevelopment** to complement our established community character.
- The **visual character** of the Town is enhanced by landscaping, protection of woodlands and tree canopy, and careful attention to the design of roadways, scenic corridors, and public places.

Shared Direction

- The Town takes a leadership role in promoting **intergovernmental cooperation** and in pursuing partnership initiatives to address issues shared with our neighboring communities.
- Our healthy, **diverse economy** provides a strong tax base and good job opportunities, contributing to the retention of our talented youth and attracting others to live, work, and invest in our community.
- In **carefully managing growth**, we **balance** the benefits of economic development to citizens with the need to maintain livability and preserve community character.
- The Town, together with the **University at Buffalo and other educational institutions**, works to address issues of common concern, such as retaining young people in the community, diversifying the economy, and strengthening neighborhoods around the campuses.
- **Town government** exercises leadership, responds to the concerns of citizens, and challenges them to become positively involved in community affairs.

3.3 Flood Mitigation Goals and Objectives

The proposed flood mitigation goals and objectives represented by this Flood Mitigation Plan are the result of evaluations by the Amherst Flood Planning Committee (AFPC) and Town officials and trustees. The goals and objectives address the related issues of development, environmental sensitivity, and current land uses of Amherst's floodplains, since most of the Town's development is situated in mapped floodplains. The following flood mitigation goals are identified:

- Protect human life, health, and property.

- Ensure that residents are given adequate warning of impending floods (The National Weather Service is the only authority that can give a flood warning.)
- Ensure continuous police, fire, ambulance, and other public services during a 500-year flood.
- Minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public.
- Minimize prolonged business interruptions.
- Minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, and sewer lines, streets, and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard.
- Increase recreational opportunities and expand the amount of open space available for recreation and education.
- Preserve and protect natural areas and the quality of the air, water and soil.
- Ensure the Flood Protection Plan is consistent with the Town's goals as presented in the Comprehensive Plan.
- Ensure that developers, builders and property owners are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard.
- Ensure that all residents assume responsibility for their actions.
- Suggest financing opportunities to implement mitigation strategies.
- Minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects.

- Help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas.

3.4 Statement of Priorities for Identified Flood Mitigation Goals, Objectives and Initiatives

The evaluation and review performed by the AFPC has identified four goals and initiatives which will directly benefit the Town's residents and property owners in reducing future flood risks.

The four top priorities to strive for to reduce future flood losses within the Town include:

- Elevating and flood-proofing structures, including the rehabilitation of all structural supports, services, and utilities in order to prevent future damages caused by flooding.
- Perform town-wide drainage improvements with neighboring community and agency cooperation in order to facilitate enhanced drainage capabilities.
- Expand public awareness and educational program in order to inform all potentially affected property owners of the various actions that may be taken to reduce future flood losses.
- Update the town ordinances in order to mitigate flood hazards.

4.0 ASSESSMENT OF THE PROBLEM

4.1 Principal Flood Problems

Major floods resulting in flood damage in the Town of Amherst are usually the result of a combination of snowmelt, ice jamming, and moderate amounts of precipitation. Most major floods occur in the late winter and early spring. The major water courses in the Town include Ellicott Creek, Tonawanda Creek, Ransom Creek, Gott Creek, and Black Creek.

The areas subject to flood damage are the Lehn Springs area, the downstream portions of Ellicott Creek, from Maple Road to Niagara Falls Boulevard, Ransom Creek, Black Creek and Gott Creek in North East Amherst. This is a subject of concern because numerous expensive homes have been constructed in the floodplains of the streams in the Town of Amherst.

Ellicott Creek is located in the western portion of New York State and drains an area of about 110 square miles in Erie, Genesee, and Wyoming counties. The creek pursues a meandering course, generally in the northwesterly direction, for approximately 47 miles from its headwater in Genesee and Wyoming counties to where it joins Tonawanda Creek in the city of Tonawanda, NY. Several large, unique facilities are also located in the Ellicott Creek Basin. These include the State University of New York at Buffalo North Campus in west-central Amherst; the Greater Buffalo International Airport in northeast Cheektowaga; the Wende Correctional Facility and Erie County Home and Infirmary, both in northwest Alden; Darien Lakes Fun Country Amusement Park and campground in north-central Darien; large quarries in Lancaster and Newstead; and the Pfohl Brothers Landfill (a hazardous waste site) east of the airport in Cheektowaga.

A flood-prone area along Ellicott Creek that is of concern lies between Main Street (Route 5) in the village of Williamsville upstream to where Ellicott Creek passes under the New York State Thruway close to the Town of Cheektowaga town line. This specific area is known as the Lehn Springs area. This area consists mainly of private residences along the right bank with some 80 homes and several small businesses being affected. Along the left bank where the elevation is higher there are almost no homes affected. A village park also occupies the left bank, however, damages to the park are minimal. At the downstream limit is the Williamsville dam. This dam and approximately

1,000 foot of improved section of channel were built in the twenties for flood control purposes and to impound water in an existing section of Ellicott Creek. This impounded water is used to run a milling operation in the village of Williamsville. Currently, the Williamsville Department of Public Works operates this dam.

The creek banks in the Lehn Springs area are constricted by dense riparian vegetation in numerous locations. In addition, the old Wehrle Street bridge previously caused a constriction in the channel along with a bedrock shelf in the creek bottom just upstream of the bridge. High flows were restricted by the bridge, causing an increase in water surface elevation such that the creek would flow out of bank spreading out mainly over the right bank into the adjacent floodplain. However, this condition is somewhat changed as of October 1987. Erie County has replaced the Wehrle Street bridge, providing greater channel capacity through this bridge, which will partially reduce flood damages upstream of the bridge; however, overall channel capacity still must be improved to contain the 100-year flood within the creek banks.

Tonawanda Creek is located in portions of Erie, Genesee, Niagara, and Wyoming Counties and a minute portion of Orleans County. The Watershed comprises many tributary watersheds, including that of Ellicott Creek, which join the mainstream, Tonawanda Creek, near its mouth on the Niagara River. Flood management needs in the Ellicott Creek watershed are normally independent of those in the Tonawanda Creek Watershed.

Ransom Creek, a major tributary of Tonawanda Creek, rises near the crest of the Onondaga Escarpment in the town of Newstead. From its source approximately 745 feet above sea level the creek flows northwestward approximately 13 miles to enter the Huron Plain at the base of the escarpment in the town of Amherst. Throughout this reach the creek usually flows fast enough to pass within its channel during periods of high flow. From the base of the escarpment, the creek continues to flow northwestward for 4 miles through flatland to its confluence with Tonawanda Creek in the Town of Amherst. The channel of this reach is often inadequate; the creek flows generally sluggishly and usually out of channel during periods of high flow. Near the base of the escarpment the creek receives a major tributary, Gott Creek, which rises in the town of Clarence and flows northwestward 10 miles to its confluence with Ransom Creek. Approximately 1 mile downstream from its confluence with Gott Creek, Ransom Creek receives a second major tributary, Black Creek, which rises in the

Huron Plain in Clarence and flows westward 8 miles through flatland to its mouth. Throughout its length Black Creek flows sluggishly and often out of channel during periods of high flow.

The flood of March 1960 is considered the flood of record. The March 1960 flood inundated approximately 3,220 acres, most of which were located within the Town of Amherst. The flooded area, primarily residential, had a maximum width of approximately 3,000 feet. The flood of March 1960 had a recurrence interval of approximately 20 years. The discharge at United States Geological Society (USGS) gage No. 04218500 on Ellicott Creek in the Village of Williamsville was estimated to be 4,860 cubic feet per second (cfs). The flood resulted from the melting of eight inches of snow covering the area. Other damaging floods occurred in March 1916, January 1929, March 1936, June 1937, March 1940, March 1954, March 1956, January 1959, March 1963, March 1979, February 1985, January 1996, January 1998, and January 1999. Stream gage information collected by the United States Geological Society (USGS) is included in Table 1 and can be used to give an indication of the relative severity of historic flooding. Amherst has suffered property damage from flooding during calendar years 1977, 1979, 1985, 1986, 1988, 1996, 1998, and 1999.

During the March 1960 floods, the overlap of floodplains reached a maximum width of approximately four miles. A large portion of the losses due to flood damage were agricultural. Today, much of that land has been developed as residential or commercial property. A series of photographs from various years that illustrate some of the flood history and flood prone areas are included at the end of this section. Future flooding may have a more devastating effect on structures.

Flooding also occurs in the Town of Amherst when high-intensity rainfall occurs anywhere within the upstream portion of the Tonawanda Creek watershed. Most of the precipitation occurs in the summer when the soil moisture is low and the potential for infiltration is high. However, heavy precipitation may also occur during the spring or early summer when the soil is still frozen or the soil moisture is high enough to inhibit infiltration.

4.2 Flood Hazards Assessment

The Town of Amherst identified risks, assessed the degree of vulnerability of those areas “at risk” (e.g., structures, population, and natural resources), and examined possible impacts from flooding (e.g., property damage, inconvenience to residents and health hazards). Risk describes the characteristics of the hazard and can be defined in terms of magnitude, duration, distribution, area affected, frequency, and probability. Vulnerability indicates what is likely to be damaged by the identified hazards and how severe that damage could be. URS mapped high-risk areas in the town (see Figure 2). In addition to flood zones, this map also indicates repetitive loss areas, areas of historic flooding, as well as important physical features such as the Williamsville dam.

Figure 2 illustrates critical facilities, historical and economic resources that are at risk in the Town.

Flood Protection Measures: Various flood protection measures have been taken in the Town of Amherst to reduce future flood damage. In 1900, the State of New York cleared the channels of Gott, Ransom, and Black Creeks as a flood prevention measure; the channels of Ransom and Black Creeks were again cleared in the 1950s. In 1932, the town made channel improvements consisting of cleaning, deepening, and widening Ellicott Creek upstream of the Williamsville corporate limits for a distance of approximately 2,800 feet. In 1958 and 1959, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) cleared and snagged a six-mile portion of Ellicott Creek between Sheridan Drive and a point approximately 2,700 feet downstream of Sweet Home Road. In 1965, Erie County completed construction of a diversion channel in Ellicott Creek Park in the Town of Tonawanda from Ellicott Creek to Tonawanda Creek. Although the improvement was not constructed within the town, the diversion channel reduces flooding within the Town of Amherst. The COE has constructed diversion channels along Ellicott Creek through Amherst and has completed major improvements to the stream channel. The Town of Amherst has also recently completed channel improvements to Gott Creek within the community.

Non-structural flood protection measures have also been used to reduce the risk of flood damage within the Town of Amherst. Since 1977, floodplain regulations require all new construction to be flood proofed to the elevation of the 100-year flood.

4.3 Previous Studies and Flood Control Activities

In 1990, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) prepared a flood insurance study for the Town of Amherst (Reference 1) which established the 100- and 500-year flood elevations, and provided support for regional planners of floodplain management. The 1990 Flood Insurance Study is a revision to the original study and was prepared in order to reflect the extensive channel modifications to Ellicott Creek made by the USACE, and channel improvements to Gott Creek made by the Town of Amherst. The study also includes a hydrogeologic analysis to establish the peak discharge relationships for Black Creek, Ellicott Creek, Gott Creek, Ransom Creek, Tonawanda Creek, Ellicott Creek-North Diversion Channel, Ellicott Creek-Pfohl Park Diversion Channel, and Ellicott Creek-Upper Diversion Channel. The Flood Insurance Rate Map for the Town of Amherst is, for insurance purposes, the principal result of the Flood Insurance Study. This map contains the official delineation of flood insurance zones and base flood elevations. Base flood elevation lines show the locations of the expected whole-foot water-surface elevation of the base (100-year) flood. The base flood elevations and zone numbers are used by insurance agents, in conjunction with structure elevations and characteristics, to assign actuarial insurance rates to structures and contents insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Potential Losses to the Local Economy: As seen in Table 2, FEMA estimated that the value of property insured by the NFIP in Amherst is over \$119 million. Additional NFIP claim data is included in Appendix F of this report.

TABLE 2
SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM ACTIVITY

Community	Policies In-Force	Insurance In-Force	Written Premium In-Force	No. of Claims Paid Since 1978	Claims Paid Since 1978
Town of Amherst	1,052	\$119,696,500	\$418,095	362	\$1,112,828
Village of Williamsville	43	\$4,881,800	\$24,090	88	\$443,160

The Town implements and enforces the State building code and participates in the NFIP. Amherst has initiated several studies and activities over the years (e.g., Stormwater Management Plan, Hazard Analysis Report) that have laid the groundwork for this mitigation strategy. The Town began developing its first Comprehensive Plan in the early 1970s which is currently in the process of being updated and is scheduled to be completed by Spring 2002. This plan outlines actions that can be taken to address increased development pressures, economic stability, open space and recreation issues, and public infrastructure and facilities. The Comprehensive Plan outlines goals, policies, issues, and actions to provide a framework for everyday operations in the Town. The Town recognized that incorporating mitigation initiatives into the Comprehensive Plan would not only benefit the community by reducing human suffering, damages, and the cost of recovery, but would also help build and maintain the sustainability and economic health of the Town over the long run.

4.4 Photographs

5.0 ASSESSMENT OF AMHERST'S EFFORTS TO MITIGATE FLOOD LOSS

The Town of Amherst has been participating in the NFIP since December 1984, and the Village of Williamsville has participated since March 1982. Both are in good standing with the Program. The Town Assistant Commissioner of Building is the designated CRS Coordinator for the Town. The "Town's Local Law for Flood Damage Prevention" is based on the State's Model Local Law.

Completion and approval of Amherst's Flood Mitigation Plan will initiate further strategies within the Town for reducing risk.

5.1 Reducing Repetitive Flood Loss

Amherst, with two repetitive loss properties remaining within its jurisdiction, is considered a Class B repetitive loss community by FEMA. The Town previously had 17 repetitive loss properties listed, but was successful in removing 15 of those following the improvements to Ellicott Creek completed in 1989. Recommended Flood Mitigation Program activities to be implemented by Amherst include a public awareness program to all of its residents, business owners, and trades-people, not only those property owners located in a flood zone.

Reduction of repetitive losses is currently addressed in the Town's Flood Damage Prevention Code by regulating substantial improvements. The code requires all structures to be compliant with current codes whenever any repair, reconstruction, or improvement is performed which exceeds 50% of the market value, as defined by the Town Code. Implementation of additional freeboard and cumulative requirements to the Town's Flood Damage Prevention Code would further work to reduce repetitive losses within the Town.

Amherst's activities for reducing repetitive loss are currently being implemented through a public awareness program targeting its residents, property owners, and trades-people, and by controlling cumulative and substantial improvements both as currently enforced by the Building Inspector and as shall be enhanced by implementing the recommendations proposed in this Flood Mitigation Plan.

When building permits applications are submitted for approval, the Town's current building and flood damage prevention codes and current enforcement policies are adequate to regulate the improvement of repetitive loss and flood prone properties. Amherst's Flood Mitigation Plan recommends that Amherst's enforcement activities should be enhanced through revisions and updates of the Town's applicable codes and regulations as necessary. This Flood Mitigation Plan will further enhance Amherst's ability to reduce repetitive losses due to severe flooding and storms.

The Town of Amherst Department of Emergency Services and Safety is currently in the process of installing a reverse 911 phone warning system. Reverse 911 is a geographically-based calling system developed in 1993 to give public safety agencies the ability to quickly communicate with specific groups of residents or residents within certain geographic areas. The system programs telephone numbers to be automatically called to deliver pre-recorded messages. The system can be remotely activated.

5.2 Current Policies and Activities

The Town Commissioner of Building is the designated Floodplain Administrator for the Town. The local law currently forming the basis for the regulations included in the Town Code was adopted in 1984. This Plan, establishing Town policy initiatives, shall provide concrete goals for implementation by the designated Floodplain Administrator.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is the State agency designated to provide oversight and technical assistance to communities within New York State for all efforts associated with floodplain management programs. At its last verification visit, the NYSDEC stated that Amherst is satisfactorily managing the Town's floodplain management program.

5.3 Impact to Current Town Programs, Policies and Activities

The Flood Mitigation Initiatives included in this Plan represent both short- and long-term objectives, and include some activities which are able to be accomplished under both current Town programs and on-going initiatives, as well as easily-implemented new initiatives. On-going activities supporting Plan Initiatives include the Town's zoning and NFIP regulatory reviews and updates.

The control of substantial improvements to structures as currently enforced by the Town is positively impacted by this Plan by establishing goals, initiatives, and recommendations for land use, legislative, mitigative, regulatory, and other activities that will further enhance Amherst's ability to reduce repetitive losses due to severe flooding and storms.

Amherst's mitigation capabilities will be greatly expanded by this Plan in that the Town Administrator and a specifically identified Trustee shall be made joint mitigation coordinators responsible for administering Amherst's Flood Mitigation Program. The joint coordinators will provide support services for the Town's Public Awareness Program, and provide assistance and oversight to those mitigation activities undertaken by Amherst to reduce losses.

Many of the Flood Mitigation Initiatives are dependent upon the availability of funding. The Town of Amherst, having limited staff and funding to implement initiatives, must identify available funding programs, and prepare applications for funding assistance as funding programs are announced by the various State and Federal agencies. Therefore, this Plan recognizes the important objective of identifying and obtaining supplemental funding to support implementation of initiatives which advance Flood Mitigation Initiatives.

5.4 Impact to Current Federal, State, Regional and Local Mitigation Programs

The Town's floodplain management program is administered locally by Amherst under the oversight of the Floodplain Management Section of the NYSDEC. Currently, there are no mandatory federal, State, regional or local mitigation programs in New York State that require a community to modify pre-FIRM structures, unless they are substantially damaged or being substantially improved.

This Plan will have a positive impact on all State and county plans and studies and, locally, will advance many common goals and objectives. At present, no county-level FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plans have been developed. However, Erie County has designated a representative from the County Planning Department as the County's hazard mitigation representative. Additionally, SEMO has recently established a regional office to support the needs of the communities situated within Erie and Niagara Counties.

This Plan will also have a positive impact on all State and county plans and studies by recommending the enlargement of the administrator's management function and designating a Trustee to emphasize his/her responsibility for implementing the management of Amherst's Flood Mitigation Program. In addition to Flood Mitigation Plan initiatives, he/she/they would assist the Town in performing damage assessment activities for local disaster declarations, and identifying mitigation measures for reconstruction.

The Town recognizes the importance of improving the framework for consensus-building and collaboration between the county and other governmental agencies managing the various programs in which Amherst's participates. The Plan shall enhance the Town's communication with other governmental agencies. Town officials shall establish ties with similarly-placed agency officials to share information and receive early notice of initiatives applicable to the Town mitigation efforts.

Based on the above, this Flood Mitigation Plan will have a positive impact on federal, State, and regional mitigation strategies and plans.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FLOOD MITIGATION

The Amherst Flood Planning Committee (AFPC) consists of the Town Emergency Management Director, the Town Engineer, Town residents, the Town Planning Department, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Soil Conservation Service, Erie County Department of Public Works (ECDPW), the Village Administrator, Village Engineer, and URS Consultants, Inc. This committee has worked to set goals and objectives that are bounded by a time frame and are compatible and consistent with State hazard mitigation goals. The State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) has reviewed and approved these goals to ensure consistency with the statewide goals and objectives.

The proposed flood mitigation activities and initiatives represented by this Flood Mitigation Plan reflect goals and objectives established by the Amherst Flood Planning Committee (AFPC) and Town officials and trustees. The recommended flood mitigation activities and initiatives address the related issues of development, environmental sensitivity, and current land uses of Amherst's floodplains, since most of the Town's remaining undeveloped land is situated in mapped floodplains. Measures such as zoning, building codes, purchase of development rights, alternative uses, and selective retreatment and acquisition have been analyzed.

The proposed activities and initiatives are intended to be definitive and realistic, with both public safety and the protection of natural and beneficial values of the floodplains as essential goals to be met.

This Flood Mitigation Plan is intended to expand and enhance Amherst's current Emergency Preparedness Program to include mitigation aspects aimed at reducing losses in Amherst. This Flood Mitigation Plan lays the foundation for establishing a concerted effort to advance mitigation and loss reduction goals in Amherst. This Plan recommends formalizing and enhancing the Town's existing local disaster response plan to meet these goals.

The Flood Mitigation Objectives included in this Plan represent both short- and long-term objectives, and include some activities which are able to be accomplished under current Town programs and on-going initiatives . All of the Flood Mitigation Objectives are impacted by funding;

therefore, this Plan recognizes that the normal funding capabilities of the Town are inadequate to fund all the recommended initiatives. The Town must identify and obtain supplemental funding to support implementation of the identified Flood Mitigation Objectives.

The Initiatives presented by this Plan represent projects considered eligible for funding under programs administered by FEMA, including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), authorized under Section 404 of the Stafford Act, and by the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMAP) authorized under the Reigle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994.

It shall be noted that the structural alternatives are considered constructable but are conceptual only. Further refinement and feasibility studies are recommended to evaluate specific issues associated with permitting, benefit cost, specific funding sources, land ownership, significant habitats and coastal zone management areas.

6.1 Recommended Amendments to the Amherst Comprehensive Plan

The AFPC incorporated the theme of flood mitigation into each of the seven elements in the Comprehensive Plan. These proposed amendments recognize the impact of flood hazard events and provide guidance on what can be done to protect life, property, natural resources, and the economic health of the Town.

The proposed amendments are in *italics* for the following Comprehensive Plan elements:

1) Land Use and Development

- In recent years the Town has been very successful in preserving open space and acquiring parkland. Major accomplishments include acquisition of the 775-acre Nature View Park and acquisition of the 80-acre Amherst State Park. *Consider rezoning of industrial lands that are no longer used or viable for industrial purposes concurrent with identification of alternative sites not located in flood prone areas. Consider conservation of open space via acquisition of repetitive loss structures after careful review of overlays. Protect existing publicly-owned*

open space and recreational areas through existing floodplain regulations and proper zoning ordinances. Current land use in the Town is shown in Figure 3 along with the current housing density.

- Another major land use objective of the Town is farmland preservation. Consider the purchase of conservation easements or development rights for existing farmland to protect it from development.

2) **Natural and Cultural Resources**

- Flooding hazard and stormwater management are concerns in many areas of the Town. Approximately 1,132 acres of the Town are located within the 100-year floodway. The Town presently restricts most developed land uses within the floodway in order to protect public safety.
- Approximately 8,150 acres (23%) are located within the 100-year floodplain and floodway. All new development in the 100-year floodplain must be in accordance with Chapter 203 Part VII Flood Damage Prevention of the Town Code. This requires all new development to be designed to be flood proof to an evaluation of one-foot above the base flood elevation. *Consider increasing the flood proofed elevation for new construction to two-feet above the base flood elevation.*
- Annual localized flooding occurs in the Ransom Oaks area adjacent to Ransom Creek and in the Lehn Springs area located in southeast Amherst adjacent to Ellicott Creek. These flooding events occur in late winter and early spring due to a combination of snowmelt and precipitation.
- Extensive wetland areas exist in the central and northern areas of the Town. The NYSDEC has identified approximately 1,565 acres of regulated wetlands in the Town. These areas are largely protected from development as a result of federal and State wetland protection regulations. The National Wetlands Inventory identifies an additional 250 acres of wetlands that may also be protected by federal wetland protection regulations.

- The Great Baehre Swamp on Hopkins Road – including the 48-acre Margaret Louise Park – is included in the NY Natural Heritage Program and is designated as a significant ecological community.
- Water quality monitoring data indicate that many septic systems in North Amherst are failing, as evidenced by fecal coliform contamination and nutrient enrichment in Ransom Creek (NYSDEC, Bureau of Watershed Assessment and Research, 1998). *Work with the Erie County Health Department to identify failing septic systems and require their upgrade or through sanitary sewer extension require septic system abandonment and connection to the sanitary sewers. **Limitations on new construction may be required if sanitary sewers are extended.***

3) **Economic Development**

- *Provide sites suitable for various commercial and industrial activities in relation to projected needs of Amherst's land use planning program. Provide sites that are as free as possible from risk to natural hazards for commercial and industrial activities.*

4) **Transportation**

- A number of highway reconstruction projects have been identified for the next five years within the Town of Amherst that will have a significant effect on traffic flows. Recent traffic studies have investigated the construction of new highways. *Provide for public participation in the planning and design of the local and regional transportation system and its functional components which should include emergency evacuation routes and safe (floodproof) bridges and roads. Require development of runoff detention for new or expanded roads to maintain peak discharge at preconstruction rates.*

5) **Infrastructure**

a) Water Supply

- Almost the entire Town of Amherst is provided with adequate water supply under a Lease-Management Agreement (LMA) with the Erie County Water Authority (ECWA).

b) Wastewater Disposal

- The town operates its own sewage treatment facility, which has recently been re-rated by the NYSDEC to increase capacity by 50%.
- Amherst Sewer District No. 1 is located in Amherst's southwest corner, characterized by long-established neighborhoods and early-twentieth-century homes. Consequently, the sanitary sewer system exhibits high levels of inflow/infiltration (I/I) due to failed vitrified clay pipe sewers and collapsing brick manholes. Many sewers encounter surcharge conditions after regular rainfall events. Perform an I/I study to locate and quantify extraneous sewer flows and implement an I/I correction program. This should include identifying manholes and sewer vents which are susceptible to flooding and floodwater intrusion. Floodproof sewer manhole and vent identified.
- Amherst Sewer District No. 16 and Erie County Sewer District 5 are currently near capacity and will required upgrading to accommodate future growth.

c) Stormwater Management

- The Town of Amherst is developing a stormwater management program that complies with anticipated revisions to the New York State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES). This need is driven by the Phase II stormwater regulations issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. *Implement drainage improvements Town-wide to help eliminate flooding and water retention in low-lying areas and enhance drainage capabilities. Initiate dialogue with governing bodies of adjoining communities and agencies for development of mutual*

drainage program and prepare a Watershed Management Study. Also, include the portion of Ellicott Creek from Sheridan to Route-90 in the Town's stream maintenance program. Update the Town's map of existing ditches, to include recent improvements. A map of existing ditches, creeks, and stormwater drainage courses in the Town is presented on Figure 4.

6) **Housing**

- By 2020, approximately 5,000 to 10,000 additional homes could be built in Amherst to accommodate new projected residents working in the Buffalo-Niagara Region. *Consider conservation of open space via acquisition of repetitive loss structures and agricultural property.*
- New single family homes in the future will be concentrated in Northeast Amherst (Planning Analysis Area-PAA 2) and the Hopkins Road/Maple Road Corridors (PAA 4). Both projections anticipate development of a large number of multi-family units in the Chestnut Ridge Road Corridor (PAA 3) and the Hopkins Road/Maple Road Corridors (PAA 4), and to a lesser degree the Main/Wehrle/Sheridan Road Corridors (PAA 6). *Ensure a balance among residential growth, the conservation of environmental resources, and preservation of recreational and cultural resources through a detailed analysis of the risks and vulnerability to natural hazards.*

7) **Community Facilities**

- Emergency response times could be affected by increasing traffic congestion.
- When considering construction or substantial reconstruction of critical facilities evaluate siting them outside flood prone areas.

6.2 Recommended Flood Mitigation Initiatives

The following flood mitigation initiatives are identified for the stated goals. Those activities and initiatives which are either long-term or multi-year initiatives are noted as such. Where appropriate, the recommended activity includes a discussion of the potential Community Rating system (CRS) credit that may be received for that activity according to the NFIP.

GOAL: Public information – Outreach Projects

The Town currently has a floodplain property outreach project in which notices that explain that the recipient's property is subject to flooding are mailed to properties in flood-prone areas. In addition to the current outreach program, the following additional activities are recommended:

- a) Send written information to all Town properties through a newsletter, utility bill, telephone book, or other document that is sent to all properties in the Town.
- b) Conduct other outreach projects, such as "flood awareness week" or flyers inserted in local newspapers.
- c) Encourage property owners to purchase flood insurance.

GOAL: Public Information Hazard Disclosure

Disclosure of Flood Hazard: The Town should require real estate agents to notify those interested in purchasing properties located in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) about the flood hazard and the flood insurance purchase requirement.

Real Estate Agents Brochure: The Town should require real estate agents to provide brochures or handouts that advise potential buyers to investigate the flood hazard and other flood-related hazards, such as erosion, subsidence, or wetlands, for the property.

GOAL: Mapping and Regulatory Standards – Additional Flood Data

Regulation of new development depends on good floodplain mapping and related flood hazard data. The Town of Amherst has a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with detailed data for at least some of the communities' flood hazard areas. However, Amherst still has flood problem areas where detailed data were not provided by the Flood Insurance

Administration (FIA) with the FIRM. As a result, new development is often less well-protected from flood damage.

There are two types of areas shown on FIRMs: detailed mapping and approximate mapping. The primary difference between the two is that detailed maps include the base flood elevations needed to set minimum protection levels for new buildings. The NFIP detailed mapping of Amherst also includes floodway delineations. CRS credit is provided for developing floodplain maps and flood data in areas where FEMA did not provide such data.

NFIP regulations for areas with approximate mapping, also known as “unnumbered A Zones” (44 CFR 60.3(b)), are not as effective in reducing flood damage as regulations for areas with detailed map data. Where base flood elevations have been determined, regulatory requirements are left to the judgement of community officials.

Flood hazard areas that were not mapped as SFHAs during the preparation of the community’s FIRM have no floodplain management requirements under the NFIP. Additional mapping should be prepared by or for the community for the following reasons:

- New delineations are necessary because conditions may have changed since the flood insurance study was done.
- Development in the floodplain since the flood insurance study warrants additional mapping and more accurate data.
- Increased development in the watershed may have affected peak discharge and volume increasing the mapped flood elevations.

This activity provides credit for regulating areas to a higher standard than the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA’s) flood insurance study criteria. CRS credit is also provided if the community shares in the cost of a flood insurance study.

GOAL: Mapping and Regulatory Standards – Open Space Preservation

One of the best ways to prevent flood damage is to keep flood-prone areas free from development. Preserving open space is, therefore, recognized as a regulatory activity. In addition to the flood protection benefits, preserving open space can greatly enhance the natural and beneficial functions that floodplains serve.

CRS credit is given for flood-prone areas that are permanently preserved as publicly-owned or controlled open space. Additional credit is given for parcels of open space that are protected by deed restrictions or that have been preserved in or restored to their natural state. Open space credit is doubled within areas of special hazards.

Under this activity, several different methods of preserving floodplain lands as open space (OS) are recognized. To be termed “open space,” the land must be free from buildings, filling, or other encroachment to flood flows. There may be pavement, such as parking lots and roads in a park, but the objective is to prevent or minimize development that either obstructs floodwaters or exposes insurable buildings to damage. This activity recognizes programs that have preserved wetlands, beaches, and other critical areas from development, even though they may not have been intended as floodplain regulatory activities.

If an open space parcel has a deed restriction or other permanent legal attachment that prohibits buildings or fill from ever being placed on the land, it is given the designation “DR” and additional credit. If it has been preserved in or restored to its natural state, it is designated “NB” and given additional credit.

GOAL: Mapping and Regulatory Standards – Higher Regulatory Standard

CRS credit is provided for regulations that require that new development be provided more protection than that of the National Flood Insurance Program’s (NFIP’s) minimum requirements.

Although the NFIP minimum standards provide a great deal of flood protection, damage can still result for many reasons:

- Estimates of flood heights are subject to various errors, especially in areas without long-term flood and rainfall records.
- Buildings may be damaged by floods exceeding the predicted 100-year flood.
- Urbanization and other changes in the watershed can increase the flood hazard.
- Filling and other development in the fringe can reduce storage capacity.

Under this activity, numerous approaches are credited. These include freeboard, foundation protection, more stringent building improvement rules, protection of critical facilities, preservation of floodplain storage, protection of the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains, limiting of building enclosures below the flood level, mapping and regulation of areas subject to special flood hazards, and low-density zoning.

Many standards have been adopted by communities across the nation to provide more protection to new development and redevelopment. Recommended regulatory standards for the Town of Amherst include:

- Protect foundations in flood-prone areas.
- Maintain floodplain storage by prohibiting fill or by requiring compensatory storage to reduce downstream flood peaks.
- Require full compliance with floodplain management regulations when proposed improvements or repairs are less than 50% of a building's value in order to bring more nonconforming buildings up to flood protection standards.

- Protect critical facilities to higher levels to reduce damage to those facilities and improve the Town's ability to respond to the needs of citizens during a disaster.
- Zone to maintain a low density of floodplain development to reduce the damage potential within the floodplain and help maintain storage and conveyance capacities.

Amherst should not amend its ordinances solely to earn CRS credit points. Ordinance language should also be carefully written to support the Town's goals and the purposes of its regulatory program. All such language should be reviewed by the Town's legal counsel before adoption.

GOAL: Stormwater Management

One of the greatest problems of floodplain management in urbanized areas is the increase in peak flow caused by watershed development. As fields and farms are covered by impermeable surfaces, such as streets, rooftops, and parking lots, more rain runs off at a faster rate. When an area is urbanized, the rate of runoff can increase five-fold or more. CRS credit is provided for regulating new developments to minimize their impact on surface water drainage and runoff.

This problem is compounded by changes in the surface drainage system. Stormwater runoff travels faster on streets and in storm drains than under pre-development conditions. As a result, flooding is more frequent, happens more quickly, and is more severe.

The CRS program credits five approaches to regulating new development in the watershed:

1. Regulating developments on a case-by-case basis to ensure that the peak flow of stormwater runoff from each site will be no greater than the runoff from the site before it was developed.
2. Regulating developments according to a stormwater management master plan that analyzes the combined effects of existing and expected development on drainage through and out of the watershed.

3. Requiring all new buildings (not just those in the floodplain) to be elevated to protect them from local drainage problems.
4. Regulating activities throughout the watershed to minimize erosion that results in sedimentation.
5. Regulating the quality of stormwater runoff.

The Town of Amherst is currently in the process of developing a Stormwater Management Plan and an Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan. When finalized, the Town should enact an ordinance to regulate surface water runoff from new developments in the watershed. The language must require that peak runoff from new developments be no greater than the runoff from the site in its pre-development condition. Policies and guidelines are not acceptable unless the Town's legal council states that they are legally enforceable.

GOAL: Flood Damage Reduction Through Floodplain Management Planning

Programs that are based on a comprehensive floodplain management plan, such as this, address all the community's flood problems more effectively. Therefore, the CRS provides credit for preparing, adopting, implementing, evaluating, and updating a comprehensive floodplain management plan. The CRS does not specify what activities a plan must recommend, but it only credits plans that have been prepared according to the standard planning process.

This Flood Mitigation Plan is a comprehensive "future-oriented" approach that determines how the Town will deal with its flooding problem(s) and protect the natural and beneficial functions of its floodplain. This plan is intended to cover Amherst's known flood hazards, and is being developed using the following standard step-by-step planning process.

<u>Subsection</u>	<u>Step</u>
a.	Organize to prepare the plan
b.	Involve the public
c.	Coordinate with other agencies
d.	Assess the hazard
e.	Assess the problem
f.	Set goals
g.	Review possible activities
h.	Draft an action plan
i.	Adopt the plan
j.	Implement, evaluate, and revise

It should be noted that this Plan developed for the CRS, and follows the 10-step planning process.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) also has a new floodplain management planning requirement. Communities receiving funding from the Corps for flood protection projects are required to prepare a floodplain management plan following procedures similar to this activity's 10-step process. The Corps guidance specifically states that CRS plans may be sufficient for that requirement (Policy Guidance Letter No. 52). For more information, contact the Buffalo District Office of the Corps of Engineers.

Other federal programs also encourage comprehensive floodplain management planning, including FEMA's Project Impact, the Fish and Wildlife Services' Habitat Conservation Plans, the Natural Resources Conservation Service's watershed planning, and the Environmental Protection Agency's multi-objective management planning. A community's flood protection planning efforts should include contacting these programs and coordinating with them as much as possible.

GOAL: Flood Damage Reduction Through Retrofitting

Many buildings can be retrofitted to protect them from flood damage by elevating above flood levels, constructing small protective barriers, and wet floodproofing. Studies have shown that retrofitting can effectively reduce flood damage, especially from shallow, slow-moving flooding.

CRS credit is based on the number of insurable buildings in the area of a regulated floodplain that have been retrofitted since the date of the community's original FIRM. It must be noted that replacing a pre-FIRM building with a new building that meets post-FIRM standards is not retrofitting. Elevating a substantially damaged or substantially improved residential building is a minimum requirement of the NFIP. Neither project is credited under this activity.

This activity provides credit when properties are actually protected. Credit is not provided for requiring new, substantially improved, or substantially damaged buildings to meet the minimum requirements of the NFIP. However, credit is provided if a community action causes a pre-FIRM building to be brought up to post-FIRM standards.

The CRS credit points are based on the effectiveness of the technique at preventing flood damage. The most effective techniques are elevation and those measures designed by a licensed engineer or architect.

GOAL: Flood Damage Reduction Through Drainage System Maintenance

The Town of Amherst inspects sections of its drainage system at least annually and maintenance is performed as needed by the Highway Department. The stormwater maintenance plan should, however, be modified to also include the reach of Ellicott Creek from Sheridan Drive upstream to the Town Border. Although the remainder of Ellicott Creek is maintained by the Town and NYSDEC in accordance with the USACE Ellicott Creek Operations and Maintenance Manual, the aforementioned (upstream) portion of the Creek does not currently undergo routine inspections or maintenance.

GOAL: Flood Damage Reduction Through A Flood Warning System

With sufficient warning of a flood, the Town and its floodplain occupants can take protective measures such as moving furniture, cars, and people out of harm's way. When a flood threat recognition system is combined with an emergency response plan that addresses the Town's flood problems, a great deal of flood damage can be prevented. CRS credit is given for a flood warning system that provides timely identification of impending flood threats, disseminates warnings to appropriate floodplain occupants, and coordinates flood response activities.

The National Weather Service issues specific flood warnings for the Town of Amherst. However, the Town should formalize its flood threat recognition system that identifies an impending flood, as well as the plan for disseminating a warning to the general public, carrying out appropriate flood response tasks, and coordinating the flood response plan with operators of critical facilities, in order to receive additional CRS credit.

Additional credit is available depending on the Town's program for actions to be taken after an impending flood is identified. The town should develop a "flood response plan" that describes these activities. It may have different names such as "flood warning plan," "flood preparedness plan," or "flood annex" to a multi-hazard plan. The plan must be adopted by the Amherst Town Board.

Three elements provide CRS credit points for the flood response plan:

- Dissemination of the warning to the general public.
- Implementation of specific tasks to reduce or prevent threats to health, safety, and property, such as controlling evacuation routes, restricting access to flooded areas, and maintaining vital services.
- Coordination of flood warning and response activities with operators of critical facilities, such as hospitals and hazardous materials companies.

GOAL: Increase Public Awareness of Residents, Business Owners, and Trades-people

- Designate a Town Trustee to assist the Town's Floodplain Administrator.
- Establish Town budget line item for implementing continuing awareness and educational activities.
- Establish public awareness and educational programs targeting property owners and trades-people ("trades-people" includes contractors, architects, engineers, and realtors).
- Implement a local damage filming project.
- Prepare an informational newsletter on the Town's Flood Mitigation Program for Village property owners.
- Utilize local Amherst newspapers and other local media organizations for enhanced public awareness.
- If a home or business is damaged by a flood, the owner may be required to meet certain building requirements to reduce future flood damage before repairing or rebuilding. To help cover the costs of meeting those requirements, the NFIP includes "*Increased Cost of Compliance*" (ICC) coverage for all new and renewed Standard Flood Insurance Policies. Prepare information regarding this program and the ability to utilize this benefit as the local match for elevating a residence or flood-proofing a non-residential structure.
- Implement education and awareness regarding requirements for placing fill, which is a regulated activity under the NFIP.
- Inform property owners of benefits of elevating their non-elevated & pre-FIRM structures, the hazards of floating debris, and the benefits of securing oil and gas containers from flotation.

- Inform property owners, suppliers, vendors, and trades-people on standards, including shipping, storage, and handling, and risks associated with gas and oil containers.
- Inform property owners and the electric utility of the need to place electric service connections above base flood elevations.
- Inform property owners and the telephone utility of the need to place telephone service connections above the base flood elevation.

GOAL: Obtain 100% Flood Insurance Coverage within the Area of Special Flood Hazard

- Require flood insurance for all structures improved under the Town's Flood Mitigation Program.

GOAL: Establish Incentive Programs for Activities that Reduce Flood Risk

- Abate flood insurance rate increases by performing elevation or flood-proofing activities that reduce flood risk.
- Seek to implement a program for those structures with freeboard to receive insurance premium reductions.

GOAL: Establish a Concerted Effort to Advance Mitigation and Loss Reduction Goals in Amherst

- Enhance the Town Administrator's and designated Trustee's responsibility to coordinate and manage Amherst's Flood Mitigation Program. Provide support services for the Town's Public Awareness Program, and provide assistance and management for those mitigation activities undertaken by Amherst to reduce losses.
- Enhance the Town's mitigation activities during damage assessment of severe storm events.

- Formalize and enhance the Town’s local disaster response plan.

GOAL: Examine and Update Amherst’s Floodplain Management Regulations and other Codes Relating to Land Use, Zoning and Building Regulations, and other Town and Village Laws and Ordinances to Mitigate Flood Hazards

- Increase cumulative substantial improvement requirements in the Town Code. Continue tracking of cumulative and substantial improvements.
- Incorporate FEMA's “Cost of Compliance” definitions, as indicated in FEMA’s Interim Guidance Manual for State and Local Officials regarding increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) Coverage, into the Town’s Flood Damage Prevention Code in order for property owners to be eligible for ICC coverage for repetitive losses.
- Explore and seek to implement additional free-board provisions in the local code to the maximum extent feasible. Perform regulatory modifications to enhance the Town’s mitigation capabilities, including implementing a freeboard provision, cumulative standard for determining substantial improvements for repetitive loss properties, and program to continuously update the Town’s Flood Damage Prevention Code as NFIP requirements change.
- Subject to DEC and other regulatory approval, facilitate the practical placement of fill, and/or re-grading when elevating structures to reduce flood hazard.
- Implement drainage improvements Town-wide to help eliminate flooding and water retention in low-lying areas and to enhance drainage capabilities Town-wide (Multi-Year Initiative).
- Obtain agency approvals and agency funding to implement projects to provide enhanced drainage capabilities within the Town.
- Initiate dialogue with governing bodies of adjoining communities and agencies for development of a mutual drainage program and Watershed Management Plan.

- Identify funding programs and sources of local match for identified initiatives (Multi-Year Initiative).

6.3 Recommended Flood Mitigation Activities

Recommended flood mitigation activities include a variety of best management practices, flood control projects, shoreline erosion protection measures, preservation and restoration of natural resources (i.e., wetlands) and recreational use of the Town's Creeks. The recommended flood mitigation activities are described below. Maps indicating the location of site-specific physical improvements are provided.

1. Remove all logs that are not rooted and may potentially trap debris.
2. Remove trees that are leaning over the channel at an angle greater than 30° from vertical and are dead or severely undercut. Use hand operated equipment if feasible.
3. Provide rap-rap or suitable vegetation at the tip of Seven-Sisters Island to protect the streambank and prevent erosion.
4. Enlarge retention storage pond adjacent to Ellicott Creek at 220 South Cayuga Road (just north of Route 90).
5. Replace the Castle Creek Bridge so that it can convey the 100-year flood stream flow. Reuse existing veneer stone in order to preserve the historic value of the bridge.
6. Re-align "Castle Creek" (a.k.a., Dream Island Moat) where it discharges to Ellicott Creek so that merging flows are in the same general direction.
7. Replace or rehabilitate the Williamsville Dam with one that can be operated automatically to improve flood control and eliminate the hazards involved with manual operation.

8. Repair the damaged concrete wier at Island Park to control Creek elevation for improvement of flow and aesthetics.
9. Dismantle and remove unused District #1 Amherst Sewage Treatment Plant.
10. Utilize golf course and adjacent vacant land for additional flood storage capacity.
11. Purchase a 110-foot easement from the vacant land along the creek between Maple Road and Brookedge Drive for debris removal access to Ellicott Creek.
12. Remove trees along creek that are dead, severed, undercut, and are leaning over the channel at an angle greater than 30° from vertical. Use hand operated equipment if feasible.
13. Establish plants on flood control wall south of Maple Road for screening.
14. Establish a designated fishing access site and canoe access point. This area is currently zoned for recreational use and open space.
15. Remove St. Ritas Lane to create one Lake LaSalle and improve storage capacity.
16. Retain as vacant land for flood storage area.
17. Provide recreational and fishing access to Ellicott Creek on vacant land.
18. Plant trees and other vegetation for screening, general aesthetics, habitat benefits and erosion control.
19. Establish a designated canoe access point and fishing access site.
20. Utilize vacant land for additional flood water storage capacity.

21. Maximize flood water storage capacity in vacant land.
22. Install a device to prevent backflow of water into Town ditches during high water conditions in the Tonawanda Creek.
23. Restrict development rights on tracts of land in the floodplain (i.e. permit farming, forestry, recreational uses and other non-intensive uses such as stream corridor conservation and open space preservation).
24. Clear channel of materials, snags or other channel obstructions at specific locations where significant blockages in streams can occur. Trees and brush which shade streams and stabilize banks should not be disturbed.
25. Provide a permanent vegetative cover along channel banks to reduce erosion.
26. Provide riparian vegetation along the banks of Ransom Creek to prevent erosion. Replace trees damaged due to previous flooding.
27. Restrict development rights on tracts of land in the floodplain (i.e. permit farming, forestry, recreational uses and other non-intensive uses such as stream corridor conservation and open space preservation).
28. Retain the land between Sweet Home Road and Campbell Boulevard for recreational uses and open space.
29. Remove logs that are not rooted and could potentially trap debris.
30. Floodproof Nynex Telephone relay station at the corner of Smith Road and New Road.
31. Remove logs that are not rooted and could potentially trap debris.

7.0 IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF FLOOD MITIGATION PLAN

7.1 Plan Implementation

As stated previously, Amherst's mitigation capabilities and its ability to implement strategies will be greatly enhanced by establishing a designated Trustee to assist the Administrator in managing and attaining the goals, objectives, and initiatives of Amherst's FMP.

The Mitigation Coordinators would provide support services for the Town's Public Awareness Program, and provide assistance and oversight for those mitigation activities undertaken by Amherst to reduce losses. They would also provide support services for performing periodic Plan updates to ensure continued FEMA/State acceptance of this Flood Mitigation Plan.

The Village Administrator and designated Trustee shall provide oversight for the mitigation activities commenced and completed. They will be responsible for ensuring inter-department cooperation in meeting the Plan's goals and objectives, and will perform oversight for periodic Plan updates to ensure continued FEMA/State acceptance of this Flood Mitigation Plan.

The Mitigation Coordinators shall work in tandem with Town representatives and other Amherst's Departments as required and necessary.

7.2 Monitoring and Evaluation of Plans, Goals, and Objectives

It is recommended that this Flood Mitigation Plan be evaluated annually, to review progress towards objectives and to identify changes or revisions that should be made. The annual Plan review will include all those Town and Village Departments and resident representatives that comprised the AFPC established for the preparation of the Town's FMP and other residents willing and desirous of participation.

The annual Plan review will be forwarded to FEMA and other State agencies by the Town Administrator to ensure continued FEMA/State acceptance of this Flood Mitigation Plan.

All subsequent changes or revisions to this Flood Mitigation Plan must be presented for public comment and approved by the Amherst Town Board of Trustees.

REFERENCES

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16. Federal Emergency Management Agency, *National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System: Example Plans*, 1999.
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APPENDIX B

TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

FOR MITIGATION

APPENDIX E

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION
ADOPTING AMHERST'S FLOOD MITIGATION PLAN**

APPENDIX A

LISTING OF

AMHERST'S FLOOD PLANNING COMMITTEE (AFPC)

MEMBERS

APPENDIX D

REQUIRED PUBLIC NOTICES

APPENDIX F

NFIP POLICY AND CLAIM DATA

APPENDIX B

TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MITIGATION

STATE RESOURCES

New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO)

Bldg. 22, Ste. 101
1220 Washington Ave.
Albany, NY 12226-5000
Phone: 1 (518) 485-1797
Fax: 1 (518) 457-7528

Empire State Development

30 South Pearl St.
Albany, NY 12245
Phone: 1 (800) 782-8369

New York State Builders Association (NYSBA)

One Commerce Plaza, Suite 704
Albany, NY 12210
Phone: (518) 465-2492
Fax: (518) 465-0635

New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) – Region 5

Buffalo State Office Building
125 Main St.
Buffalo, NY 14203
Phone: (716) 847-3238

New York Public Service Commission

Ellicott Square Building
295 Main Street - 8th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14203

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)

270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
Phone: (716) 851-7200

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Agency Building No. 1, 20th Floor
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12238

FEDERAL RESOURCES

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Mitigation Division
26 Federal Plaza, Room 1337
New York, NY 10278-0002
(212) 225-7209
(212) 225-7281

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Buffalo District
1776 Niagara Street
Buffalo, NY 14207
(716) 879-4104

Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service

East Aurora Service Center
50 Commerce Way
East Aurora, NY 14052-2162
Phone: (716) 652-1400
Fax: (716) 652-1402

Department of Commerce National Weather Service

587 Aero Drive
Buffalo, NY 14225

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

405 North French Road, Suite 120B
Amherst, NY 14228-2010
(716) 691-3635

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Lafayette Court
465 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14203
Phone: (716) 551-3814
Fax: (716) 551-5787

Small Business Administration

360 Rainbow Boulevard South, 3rd Floor
Niagara Falls, NY 14303
(716) 282-4612 or (800) 659-2955

Environmental Protection Agency

Region 2 - Niagara Field Office
345 3rd Street
Niagara falls, NY 14304
Phone: (716) 285-8842

OTHER RESOURCES

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM)

Professional association with a membership of almost 1,000 state employees that assist communities with the NFIP. ASFPM has developed a series of technical and topical research papers and a series of proceedings from their annual conferences. Many mitigation "success stories" have been documented through these resources and provide a good starting point for planning.

Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS) (formerly Insurance Institute for Property Loss Reduction)

An insurance industry-sponsored, nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing losses—deaths, injuries, and property damage—resulting from natural hazards. IBHS efforts are directed at five specific hazards: flood, windstorm, hail, earthquake, and wildfire. Through its public education efforts and information center, IBHS communicates the results of its research and statistical gathering, as well as mitigation information, to a broad audience.

Volunteer Organizations

Organizations, such as the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith, and the Mennonite Disaster Service, are often available to help after disasters. Service organizations, such as the Lions, Elks, and VFW are also available. These organizations have helped others with food, shelter, clothing, money, etc. Habitat for Humanity and the Mennonite Disaster Service provide skilled labor to help rebuild damaged buildings incorporating mitigation or floodproofing concepts. The offices of individual organizations can be contacted directly, or the FEMA Regional Office may be able to assist.

Flood Relief Funds

After a disaster, local businesses, residents, and out-of-town groups often donate money to local relief funds. They may be managed by the local government, one or more local churches, or an ad hoc committee. No government disaster declaration is needed. Local officials should recommend that the funds be held until an applicant exhausts all sources of public disaster assistance. Doing so allows the funds to be used for mitigation and other projects that cannot be funded elsewhere.

Plan Adoption Resolution

Resolution # _____

WHEREAS the Town of Amherst has been severely flooded numerous times in the last fifteen years, resulting in property loss and hazards to public health and safety,

WHEREAS flood prevention projects, such as levees and channel improvements, are not feasible or affordable, so we can continue to expect more floods in the future,

WHEREAS a Flood Mitigation Plan has been developed after more than a year of research and work by the Amherst Flood Planning Committee,

WHEREAS the Flood Mitigation Plan recommends many activities that will protect the people and property affected by flooding, and

WHEREAS a public meeting was held to review the plan as required,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Supervisor and Town Board of the Town of Amherst that:

1. The Flood Mitigation Plan is hereby approved as an official plan of the Town of Amherst.
2. The respective Town officials identified in the Plan are hereby directed to implement the recommended activities assigned to them. These officials will periodically report on their activities, accomplishments, and progress to the Flood Planning Committee.
3. The Flood Planning Committee will provide annual progress reports on the status of implementation of the Plan to the Town Supervisor and Town Council. This report shall be submitted to the Town Board by November 30 each year.

PASSED by the Town Board of the Town of Amherst, this _____ day of _____, 2001.

Susan J. Jaros
Town Clerk

APPROVED by me this _____ day of _____, 2001.

Susan Grelick
Town Supervisor

ATTESTED and FILED in my office this _____ day of _____, 2001.

Susan J. Jaros
Town Clerk

APPENDIX C

EXISTING PROTECTION SYSTEMS -

FEDERAL AND STATE

APPENDIX C: EXISTING PROTECTION SYSTEMS - FEDERAL AND STATE

National Flood Insurance Program:

This program is a direct agreement between the federal government and the local community that Flood insurance will be made available to residents in exchange for community compliance with minimum floodplain management regulations. Communities participating in the NFIP must:

- Adopt the Flood Insurance rate Maps as an overlay regulatory district
- Require that all new construction or substantial improvement to existing structures in the flood hazard area be elevated or (if nonresidential) floodproofed to the identified flood level on the maps
- Require design techniques to minimize flood damage for structures built in high hazard areas, such as floodways or velocity zones

In return for community adoption of these standards, any structure in that community is eligible for protection by flood insurance, which covers property owners from losses due to inundation from surface water of any source. Coverage for land subsidence, sewer backup and water seepage is also available subject to the conditions outlined in the NFIP standard policy (see Appendix A, Federal Resources, for contracts regarding insurance coverage and purchase). Since homeowners' insurance does not cover flooding, a community's participation in the NFIP is vital to protecting property in the floodplain as well as being essential to ensure that federally backed mortgages and loans can be used to finance floodprone property.

Community Rating System:

A voluntary initiative of the NFIP, the CRS was developed to encourage communities to perform activities that exceed the minimum NFIP floodplain management standards. If a community participating in the CRS performs activities that include maintaining records for floodplain development, publicizing the flood hazard, improving flood data, and floodplain management planning, then the flood insurance premiums paid by policy holders in the community will be reduced by 5 to 45 percent. Developing a flood mitigation plan will help communities gain additional credit under the CRS.

Warning Systems and Emergency Operations Plans:

Your community may have a flood warning system in place and should have a plan for response to flooding. In addition, SEMO has offices throughout the state that maintain area-wide plans for flood events.

Land Use Restriction:

There are several federal and state regulations that serve to restrict land use in certain areas that may help reduce flood hazard vulnerability. If your community has open land owned by the state or federal government, examine what restrictions are placed on its development. In addition, the state Wetlands Protection Act regulates the development of all lands identified as significant to the protection of resources identified in the Act.

Septic Systems:

If there are areas in the community not served by a public sewer system, state septic system regulations influence development and may be a consideration for mitigation alternatives that include rebuilding and elevation of structures. Specific design requirements must be met for any construction in coastal

velocity zones or river floodways. Generally, an inspection of a septic system is required if there is a change in use of the structure, an increase in flow, or failed system. Limited inspections are required if the footprint of the structure is being changed. Upgrades are required by the state if an inspection reveals a failed system. However, local regulations may be more restrictive than state requirements, requiring inspections or upgrades in other cases.

Economic/Community Development:

There may be programs existing to help floodproof homes using Community Development Block Grant funds. There may be housing assistance programs in the community that can be used following a major flood, achieving both the objectives of reducing flood damage and improving the community's housing stock (see Appendix ____, Federal Resources, for more information).

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program:

Also known as the 404 Program or HMGP, this program is available only after a federally declared disaster occurs. It represents an additional 15 percent of all the infrastructure and individual assistant funds that are provided to states to repair damages and recover from losses, and is administered by the state in partnership with FEMA. Having a plan or completed mitigation action matrix prior to a disaster event is extremely helpful in meeting the state's deadlines for application and ensuring the project is eligible and technically feasible. It provides 75/25 matching grants on a competitive basis to state, local, and tribal governments, as well as certain nonprofit organizations that can be matched by either cash or in-kind services. The grants are specifically directed toward reducing future hazard losses, and can be used for projects protecting property and resources against the damaging effects of floods, earthquakes, wind, and other hazards. Specific activities encouraged under the HMGP include acquiring damaged structures to turn the land over to the community for open space or recreational use, relocating damaged or damage-prone structures out of the hazard area, and retrofitting properties to resist the damaging effects of disasters. Retrofitting can include wet- or dry-proofing, elevation of the structure above flood level, elevation of utilities, or proper anchoring of the structure.

Two programs that have been authorized under the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 include the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program and a provision for increased cost of compliance (ICC) coverage. FMA makes grants available on a pre-disaster basis for flood mitigation planning and activities, including acquisition, relocation, and retrofitting of structures. FMA grants for mitigation projects will be available only to those communities with approved hazard mitigation plans. ICC coverage has recently been implemented for all new NFIP policies and renewals and is intended to be "mitigation insurance" to allow homeowners whose structures have been repeatedly or substantially damaged to cover the cost of elevation and design requirements for rebuilding with their flood insurance claim up to a maximum of \$15,000. A certain amount of funding is allotted to each state per year based on a risk formula for floods. Each state has the discretion to award funds to communities or to state government agencies. States may use whatever criteria or method they choose to award the funds as long as the applicant and the proposal are eligible. The program may fund up to 75 percent of the total cost of the proposed project, with a minimum of 25 percent of the cost coming from the community. A minimum of half the community share must be cash or "hard match." Funds can also be granted to communities to help them prepare local flood mitigation plans. The same match requirements apply. Once a community received a planning grant, however, it is not eligible to receive additional planning grants for another five years. For further information on the FMA program or ICC coverage, contact SEMO at (518) 485-1797.

Earthquake and Hurricanes:

A certain amount of funding is allotted to each state per year based on a risk formula for earthquakes. Coastal states are allocated funds based on a risk formula for hurricanes. Each state receiving such funds has the ability to grant project funds to the community. There is not a match requirement on the part of the community, but the funds are limited, and are generally only available once a year. The projects or products proposed for such funding must demonstrate that earthquake or hurricane risk will be reduced or eliminated, and the proposed project or product is a cost-effective measure (a stringent cost/benefit analysis need not be performed).

Information about the amount of funding available per year and the state requirements for eligibility and performance may be obtained from SMO at (518) 485-1797.

TOWN OF AMHERST
FLOOD PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<u>Organization/Affiliation</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
Town of Amherst Engineering Department	Jennifer Guida	Project Engineer
New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO)	Rad Anderson	State Emergency Manager
Town of Amherst Resident	Richard Agoston	Resident
Lehn Springs Homeowners Association	Peter Warn	President
New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT)	Lallman Ramballi Chris Hulse	Hydraulics Engineer Hydraulics Engineer
Village of Williamsville	Basil J. Piazza Robert P. Lannon, Jr. Sally A. Kzon	Mayor Village Engineer Administrator
Town of Amherst Emergency Services	Jim Zymanek	Emergency Services Coordinator
Town of Amherst Building Department	Tom Ketchum Rod Cameron F. Robert Danni	Commissioner of Buildings Building Inspector CRS Coordinator
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Lawrence J. Sherman, P.E. Edward Gustic Rao Yalamanchili	Senior Hydraulics Engineer Floodplain Management Engineer Senior Engineer
Amherst Conservation Advisory Council	Peter Maltocks	Council Member
Erie County Department of Public Works – Highway Division	Carl Dimmig, Jr.	Senior Engineer
URS Corporation	Greg McCorkhill Kevin Farrington, P.E.	Project Manager Project Engineer
Town of Amherst Planning Department	Jay DiPasquale	Planner

Organization/Affiliation	Name	Title
County of Erie Department of Environment and Planning	Larry Rubin	Senior Planner
County of Erie Department of Public Works / Division of Engineering	Maria C. Lehman Gerard J. Sentz, P.E.	Commissioner of Public Works Engineer
County of Erie Emergency Management Office Erie County Emergency Services	Donald Trzepacz, Sr.	Emergency Services Coordinator
County of Erie Industrial Development Agency	Ronald Coan	Executive Director
Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS)	Bill Trakimas	Flood Publications
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation / Division of Flood Control – Region 9	Ted Meyers	
New York State Department of State	Tim Doolittle	
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau	Rick Lord	
New York State Thruway Authority	Ernest Scarozza	
Soil and Water Conservation District	David Wilson	
Town of Cheektowaga Engineering Department	William Pugh	Town Engineer
Town of Clarence Engineering Department	Joseph LaTona	Town Engineer
Town of Tonawanda Engineering Department	Roy Svensson	Town Engineer
United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service - Erie County Soil and Water Conservation District	LuAnn Freeman	



Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

Animal Annex

**Erie County Department of Emergency Services
Office of Disaster Preparedness**

Updated 3/1 /11

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I. Introduction

Since 1999 Erie County has worked to include pets and other animals as a component of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (C.E.M.P.) to enhance public response in times of public emergency. Previously, committees have been chaired to work with the SPCA, The Buffalo Zoo, and others concerned with the well being of pets and other animals in times of disaster. The following update was written in spring of 2009 to modernize the adopted plan to better fit procedures currently used, resources available, and policies in effect.

II. Purpose and Objective of the Plan

Erie County has a plan to evacuate people to shelters in times of natural or technological disasters. However, people shelters do not provide accommodations for pets or other animals in most circumstances.

This plan encompasses the evacuation and care for animals if necessary, and provisions for medical care and supplies that may be needed during times of crisis with or without evacuation.

When considerations are not made for companion animals, about 20% of households may not evacuate; others leave their pets behind and return prematurely to the disaster site to rescue them, endangering their own lives, the lives of first responders, and also putting a strain on available resources. Without a plan to address animals in disaster, both human and animal lives are endangered.

III. Authorities and Mandates

This plan is authorized by New York State Executive Law, Article 2-B in compliance with the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196b) as amended by the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006.

IV. Scope

This annex serves as a guide to assist with evacuations, and issues that may arise in times of disaster when animals are affected. This plan communicates standard operating guidelines, procedures and resources that may be available in times of emergency.

V. Prevention and Mitigation

A. Identification, Location and Management of Critical Supplies

Building on the previously adopted list of possible resources that might be needed in time of disaster, potential suppliers were contacted to solicit the procurement of supplies through donation, or fee, in times of emergency.

B. Procurement of Volunteers

Databases of volunteers available and qualified for assisting with pets and other animals in disaster will be maintained by the State of New York, Department of Health, and are available to emergency managers or their designees in times of emergency. Under the Empire State Animal Response Team (E.S.A.R.T.) Database, volunteers are categorized by their skills, and will have the appropriate training necessary to be included in the database. All qualification assessments and continued training are maintained through the New York State Department of Health. Access to this database is available to county emergency managers, ESART, administrators, county emergency services and / or their designees. From that database, Erie County Department of Emergency Services will view the County Animal Response Team (C.A.R.T.) and issue alerts and notifications, as well as activate and deactivate volunteers from this database.

A list of volunteers available to assist is also maintained by the SPCA.

C. Provision of Shelter and Supplies

This plan was coordinated with involved parties, SPCA and Department of Emergency Services to compile a potential list of resources and materials available. Task analyses were taken to identify potential resources and are included as appendices to this plan.

D. Training of Emergency Personnel

Exercise and training of this plan shall be held in accordance with training and exercise involving implementation of the C.E.M.P. plan.

E. Publication

This complete plan, without appendices, will be distributed to those listed in the appendix. Any subsequent revisions or updates will be forwarded as needed.

F. Review and Update Process

This complete plan, including appendices, will be reviewed by the Department of Emergency Services annually, and updated as needed.

VI. Response

A. Sequence of Emergency Response Operations

1. The Commissioner of the Division of Disaster Preparedness and Homeland Security or their designee appoints the Division of Emergency Management / Homeland Security to animal care management of the situation, and makes known the severity, scope, transportation and communication constraints and any needs associated with animals.

2. The Division of Emergency Management appoints the appropriate staff, then notifies SPCA , The City of Buffalo Animal Shelter, and the Buffalo Zoo of the pending need, and works in cooperation to establish appropriate animal care facilities.
3. The Division of Emergency Management / Homeland Security assesses the situation and works with S.P.C.A; notifying appropriate Resource Managers of potential resource needs, and maintains an open line of communication.
4. Appointed Shelter Managers will provide assessments to the Division of Emergency Management / Homeland Security who will then procure as many of the needs as possible from the available resources.

B. Function and Response by Agency

Erie County Department of Emergency Services (D.E.S.)	Overall Emergency Management, County Resources, notification of evacuating officers of the plan for animals and the procedure for transporting animals to shelters.
D.E.S. Animal Care Manager	Communications to/from Emergency Services and EOC. Coordination of animal care, procurement of County resources for animal care, coordinate dispersion of animals to shelters
Administrators to D.E.S.	Communication to/from Animal Care Manager with Resource Managers onsite with Animal and Resource Managers to assist them.
Animal Care Coordinators	Coordination of all resources for a specific animal population
SPCA Director	Coordination of use of SOCA facilities and resources, companion animal shelter coordinator if SPCA facilities are used.
City of Buffalo Animal Shelter	Rescue and capture, transportation assistance.
Town Animal Control Officers	Rescue and capture, transportation assistance.
County Wide Police/Fire	Technical Rescue
American Red Cross	Co-location human shelter
Volunteers	Act in a capacity to which they are capable, i.e. Business donations, veterinarian volunteers, transportation, clerical, shelter based.

Transportation Coordinator	Coordinates all animal transports, delivery and volunteer coordination, logs transport usage.
Communications Coordinator	Coordinates all communications, equipment procurement, volunteers, etc.
Supply Coordinator	Collects needed supplies, identifies sources, log and distributes supplies.
Volunteer Coordinator	Log and track volunteers and their skills.

C. Chain of Command

Chain of command follows all applicable ICS guidelines. (See appendix 3 for chart)

D. Emergency Operations Center

The Department of Emergency Services appointed liaison to animal situations will communicate between the Emergency Operations Center and any appointed animal care managers. Animal care managers will be located at the applicable shelters.

E. Situation Reporting

1. Department of Emergency Services (D.E.S.)

- A. The Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Services and / or his designee notifies the New York State Office of Emergency Management (S.E.M.O) of the disaster, severity, scope, transportation and communication constraints, and any known need for the sheltering of animals.
- B. The Division of Emergency Management / Homeland Security reviews the situation and completes County Disaster Assessment Form, designates Animal Care Manager, and notifies S.P.C.A., the City of Buffalo, Animal Shelter, the Buffalo Zoo and any other relevant resources managers of the pending need.
- C. Animal Care Managers assess the situation, and notify the appropriate resource managers of pending needs.
- D. Volunteer Coordinator is notified of need from Animal Care Managers, and searches the E.S.A.R.T. database for qualified contact information.
- E. Transportation Coordinators assesses situation, and works with Animal Care Managers and the D.E.S. to acquire County supplied resources necessary.
- F. The D.E.S. assesses the need for communication of animal specific information. The communication coordinator then contacts the animal care managers for any communication needs.

- G. The D.E.S. identifies the need for sheltering and works with the S.P.C.A. to identify appropriate shelters, and places this plan in action.

2. Companion Animal Coordinator

- A. Companion Animal Coordinator (C.A.C.) is designated by the Animal Care Manager, and is given the situation assessment.
- B. C.A.C. works from identified shelter.
- C. C.A.C. coordinates to share resources with other animal care managers.
- D. C.A.C. communicates with Animal Care Manager at E.O.C., apprising them of needs for volunteers, resources, supplies, etc.

3. Large and Farm Animal Coordinator (F.A.C.)

- A. Farm Animal Coordinator is appointed by the Animal Care Manager and is given the situation assessment.
- B. F.A.C. works from identified shelter if any, if not then E.O.C.
- C. F.A.C. coordinates to share resources with other Animal Care Managers.
- D. F.A.C. Communicates with Animal Care Manager at E.O.C., apprising them of need for volunteers, resources, supplies, etc.

4. Wildlife Coordinator

- A. Wildlife Coordinator (W.C.) is appointed by the Animal Care Manager, and is given the situation assessment.
- B. W.C. works from identified shelter, if none exist then the E.O.C.
- C. W.C. coordinates to share resources with other Animal Coordinators
- D. W.C. communicates with Animal Care Manager at E.O.C. apprising them of needs for volunteers, resources, and supplies.

5. Zoo Animal Coordinator

- A. Zoo Coordinator is appointed by the Animal Care Manager.
- B. Zoo Coordinator works from the Zoo if possible, or the E.O.C.
- C. Zoo Coordinator coordinates with other Animal Coordinators to share resources
- D. Zoo Coordinator communicates with Animal Care Manager at E.O.C. apprising them of needs for volunteers, resources, and supplies.

F. Shelter Admission Requirements:

It is recommended that all mammals be vaccinated for rabies and other pertinent vaccinations. In addition, a "Shelter Admission Form" must be completed for all animals, with the exception of wildlife.

G. Euthanasia:

A veterinarian will make the decision as to which animals must be euthanized. Staff safety is always the first consideration in this decision. During or after the disaster, animals in shelters will be assessed to determine if they must be euthanized. Stray and quarantined animals that have not completed their holding time prior to disaster are not legally owned by the shelter for purposes of euthanasia. However, seriously injured animals may be euthanized for humane reasons regardless of ownership.

If a designated shelter is damaged in the disaster, animals will not be euthanized, but arrangements will be made to move them to another shelter.

Quarantined animals that are euthanized must have specimens of brain tissue preserved, if possible, for rabies testing. If that is not possible, the bite victim must be notified to begin rabies post exposure treatment. Believed stray animals that are euthanized due to serious health and or behavioral issues should be photographed and documented indicating the animal's condition and reports detailing reason for euthanasia.

After a hazardous material release, emergency management officials should consult with HAZMAT experts and veterinarians to determine the long-term residual effects of the chemical release on animals and the facility; the shelter may require decontamination. Veterinarians should be contacted to provide care to the affected animals and determine the need for euthanasia based on stated effects of the chemical.

H. Triage:

Should a disaster require on-site emergency care, an incident commander will be appointed from either the City of Buffalo Animal Shelter, the S.P.C.A, or veterinarian community depending on the type of assistance required and the location of the disaster. Mobile care units from SPCA or City of Buffalo Animal Shelter will be used on-site. The Incident commander will communicate with the animal liaison at the E.O.C. for distribution of appropriate resources.

I. Emergency Public Information

The County's appointed Animal Care Manager will be responsible from providing information to the public through the designated Public Information Officer (P.I.O) and the public will be notified as to the proper procedure for sheltering their animals including required materials (leashes, cages, etc) and required documentation for shelter admission.

J. Emergency Transportation of Companion Animals

Animal owners will be generally responsible for transporting their animals to the animal shelter where it is to be housed. In the event that an animal owner is unable to provide transport, services may be provided by the SPCA, Buffalo Shelter, and local Animal Control Officers at points designated by the Department of Emergency Services. That information should be communicated in a press release through the P.I.O.

K. Large Animal Transportation

Large animals will be transported through private means, or volunteers, arranged by owners of such animals.

L. Shelters

Shelters will be identified and evaluated for appropriateness by an appointed Animal Care Manager, in conjunction with local animal care professionals and the SPCA. This decision will be based on the severity of the disaster, and scope of the pending evacuation mandate.

1. Companion Animals:

Whenever possible, existing shelters will be utilized, as they currently have some of the resources and structure in place to function as a shelter. Should additional shelters be needed, or one of the existing shelters be compromised, the appointed Animal Liaison will take the necessary steps to provide alternative sheltering. Sheltering from breeders, groomers, and veterinarians would be preferred if available.

When possible, animals admitted to a shelter will be evaluated by a Veterinary Tech., preferably from the list of qualified volunteers, and the owner will be required to fill out an admission form and prove documentation of vaccination. Any vaccines that cannot be proven will be provided at the shelter when and where available. Each shelter will have a 24 hour manager on duty during the duration of the emergency.

2. Large Animals:

Large animal shelters will be determined by the Animal Liaison based on need and severity of the disaster.

3. Wildlife:

Wildlife shelters will be designated as needed and available.

4. Zoo Animals:

Zoo animals will be housed at the Zoo. Certain animals cannot be moved from the zoo under any circumstances. In the event that an evacuation is necessary from animals that can be moved, the Office of Emergency Services will work with zoo personnel to obtain transportation for animals that need

evacuation. For those that must be maintained at the zoo, the Department of Emergency Services will assist in the procurement in any necessary and needed supplies for the animals that cannot be moved.

M. Search and Rescue Procurement:

Animal Search and Rescue will be provided by the SPCA, City of Buffalo Animal Shelter, and others deemed as (qualified) volunteers.

VII. Recovery

A. Damage Assessment

Damage will be assessed for businesses by their insurance companies.

B. Lost and Unclaimed Animals

Companion Animals which are not claimed from shelters within seven days of the end of the state of emergency may be subject to boarding fees. Photographs of unclaimed pets will be taken and posted to the SPCA website. Animals can be surrendered to the SPCA anytime after 48 hours. The SPCA will apply their usual policies in providing shelter.

Large animals which are not claimed within 30 days will be disposed of through adoption or other means.

C. Disposal of Carcasses

Companion animal's carcasses will be incinerated by the SPCA or another incineration site willing to do so. If the volume makes this impractical, a backhoe will be procured and carcasses will be buried. Large animals and wildlife will be buried or taken to slaughter houses. The county, state, or federal DEC will designate the disposal of contaminated carcasses.

Appendix A - Plan Distribution

- 1. Erie County Emergency Services**
- 2. Erie County Disaster Coordinators**
- 3. SPCA,**
- 4. Buffalo Shelter**
- 5. New York State Office of Emergency Management (SEMO)**
- 6. American Red Cross**
- 7. City of Buffalo Fire**
- 8. City of Buffalo Police**
- 9. Department of Environmental Conservation**
- 10. Animal Control Officers**
- 11. National Guard**
- 12. Erie County Department of Public Works**
- 13. Erie County Department of Health**
- 14. Erie County Office of Environmental Planning**

Appendix B - Resource Guide

A. Partner Agency

Name:	Address:	Phone:
SPCA of Erie County (24hr)	205 Ensminger Rd. Tonawanda, NY 14150	(716) 827-1609 (716) 875-7363 (716) 609-2450
City of Buffalo, Animal Shelter	380 Oak St. Buffalo, NY 14203	(716) 851-5694 (716) 319-7796

B. Veterinary Supply

Banfield, The Pet Hospital Contact: On Call Personnel (24hr)	1575 Niagara Falls Blvd. Buffalo, NY 14201	(716) 834-1186 (800) 397-2291
Veterinary Supply Co.	4949 Main St. Amherst, NY 14226 Drugs/syringes, possible donations	(716) 839-2069 (716) 839-4044
Bickford A&M Inc.	12318 Big Tree Rd. Wales Center, NY 14169	(716) 652-1590 (716) 652-3463

C. Large Animal Shelters

Chautauqua County Fair Association	Central Ave. and Waldorf Rd., Dunkirk, NY	(716) 366-4752 (716) 680-0579
Niagara County Fairgrounds	4487 Lake Ave.(Rt. 78), Lockport, NY	(716) 433-8839 ext. 235
Erie County Agricultural Society	3600 McKinley Pkwy. Hamburg, NY	(716) 649-3900 (716) 609-3280
Genesee County Fairgrounds	E. Main St. (Rt. 5), Batavia, NY	(585) 356-5752 (585) 356-2242

D. Large Animal Supplies

Pats Tack Shop	7687 Olean Rd. Holland, NY Horse Supplies Only	(716) 537-2616
PetCo Alt. Locations	1459 Niagara Falls Blvd. Amherst NY 4401 Transit Rd. Clarence, NY 330 Orchard Park Rd. West Seneca, NY Corporate Contact (24hr)	(716) 832-2373 (716) 634-2893 (716) 826-1500 (877) 738-6742
PetSmart Alt. Locations	2101 Elmwood Ave. Buffalo, NY 1734 Walden Ave. Cheektowaga, NY 1579 Niagara Falls Blvd. Amherst, NY Corporate Contact (24hr)	(716) 447-2198 (716) 893-2398 (716) 834-9264 (800) 738-1435
Stapley Feed Center	6445 Transit Rd. Depew, NY Supplies: Wild birds, dog, cat, domesticated foods	(716) 684-4488
Southtown Feeds and Needs	7380 Boston State Rd. Hamburg, NY Supplies: Cat, dog, large supplies livestock no rep.	(716) 648-4600 (716) 510-6406
Tractor Supply Co. Alt. Locations	4484 Southwestern Blvd. Hamburg, NY 6015 S. Transit Rd. Lockport, NY 205 S. Cascade Dr. Springville, NY 4974 E. Main St. Batavia, NY Corporate Contact (24hr)	(716) 648-5140 (716) 434-1083 (716) 592-7171 (585) 343-0078 (877) 872-7721
Wal-Mart Alt. Locations	317 S. Cascade Dr. Springville, NY 5033 Transit Rd. Clarence, NY	(716) 592-1460 (716) 565-0250

E. Heavy Equipment (Animal Burial)

United Rentals	4811 Transit Rd. Williamsville, NY	(716) 565-1330 (800) 877-3687
R B U'ren	1120 Connecting Rd. Niagara Falls, NY	(716) 283-4466

F. Generators

R B U'ren (24hr)	1120 Connecting Rd. Niagara Falls, NY	(716) 283-4466
Cummins Northeast (24hr)	700 Aero Dr. Buffalo, NY	(716) 829-1700
Kinsley Power Systems (24hr)	2235 Kenmore Ave. Ste 110 Tonawanda, NY	(716) 876-2324

G. Farm Fans & Other Supplies

Tractor Supply Co.	4484 Southwestern Blvd. Hamburg, NY	(716) 648-5140
Alt. Locations	6015 S. Transit Rd. Lockport, NY	(716) 434-1083
	205 S. Cascade Dr. Springville, NY	(716) 592-7171
	4974 E. Main St. Batavia, NY	(585) 343-0078
	Corporate Contact (24hr)	(877) 872-7721

H. Town Animal Control Officer (24hr)

Name	Contact	Phone (24hr)
Village of Alden	Animal Control	(716) 510-7095
Town of West Seneca	West Seneca PD	(716) 674-2280
Town of Amherst	Amherst PD	(716) 689-1311
Town of Aurora	Animal Control	(716) 713-9618
Town of Boston	Animal Control	(716) 941-3930 (716) 649-9104
City of Buffalo	Animal Shelter	(716) 851-5694
Town of Brant	Animal Control	(716) 951-9070
Town of Cheektowaga	Cheektowaga PD	(716) 686-3525
Town of Clarence	Animal Control	(716) 407-8912
Town of Colden	Animal Control	(716) 941-1364
Town of Collins	Animal Control	(716) 474-6509
Town of Concord	Animal Control	(716) 572-9491
Town of Eden	Eden PD	(716) 992-9211
Town of Elma	Animal Control	(716) 998-6287
Town of Evans	Evans PD	(716) 549-3600
Town of Grand Island	Animal Control	(716) 556-1066

Town of Hamburg	Hamburg PD	(716) 649-6111 Ext. 2509
Town of Holland	Animal Control	(716) 440-3667
City of Lackawanna	Lackawanna PD	(716) 822-4900
Town of Lancaster	Lancaster PD	(716) 683-5129 (716) 683-2800
Town of North Collins	Animal Control	(716) 982-5864
Town of Orchard Park	Orchard Park PD	(716) 662-6440 (716) 662-6444
Town of Sardinia	Animal Control	(716) 244-3169
City of Tonawanda	CTO PD	(716) 692-2121 Ext. 362
Town of Tonawanda	Tonawanda PD	(716) 876-5300
Town of Wales	Animal Control	(716) 655-4734
Town of Marilla	Animal Control	(716) 863-5816
Town of Newstead	Animal Control	(716) 574-0488

I. 24 Hour Emergency Care Ctr.

Name:	Address:	Phone:
Greater Buffalo Veterinary Service	4949 Main St. Amherst, NY	(716) 839-4043
Orchard Park Veterinary Medical Ctr. PC	3507 N. Buffalo Rd. Orchard Park, NY	(716) 662-6660

J. Pet Friendly Hotels (24hr)

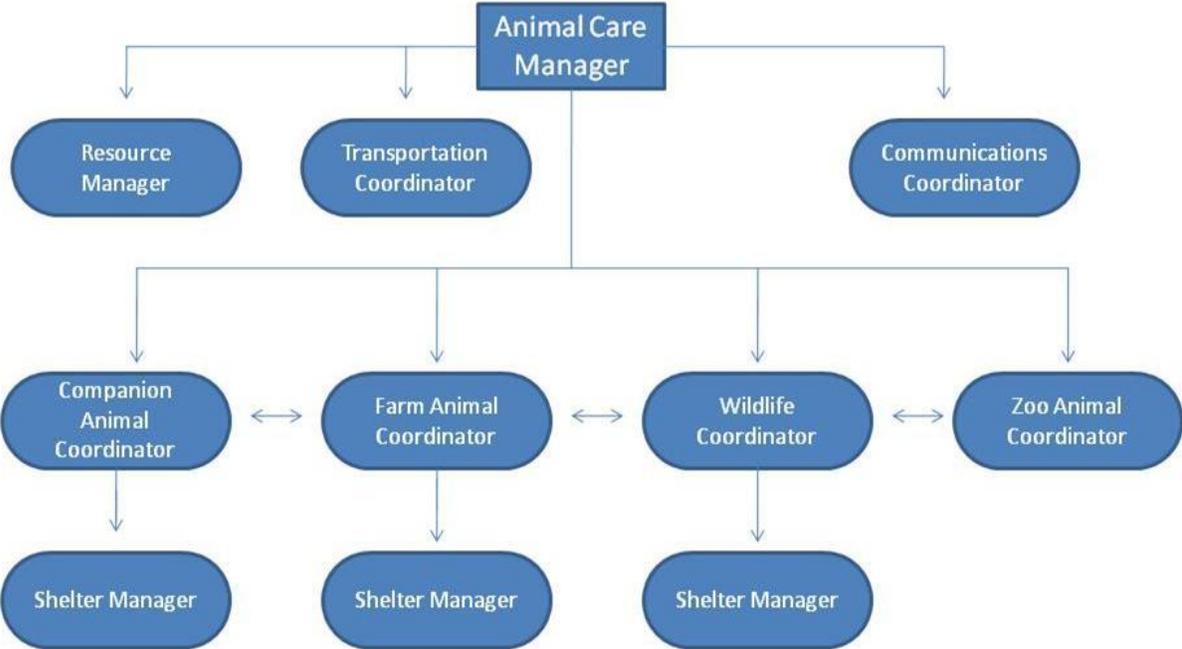
Hotel Indigo	10 Flint Rd. Amherst, NY	(888) 303-1753
--------------	--------------------------	----------------

(Extra charge)

Comfort Suite of Buffalo	901 Dick Rd. Buffalo, NY	(716) 633-6000
Comfort Inn Cheektowaga	475 Dingens St. Cheektowaga, NY (Under 50 lbs)	(716) 896-2800
Holiday Inn Buffalo Airport	4600 Genesee St. Cheektowaga, NY (Extra charge)	(866) 270-5110
Comfort Inn University	1 Flint Rd. Amherst, NY	(716) 688-0811
Red Roof Inn BNIA	146 Maple Dr. Buffalo, NY (Under 60 lbs – 1 pet)	(716) 633-1100
La Quinta Buffalo Airport	6619 Transit Rd. Williamsville, NY	(716) 633-1011
Extended Stay America Buffalo	125 Innkeepers Ln. Amherst, NY (\$25 Extra charge)	(716) 564-0620
Red Roof Inn – Hamburg	5370 Camp Rd. Hamburg, NY (Under 60 lbs – 1 pet)	(716) 648-7222
Super 8 Kenmore	1288 Sheridan Dr. Kenmore, NY (Most small)	(716) 876-4020
Holiday Inn Express Suites	131 Buell Ave. Cheektowaga, NY (Extra charge)	(866) 270-5110
Holiday Inn Grand Island	100 Whitehaven Rd. Grand Island, NY (Extra charge)	(866) 270-5110
Rodeway Inn Williamsville	48 Freeman Rd. Williamsville, NY (\$10 per pet)	(716) 634-2700
Microtel Inn Buffalo	50 Freeman Rd. Williamsville, NY (\$10 per pet)	(716) 633-6200

Appendix C

Organizational Chart



Appendix D – SPCA Forms



SPCA Serving Erie County: Emergency/Disaster Volunteer Intake Form

VOLUNTEER NAME		AGE
CONTACT INFORMATION: DAY PHONE (AREA CODE INCLUDED)	EVENING	OTHER
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
NAME OF EMERGENCY CONTACT		RELATIONSHIP
CONTACT INFORMATION: DAY PHONE (AREA CODE INCLUDED)	EVENING	OTHER

SKILLS (Please check all the apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary Medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Animal Handling/Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Foster Care
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Animal Handling/Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Farm Animal Handling/Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Equine Handling/Care
<input type="checkbox"/> Exotics/Wildlife Handling/Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Administration/Management	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications
<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Housekeeping/Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Computer
Other _____		

WILLING TO DO (Please check all the apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Animal Handling/Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Housekeeping/Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> First Aide Station
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Animal Handling/Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Farm Animal Handling/Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Equine Handling/Care
<input type="checkbox"/> Exotics/Wildlife Handling/Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Office Work	<input type="checkbox"/> Relief Meal Station
<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Service/Phones	<input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary Assistance/Treatment	<input type="checkbox"/> Photography
Other _____		

VACCINATION HISTORY (Please check all the apply):

Rabies Pre-Exposure, Date _____ Tetanus, Date _____ Hepatitis A, Date _____

<u>AVAILABILITY (PLEASE IDENTIFY ALL DAYS AND TIMES AVAILABLE)</u>	<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THU</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
Morning							
Afternoon							
Evening							

AVAILABLE AS OF _____	LENGTH OF AVAILABILITY _____
ARE YOU WILLING TO WORK IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTY? _____	IF SO, WHERE? _____
REFERRED BY _____	COMMENTS _____
INTERVIEWED BY _____	DATE _____

Appendix D – SPCA Forms (Continued)



SPCA Serving Erie County: Volunteer Agreement & Release of Liability

I, _____, **HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE** that I have voluntarily applied to assist the SPCA Serving Erie County in the disaster situation described as follows: _____

I AM AWARE THAT WORKING IN THE SAID DISASTER SITUATION MAY BE HAZARADOUS, AND I AM VOLUNTARILY PARTICIPATING IN THIS ACTIVITY WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE NATURE OF THE DANGER INVOLVED AND HEREBY AGREE TO ACCEPT ANY AND ALL RISKS OF INJURY OR DEATH.

Please Initial: _____

AS LAWFUL CONSIDERATION for being permitted by the *SPCA Serving Erie County* to assist in the said disaster and receive, as it may be, disaster relief training and instruction, free meals, transportation, lodging, or other like considerations, I hereby agree that I, my heirs, distributees, guardians, legal representatives, and assigns will not make a claim against, sue, attach the property of, or prosecute the *SPCA Serving Erie County* for injury or damage resulting from the negligence or other acts, howsoever caused, by any employee, agent, or contractor of the *SPCA Serving Erie County*, or its affiliates, as a result of my assisting in the said disaster. In addition, I hereby release and discharge the *SPCA Serving Erie County* and its affiliate organizations from all actions, claims, or demands I, my heirs, distributees, guardians, legal representatives, or assigns may have for injury or damage resulting from my assistance in the said disaster.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN MYSELF AND THE SPCA SERVING ERIE COUNTY. I SIGN THIS OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

NAME OF VOLUNTEER (PLEASE PRINT) / DATE

NAME OF WITNESS

SIGNATURE OF VOLUNTEER / DATE

WITNESS'S SIGNATURE

Appendix D – SPCA Forms (Continued)



SPCA Serving Erie County: Animal Facility Survey

NAME OF FACILITY	DATE
ADDRESS	CITY STATE ZIP
CLOSEST CROSS STREET OR LANDMARK	

Are animals housed in the facility? Yes No Days Nights

TIMES _____

KINDS OF ANIMALS HOUSED _____

DESCRIBE WHERE IN THE BUILDING THE ANIMALS ARE LOCATED _____

Does the facility use oxygen, disinfectants, or other chemicals? Yes No

LIST TYPES _____

DESCRIBE WHERE THESE ARE STORED IN RELATION TO WHERE THE ANIMALS ARE _____

HOW ARE THE ANIMALS CONFINED WITHIN THE FACILITY? _____

ARE LEASHES AND/OR CARRIERS READILY AVAILABLE? WHERE? _____

FACILITY CHARACTERISTICS

Single, free-standing building? Yes No Age of Building _____

TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION _____

Is a residence attached? Yes No

Strip-shopping center? Yes No Age of Building _____

TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION _____

List the names and types of businesses in the store fronts on either side of your facility

Left 1 _____ Right 1 _____

Left 2 _____ Right 2 _____

Mall shopping center? Yes No Closest Mall Access Door _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

NAME	PHONE NUMBERS (INCLUDING AREA CODE)
NAME	PHONE NUMBERS (INCLUDING AREA CODE)
NAME	PHONE NUMBERS (INCLUDING AREA CODE)

OTHER INFORMATION

On the reverse side of this form, please sketch the interior of your facility, showing the locations of the animals, the locations of any chemicals, and the closest access door to the animals. Please also show any emergency exits or routes.

Appendix D – SPCA Forms (Continued)



SPCA Serving Erie County: Notice of Found Animal

DATE: _____

DESCRIPTION OF ANIMAL(S) FOUND:

HAS BEEN RESCUED FROM THIS LOCATION:

ADDRESS/LOCATION WHERE ANIMAL(S) WAS FOUND

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE OWNERS OF THIS ANIMAL,
PLEASE CONTACT:

THE SPCA SERVING ERIE COUNTY

716-875-7360

OR

OR COME TO

LOCATION WHERE THE ANIMAL IS BEING HELD

Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

205 Eosminger Road, Tonawanda, New York 14150, 716-875-7360 • 1439 Pontiac Road, Angola, New York 14006, 716-549-5300

Appendix D – SPCA Forms (Continued)



SPCA Serving Erie County: Animal Rescue Request Form

LOCATION OF ANIMAL OR AREA WHERE ANIMAL WAS SIGHTED _____

DATE _____ TIME (AM OR PM) _____

ANIMAL DESCRIPTION
 Dog Cat Other Male Female Altered

BREED _____ COLOR _____ AGE _____

DISTINGUISHING MARKINGS AND VISIBLE IDENTIFICATION (DESCRIBE ANY INJURIES OR SPECIAL MEDICAL/BEHAVIORAL CONDITIONS)

Collar License, Rabies, or ID Tag Tattoo, Location Microchip, Number _____

NAME OF REQUESTING PARTY _____ AGENCY OR OWNER _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DESCRIPTION OF ANIMAL'S LOCATION _____

WORK PHONE (INCLUDING AREA CODE) _____ HOME PHONE _____ OTHER _____

TEMPORARY ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

If owner, is key available? Yes No Location of Key _____
 If no, is keyless entry authorized? Yes No

SIGNATURE OR OWNER OR PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM AND REQUESTING ANIMAL RESCUING SERVICES _____ DATE _____ TIME (AM OR PM) _____

****FOR RESCUE TEAM ONLY****

REQUEST RECEIVED BY(NAME) _____ DATE _____ TIME (AM OR PM) _____

DESCRIBE ACTION TAKEN _____

DESCRIBE ANY EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT PROVIDED _____ TREATED BY (RESCUE TEAM VETERINARIAN'S NAME) _____

PHONE (INCLUDING AREA CODE) _____

ANIMAL TAKEN TO _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

REPORT COMPLETED BY (PLEASE PRINT) _____

This report must accompany the animal. The animal/carrier should be identified with the location of rescue and any other critical information!

Appendix D – SPCA Forms (Continued)



SPCA Serving Erie County: Pet Friendly Public Evacuation Shelter Registration and Agreement, Part 1:

NAME _____ DATE _____

FAMILY MEMBERS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>

DATE OF ARRIVAL AT SHELTER _____

NAME OF EMERGENCY CONTACT (*IDENTIFIED PERSON SHOULD NOT BE AT THE SHELTER*) _____ PHONE (INCLUDING AREA CODE) _____

ADDRESS _____

PETS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>MICROCHIP NUMBER</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>M/F</u>	<u>ALTERED</u>	<u>BREED</u>	<u>COLOR/MARKINGS</u>

Are any of these animals on medications, dietary supplements, or dietary restrictions? *If so, please explain by giving the animal's name, time medication is normally administered, and any other critical details.* _____

Can medications/supplements be given in the animal's meals? Yes No (Explain) _____

Please describe any medical conditions or behavioral characteristics of which we should be advised. _____

TIME OF DAY YOUR PET IS NORMALLY WALKED FOR RELIEF PURPOSES _____

The above information is to be provided to the animal handler for scheduling medication administration and relief times.

SHELTER LOCATION _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE (INCLUDING AREA CODE) _____

POST-DIASTER ADDRESS _____ PHONE (INCLUDING AREA CODE) _____

DAY LEFT SHELTER _____ TIME (AM OR PM) _____

Appendix D – SPCA Forms (Continued)



SPCA Serving Erie County: Pet Friendly Public Evacuation Shelter Registration and Agreement, Part 2:

I, _____ (the owner of the pet(s) listed on the reverse side), understand that an emergency exists and that special arrangements have been made to allow my family and pets to remain together in this shelter facility. I understand and agree to abide by the pet care rules contained in this agreement and have explained them to any other family member(s) accompanying me and my pet(s).

RULES:

1. My pet will remain contained in his/her approved carrier except at scheduled times. During scheduled relief time, my pet will be properly confined with leash, harness, and muzzle (if necessary). Scheduled times will be strictly adhered to.
2. I agree to properly feed, water, and care for my pet as instructed by the animal handler. Administration of all medication should be properly documented.
3. I agree to properly sanitize the areas used by my pet, including performing proper waster disposal and disinfecting as instructed by the animal handler.
4. I certify that my pet is current on rabies and all other vaccinations recommended and agree to assume the cost of these vaccinations if given at the shelter because records are not sufficient to show my animal is fully protected.
5. I will not permit other shelter occupants to handle or approach my pet either while he/she is in his/her carrier or during exercise times. I will make sure the carrier door is latched and properly secured with a wire or rope tie.
6. I will maintain proper identification on my pet and its carrier at all times.
7. I will permit my pet to be examined by qualified animal shelter personnel to determine if medical of stress conditions requiring attention are present. I further agree to the administration of medication to alleviate any symptoms.
8. I agree to treat my pet(s) in a humane way while trying to properly care for him/her. If at any point during my stay at this shelter I am not able to properly care for my pet(s), I agree to let the animal handler know and am aware that alternative housing conditions may be needed.
9. I acknowledge that my failure to follow these rules may result in the removal of my pet to another location. I further understand that if my pet becomes unruly or aggressive, shows signs of contagious disease, is infested by parasites (fleas, ticks, lice, etc.), or begins showing signs of stress-related conditions, it may be removed to a more appropriate location. I understand that any decision concerning the care and welfare of my pet and the shelter population as a whole are within the sole discretion of the animal handler, whose decisions are final.

I certify that my pet has no previous history of aggressive behavior and has not been diagnosed with any contagious diseases for which it has not received successful treatment.

I hereby agree to hold harmless all persons, organizations, corporations, or government agencies involved in the care and sheltering of my animal. I further agree to indemnify any persons or entities which may have suffered any loss or damage as a result of the care and sheltering of my animal.

I acknowledge the following items were loaned to me to provide proper care and confinement of my pet during the emergency:

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

DATE

PERMANENT ADDRESS

PHONE (INCLUDING AREA CODE)

Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

345 East 97th Street, New York, NY 10029-3168 • 1430 Beulah Road, Amherst, NY 14206-3168 • 6300

Appendix D – SPCA Forms (Continued)



SPCA Serving Erie County: Emergency Housing Release Form

The undersigned owner(s)/agent of the animal described as follows:

Name of Animal: _____ Species: _____

Breed: _____ Age: _____

Description of Animal (Please include any distinguishing marks or descriptions): _____

_____ hereby requests the emergency quartering of the animal being evacuated because of a pending, occurring, or resulting disaster. The animal owner(s)/agent hereby release the person of entity who is receiving the animal (hereinafter "animal caregivers") from any and all liability regarding the care and quartering of the animal during and following this emergency. The animal owner(s)/agent acknowledge that if emergency conditions pose a threat to the safety of the animal, additional relocation may be necessary, and this release is intended to extend to such relocation.

The animal owner(s)/agent acknowledge that the risk of injury or death to the animal during an emergency cannot be eliminated and agree to be responsible for any veterinary expenses which may be incurred in the treatment of this animal. It is also requested the animal owner(s)/agent contribute to the feeding and daily care of their animal, if possible.

If an animal is not claimed within thirty (30) days (unless prior arrangements have been made), the animal owner will be notified of possible adoption or relocation.

PRINTED NAME OF ANIMAL OWNER/AGENT	DATE
SIGNED NAME OF ANIMAL OWNER/AGENT	DATE
ADDRESS OF ANIMAL OWNER/AGENT	
HOME PHONE NUMBER (INCLUDING AREA CODE)	CELL PHONE NUMBER
PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT	WORK PHONE NUMBER
ADDRESS TO WHICH OWNER/AGENT PLANS TO EVACUATE DURING THIS EMERGENCY	
NAME OF RELATIVE WHO CAN BE CONTACTED IF YOU CAN NOT BE REACHED	PHONE NUMBER PLUS AREA CODE

It is the responsibility of the animal owner(s)/agent to keep the animal caregivers informed of where the animal owner(s)/agent can be contacted following the emergency.

NAME OF ANIMAL CAREGIVERS	CONTACT PHONE
ADDRESS OF ANIMAL CAREGIVERS	
SIGNATURE OF ANIMAL CAREGIVERS	

 This animal is being released for the following disposition (please check one):

permanent adoption
 in-field euthanasia
 temporary hold for _____ days
 hold until able to reclaim
 other, please explain _____

Appendix E – Erie County Forms

Equipment Assessment Form

Type:

Communication Needs

Lap Top
Cell Phone HAM
Police / CB Other: _____

Personnel Needs

Vet. (Med) Handlers:
Vet. Tech. Clerical:
Security Other: _____

Transportation: Needs

Auto: ATV:
Truck: Boat:
Large Truck: Other: _____

Heavy Equipment Needs

Tractor Bull Dozer
Back Hoe Other: _____
Tract. Trail.

Site Location: _____

Site Type:

Shelter: Domestic:
On Site: Large Farm:
Exotic:
Wild life:

Appendix E – Erie County Forms (Continued)
Transportation Log

Transport Name: _____ Animal Tag: _____

Pick-Up Address _____ Animal Type _____

Large / Farm:

Wild Life:

Exotic:

Domestic:

City: _____

State: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Owner Name: _____

Vaccine Records _____

Owner Address

City: _____

State: _____

Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Phone: _____

Owner Evacuated to: _____

CROSS BORDER CONTINGENCY PLAN **(STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR PEACETIME DISASTERS)**

In Partnership Between:



**ERIE COUNTY, NEW YORK STATE
NIAGARA COUNTY, NEW YORK STATE
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA,
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO**

Revised: July 2004

Official Signing Date for this Document: December 16, 2004

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FOREWORD

Whereas the federal governments of United States and Canada recognize that it is advantageous for each to share resources and manpower in times of national and peacetime disasters, so too has the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Province of Ontario, and the Counties of Erie and Niagara in the State of New York, recognize the necessity of mutual co-operation and aid in times of local disasters.

In the event of a peacetime disaster of serious proportions requiring significant co-operation and co-ordination of resources, a plan between the two Counties and Regional Municipality of Niagara to address emergencies and disasters will assure a full and effective response and utilization of resources and manpower essential to the safety, care, and welfare of all peoples within the three municipalities.

These Standard Operating Procedures provide an outline of the immediate action to be taken by elected and appointed officials, and organizations of the two counties and Regional Municipality that would be involved dependent on the nature and extent of the disaster.

When an emergency has been declared, these Standard Operating Procedures will not supersede any County or Regional Municipal disaster plan in effect, and authorities of County and Regional plans still lie with the respective municipalities.

This Cross Border Contingency Plan will become an annex to existing County and Regional plans and an emergency under this plan will be declared if the severity and geography of the event warrant outside support services.

All Regional, County, and local municipal elected officials with emergency responsibilities should be fully conversant with the contents of this document and be prepared to fulfil their responsibilities when requested.

This Cross Border Contingency Plan is prepared and **hereby empowered** under the executive authority of the undersigned:

Joel A. Giambra
Erie County Executive
Erie County N.Y.

William Ross
Legislative Chairman
Niagara County N.Y.

Peter Partington
Regional Chairman
Regional Municipality of Niagara ON

This Cross Border Contingency Plan **is hereby supported** in principal under the executive authority of the undersigned:

Anthony Masiello
Mayor, Buffalo N.Y.

Vince Anello
Mayor, Niagara Falls N.Y.

Ted Salci
Mayor, Niagara Falls ON

Wayne Redekop
Mayor, Fort Erie ON

Garry Burroughs
Lord Mayor, Niagara-on-the-Lake ON

**AGREEMENT ON CO-OPERATION BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND CANADA
ON CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING**

*Statement of Principles Concerning
United States - Canada Co-operation on
Civil Emergency Planning*

1. The following Statement of Principles is intended to be used as a guide to civil emergency authorities in both countries.
2. Nothing in this agreement will derogate from the application of Canadian law in Canada or United States law in the United States. However, the authorities of either country may request the assistance of the other country in seeking appropriate alleviation if the normal application of law in either country might lead to delay or difficulty in the rapid execution of necessary civil emergency measures.
3. The agencies of both governments charged with civil emergency responsibilities will seek to ensure that in areas of common concern, plans of the two governments for the emergency use of manpower, material resources, supplies, systems and services will, where feasible and practicable, be compatible.
4. Each government will use its best efforts to facilitate the movement of evacuees, refugees, civil emergency personnel, equipment or other resources into its territory or across its territory from one area of the country to another when such movement is desired to facilitate civil emergency operations in either country. To this end:
 - a. To the maximum extent permitted by law and regulation, the Government of the United States and the Government of Canada, during a period of an emergency, use their best efforts to reduce to a minimum any delays, which might otherwise be caused by border crossing requirements. Both governments will also use their best efforts to ensure that civil emergency equipment, facilities, and supplies may be used effectively and to mutual advantage in joint peacetime tests, preparations and exercises.
 - b. The agencies of both governments charged with civil emergency responsibilities will consult to identify and to remove any serious potential impediments to cross border assistance, emergency operations and the cross border flow of commodities. Unresolved problems will be reported to the United States-Canada Civil Emergency Planning Committee for further action.
5. For the purpose of emergency relief, health and welfare services, each government will use its best efforts to ensure that those citizens or residents of the other country on its territory are treated in a manner no less favourable than its own citizens.

6. Each government will use its discretionary powers as far as possible to avoid a levy of any national tax on the services, equipment and supplies of the other country when the latter are engaged in civil emergency activities on the territory of the other, and will use its best efforts to encourage state, provincial, and local authorities to do likewise.
7. When transportation, communication and related facilities and equipment, which are subject to the control of one government are made available for emergency use to the other government, the charges to that government will not exceed those paid by similar agencies of the government making these resources available. To this end mutually acceptable arrangements will be worked out as necessary by the two governments.
8. In its emergency planning, each government will include provisions for adequate security and care for the personnel, equipment, and resources of the other country entering its territory by mutual agreement in pursuance of authorized civil emergency activities. Such provisions will also ensure access to supplies necessary for their return.
9. Transportation and other equipment originating in one country at the onset of an emergency may be temporarily employed under mutually agreed terms by the appropriate authority of the country in which the equipment is located.
10. Perishable or other readily consumable supplies located in one country at the time of an emergency but owned by parties in the other country may be disposed of under mutually agreed terms by the appropriate civil emergency authorities of the two countries.
11. Each government will call to the attention of its state, provincial, local or other authorities in areas adjacent to the international border the desirability of achieving compatibility between civil emergency planning in the United States and Canada. For the purpose of achieving the most effective civil emergency planning co-operation possible between the United States and Canada, each government will insofar as consistent with national plans and policies, also encourage and facilitate co-operative emergency arrangements between adjacent jurisdictions on matters falling within the competence of such jurisdictions.

This "Agreement Between the Government of Canada and the Government of United States of America on Co-operation in Comprehensive Civil Emergency Planning and Management", signed April 28, 1986 has been altered slightly to reflect specific local functions by the Cross Border Committee (4a and 4b).

Further, the Cross Border Contingency Plan has been revised and updated to address the immediate concerns and requirements necessary to ensure an immediate and effective response to any disaster or situation, which threatens the lives or property of the residents within these municipalities.

INTRODUCTION

DEFINITION

1. Peacetime disasters or emergencies are defined as situations, or the threat of situations, abnormally affecting the lives and property, which by their nature and magnitude require a controlled and co-ordinated response by a number of agencies, both governmental and private, under the direction of the appropriate elected and/or public officials, **as distinct from routine operations carried out by an agency or agencies**, (e.g. fire fighting, police activities, normal hospital routines).
2. Peacetime disasters may be caused by the elements of nature or through the actions of humans. They may include but are not limited to floods, fires, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, landslides, explosions, crashed aircraft, severe snow and ice storms, rail crash, toxic or flammable gas escape, or any other incident which endangers lives or the loss of property within the two Counties and Region.
3. This plan, at no time usurps existing federal, provincial, County, Region, or municipal plans within the boundaries of the two Counties and Region.

INTERPRETATION

4. A disaster may be instantaneous and may affect any one of the **Municipalities**, Counties or Region, or in rare instances, all. A local calamity may escalate at the County and Regional level and may contain elements of possible escalation into a situation of serious proportions that may affect the neighbouring County or Region identified in this plan.
5. The initial and prime responsibility for providing immediate assistance rests with the County or Regional government affected and may require the services such as fire, police, health, social services, public works, and public utilities. An emergency under the Cross Border Contingency Plan may be declared when (1) requested by the head of government of the affected County or Region, or (2) the emergency, due to geography, may require evacuation into a neighbouring Region or County, or (3) that the Region or County affected requests mutual aid support, which may include the supplying of manpower, resources, social services, fire, public works, emergency health services, or and other specialized expertise as deemed necessary by the affected municipality.
6. That the County or Region affected has declared a state of emergency invoking their respective County or Regional plan.

NOTIFICATION

7. It is advisable that any **Municipality**, County or Region officially declaring an emergency under their local plan, notify the County and Region not affected of their status and to request, if necessary a "standby" status. The County and Region will prepare themselves for supplying potential support and mutual aid as deemed necessary, if "officially" requested. Notification for a cross border alert should be processed through the Disaster Preparedness offices and should only be put into effect when the Chairman or County Executive has authorized the alert to be issued. Regional/County police or fire officials and agencies may also be contacted if deemed necessary as alternates.
8. Upon receipt of any alert from County or Region, a complete fan-out to all vital services identified in this plan in annex form will be fully implemented and put on alert subject to the event.
9. All members of the International Joint Committee on Emergency Planning for the Counties of Erie and Niagara, and the Regional Municipality of Niagara will be informed and put on standby. Each member will inform appropriate government, departments, agencies, and volunteers of the alert and put on standby. Each County or Region put on standby will inform their respective Disaster Co-ordinating Committee subject to their own County or Regional plan, and members put on standby.
10. Each County or Region when notified "officially" of a Cross Border alert should contact their respective state of provincial Emergency Measures office advising them of the alert status which has been initiated.

ACTIVATION

In the event that activation of the Cross Border Contingency Plan occurs, in whole or in part, the following must take place:

11. The Chairman and/or Vice Chairman of the affected area will make the determination as to whether one or both of the other entities will be needed.
12. The entities' Chairman and/or Vice Chairman when notified, will, after consultation with the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the affected area, make the appropriate notifications after determining what is or will be needed to assist the affected area.
13. A decision will be made by the requesting agency as to what radio frequency will be used in the affected area and will be the primary frequency for operation unless otherwise designated by the officer in charge of the incident (refer to **Annex G** for agency frequencies).
14. Whenever calling on the designated frequency the official from the assisting entity will use the following respective call signs:

CALL SIGN

IJC - CANADA
IJC - NIAGARA
IJC - ERIE

APPLIES TO

Niagara Region
Niagara County
Erie County

15. If additional frequencies are needed and utilized, the same call signs will apply.
16. The appropriate 24 hour numbers for notification purposes have been included in the plan for all personnel.
17. The Chairman/Vice Chairman of the affected area when activating the Contingency Plan will advise the assisting entities of the location to convene members of the Emergency Operations Control Group.

CROSS BORDER DISASTER CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

<u>Region of Niagara</u>	<u>County of Erie</u>	<u>County of Niagara</u>
Regional Chair	County Executive	Chairman of Legislature
Chief Administrative Officer	Chief Administrative Officer	Chief Administrative Officer
Communications	Communications	Communications
Emergency Management	EMO Commissioner	EMO Director
Community Services	Social Services	Social Services
Legal	Legal	Legal
Emergency/Health Services	Emergency/Health Services	Emergency/Health Services
Fire Co-ordinator	Fire Co-ordinator	Fire Co-ordinator
Police NRPS OPP RCMP CN Police	Police Erie County Sheriff's Buffalo Police Dept. New York State Police	Police Niagara County Sheriff's Niagara Falls Police NYS Police
Provincial EMO	State EMO	State EMO

DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY

GENERAL

1. The County or Region affected, upon identifying that the disaster or impending disaster, due to its size and geography, may request assistance from the Region or County not affected.

DECLARATION

2. The County Executive, Legislative Chairman, Regional Chair, or their designate, if he or she is absent, may officially declare an emergency under this plan. In the event of such a declaration, the following actions may be undertaken:
 - a. The evacuation of buildings within the disaster area which are themselves considered dangerous, or in which the occupants are considered to be in danger and that facilities may, due to geography, regardless of County or Regional boundaries, may require instant response and control
 - b. The evacuation of segments of the populace into the neighbouring County or Region
 - c. Discontinuation of any public services in the County or Region affected. Due to geography (i.e. County or Regional boundaries) certain services discontinued may impact on a neighbouring County or Region, i.e. electricity, natural gas, transportation, etc.
 - d. Request for arrangements, accommodation, and maintenance on a temporary basis, for any residents who are displaced from the County or Region affected and are in need of assistance, and request the County or Region not affected to receive and maintain the populace evacuated
 - e. The calling out and employment as appropriate of Municipal, County, and Regional personnel and equipment identified in the annex listed within this plan and made available to the Region or County requesting the support in question
 - f. Requesting the assistance of personnel and equipment of voluntary agencies as may be required for emergency operations in the annexes listed within this plan
 - g. Requesting assistance of personnel and equipment of provincial, state and federal government agencies as may be required for emergency operations and identified within the listed annexes

- h. The calling out and employment as appropriate any emergency services identified within the listed annexes

PROVINCIAL/STATE/FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

- 3. If the County or Region affected declares an emergency under this plan to be in effect, the municipality affected will, subject to its own disaster plan, inform state, provincial, and federal officials, as identified in their respective plans. The Cross Border Contingency Plan does not usurp any existing state, provincial, or federal procedures and is activated for the short term only. State, provincial, and federal assistance and resources can be requested to supplement local government action when an appropriate response is beyond the capability of local government. The Cross Border Contingency Plan will be implemented to support local government response operations and will continue its efforts to advise and co-ordinate appropriate application of state and federal resources if available.
- 4. The following procedural annex of government bodies and agencies will respond to the request of the EOC of the affected County or Region and will be co-ordinated by the Cross Border EOC on behalf of the affected municipality.

Annex "A"	Bridge Authorities
Annex "B"	DHS Bureau of Customs and Border Protection
Annex "C"	Law Enforcement
Annex "D"	Fire
Annex "E"	Social Services
Annex "F"	Emergency Health Services
Annex "G"	Communications
Annex "H"	Transportation
Annex "I"	Military Liaison
Annex "J"	Environmental

INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY PLANNING ORGANIZATION

- 5. The International Joint Committee on Emergency Planning for the Counties of Erie and Niagara and the Regional Municipality of Niagara is a permanent committee of appointed members by by-law of the respective councils. The makeup of the International Joint Committee on Emergency Planning is: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and selected members representing the two Counties and Region, the membership will be representative of the three governments in question and size and appointment may change. Regional and County membership will also include federal, state, provincial, and other vital service agencies.
- 6. The International Joint Committee on Emergency Planning for the Counties of Erie and Niagara and the Regional Municipality of Niagara will meet three times a year,

or as necessary, to review the plan and will, if the plan is declared, first contact the Disaster Preparedness Office official in the County or Region affected, and be prepared to convene for co-ordination of services that address cross border manpower and resources that may or are requested by the Region or County requesting this support. The Cross Border Committee will convene at Regional Niagara Headquarters, Erie, or Niagara County Headquarters dependent on the emergency and its effects. The Rainbow Bridge, Niagara Bridge Commission, or Peace Bridge Authority offices may be used as a command post or location for liaison officers for identifying resources, evacuation, etc. through border crossings.

RESPONSIBILITIES

7. The International Joint Committee on Emergency Planning for the Counties of Erie and Niagara and the Regional Municipality of Niagara will be responsible for the evacuation, co-ordination, manpower and resources entering to and from both countries, including vital service agencies. Co-ordination will be linked via communication to the affected municipal Disaster Control Group. All requests for any assistance will be forwarded to the International Joint Committee on Emergency Planning for the Counties of Erie and Niagara and the Regional Municipality of Niagara via restricted radio, cellular, phone, FAX, hams, and designated emergency restricted radio frequencies. Other forms of communications will be used subject to the emergency in question. All control, administration, and maintenance of cross border support will be through the International Joint Committee. All responding agencies and services will report directly to the appropriate agency identified by the Disaster Control Group of the affected municipality. Co-ordination, direction, route, transportation, etc. will be forwarded to the appropriate agencies before entering the affected municipality issued by the International Joint Committee.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS GROUP (EOG)

8. The Emergency Operations Group (EOG) will convene upon declaration of the plan by a County or Region.
9. The EOG will consist of members of the International Joint Committee on Emergency Planning and will add vital services, province or state representatives as deemed necessary. A communications section will also be implemented under supervision of the EOG. Additional members will be appointed as warranted. The chairman of the EOG will be responsible for co-ordination of all functions for the Operations Group.

MEMBERSHIP OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS GROUP (EOG)

10. Emergency Management Program - Niagara Region

Emergency Preparedness Office - Erie County
Emergency Preparedness Office - Niagara County
Social Services - Erie and Niagara Counties, Niagara Region
Red Cross - Erie and Niagara Counties, Niagara Region
Fire Co-ordinators - Erie and Niagara Counties, Niagara Region
Police - Erie and Niagara Counties, Niagara Region
Emergency Health/Medical Services - Erie and Niagara Counties, Niagara Region
State and Provincial EMO
County Executive
County Chairman
Regional Chair
County and Regional Chief Administrative Officers
Niagara Regional Police Service
Erie County Sheriff's Department
Niagara County Sheriff's Department
New York State Parks Police
Niagara Parks Police (Niagara Parks Commission)
Niagara Falls Police Department
Buffalo Police Department
Others as deemed necessary

CROSS BORDER COMMITTEE FAN-OUT PROCEDURES

11. REGION OF NIAGARA

24 Hours - Regional Niagara Emergency Management Program
905-685-1571 Program Manager, Emergency Management

24 hours – Niagara Regional Police Service
905-688-4111 Inspector / Commander Field Support Division

24 hours - Regional Fire Co-ordinator
905-684-4311 Regional Fire Co-ordinator

24 hours – Emergency Services Division / Emergency Medical Services
905-685-1571 Director of Emergency Services

24 hours - Ontario Provincial Police
905-356-1311 or 1-888-310-1122

24 hours - CN Police
1-800-465-9239

COUNTY OF ERIE

24 hours - Department of Emergency Services
716-898-3696

24 hours - Disaster Preparedness Division
716-898-3696 Deputy Commissioner

24 hours - Fire Safety Division
716-898-3696 Deputy Commissioner

24 hours - Emergency Medical Services Division
716-898-3696 Deputy Commissioner

24 hours - Medical Emergency Radio System (MERS) Control
716-898-3696

24 hours - Erie County Sheriff
716-662-5554 Fax: 716-662-8477

24 hours - New York State Police - Troop A (Batavia)
1-585-343-2200
Fax: 585-344-2635

24 hours - New York State Police - Troop T
1-866-833-2982

24 hours - Buffalo Fire Department
716-851-5510 Dispatch

24 hours - HAZMAT
716-898-3696

24 hours - U.S. Border Patrol
716-447-3942

24 hours - Buffalo Police Department
1-716-851-4549 (911 Lt.)
Fax – 1-716-851-4504

COUNTY OF NIAGARA

24 hours - Fire Fire-Co-ordinator
716-433-4482 Director, Disaster Preparedness

24 hours - New York State Police, 1 Lockport Station
716-434-5588

24 hours - Niagara County Sheriff's Department

716-438-3393

Fax: 716-438-3302

24 hours - U.S. Border Patrol

716-447-3942

24 hour - Niagara Falls Police Department

1-716-286-4711

24 hours - Niagara County Radio Control Center

Sheriff, Fire, Ambulance

716-433-4482

All other members of the Co-ordinating Committee will be contacted by the EMO Co-ordinator, Deputy Commissioner, or EMO Director of the respective County or Region.

In-depth lists of County or Region staff and departments are on file with the respective Emergency Co-ordinators and will be activated through their respective offices on behalf of the County or Region.

FAN-OUT PROCEDURES

12. Police, Emergency Medical (Ambulance), and Fire Departments in the Niagara Region, Erie and Niagara Counties may be contacted directly through normal listed phone numbers or through the 911 system, other departments may be contacted directly via telephone.

***NOTE:** All telephone numbers, FAX numbers radio frequencies are on file in respective Disaster Preparedness offices and are updated on a continual basis.

Ontario Provincial Police

Municipal Police Forces

[Buffalo Police Department](#)

[Niagara Falls Police Department](#)

New York State Police

[New York State Parks Police](#)

County Sheriffs

Niagara Regional Police

[Niagara Parks Police \(Niagara Parks Commission\)](#)

Border Patrol

R.C.M.P.

F.B.I.

New York State Emergency Management

Emergency Management Ontario

Customs/Immigration/Treasury/Bridge Authorities

Ministry of Environment

Environmental Protection Agency

U.S./Canada Conservation Authorities

[New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Police](#)

State Health Agency

Ministry of Health

Ambulance Services

Hospitals

Hydro and Utility Systems

Local Municipal Public Works

Region and County Public Works

Area Municipal Offices

Military - Canada/U.S.

Disaster Co-ordinating Committees- Erie and Niagara Counties

Regional Municipality of Niagara

County and Region Social Services

County and Region Health Services

All provincial, state, federal agencies involved

County Executive, Regional and County Chairman offices

Volunteer agencies, i.e. American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, The Salvation Army, etc.

Amateur Radio / HAMS - Canada/U.S.

Airports - Canada/U.S.

D.O.C./F.C.C.

St. Lawrence Seaway Authority

U.S./Canada Coast Guard

Weather Bureaus - Canada/U.S.

State/Province/Region/Municipal Fire Departments and agencies

Selected industries (specialized resources/manpower)

EVACUTION PROCEDURES

1. Declaration of the Cross Border Contingency Plan will activate specific cross border evacuation procedures if deemed necessary. The evacuation of large segments of the populous cross border will be co-ordinated by the EOG representing the Cross Border Planning Committee. The activation of customs, immigration, bridge authority, and commission will take place immediately (see Fan-Out).
2. The evacuated populace will become the responsibility of the Community Services departments (see attached annex), and the American Red Cross in New York State. Complete co-ordination and the supplying of all vital service support systems will be under the authority of the EOG and identified under the following annexes:

[Community Services Department \(Regional Niagara\)](#)

American Red Cross

Emergency Health/Medical Services

Law Enforcement

Communications

3. The evacuation of citizens across an international border must be controlled by the incident commander who will supply all information pertaining to the evacuees, i.e. registration, County, Region, EOG, location, inquiry, etc. Co-ordination, through the EOG will guarantee effective communications regarding evacuees and is addressed in annexes under "Social Services", "Emergency Health/Medical Services", and "Law Enforcement".

TRANSPORTATION OF EVACUEES

4. It is the responsibility of the municipality affected to supply transportation for the evacuation of the populous cross border. Additional transportation modes can be requested through the EOG, i.e. air, rail, land, and water. Transportation routes will be prioritized for supply of additional transportation support to the affected municipality through the EOG ([refer to Annex "H"](#)).
5. All modes of transport co-ordinated and implemented into the affected municipality by the EOG will receive direction on transportation routes into site, who to report to, who is responsible at site administratively, and maintenance contacts for equipment repair, etc.

6. Predetermined holding centres are identified by the respective Social Services departments and American Red Cross and are identified in each County or Region disaster plan. A detailed list of all holding centres, addresses, phone numbers, and floor plans are annexed in the respective County and Regional disaster plans.
7. The responsibility for transportation arrangements in the Niagara Region (Province of Ontario) will be designated to the Niagara Regional Police Service. In the County of Erie and the County of Niagara, responsibility for transportation arrangements will be designated to their respective Emergency Services organization.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Communications, during any major emergency, will be extremely difficult, but most critical. All communications links with the affected municipality will be seriously impaired and additional communication must be supplied. The municipality affected will supply ham operators to link with the neighbouring County and Region. A communications operations centre will be established by the EOG for co-ordination and communication interaction with the affected municipality and to supply such communications links with agencies responding to the municipality under their control.
2. An approved emergency frequency will be used by the two Counties and Region for this purpose (refer to Annex "G").
3. Additional communications will be supplied and are available to the municipality and EOG. Cellular, restricted radio frequencies, and landline phones are available (refer to Annex "G").
4. Vital service agencies are presently linked, i.e. fire, police, ambulance, Coast Guard, etc., and are addressed in the "Communications" annex. A radio link with the EOG of the affected municipality and the Cross Border EOG for information flow will be established upon receipt of a disaster alert, the request of the affected municipality to activate communication links for expansion of communications services will be implemented as deemed necessary and controlled by the municipality affected in concert with the Cross Border EOG.
5. Communications for evacuation cross border will be controlled by the receiving municipality in concert with the Cross Border EOG who in turn will link with the affected municipality.
6. Logs will be kept of all actions taken by the Cross Border EOG and will be made available to the affected and receiving municipalities after the emergency has been terminated.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
FOR
CROSS BORDER EMERGENCY OPERATIONS
CENTRE ("EOC")

*FOR THE REGION OF NIAGARA, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO
AND FOR THE COUNTIES OF ERIE AND NIAGARA, NEW YORK STATE*

FOREWORD

The purpose of this annex is to provide guidance to Cross Border members and other involved personnel outlining the functions, organizations, and operational procedures to be observed at Emergency Headquarters in a disaster/emergency situation.

CHAPTER 1

FUNCTIONS AND ORGANIZATION

AIM

The aim of this annex is to outline the functions and organization of the Cross Border Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).

LOCATION

The EOC will be located in the County of Erie or Niagara, or the Niagara Region. Designation of the actual EOC location will be determined at the time of declaration of this plan and will be subject to the municipality affected. Alternate EOC locations may be designated if needed.

GENERAL

The purpose of the EOC is to provide a location with good communications, at which services and organizations can operate jointly and, if necessary, in conjunction with local, provincial, and/or federal authorities in support of the municipality affected solely under the authority of this plan.

FUNCTIONS

The Cross Border EOC will:

- a. Be the centre for co-ordination and direction of activities in supporting the affected municipality if the Cross Border Plan is activated
- b. Implement policy and directions from the affected municipality to agencies requested to support or supply services under this plan
- c. Provide the affected municipality with reports and information on the situation and availability of resources as required or requested
- d. Co-ordinate departmental activities approved in this plan in support of the municipality affected requiring assistance, specifically in the allocation of priorities where manpower and resources are entering border crossings

- e. Co-ordinate emergency services to ensure maximum assistance to the population affected by the disaster under the direction of the affected municipal EOC
- f. Co-ordinate activities between services when so required
- g. Brief representatives of the news media on the situation, as required, and explain the measures being taken in support of the municipality affected

ORGANIZATION AND ESTABLISHMENT

The Cross Border EOC will consist of the following:

- a. Chairman, Vice-Chairman
- b. Cross Border EOG members
- c. Officials of provincial/state/lead ministries and departments, if required
- d. Officials of federal government departments, as required

COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA RELEASES

Communications will be established at the EOC and will provide periodic updates to the designated public affairs officer within the affected area who will disseminate the appropriate information to the media. This will only occur once the designated public affairs officer has received authorization to release the information.

CHAPTER 2
PUBLIC INFORMATION

GENERAL

The Chairman or his/her designate of the Cross Border Committee will be responsible for the preparation and dissemination of all "official" information on behalf of the Cross Border EOC.

The Chairman may appoint a member of the EOG for media liaison on his behalf to represent the Committee if he is not available, or if he deems it necessary.

All public information releases must be approved by the Cross Border EOG and issued only by the Chairman or his designate.

All public information releases must be forwarded to the affected local government and approved by the local government EOC or Emergency Management Office before issuance.

Public information will only relate to Cross Border support services and will not relate to the declared emergency affecting the municipality. All information requests will be referred to the County or Region EOC for official comment.

CHAPTER 3

OPERATIONS AND MESSAGE CONTROL

GENERAL

The Vice-Chairman of the affected area or his/her designate will be responsible for the proper functioning of the operations room and for the provision of requirements for the EOC.

MESSAGE CONTROL

A Message Control Officer will be responsible for dispatch and switchboard operators and appointed as the Message Control Officer by the Vice-Chairman.

1. He or she will ensure that all incoming and outgoing messages are correctly processed and passed to the proper recipient without unnecessary delay (attached are instructions for the preparation and handling of written messages).
2. Allocating operators to the different radio and telephone systems (excluding police, fire, and ambulance) as deemed necessary. NOTE: Police, fire and ambulance services will supply communications **personnel** and equipment at the EOC. He or she will ensure that all sets and telephones are constantly manned.
3. Maintaining a message register showing the disposition of all incoming and outgoing messages.
4. Technical matters concerning radio and telephone communications.
5. Bringing any problems to the attention of the Vice-Chairman.
6. The co-ordination of all communications systems responding to the Cross Border EOC on behalf of the Vice-Chairman.
7. HAM operators will supply communication officers and equipment as required.
8. To co-ordinate and implement if deemed necessary an inquiry and registration centre for evacuated citizens in concert with Social Services and volunteer agencies.
9. To acquire staff, equipment, and resources from the Vice-Chairman to accomplish any or all of the above functions.

PREPARATION AND HANDLING OF WRITTEN MESSAGES

GENERAL

Some of the information passing from one EOC to another will be in the form of written messages. All personnel who may be responsible for originating or handling messages must be familiar with correct message writing techniques, and must understand the purpose of those portions of the message form, which they will be required to complete.

PREPARATION OF MESSAGES

1. Legibility

Messages should be typed if possible. If this is not possible, they must be clearly written or printed.

2. Clarity

Extreme care is necessary when drafting messages to ensure that they are clear, to the point and contain no ambiguities.

3. Brevity

Messages must be concise and contain only essential information. Words such as AND, BUT, FOR, IN and THE should be omitted wherever possible. Clarity, however should not be sacrificed for the sake of brevity. It is better to use a few more words than to find it necessary to send a second message clarifying the first. When requesting several items of information, letter the items. This helps the recipient to understand what is required and enables him to answer in fewer words by using the item letters.

4. Abbreviations

Where there is no possibility of misunderstanding, conventional abbreviations may be used. Abbreviations peculiar to a department or service may be used at the discretion of the originator, within that department or service.

5. Punctuation

Punctuation should not be used unless necessary to the sense of the message. When it is essential to employ punctuation only approved symbols may be used.

6. The Emergency Message Form

The Message Form is made up of an original with two copies and will be used for all incoming/outgoing messages during the event of a peacetime disaster situation.

Attached is a sample of the Emergency Message Form, which contains an explanation on the necessary information to complete the form properly, and its distribution (see page 25).

The three-part message form and or Message Register will be used by radio and telephone operators at all times, for any and all calls.

MESSAGE HANDLING

Messages will be handled within the EOC in the following manner:

1. OUTGOING MESSAGES

Each member of the EOG will prepare his own outgoing messages and will maintain the following sequence:

- a. Prepare message in pen and ensure it is legible.
- b. Sign form with legible signature.
- c. Detach copy no. 3 for retention, forward copies 1 and 2 to Message Control Officer.

Message Control Officer will:

- i. Check the message for date, time, and proper address.
- ii. Enter the message in the Message Register (attached is sample of Message Register - see page 26).
- iii. Hand copy no. 3 to radio/telephone/FAX operator for sending message.
- iv. Retain copy no. 2 for file.

Radio/Telephone/FAX Operators will:

- i. Send message exactly as written.
- ii. Under "ACTION TAKEN", fill in necessary information needed to complete form.

- iii. Retain copy no. 3 for file.

2. **INCOMING MESSAGES**

The radio/telephone/FAX operators receiving the message will:

- a. Write or print the message exactly as received on the message form.
- b. Duplicate all FAX copies and deliver.
- c. Fill in pertinent information such as date, time, etc.
- d. Detach copy no. 3 for retention and hand copies no. 1 and 2 to the Message Control Officer.

Message Control Officer will:

- i. Check the message for legibility and correct completion such as date, time, etc.
- ii. Enter the message on the Message Register.
- iii. Hand copy no. 1 or FAX to the addressee and retain copy no. 2 on file.

Addressee will:

- i. Opposite "ACTION TAKEN" indicates what action was taken, enter the date and time and sign the form.
- ii. Retain the message form on file.

GENERAL MESSAGE FORM

Orig. No. _____

DATE: _____

TIME: _____
(2400 Clock)

TO: _____ (Name/Department)

FROM: _____ (Name/Department)

_____ (Address/Telephone)

MESSAGE:

Operator

ACTION TAKEN: Date _____ Time _____ (2400 Clock)

Signature

Page ____ of ____ Pages

CHAPTER 4

ACTION BY LIAISON OFFICERS

GENERAL

1. In the event of a "Disaster Alert", liaison officers from a County or Region not affected by the emergency may be dispatched to the disaster area with the primary task of collecting information on the situation for the International Joint Committee on Emergency Planning. He/she will report to the on-scene incident commander and will pass information under the on-scene incident commander's direction.
2. A liaison officer acts as the eyes and ears for the EOG in the disaster area and/or at municipal EOC concerned. He/she does not have the authority to commit resources or personnel without specific authority from the International Joint Committee and will transmit all requests for assistance to the EOC.

BRIEFING

3. Liaison officers must ensure that they are properly briefed before proceeding to a disaster site or municipal headquarters. Information to be provided should include:
 - a. The existing situation in the disaster area as far as is known
 - b. Boundaries of the disaster area, if known
 - c. If an advanced command post has been set up or if one is to be set up and its location
 - d. If an advanced command post has been set up, who is the person in charge, and to whom is the liaison officer to report
 - e. Is any particular route to be followed to the disaster area
 - f. Specific instructions in regard to the task to be accomplished
 - g. Have the municipal authorities been informed he or she is representing the Cross Border EOG
 - h. Does he have adequate identification to be allowed into the municipal EOC and authorization to be operating in the area with affected municipal staff

- i. Is the Cross Border liaison officer to report into the municipal EOC prior to or during his tour of duty
- j. Are any other government departments or agencies involved, federal, provincial, or County/Region and the supply of contacts if available by the Cross Border EOG
- k. Does the liaison officer require any special safety equipment such as safety boots, flashlight, etc.
- l. any special instructions in regard to refuelling of vehicle
- m. Expected time of relief and where will he/she meet his/her relief
- n. Is he to return to the Cross Border EOC after being relieved or will he go straight home
- o. When will he/she be expected to return to duty
- p. What communications facilities are available in addition to his vehicle radio (liaison officers may be provided with radio-equipped vehicles)

RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5. It is the responsibility of the Cross Border liaison officer to collect all available information concerning the situation, including what local authorities are doing and their future intentions, and to pass this information to the Cross Border EOC by the fastest means possible. It is the responsibility of the Cross Border EOC to keep liaison officers fully informed of developments, which may affect the liaison officer's tasks, as they occur.
- 6. The Cross Border EOC will also ensure that the municipality affected is kept informed of developments and will use liaison officers as a vehicle for passing this information whenever possible.
- 7. Any problems [encountered, which make it difficult for a liaison officer to pursue their task](#), should be referred immediately to the Cross Border EOC.

TERMINATION OF EMERGENCY

- 8. Upon receipt of an official declaration that the emergency has been terminated; liaison officers will assist by passing this information to those in their vicinity.

9. The liaison officer is expected to keep an accurate register of all proceedings. The diary will be handed in to the Cross Border EOC after the termination of the event.

ANNEX "A"

BRIDGE AUTHORITIES

Niagara Falls Bridge Commission

NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL ALERT OR EMERGENCY

In the event of any indication of a hostile act, sabotage, national or international alert or emergency, all of the following parties should be notified by telephone or messenger, in the order in which they are listed - if the party called is not available you are to proceed down the list:

CANADIAN SIDE

UNITED STATES SIDE

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Rainbow Bridge

Rainbow Bridge

Niagara Falls, Ont. Fire Dept. 911

Niagara Falls, N.Y. Fire Dept..... 911

Whirlpool Rapids Bridge

Whirlpool Rapids Bridge

Niagara Falls, Ont. Fire Dept 911

Niagara Falls, N.Y. Fire Dept..... 911

Lewiston-Queenston Bridge

Lewiston-Queenston Bridge

Queenston Fire Dept..... 911
(Listed under Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake - This is a St. Catharines number)

Upper Mountain Fire Dept..... 911

FIRE ALARM BOXES

FIRE ALARM BOXES (No longer Avail.)

Rainbow Bridge

Rainbow Bridge

None in vicinity - Use Telephone

LaSalle at First Street
Falls Street at Robert Moses Ramp
Corner Rainbow Blvd. & Falls Avenue

NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL ALERT OR EMERGENCY (Continued)

CANADIAN SIDE

Whirlpool Rapids Bridge

None in vicinity - Use Telephone

Lewiston-Queenston Bridge

None in vicinity - Use Telephone

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Rainbow Bridge

Niagara Regional Police...(905) 688-4111
Emergency..... 911

Niagara Parks Police.....(905) 356-1338

Ontario Provincial Police ..(905) 356-1311

Royal Canadian Mounted
Police(905) **988-4560**

Whirlpool Rapids Bridge

Niagara Regional Police...(905) 688-4111
Emergency..... 911

Niagara Parks Police.....(905) 356-1338

Ontario Provincial Police ..(905) 356-1311

Royal Canadian Mounted
Police(905) **988-4560**

Rail Incidents
CN Police – 1-800-465-9239

UNITED STATES SIDE

Whirlpool Rapids Bridge

Bath Avenue

Lewiston-Queenston Bridge

No Fire Alarm Box directly to Fire Dept.
- Use Telephone
(There is an automatic fire alarm from
Warehouse Bldg. to Main Bldg.)

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Rainbow Bridge

Niagara Frontier State
Park Police(716) 278-1778

Niagara Falls, NY Police...(716) 286-4580
Emergency 911

**United States Bureau of Customs &
Border Protection(716) 447-3942**

Whirlpool Rapids Bridge

Niagara Frontier State
Park Police(716) 278-1778

Niagara Falls, NY Police...(716) 286-4580
Emergency 911

**United States Bureau of Customs &
Border Protection(716) 447-3942**

Niagara Falls Police Department
(716-286-4711)

NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL ALERT OR EMERGENCY (Continued)

CANADIAN SIDE

Lewiston-Queenston Bridge

Niagara Regional Police...(905) 688-4111
Emergency..... 911

Niagara Parks Police.....(905) 356-1338

Ontario Provincial Police ..(905) 356-1311

Royal Canadian Mounted
Police(905) 988-4560

REGIONAL NIAGARA - EMERGENCY
MEASURES ORGANIZATION

Rainbow Bridge.....(905) 685-1571

Whirlpool Rapids Bridge...(905) 685-1571

Queenston- Lewiston
Bridge.....(905) 685-1571

CUSTOMS/IMMIGRATION

On Duty Superintendent
60 Walnut
Peace Bridge Plaza
Fort Erie, Ontario
L2A 5N7
L8N 3V8(905) 994-6334
NIAGARA FALLS BRIDGE
COMMISSION

Ken Bartos
Brent Gallauger
Rainbow Bridge
P.O. Box 395
Niagara Falls, Ontario
L2E 6T8.....(905) 354-5641

UNITED STATES SIDE

Queenston- Lewiston Bridge

Niagara Frontier State
Park Police(716) 278-1778

NYS Police, Niagara County Sheriff's &
Town of Lewiston Police
Emergency 911

United States Bureau of Customs &
Border Protection(716) 447-3942

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Rainbow Bridge.....(716) 438-3171

Whirlpool Rapids Bridge...(716) 438-3171

Queenston- Lewiston
Bridge.....(716) 438-7310

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS & BORDER
PROTECTION

On-Duty Supervisor
Peace Bridge Plaza
Buffalo, NY
14213 (716) 881-4447 ext. 116

BUFFALO-FORT ERIE BRIDGE
COMMISSION

Chris Bonn / Randy Bartlett
Tony Braunscheidel
Peace Bridge Plaza
Buffalo, NY
14213(716) 884-6744

International Railroad Bridge

Canadian Side

Niagara Regional Police Services
1-905-688-4111
Niagara Parks Commission
Box 150, 7400 Portage Road
Niagara Falls, On L2E 6T2
Karen Floyd, Risk Management Specialist
1-905-356-3953
1-905-356-1338

CN/CP Police
1-800-465-9239

American Side

Bureau of Customs & Border Protection
1-716-447-3942
New York State Police

CSX Police
1-800-232-0144
US Corps of Engineers
1-716-879-4160
Buffalo Police Department
1-716-851-4549
US Coast Guard MSO
1-716-843-9570
Erie County Sheriff's Department
1-716-662-5554

ANNEX "B"

CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION

U.S. CUSTOMS CROSS BORDER CONTINGENCY PLAN

In case of an emergency and/or disaster that may occur in Canada or the U.S. which requires emergency aid from various U.S. local or state agencies, including the Buffalo Police and Fire departments and/or the Niagara Falls Police and Fire departments, or aid from a similar Canadian agency, a call from the municipality which has requested the aid will be made notifying one of the following:

- a. U.S. Customs Service
- b. U.S. Immigration
- c. [Buffalo / Fort Erie Bridge Commission](#)
- d. Niagara Falls Bridge Commission

Upon receipt of the call from the municipality which has requested the emergency aid, the Customs, Immigration or Bridge personnel will immediately notify the other three groups, who will be responsible for notifying their "cross the border" counterpart.

The U.S. Customs shift supervisor at the Peace Bridge or at the Rainbow Bridge will be contacted and he/she will take whatever immediate action is necessary to facilitate the crossing of the emergency equipment and personnel. Once arrangements have been made to facilitate the cross border emergency aid the supervisor will notify the Assistant District Director, Inspection and Control or in his absence any available Chief Inspector.

Equipment of this nature is admissible under section 10.107 of the Customs Regulations.

US Customs - Peace Bridge	(716) 881-5225
US Immigration - Peace Bridge	(716) 885-3367
Peace Bridge Commission	(716) 884-6744
US Customs - Rainbow Bridge	(716) 284-5174 Ext. 202/204
US Immigration - Rainbow Bridge	(716) 282-3141
Niagara Falls Bridge Commission	(716) 282-4314
US Customs - Lewiston Bridge	(716) 282-1500
US Immigration - Lewiston Bridge	(716) 285-1676

CANADA CUSTOMS/IMMIGRATION CROSS BORDER CONTINGENCY PLAN

In case of an emergency and/or disaster that may occur in Canada or the U.S. which requires emergency aid from various U.S./Canadian local or provincial agencies, including the Niagara Regional Police or Niagara Falls Fire Department/Buffalo, Niagara Falls Police or Fire Departments or aid from a similar agency, a call from the municipality which has requested the aid will be made notifying all of the following:

- a. Canada Customs
- b. Canada Immigration
- c. [Buffalo / Fort Erie Bridge Commission](#)
- d. Niagara Falls Bridge Commission

Upon receipt of the call from the municipality/province which has requested the emergency aid, the Customs, Immigration or Bridge personnel will immediately notify the other three groups, who will be responsible for notifying their "cross the border" counterpart.

The Canada Customs/Immigration shift supervisor at the Peace Bridge, Queenston Bridge or at the Rainbow Bridge will be contacted and he/she will take whatever immediate action is necessary to facilitate the crossing of the emergency equipment and personnel. Once arrangements have been made to facilitate the cross border emergency aid the supervisor will notify the Immigration Director, Port of Entry Directorate, Program Manager and Customs Regional Collector or District Manager.

Equipment and persons of this nature is admissible under section 19(1)(j) of the Immigration Act and under Customs Goods of Emergency Use Remission Order Memorandum D8-1-6.

Canada Customs - Peace Bridge	(905) 994-6332/33
Canada Immigration - Peace Bridge	(905) 871-5660
Peace Bridge Commission	(905) 871-1608
Canada Customs - Rainbow Bridge	(905) 354-4096
Canada Immigration - Rainbow Bridge	(905) 354-6043
Niagara Falls Bridge Commission	(905) 354-5641
Canada Customs - Queenston Bridge	(905) 262-4010
Canada Immigration - Queenston Bridge	(905) 262-4742
Niagara Falls Bridge Commission (Queenston)	(905) 262-4823

ANNEX "C"

LAW ENFORCEMENT

ACTION BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

GENERAL

In any type of disaster that evokes an international response, law enforcement will be involved in a multitude of areas. The need for security, traffic control, crowd control, and to supply effective information on separated persons, specifically in relocation areas, will be paramount. Criminal Investigations would be inherent to each originating jurisdiction per standing policies and agreements. The Integrated Border Enforcement Team (IBET) may be activated to assist in multi-national criminal investigations.

PROCEDURE

In the event of a disaster being declared by the two Counties and Region or County plan represented within this plan the Region or County plan will be superseded by any other similar document relating to responsibilities. The International Joint Committee on Emergency Planning Cross Border Plan is considered an annex to the Standing County or Regional plans and law enforcement agencies responsible to these plans will work within the same framework of the individual plans adopted by by-law.

In the event that evacuation from a disaster area into another County or Region takes place, the County and Regional Police receiving will supply the following:

RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

1. To protect life and property and prevent and investigate crime that may be generated due to the evacuation.
2. To alert persons endangered by the effects of the disaster.
3. To alert and assist other emergency services.
4. To control traffic and crowds and ensure clear entrance and exit to and from cross border bridges and the control of traffic to designated holding areas.
5. To maintain law and order at the holding (reception) areas to prevent unauthorized entry into these areas.

6. To evacuate citizens from danger areas when necessary, and if the emergency escalates affecting the Region or County receiving evacuation.
7. To establish communication links with all law enforcement agencies affected, specifically the County or Region involved and to supply constant information through the affected municipality, subject to law enforcement needs.
8. To supply, if necessary, a communications **personnel** to the International Joint Committee Disaster Control Group for supply of communications with the affected Disaster Control Group of the County or Region on support services subject to receiving of evacuees.

Should a disaster occur in any County or Region where a request for support of law enforcement relating to receiving of evacuees, the State or Provincial Police will be notified by the Chief of Police of the affected police force and will advise the Provincial or State Police of the routes policed by the OPP and State Police being involved in the evacuation.

TERMINATION OF EMERGENCY

Upon receipt of an official declaration that the **affected County or Region has terminated the emergency situation**, the Chief of Police will ensure that all personnel under **their** command or direction will be informed.

CONTACT PERSONNEL

UNITED STATES

Watch Commander
Erie County Sheriff's Department
One Sheriff's Drive
Orchard Park, NY 14127
(716) 662-5554

New York State Police **Troop A**
Duty Officer
4525 W. Saile Drive
Batavia, NY 14020
(585) 343-2200

Niagara Falls Police

Buffalo Police

Chief Deputy John Taylor
Niagara County Sheriff's Department
5526 Niagara Street Ext.
P.O. Box 496
Lockport, NY 14095
(716) 438-3355
24-hour (716) 438-3393

CANADA

Commander Field Support Services
Inspector Greg O'Neil
(via Communications Supervisor)
Niagara Regional Police Service
68 Church Street
St. Catharines, ON L2R 3C6
(905) 688-4111

ANNEX "D"

FIRE

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR FIRE RELATED DISASTERS

GENERAL

Three distinct fire disaster situations could arise requiring the assistance of cross-border fire service. A level-one incident or situation occurs when specialized equipment and/or manpower is most readily or exclusively available across the border or the municipalities usual local mutual aid resources are fully engaged. Second-level situations are defined as incidents where countywide or region-wide fire resources are fully engaged and additional fire service assistance is needed beyond the capability of the county or region. Level-three fire disasters require an executive declaration either from a state or local executive.

1. LEGAL AUTHORITY TO RESPOND TO CROSS-BORDER FIRE DISASTER

New York General Municipal Law, Section 209, and Ontario Municipal Act, Chapter 302, Section 210, impose no territorial limitation on fire service response. Municipal authorities in the Niagara Region and in Erie and Niagara Counties are permitted to call for and receive aid and equipment from foreign fire companies at all three levels of fire disaster.

2. LIABILITY

- a. Any loss or damage to, or expense incurred in the operation of fire apparatus or other equipment answering a call for assistance from outside territory, and the cost of any materials used in connection with such call, and for salaries and other compensation and travelling and maintenance expense of the assisting forces furnished during the time they shall not be performing their duties for the assisting municipality/entity, shall be a charge upon the municipality which issued the call for assistance. This paragraph shall not apply to the case of damage or expense to fire apparatus or equipment, which occurred while responding to a request for assistance or returning from the scene upon completing the assistance and while the apparatus or equipment, was not involved in the emergency operation, and which was caused by:
 - (i) The act or omission of a firefighter in the performance of their duties who is a member of the assisting force which suffered the damage;
or
 - (ii) the act or omission of a third party or through an instrumentality not connected with the actual emergency operation.

While responding to a call for assistance, the municipality or entity shall be liable for the negligence of the firefighters of that municipality or entity occurring in the performance of their duties in the same manner and to the same extent as if such negligence occurred in the performance of their duties within the area regularly served and protected by said unit.

Any such claim for loss, damage, expense or cost shall not be allowed unless within 60 days after the same shall have been sustained, a written notice of such claim, under oath, itemizing such loss or expense is served by mail upon the fiscal officer of the municipality/entity which requested assistance.

- b. Liability for workers' compensation for fire fighters involved in a cross-border situation remains with the fire fighters home fire company.

3. PROCEDURE

According to standard operating procedures of individual fire companies.

CONTACT PERSONNEL

UNITED STATES

James McCullough
Deputy Commissioner
Erie County Fire Safety
3359 Broadway
Cheektowaga, NY 14227
24 hours- (716) 898-3696
Office (716) 681-6070

James Volkosh
Fire Co-ordinator
Niagara County
5526 Niagara Street Ext.
Lockport, NY 14094
24 hours- (716) 433-4482
Office (716) 438-3171

CANADA

Tom Cartwright, Regional Fire Co-ordinator
Paul Olah, Deputy Regional Fire Co-ordinator
Al Jones, Deputy Regional Fire Co-ordinator
Regional Municipality of Niagara
573 Glenridge Ave
St. Catharines ON L2T 4C2
24 hours - (905) 684-4311
Office (905) 834-4512

ANNEX "E"

SOCIAL SERVICES

ACTION BY SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTS

GENERAL

In any type of disaster that invokes an international response, there will be a need to house, feed, and to provide medical and support services to a large number of people. Coincidental to the meeting of these needs will be a requirement to register displaced persons, effect reconciliation between the separated persons within the disaster area and provide information and respond to inquiries from outside the disaster area.

NOTE:

Each of the departments and agencies having responsibilities under this procedure maintain individual operating plans.

In all circumstances the operating procedure of the requesting authority will prevail.

PROCEDURE

1. In the event of a disaster, the services of Social Services agencies' staff, on either side of the border, will be activated through a call-out originating as provided for in their respective Standard Operating Procedures.
2. The requesting authority will establish an assembly point as close as possible to an international border crossing point. This location should be on a main highway or an easily accessed secondary highway that is well marked and easy to locate.
3. It will be the responsibility of the responding agency to assemble their personnel at a site of their choice and to provide transportation from that site to the assembly point as designated by the requesting agency.
4. The requesting authority will provide sufficient space to receive and, if necessary, store any transportation used by the responding authority in travelling to the assembly area.

5. The requesting authority will provide transportation to move the responding personnel to the respective work areas.
6. During the time that the responding personnel are on site, it will be the responsibility of the requesting authority to provide shelter, food, equipment, and any medical needs to the responding personnel.
7. The responding authority will arrange for all necessary relief for any and all responding personnel.
8. The requesting authority will arrange to register and provide identification of responding personnel and will keep this information updated and available at the EOC.
9. Upon receipt of an official declaration that the emergency situation has been terminated, the requesting authority will ensure that all personnel are so advised and will provide the necessary transportation to return the responding personnel to either (1) their own transportation, or (2) to a satisfactory drop-off spot in the responding agency's area.
10. The responding agency will be attached to and will work under the command of the requesting authority.

GENERAL

It is generally understood that the responding authority will be asked to provide personnel to assist in the following areas:

- a. Registration
- b. Care and supervision of evacuees
- c. Assistance at emergency welfare centres in areas of counselling including grief counselling and spiritual care;
- d. General inquiries; location of persons; reconciliation of families; supervision of children, etc.

Additional areas of involvement /or support and assistance may include:

- Management of walk-in volunteers
- Animal control (personal pets)
- Bulk distribution of supplies
- Sign-language interpreters
- Foreign language interpreter

RESPONSE

American Side

On the American Side the American Red Cross is the [initial responder](#) in disasters as per their Mandate by Congress and the Social Services Department and Salvation Army provide support services.

Contacts:

Greater Buffalo Chapter of the American Red Cross
786 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
Ken Turner, Director Emergency Services
(716) [878-2355](#)
[24-Hour \(716\) 878-2353](#)

Niagara Falls Chapter of the American Red Cross
719 Ashland Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14301
(716) 285-6938
Lucy Mysiak, Emergency Svc. Volunteer
(716) 829-2505
Sharon Rayner, Emergency Svc. Volunteer
(716) 685-2503

Erie County Department of Social Services
95 Franklin Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
Peter Tutuska, Assistant Commissioner Systems Development
(716) 858-7837

[Erie County Department of Senior Services](#)
[James Panczykowski, Program Coordinator - Outreach](#)
(716) 858-8084

Niagara County Department of Social Services
[111 Main Street](#)
[Lockport, NY 14094](#)
[Sharon Sloma, Deputy Commissioner](#)
(716) 439-7602

Niagara County Office for [the Aging](#)
111 Main Street, Ste. 101
Lockport, NY 14094
Nancy Smegelsky, Co-ordinator Ageing Services
(716) 438-4033

Buffalo Salvation Army Area Services
960 Main St
Buffalo, NY 14202
Richard Hetrick, Emergency Disaster Supervisor
(716) 883-9800

Niagara Falls Salvation Army Area Services
7018 Buffalo Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Major Greg Hartshorn, Commanding Officer
(716) 283-7697

Erie County Legislature
25 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo NY 14202
Thomas Aurelio, Ombudsman
(716) 858-8358

International Institute
864 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo NY 14209
Ian Titchell, Manager – Translation & Interpretive Dept.
(716) 883-1900

Canadian Side

On the Canadian side the [Community Services Department](#) is the initial responder and the Canadian Red Cross and Salvation Army provide support services.

Contacts:
Regional Niagara Community Services (Social Services)
3340 Schmon Parkway
P.O. Box 344
Thorold, ON L2V 3Z3
(905) 685-1571 (24 hours)
Scott Laugher, Quality Control Assurance Supervisor

Canadian Red Cross – Niagara Area Branches
99 Merritt Street
St. Catharines, ON L2T 1J7
Denise Stone, Branch Manager
(905) 680-5001
David Burwell, Community Service Co-ordinator, Disaster Services
(905) 680-5001

Salvation Army

400 Niagara Street
St. Catharines ON L2M 7N5
Nicole Thwaites, Director of Community & Family Services, Niagara Region
(905) 935-4311

Niagara Parks Commission
Box 150, 7400 Portage Road
Niagara Falls ON L2E 6T2
Karen Floyd
(905) 356-3953

Niagara Victims Crisis Support Service
68 Church Street
St. Catharines ON L2R 3C6
Ann Swallow, Program Manager
(905) 688-4111, Ext. 4492

Information Niagara
301 St. Paul Street
St. Catharines ON L2R 3M8
Rosanna Thoms, Executive Director
(905) 682-4056

ANNEX "F"

EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES / EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

AMERICAN AND CANADIAN CROSS-BORDER EMS RESPONSE SEQUENCE

UNITED STATES RESPONSE

First in Report is made.

Confirm the incident.

Activate the Response/Mutual Aid Plan.

Place United State's hospitals on Standby.

Advise Canadian Authorities via 155.130 or 1-905-688-2191 and place on standby.

Request status of available resources.

Assume EMS command and establish Command Post.

Staging Sector established.

Triage Sector established.

Establish County, Regional and Hospital Communications Networks.

Advise New York State's Office of Health System Management, American Red Cross, National Defense Medical System and The Bridge Commission.

Obtain initial hospital capability/bed inventory from United State's hospitals.

Upgrade Canada from Standby to Operational Mode if necessary and advise Canadian EMS Command of resource needs.

Establish Treatment Sector.

Develop listing of receiving hospitals and identify access routes. Advise Canadian EMS Command of Response Plan.

Begin transportation of patients from Transportation Sector by priority to appropriate hospital. (Patients being transported cross-border will be double tagged per guidelines.)

Provide appropriate pre-hospital care prior to transport if treatment sector has been established.

Continue to monitor hospital capabilities.

Advise Medical Examiners and Funeral Response Team if necessary.

CANADIAN RESPONSE

First in Report is made.

Confirm the incident.

Activate the Response/Mutual Aid Plan.

Place Canadian Hospitals on Standby.

Advise U.S. Authorities via 149.830 or 1-716-898-3696, and place on standby.

Request status of available resources.

Obtain initial hospital capability/bed inventory from Canadian Hospitals.

[Advise Region of Niagara EMS through Regional Switchboard / Dispatch 1-905-685-1571](#)

Confirm EMS response and Command Post established.

Confirm Staging sector established.

Confirm Triage sector established.

Establish Hospital Communications Network.

Upgrade U.S. from standby to Operational Mode if necessary and advise U.S. EMS Command of resource needs.

Develop listing of receiving hospitals and identify access routes. Advise U.S. EMS Command of response plan.

Continue to monitor hospital capabilities.

GUIDELINES FOR CANADIAN (ONTARIO) AMBULANCES REQUESTED TO PROVIDE CROSS BORDER ASSISTANCE INTO THE UNITED STATES

When [requested to provide assistance to](#) the United States E.M.S. for major incident/disaster situations etc. all Canadian crews will follow these guidelines:

1. Report to meeting area as directed by Hamilton CACC usually a border crossing.
2. United States Police will meet and escort Canadian Vehicles to site.
3. Maintain communications with Hamilton CACC assigned channel.
4. On arrival at site report to staging area as directed or site commander.
5. Advise U.S. EMS whether crew is B.L.S. or A.L.S. and what level of A.L.S.
6. Provide appropriate pre-hospital care prior to transport if treatment sector has been established (as directed by U.S. EMS Authorities).
7. Transportation of patients from transportation sector by priority to appropriate hospital as directed patients being transported cross border will be double tagged as per guidelines.
8. Maintain communication with Hamilton CACC (times, destination etc.).
9. Return to site after delivering patients to appropriate hospital.
10. Clear and return to Canada when directed by Hamilton CACC.

COMMUNICATIONS

Utilization of a common frequency between communication centers on both sides of the border.

The suggested frequency would be the district frequency 149.100/[148.655](#) utilized presently by the Hamilton Central Ambulance Communications Centre (Ontario) within the Niagara Region.

TRIAGE TAGS

The Triage tags used by Emergency Services in Western New York and those used by the Ontario Ambulance System are very different, the priority coding and colours do not match.

It is recommended that all emergency crews utilize the triage tags of the country where the incident occurs. This system will require a supply of tags be available for emergency crews crossing the border. When a patient is transported from one country to a hospital in another country, the patient will be double tagged.

This system will require some cross border education to familiarize crews with each other's tagging system.

MAPPING

Maps to hospitals on both sides of the border have been exchanged.

BLOOD

It is required that each side of the border use their own available blood resources.

CONTACT PERSONNEL - EMS

UNITED STATES

Greg Skibitsky
Deputy Commissioner
Erie County EMS Division
3359 Broadway
Cheektowaga, NY 14227
(716) 898-3696 (MERS)
(716) 681-6070

James Volkosh
EMS Co-ordinator
Niagara County Emergency Management Office
5526 Niagara Street Extension
Lockport, NY 14094
(716) 438-3171

CANADA

John Cunnane
Director of Emergency Services
Regional Niagara Public Health Department
509 Glendale Avenue East
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0
(905) 641-2218
24 hour – (905) 685-1571 (Regional Dispatch)

CONTACT PERSONNEL

UNITED STATES

Dr. Anthony Billittier
Commissioner
Erie County Health Department

CANADA

Dr. Robin Williams
Medical Officer of Health / Commissioner
Regional Niagara

ANNEX "G"

COMMUNICATIONS

Restricted radio communications will be the mainstay of the EOC when this plan is declared in effect.

Each vital service will link with the EOC communications centre. [Once the affected municipality has declared an emergency frequency](#) all vital services will use this frequency for cross border communications.

Vital services not capable of using this frequency will be able to contact EOC communications on their respective frequencies. The communications centre will program equipment to effectively cover the frequency spectrum and monitor the system during operations. Emergency frequency for cross border usage is forthcoming and will be issued to all vital service agencies upon approval.

Pagers, cellular and ham operators will be used and be part of the procedures implemented by the Communications Officer at EOC. Procedures and usage of systems will be dependent on need for communications at the time and will be phased in as deemed necessary.

Each County and Region has a complete list of frequencies of their respective vital service agencies and will be supplied for programming as deemed necessary by the Communications Officer at EOC.

Additional forms of communication, i.e. FAX, telephone, and others will be used and implemented as deemed necessary by the Communications Officer (EOC).

All telephone and FAX numbers are available through the County and Region Emergency Preparedness offices. An annual review and update of these numbers shall occur by a designated representative from each County or Region to ensure all information is correct and accurate.

To supplement communications throughout the affected Region or County, Ham Radio Organizations may be utilized and should be notified at the earliest possible convenience to ensure availability of operators.

Upon determining the necessity for activation of Ham Radio Operators, the Vice Chair of the International Joint Committee of the affected area will contact the designated Ham Operators Co-ordinator who in turn will activate the fan-out procedure. The Co-ordinator of these organizations will in turn be advised of the locations in which Ham operators are required.

A base station will be established at the Emergency Operations Centre for the IJC members.

AMATEUR RADIO / HAM CONTACT PERSONNEL

CANADA

Co-ordinator
Mr. David Flarity
Region of Niagara ARES
RR#3 Sawmill Rd
Fenwick, ON L0S 1C0
(905) 562-4873

Alternate Co-ordinator
Mr. Tom Vince
Region of Niagara ARES
20 Baxter Crescent
Thorold ON L2V 4R6
905-227-6326

UNITED STATES

Mr. Karl Weir
County of Erie - Co-ordinator
Amateur Radio Emergency Service
Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service
XXXXXXXX
XXXXXX, NY 14XXX
(716) 668-4870

Mr. Donald Burrows
Niagara County - Co-ordinator
Amateur Radio Emergency Services
1952 Old Coomer Road
Burt, NY 14028
(716) 778-5735

**APPROVED FREQUENCIES FOR USE DURING ACTIVATION
OF THE CROSS BORDER CONTINGENCY PLAN**

ERIE COUNTY

155.760	Erie County Local Government
155.340	MERS F1
155.325	MERS F2
155.370	Inter-County Police
424.225	Buffalo Fire – Channel 1
424.350	Buffalo Fire – Channel 2
423.900	Buffalo Fire – Channel 3
45.88	Inter-County Fire
46.22	Erie County Fire Ground
46.38	Erie County Fire F2

NIAGARA COUNTY

154.755	Niagara County Sheriff
155.175	MERS
155.340	MERS
46.06	Niagara County Fire – Channel 1
46.22	Niagara County Fire - Channel 2
46.44	City of Lockport Fire

REGION NIAGARA

154.0700	Ontario Fire Marshall
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EMS/MERS

155.130	Medical
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NEW YORK STATE - SEMO

155.115	SEMO F1
155.895	SEMO F2
45.44	SEMO Low band

ANNEX "H"

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation procedures are addressed in each County or Regional plan and would be activated as deemed necessary.

Each Emergency Preparedness Office holds on file resource lists that identify municipal transportation services and equipment, private transportation equipment, specialized transportation equipment, i.e. ambulance, wheelchair buses, etc., volunteer and industrial transportation systems, municipal public works identifying selective equipment for transportation of materials and passengers, senior citizens transportation vehicles, selective provincial and federal agencies, military, provincial and state road transportation agencies.

A list of all agencies and equipment resources are kept on file at the respective County or Regional Preparedness Offices and can be acquired quickly for detailed assessment and implementation if warranted. Maps identifying key road routes for evacuation and entrance into an affected County or Region are on file in the respective County and Region Emergency Preparedness Offices.

Additional modes of transportation are also addressed under resource lists of equipment and manpower available to any County or Region and identified in their respective preparedness plans. It should be noted that additional transportation modes have been considered, i.e. air and water, and may be used if the emergency warrants it.

In the event that various transportation modes are utilized, this will in all probability be the result of mass evacuations within an affected area. Upon activation of transportation resources Social Services in Canada or Emergency Services Red Cross should be immediately contacted to ensure Evacuation Centres have been prepared.

Law enforcement agencies should also be co-ordinated to ensure that evacuation routes have been arranged and escorts available.

Peace Bridge

Bridge Length: 5200 Feet

Lanes into Canada: 1

Lanes into USA: 2

Maximum Vehicle Width: 12 feet

Overhead Clearance: 16 feet

Load Limit: 130,000 lbs.

US Customs Primary Inspection Booths: 15

Canadian Customs Primary Inspection Booths: 19

Primary USA Highway Feeder: I-190

Primary Canadian Highway Feeder: Queen Elizabeth Highway

Major Equipment: Front end Loader
Aerial Boom Truck

Rainbow Bridge:

Bridge Length: 1450 Feet
Lanes into Canada: 2
Lanes into the U.S.: 2
Maximum vehicle width: 12 Feet
Overhead Clearance: 13.5 Feet
Load Limit: 100,000 pounds
Toll Lanes U.S. Plaza: 5
U.S. Customs Primary Inspection Booths: 18
Canada Customs Primary Inspection Booths: 15
Primary U.S. highway feeder is I-190
Primary Canadian feeder is Queen Elizabeth Way to Highway 420

Major equipment: 1 - Caterpillar 924G Front End Loader
3 – 1-ton dump trucks
1 - J.I. Case Tractor with Front End Loader and Backhoe
1 – Bobcat 870

Whirlpool Bridge:

Bridge Length: 1069 Feet
Lanes into Canada: 1
Lanes into U.S.A.: 1
Maximum Vehicle Width: 13 Feet
Load Limit: 80,000 pounds
Overhead Clearance: 13 Feet
Toll Lanes US Plaza: 2
U.S. Customs Primary Inspection Booths: 4
Canadian Customs Primary Inspection Booths: 2

Primary U.S. Highway Feeder – I-190 to Ontario Street
Primary Canadian Feeder – Queen Elizabeth Highway-to-Highway 420 to Bridge Street

Lewistown/Queenston Bridge:

Bridge Length: 1600 Feet
Lanes into Canada: 2
Lanes into U.S.A.: 2
Maximum Vehicle Width: 11 Feet
Overhead Clearance: 15 Feet
Load Limit: 130,000 Pounds

Toll Lanes – Canadian Plaza: 5

U.S. Customs Primary Inspection Lanes: Autos: 7
Trucks: 3

Canadian Primary Inspection Lanes: Autos: 6
Trucks: 3

Major Equipment: 1 – Caterpillar IT 18F Front End Loader
2 – 5-ton Dump Trucks
1 – Ford 545 Front End Loader
1 – Caterpillar CAP 248 Skid Steer
1 – Aerial Platform Truck – 55-Foot Reach

International Railroad Bridge:

Connects Fort Erie, Ontario Canada and Buffalo, New York USA
¾ mile long single-track span including 2 walkways
Extends from Fort Erie, Ontario to Squaw Island Buffalo, New York where Stop Signal is located

The track then crosses a swing bridge over the black Rock Canal.
Rail operations are controlled by the CN Railway, Rail Traffic Controller (RTC)
Toronto, Ontario – 1-888-732-2009 – Ext. NI 6391
Swing Bridge Operations controlled by Local Operator Boating Season, Remotely by the RTC during Winter Season.

CSX – T Rail controls Rail Traffic to and from Bridges on USA side via Niagara Branch at Control Point “CP” 7
Supervisor of Train Operations “STO”, Selkirk, New York – 1-518-767-6900
Buffalo Chief Dispatcher, “ “ “ - 1-518-767-6103
“NG” Train Dispatcher, “ “ “ - 1-518-767-6117

Niagara Falls Railway Bridge

Connects Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada and Niagara Falls, New York USA
½ mile single track attached as the top span of the Whirlpool Highway/Pedestrian Bridge
CN Railway controls access onto the Bridge from Niagara Falls, Ontario controlled by the Rail Traffic Controller (RTC)
Toronto, Ontario – 1-888-732-2009 – Ext. NI 6391

CSX – T Rail Controls access onto the Bridge from the Niagara Falls, New York side at Control Point “CP”28
Controlled by Supervisor of Train Operations (STO), Selkirk, New York – 1-518-767-6900
Buffalo Dispatcher “ “ “ - 1-518-767-6103
“NG” Train Dispatcher “ “ “ - 1-518-767-6117

NITTEC-Controls Cameras at various sites throughout the roadways of Erie County
It also controls the video boards for the roadways of Erie County – Tel. # 1-716-847-2070

ANNEX "I"

MILITARY LIAISON

The Military Support Guide of the International Joint Committee on Emergency Planning provides for that instance whereby a cross-effort between the State of New York along with Erie and Niagara Counties, in co-operation with Canada, including the Province of Ontario, might wish to provide for a mutual effort to mitigate and otherwise aid and assist each other in an [emergency situation](#).

UNITED STATES

The militia of the State of New York (New York Army National Guard, Air National Guard, New York Guard and the New York Naval Militia, inclusive) are governed by the Book 35, Military Law and Executive Law Article 2B, of the State of New York. In the event of need for such forces, arrangement must be made through the Division of Military and Naval Affairs, State Emergency Management Office

CANADA

The Department of National Defense Canada will receive a request from a local government requesting support in the following manner:

1. That the head of government in concert with the EOC affected have identified the need for senior levels of government support, in this case, military, and will contact Headquarters Land force Central Area, Canadian Forces Base Toronto through the Ontario Provincial Police or directly to the Solicitor General's Office of Emergency Planning Ontario.
2. [Emergency Management Ontario](#) may request, on behalf of the municipality requesting support, federal officials to activate National Defense support to the affected municipality.
3. The following telephone numbers are listed to activate and request National Defense support:

Ontario Provincial Police
Niagara Falls Detachment (905) 356-1311

District Headquarters
Aurora (905) 841-5777

Ontario Provincial Police
Burlington (905) 681-2591

Orillia Headquarters	(705) 329-7400
24 Hours	1-888-263-4242
Ministry of Public Safety & Security Emergency Management Ontario	(416) 314-3723
National Defense Headquarters	(416) 733-5322

MILITARY RESOURCE LIST

A. U.S. COAST GUARD RESPONSE EQUIPMENT

1. MARINE SAFETY OFFICE (MSO) BUFFALO

1 Fuhrmann Blvd.
Buffalo, NY 14203

The Commanding Officer of the Marine Safety Office holds FOSC responsibilities for pollution/hazmat incidents and disasters affecting U.S. navigable waterways from the Ohio-Pennsylvania border to Massena, NY on the St. Lawrence River.

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

Response trailer equipped with 1,000 foot - 24-inch containment boom, sorbent boom, sorbent pads, and associated anchoring and towing equipment and tools.

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

Call Chief of Port Operations (716) [843-9574](tel:843-9574) during working hours, after hours call (716) [843-9560](tel:843-9560) and ask for the Port Ops duty officer for the MSO.

2. STATION BUFFALO

1 Fuhrmann Blvd.
Buffalo, NY 14203-3189

In addition to their usual role in search and rescue and law enforcement, Station assets provide valuable support for pollution/disaster related efforts.

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

Boats: 1 - 47 ft MLB Twin 435 h.p.
 1 - 44 ft RHI 370 hp.
 1 - 23 ft RHI 200 h.p.
 1 - 14 ft ice skiff.

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

Call the 24-hour duty watchstander: (716) [843-9560](tel:843-9560).

3. AIDS TO NAVIGATION TEAM (ANT) BUFFALO

1 Fuhrmann Blvd.
Buffalo, NY 14203-3189

ANT Buffalo ensures the proper maintenance, operation, and positioning of all Federal navigational aids between Geneva, OH and Cape Vincent, NY. The ANT Team also provides oversight and notification regarding private navigational aid discrepancies within the AOR.

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

Boats: 1 - 49 ft ANB Twin 305 h.p. engines
 1 - 21 ft TANB 230 H.P.

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

Call the 24-hour duty watchstander: (716) [843-9560](tel:843-9560).

4. STATION NIAGARA

Youngstown, NY 14174-9999

In addition to their usual role in search and rescue and law enforcement, Station assets provide valuable support for pollution/disaster related efforts.

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

Limited supply sorbent boom and pads.
Boats: 1 - 30 ft. UTL
 1 - 21 ft RHI 200 h.p.

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

Call the 24-hour duty watchstander: (716) [745-3327](tel:745-3327)/non-emergency - [3328](tel:3328)

B. OTHER U.S. MILITARY BRANCHES

1. 107 AIR REFUELING WING
NEW YORK AIR NATIONAL GUARD
Air Base Readiness Flight
9910 Guardian Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Contact: SMS Pat Vanderbeck
(716) 236-2459/236-2468 or 2470 (24 hours)

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

8 KC-135 Refuelling Aircraft-35 pax/mini-supply pallets.
60 vehicle motor pool flight/buses - snow removal - forklifts - construction equipment/backhoes/loaders.
Cold weather clothing/chemical warfare defense clothing.
250 full-time military personnel/600 part-time drill status personnel.
UHF-VHF-FM fixed and mobile radio systems/150+ handheld mobile radios.
USAF Disaster Response Force Trained Staff/Command Post, On-Scene Commanders, all other Incident Command Staffed Positions, Shelter Managers, NBC Response Team, Mortuary Kit-Team, Accident Investigation Kit-Team, Mobile Command Post Vehicle, Emergency Response Trailer-Field Command Post/6 GP Medium Tents, Light-Weight Decon System, HAZMAT Spill Containment Materials.

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

Call 107th ARW Command Post (24 hours a day), request assistance, Wing Commander will commit resources and advise State HQ, ANGRC, and HQ Air Mobility Command.

2. NAVAL AND MARINE CORPS RESERVE READINESS CENTER
3 Porter Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14201
(716) 883-1016 (day)
Contact: ETCS (SW) S.A. Anderson

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

NMCRRC Buffalo: 27 staff; 450 drilling reservists.
Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit: 2 staff, 70 drilling reservists, (2) pickups, (5) 2 1/2 ton trucks, (1) 5 ton truck and (1) 135' amphibious landing craft. I&I, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines, 4th Marine Division; 12 staff, 150 drilling reservists.

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

During normal working hours call (716) 883-1016.

After normal working hours and on weekends contact the Command Duty Petty Officer by calling beeper number (716) 443-0516.

3. UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1776 Niagara Street
Buffalo, NY 14207
(716) 879-4160
(716) 879-4403 (Black Rock Lock)
Contact: Gary Shofstall
Alternate: Phyliss Dudek

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

The traditional role of the Corps of Engineers under the National Contingency Plan is to respond to requirements from the National Response Team and to provide general engineering, design and construction support to that body. The Buffalo District Corps of Engineers can provide equipment and expertise to assist the Federal on Scene Co-ordinator (FOSC) (U.S. Coast Guard or Environmental Protection Agency) in combating a specific incident. The Corps can manage large design projects, develop facilities for oil work and debris, provide photo surveillance and remote sensing, assist in construction contract administrations and provide technical advice and environmental evaluations. The Buffalo District floating plant (two tugs, two derrick boats and three survey boats) could assist in deployment of booms or serve as satellite communications centers for the surrounding area. Two or three radio operators could be provided.

Through contracts that are already in place, the Corps can sample and test contaminated water, soils and hazardous and toxic waste. Within the limits of the test required, 24-hour turn around is possible. Through our Omaha District emergency (24 hours) and rapid (within 30 days) response is available for cleanup of areas or materials that pose an immediate danger to public health or the environment. [The District can also provide contract oversight of cleanup assigned to other private contractors.](#)

The 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) can provide power generators and personnel to move and set up generator equipment on a reimbursable basis.

The Corps, under Public Law 84-99, can contract for potable water when a source has been contaminated and local resources are insufficient to meet minimum health and life sustaining needs.

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

Contact Gary Shofstall during duty hours at (716) 879-4208. Contact Answering Service during off-duty hours at (716) 876-5455.

4. 914TH AIRLIFT WING, NIAGARA FALLS AIR FORCE RESERVE BASE
914 SPTG/CEX
10670 Krug Avenue
Niagara Falls ARS, NY 14304-5034
Contact: Mr. Charles Nagel
(716) 236-2321 (days)
(716) 648-7608 or (716) 236-2000 (nights/weekends)
Fax: (716) 236-6371
[Pager \(24 hour\): 1-800-759-8888](tel:1-800-759-8888) [Pin: 877-863-4105](tel:877-863-4105)

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

Support for fire fighting, HAZMAT, radiological survey and assessment, critical incident stress management and debriefing, airlift and equipment staging.

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

For declared emergencies, requests must be co-ordinated through FEMA or the FCO. For undeclared disasters or civil emergencies with imminently serious conditions, the 914 AW Commander is authorized to respond with the capabilities available, where immediate action must be taken to save lives, prevent human suffering, or mitigate great property damage.

1. Under less than imminently serious conditions, requests must go through local/state emergency management channels to FEMA.
2. Under imminently serious conditions, request support through Mr. Charles Nagel at the above numbers, or LTC [Michael Mounts](tel:716-236-6355) at (716) 236-6355 (days) and (716) 236-2000 (non-duty hours), [Pager \(716\) 642-0876](tel:716-642-0876)

5. NEW YORK STATE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
31 Autumn Lane (Home)
Depew, NY 14043
(716) 683-5822 ([Home/Fax](tel:716-683-5822))
Contact: Col Greg Mioducki

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

The NYS Army National Guard maintains an extensive list of installations and support facilities for the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Naval Militia, and New York Guard. The list includes units stationed at the installations, addresses, phone numbers and contact persons.

The list is not intended for general distribution, so to request specific information on the National Guard resources contact Col Mioducki at the above numbers.

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

Requests for access to National Guard resources must be made through the NY State Emergency Management Office (SEMO, Region III) at (315) 331-4880, 24 hours: (518) 457-2200.

C. CANADIAN RESOURCES

1. CANADIAN COAST GUARD
201 North Front Street, Suite 703
Sarnia, ON N7T 8B1
(519) 383-1834 (Days)
(519) 383-3363 (Nights/Weekends)
Contact: Greg Sladicz

Superintendent of SARS programs

Andy Maillet

(519) 464-5125

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

Port Weller "MERT" trailer
1000-1500' 18" boom
M1-30 skimmer
Generator
12' aluminum boat w/outboard
Ancillary equipment

Hamilton Depot
3500' boom (24" and 18")
M1-30 and GT-185 skimmer
21' Boston Whaler
Ancillary equipment

Port Dover JAMCO trailer
1000' boom 18"
Ancillary equipment

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

Call Operations Center - Sarnia and request Duty Officer (800) 265-0237

2. CANADIAN COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
[Mr. David Northmore – \(519\) 383-1964](#) or
[Mr. Dan Pellerin](#)
Director, District Two, Canadian CG Auxiliary
163 Chippewa Road
Port Colborne ON L3K 1T6

REV. 98-03-13

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

Auxiliary vessel POCOMAR 27' BAHIA c/w GPS/radar/pump/VHF/stretchers/first aid/located Port Colborne/24 hour call/ searchlight/towing.
Auxiliary vessel DIRT WATER FOX private facility/member 30'/first aid/pump/radar/loran/VHF/towing/located Fort Erie, Upper Niagara River.
FRC auxiliary vessel GAMRU MKV/RHI/GPS/pump/first aid/searchlight/towing/24 hour call located Grimsby, Ontario.

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

Call Rescue Co-ordination Center, Trenton
(800) 267-7270

3. LAND FORCE CENTRAL AREA HEADQUARTERS
Box 17, 5775 Yonge Street
North York, ON M2M 4J1
(416) 733-4681, Ext. 5350
Contact: [Duty Officer](#)

EQUIPMENT/CAPABILITIES:

The co-ordination of all Canadian Forces (CF) assistance to non-defense agencies within the Province of Ontario is the responsibility of the Commander of Land Force Central Area (LFCA). A CF assistance operation may be defined as a civil disaster, natural or man-made civil occurrence, involving imminent or actual danger to lives or property, and which overwhelms the responsible civil authority's ability to respond. CF assets located in Ontario are as follows:

- a. Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Borden, Barrie Ontario, training facility;
- b. CFB Kingston, Kingston Ontario, divisional headquarters and a communication squadron;
- c. CFB Petawawa, Petawawa Ontario, mechanized brigade group;
- d. CFB Trenton, Trenton Ontario, air transport group (C-130 and A-320 Airbus);
- e. Militia Training Centre Meaford, Meaford Ontario, training facility;
- f. Garrison Support Unit (GSU) London, London Ontario, training facility;
- g. GSU Toronto, Toronto Ontario, small service support center;
- h. Lincoln & Welland Regiment, St. Catharines Ontario.

ACCESSING PROCEDURES:

Agencies requesting military support for emergencies are required to make their initial requests through Emergency Management Ontario (EMO) 24/7. The normal chain of command is as follows:

- a) Local municipality declares an emergency and notifies the Minister of Public Safety & Security through EMO (EMO Operations Officer at 1-416-314-8595);
- b) EMO co-ordinates/provides assistance to the municipality using any/all provincial assets and/or solicits federal assistance from the Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection & Emergency Preparedness (OC�PEP). This may include CF personnel and equipment; and
- c) OC�PEP co-ordinated/provides CF assistance as part of the Department of National Defense. If the request is approved then LFCA will be tasked to provide assistance to sub-paragraph a).

However, in the case of an imminent life-threatening disaster, a request may be made to the nearest CF Unit or Base. Local commanders have the authority to respond to requests for disaster assistance when, in their judgement, immediate action is necessary to preserve life. However, within your region of concern the closest permanent contact, with the authority to provide assistance is LFCA Headquarters.

In the case of an emergency, contact the LFCA Area Operations Centre, 24 hours a day, seven days a week at (416) 633-6200 and ask to speak to the Duty Officer.

ANNEX "J"

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE

Purpose

The purpose of this Annex to the Cross Border Contingency Plan is to provide emergency responder with information on carrying out response operations to environmental hazards such as oil and hazardous material releases. Rather than recreate the response procedures and environmentally sensitive area maps contained in other response plans, this annex identifies those plans and provides a brief description of each plan and lists a point of contact plan. The purpose of this Annex is to identify the various contingency plans available for coordinating identifying potential sources of pollution, locating environmentally sensitive areas and directing response activities.

Environmental Subcommittee

The Environmental Subcommittee of the International Joint Committee on Emergency Planning serves as a collective entity focused on coordinating the dissemination of information between the various levels of government tasked with protecting the environment and ensuring public safety.

Contingency Plans

The following is a list of contingency plans developed by federal, state, provincial, regional and local emergency response agencies for responding to pollution and hazardous material incidents within the Niagara Region, Erie and Niagara Counties. The plans have been listed in the following order: bi-national, federal, state/provincial, county/region, municipality and other. Each plan has a brief description to help determine the applicability and usefulness of the plan in assisting with response operations. A point of contact and 24 hour telephone number is provided for each response plan.

Bi-National Contingency Plans

Name of Plan: **Canada – U.S. Joint Inland Pollution Contingency Plan (CANUSCENT)**

Brief Description: the Canada-United States Joint Inland Pollution Contingency Plan provides for a cooperative mechanism for preparedness for response to accidental and unauthorized spills and release of pollutants that cause or may cause damage to the environment along the shared inland boundaries of both countries and that may constitute a threat to the public health, property or welfare. It also allows for the

provision of assistance when only one country is affected but the spill or release is of such magnitude as to justify a request for assistance.

The purpose of the Inland Plan is to establish a coordinated and integrated federal response to polluting incidents along the shared boundary through the provision of support and assistance to provincial, territorial, regional, state and sub-regional plans of both countries. This also includes all (U.S.) Federally recognized Indian tribes and all (Canada) First Nations. The Inland Plan provides for an international coordination mechanism to ensure appropriate and effective preparedness, reporting and response measures between Canada and the United States.

Point of Contact: National Response Center

24 hour: (800) 424-8802

Fax: (202) 267-2165

Name of Plan: **Canada – U.S. Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan (CANUSLAK)**

Brief Description: The Canada-United States Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan provides for a cooperative mechanism for the preparedness for and response to accidental and unauthorized spills and release of pollutants that cause or may cause damage to the marine environment in the contiguous waters of both countries and that may constitute a threat to the public health, property or welfare. It also allows for the provision of assistance when only one country is affected but the spill or release is of such magnitude as to justify a request for assistance.

The purpose of the Marine Plan is to provide a coordinated system for responding to discharges or threat of harmful substances in the contiguous waters of interest between Canada and the United States. The plan does so by supplementing the existing national response systems of each nation by ensuring bilateral response planning at the local level. The plan promotes cooperation in responding to all discharges of harmful substances through expeditious notification of such incidents. Further, the Plan establishes procedures for consultation between the two nations on response actions that may be taken during harmful substance incident.

Point of Contact: National Response Center

24 hour: (800) 424-8802

Fax: (202) 267-2165

Federal Contingency Plans

Name of Plan: **Eastern Great Lakes Area Contingency Plan**

Brief Description: A contingency plan developed by the Eastern Great Lakes Area Committee for identifying procedures for conducting pollution and emergency response activities on the water. The Plan contains extensive information on the use and operation of the Incident Command System and using ICS to manage response operations. The Geographic Response Plan for the Buffalo/Niagara Region identifies sensitive areas and response assets available for mounting a response operation.

Point of Contact: Port Operations Department at the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office Buffalo

24 hour: (716) 843-9527

Fax: (716) 843-9571

Name of Plan: **Lake Erie and Welland Canal Area Plan**

Brief Description: This area plan is an annex to the Central & Arctic Regional Contingency Chapter. It's designed to be used as a tool or guide for the Federal Monitoring Officer or the Canadian Coast Guard On Scene Commander. The direction and information contained in this Area Plan is consistent with policy given in the Canadian Coast Guard Marine Spills Contingency Plan and the operating procedures prescribed in the Central & Arctic Regional Contingency plan. This plan is only intended to provide information and assist the user in decision-making. The purpose of the Lake Erie Plan is to outline the subdivision of the manageable geographic areas or response communities and to provide a guide for responders in the specifics for conducting a response in a given area. The plan does contain joint U.S. and Canadian response strategies for responding to oil spills or hazardous material releases in the Niagara River.

Point of Contact: Rescue, Safety & Environmental Response
Canadian Coast Guard – Central & Arctic Region

24 hour: (519) 490-2871

Fax: (519) 383-1989

State/Provincial Contingency Plans

Name of Plan: **New York State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan**

Brief Description: The New York State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, maintained by the State Disaster Preparedness Commission (DPC), is a comprehensive all hazards emergency plan that outlines the roles and responsibilities for all state agencies and assets in a disaster. There are a number of annexes or hazard specific plans maintained by various state agencies that are coordinated with and supplement the comprehensive plan. The plans and annexes are:

<u>PLAN</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
NYS Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	SEMO
Hazardous Materials Emergency Contingency Plan	SEMO
Water Quality Accident Contingency Plan	DEC
Radiological Emergency Response Plan (nuclear power facilities)	SEMO
Radiological Response Plan (transportation/industrial)	SEMO
State Drought Plan	DEC
Disaster Mental Health Services Plan	OMH
NYS Hazard Mitigation Plan	SEMO
State Fire Mobilization and Mutual Aid Plan	OFPC
NYS Energy Emergency Plan	ERDA
Disaster Donations Management Plan	SEMO
Wildfire Management and Response Plan	DEC

In addition, a number of agencies participate in joint planning efforts to formalize and maintain policies, procedures or cooperative agreements on a number of disaster related resource and operational issues, including the following.

Highway Emergency Task Force	SEMO
Human Needs in Disaster Task Force	SEMO
NYS and American Red Cross Cooperative	SEMO/ARC
NYS VOAD Disaster Services Coordination Plan	VOAD
Emergency Alert System (EAS) plan	SECC
NYS Search and Rescue Team	SEMO
Hurricane and Coastal Storm Planning	SEMO

State and federal regulatory requirements authorize or require public and private sector organizations to undertake emergency planning for specific hazards, including the following.

County and Municipal Emergency Plans	SEMO
EPCRA/SARA Title III Hazardous Materials Plans	SEMO
Hazardous Material Response Plans (County Fire Service)	OFPC
OSHA 1910.120 HAZWOPER Plans (employers)	DOL
Risk Management Plans, Clean Air Act (facilities)	EPA
Area Contingency Plan (OPA 90, Clean Water Act)	USCG
Dam Failure Emergency Action Plans (operations)	FERC/DEC

Crowd Control Plans (Labor Law, Sec.475)	SEMO/DOL
Recovery and Redevelopment Plans (County/Municipal)	SEMO
School Emergency Plans (school districts)	SED
NYS Emergency Medical Services Mass Casualty Planning	DOH
Hospital and Nursing Home Plans	DOH
Adult Care Facility Disaster/Emergency Plans	OTDA
Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded	OMRDD
Electric Utility Storm Plans (Utilities)	PSC
Solid Waste Facility Contingency Plans (operators)	DEC
Hazardous Waste Facility Plans (operators)	DEC
Radioactive Waste Facility Emergency Plans (operators)	DEC

NYS has responsibilities to coordinate disaster response and resources with the federal government under provisions of the *Federal Response Plan* administered by FEMA. NYS has also prepared preliminary procedures for response to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) emergencies. Further development and implementation of these plans continues.

Point of Contact: New York State Emergency Management Office

24 hour: (315) 331-4880 or (518) 457-2200

Fax: (315) 331-3934

Name of Plan: **New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 9 Emergency Response Plan**

Brief Description: Identifies procedures and personnel to respond to a variety of environmental incidents ranging from oil spills to rabid animals within the six western counties of New York (Erie, Niagara, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Allegany and Wyoming). The plan is organized by incident type and identifies organization units and personnel responsible for incident responses. The plan also contains notification procedures and an extensive listing of contact points.

Point of Contact: NYS DEC Region 9 Buffalo

24 hour: (800) 457-7362

Fax: (716) 851-7226

Name of Plan: **Province of Ontario Ministry of the Environment – Spill Emergency Plan**

Brief Description: The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Spill Emergency Plan fulfills the requirements of the Order-in-Council pursuant to relevant provisions of The Emergency Plans Act of 1983 for MOE to prepare an emergency plan that addresses spills of pollutants to the natural environment. The Spill Emergency Plan may be activated to facilitate the decision-making emergencies that require the expertise and

participation of MOE but not a coordinated, multi-agency, overall Government response under Provincial Emergency Plan.

The Spill Emergency Plan also supplements the overall Provincial Emergency Plan, a plan that addresses complex emergencies that require a coordinated, multi-agency overall Government response. The Provincial Emergency Plan may be activated by the Ministry of the Solicitor General and Correctional Services for variety of emergencies including those in which a spill to the environment may be one of several components of the emergency. In order to facilitate an effective response for such events, the Spill Emergency Plan is structured to make use of MOE's regular spill response program in emergencies that require the Ministry's participation in a coordinated, multi-agency response under the overall Provincial Emergency Plan.

In addition, the Spill Emergency Plan recognizes and maintains other Ministry commitments related to spills. These include, 1) inter-agency notification undertakings made under the 1975 Province of Ontario Contingency Plan for Spills of Oils and other Hazardous Materials, 2) arrangements under the Canada – U.S. Marine Pollution Contingency Plan, a pollution response plan prepared pursuant to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, 3) formal Ontario – Michigan notification agreements on air and water quality, 4) undertakings with several other provincial and federal agencies for the immediate exchange of information on spills and other serious pollution events, and 5) other related commitments through formal contingency plans or through inter-agency agreements.

Points of Contact: Duty Officer, Emergency Measures Ontario

24 hour: (416) 325-3000 (Spill Action Center)

Fax: (416) 325-3011 (Spill Action Center)

County/Regional Contingency Plans

Name of Plan: **Erie County Local Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan**

Brief Description: The Erie County Department of Emergency Services Office of Civil Defense/Disaster Preparedness is designated to provide the centralized coordination of all these management activities, including coordination of resources, manpower and services and the centralized direction of requests for assistance. County responsibilities are closely related to the responsibility of the local levels of government within the County, i.e. the cities, towns and incorporated villages, to manage all phases of the disaster. The County has the responsibility to assist the local levels of government in the event that they have fully committed their resources and are still unable to cope with any disaster. Similarly, New York State is obligated to provide assistance to the County after resources have been utilized and the County is unable to cope with the disaster and requires assistance. The plan describes in detail the centralized direction of requests for assistance and the understanding that the governmental jurisdiction most

affected by an emergency is required to utilize its resources prior to requesting assistance.

Point of Contact: Erie County Department of Emergency Services

24 hour: (716) 858-6578 or (716) 898-3696

Fax: (716) 858-7937

Name of Plan: **Erie County Local Emergency Planning Committee Plan**

Brief Description: The Hazardous Materials Response Annex for Erie County has been prepared to meet statutory planning requirements of the federal Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, SARA, Title III and to provide for a high degree of preparedness to deal with incidents involving extremely hazardous substances.

The plan has been specifically designed to serve as an annex to the County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) and supplements that document. Every effort has been made to integrate the Hazardous Materials Annex with CEMP. In that regard, the plan is consistent with existing authorities, planning assumptions, systems and procedures. The Erie County Department of Emergency Services maintains a computerized list of 302 facilities in Erie County.

Objectives:

1. Set forth a course of action that will minimize hazards to life and property and adverse impacts upon the environment from the release of a hazardous material.
2. Establish procedures to provide for a coordinated effort on the part of the County, its communities, and industry in response to hazardous materials.
3. Identify emergency response organizations, equipment and other resources that can be employed during such a response.
4. Provide a mechanism to integrate community and facility response procedures into the County Emergency Management Plan

Point of Contact: Medical Emergency Radio System (MERS)

24 hour: (716) 898-3696

Fax: (716) 858-7937

Name of Plan: **Niagara County Health Department Emergency Response Plan**

Brief Description: The Niagara County Health Department has considerable responsibilities in the event of emergencies or disasters involving man made or natural events. These responsibilities focus on protecting life and health of the public and involve the implementation of measures which assure care to the injured and ill, prevent further illnesses, injury or death and in the aftermath assist in the recovery of the individual or community affected. The Niagara County Health Department works closely with the New York State Department of Health to address the public health needs of the affected community during an emergency/disaster situation, emergency sanitation measures, radiological health, vector control, epidemiological surveillance, vaccine deployment, housing and shelter, immunization, education and monitoring activities are addressed among others. Our plan deals with coordinated public health response to the public health needs of the community.

Point of Contact: Niagara County Health Department/Public Health Director

24 hour: (716) 439-7430

Fax: (716) 439-7440

Name of Plan: **Regional Municipality of Niagara
Emergency Management Plan**

Brief Description: The Regional Municipality of Niagara – Emergency Management Plan has been prepared to meet statutory planning requirements of the Emergency Management Act of the Province of Ontario. This plan describes the Regional response to any significant threat to life, health and safety and to provide a controlled and coordinated response at the direction of the appropriate Regional Officials.

Within the provisions of the above plan, various responsibilities for responding to an environmental emergency are shared between the Regional Public Health Department and the Regional Public Works Department in coordination with other emergency response services.

Point of Contact: Program Manager, Emergency Management

24 hour: (905) 685-1571 (dispatch)

Fax: (905) 688-5079

Municipal Contingency Plans

Name of Plan: **City of Buffalo Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan**

Brief Description: The plan provides general all-hazards management guidance, using existing organizations to allow the City of Buffalo to meet its responsibility before during and after an emergency. The Disaster Preparedness Office has the responsibility to assist individual city departments and agencies in the event that they have fully committed their resources and are still unable to cop with any disaster. Emergency

management responsibilities of the cities departments and agencies are outlined in this plan. Assignments are made within responsibilities. The Disaster Preparedness Office is designated to coordinate all emergency management activities of the city. The Disaster Preparedness Office may request Erie County to provide assistance and in turn the County may ask the State of New York for assistance after resources have been exhausted and the county is unable to cope with the disaster. Specific emergency management guidance for situations requiring special knowledge, technical expertise and resources may be addressed in separate annexes attached to the plan. Examples of emergency situations and current annexes are; Hazardous Materials, Terrorism (WMD), snow-Ice Storms, Riot Situations, Emergency operations Center and Explosives/Bombs.

Point of Contact: City of Buffalo Disaster Preparedness Office

24 Hour: (716) 851-4443
Fax: (716) 851-4754

Other Contingency Plans

Name of Plan: **NPCA Flood Warning Manual**

Brief Description: The manual outlines the flood warning system and organizational responsibilities. The plan also identifies key potential damage sites and establishes lines of communication for notifications and response efforts.

Point of Contact: (905) 227-1013 or (800) 263-4760
Fax: (905) 227-2998

Name of Plan: **Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station HAZMAT Plan**

Brief Description: U.S. Department of Defense installations and personnel are required to comply with all federal, state and local laws designed to protect the environment. This HAZMAT Plan is intended to be comprehensive, covering all operations that handle, transport, store, or use hazardous materials. The purpose of the Plan is to ensure proper HAZMAT release prevention actions are taken to minimize the chances of such materials entering the environment through release to air, land or water. The Plan provides for required notification and response to releases that may occur at the air base.

Point of Contact: Emergency Coordinators Office

24 Hour: (716) 236-2000
Fax: (716) 236-6371

Integration of Plans

The various response plans identified above are building blocks for conducting a successful response to an environmental incident in the Niagara Region of the United States and Canada.

High Risk Areas

The following areas have been identified as posing a substantial threat to the safety and welfare of U.S. and Canadian residents in the Niagara Region. In the event an incident occurs at one of the following locations, the potential exists for serious effect on people in the surrounding area:

- Niagara Chemical Corridor
- Power Dams
- Peace Bridge
- Queenston/Lewiston Bridge

MILITARY CONTACT PERSONS

Title	Address	Telephone
P. M. Gugg Commanding Officer Commander	Marine Safety Office 1 Fuhrmann Blvd. Buffalo, NY 14203	(716) 843-9570 (716) 843-9571 (Fax)
SMS Patrick A. Vanderbeck Readiness Flight Chief	NY Air National Guard 107 ARW/CEX Air Base Readiness Flight 9910 Guardian Street Niagara Falls, NY 14304	(716) 236-2459 (716) 236-2533 (Fax)
Dan Pellerin Director District 2	Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary 163 Chippewa Road Port Colborne, ON. L3K 1T6	(905) 732-4158 (905) 834-4825 (Fax)
Greg Sladicz	Canadian Coast Guard 201 North Front Street Suite 703 Sarnia, ON N7T 8B1	(519) 383-1834 (W) (519) 383-1991 (Fax)
S.A. Anderson ETCS(SW)	Naval & Marine Corps Reserve Readiness Centre 3 Porter Avenue Buffalo, NY 14201	(716) 883-1016 (716) 883-2170 (Fax)
Gary Shofstall Phyliss Dudek	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Emergency Management Branch 1776 Niagara Street Buffalo, NY 14207	(716) 879-4208 (W) (716) 879-4454 (W) (716) 876-5455 (ASAS) (716) 879-4267 (Fax)
Charles Nagel Chief of Readiness	Air Force Reserve 914th MSG/CEX 10672 Hulby Drive Niagara Falls, NY 14304-5040	(716) 236-2321 (716) 236-6371 (Fax) (716) 236-2000 (24 Hr)
Greg Mioducki Colonel	New York State National Guard 31 Autumn Lane (Home) Depew, NY 14043	(716) 683-5822 (Home)

Emergency Duty Officer

Land Force Central
Area Headquarters
ESU Toronto
1 Yukon Lane
P.O. Box 5000
North York, ON M3M 3J5

(416) 633-6200

MAPS

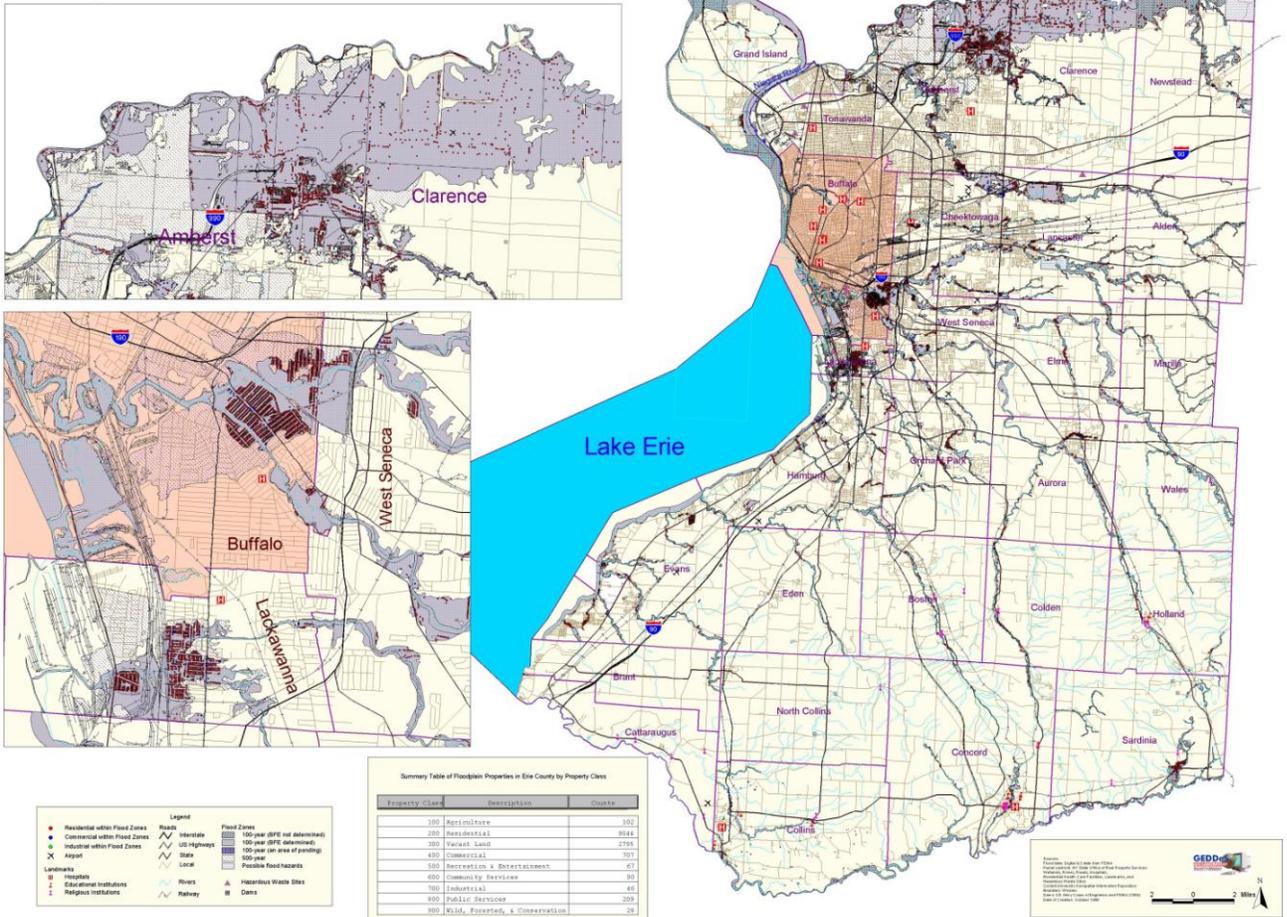
County of Erie

County of Niagara

Region of Niagara



**Planning and Hazard Map
 Erie County, New York**



PROCEDURES AND PLANS

Each Emergency Preparedness Office holds copies of Municipal, County, Regional, State, Provincial, and Federal plans for reference.

INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY PLANNING

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Chair – Erie County	Dean A. Messing Erie County Emergency Services	(716) 858-8477
Co-Chairperson	James McCullough Erie County Emergency Services	(716) 681-7112
Chair – Niagara County	James Volkosh Niagara County Emergency Services	(716) 438-3171
Chair – Niagara Region	Sean Bertleff Regional Niagara - Emergency Services Division / Emergency Management Program	(905) 641-2218
Steering Committee	Michael V. Walters Erie County Emergency Services	(716) 898-3696
	Sean O'Connor Niagara County Legislature	(716) 439-7000
	John Cunnane Regional Niagara – Director of Emergency Services	(905) 641-2218



DEBRIS MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Executive Summary

Introduction

The County of Erie, which borders Lake Erie, in the Western part of New York State, has 25 towns, 16 Villages, and 3 Cities, with a total population of approximately 961,000 people. The county borders Niagara County to the North, Genesee County to the Northeast, Cattaraugus County to the Southeast, and Chautauqua County to the South.

Erie County also shares an international border with Canada with, international traffic crossing via the Peace Bridge. Additionally, the International railroad bridge serves as a cross-border freight corridor, thus completing the multi-faceted scope of transportation in the area.

Purpose

To provide policies and guidance to Erie County for the removal and storage of debris created by a major disaster, hazard, or terrorist event.

Situation

Geophysical and manmade disasters precipitate a variety of debris that include, but are not limited to, such things as tress, sand, gravel, building construction materials, vehicles, personal property, and hazardous materials.

The quantity and type of debris generated from any particular disaster will be a function of the location and kind of event experienced, as well as magnitude, duration, and intensity.

The quantity and type if debris generated, its location and the size of the area over which it is dispersed will have a direct impact on the type of collection and disposal methods utilized to address the debris problem, associated costs incurred, and how quickly the problem can be addressed.

In a major or catastrophic disaster, many local and state agencies will have difficulty in locating staff, equipment, and funds to devote to debris removal, both in the short-term as well as long term.

Assumptions

A geographical disaster that requires the removal of debris from public or private lands and waters could occur at any time.

The amount of debris resulting from an event or disaster could exceed the local government's ability to dispose of it.

If geophysical disaster requires, the County Executive will declare a State of Emergency (and request the Governor to follow suit) in order to authorize the use of State resources to assist in removal and disposal of debris. In the event Federal resources are required, the Governor would request through FEMA, a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

Private contractors will play a significant role in the debris removal, collection, reduction, and disposal process. Mutual Aid Agreements will most likely be required to make this process as efficient as possible.

The debris management program implemented by Erie County will be based on the waste management approach of reduction, reuse, reclamation, resource recovery, incineration, and land filling.

1

Concept of Operations

1.1 Initial Actions

1.1.1 Activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

When an event occurs that has generated debris that has exceeded both local and county removal and disposal resources, then the Erie County Emergency Services Commissioner and/or his designee will activate the EOC according to standard operating procedures. This plan will be implemented and the **Debris Management Task Force (DMTF)** will be assembled to assist in the coordination and management of the debris removal and disposal process. The EOC manager or his designated representative in conjunction with the DMTF will determine the Emergency Support Functions (ESF's) that are required to support these removal and disposal efforts. *Appendix A is a listing of core agencies and points of contact for the DMTF.*

1.1.2 Debris Estimates (Category and Quantity)

The quantity of debris that is generated by an event can be estimated by several methods. One method is to accomplish a drive-through "windshield" damage assessment to simply estimate the amount of debris visually. Another method that can be used is an aerial assessment, accomplished by flying over the area using the New York State Police (NYSP), the Erie County Sheriff's Department (ECSD), and/or New York State National Guard (NYSNG) helicopters and Civil Air Patrol (CAP) reconnaissance flights. The damaged area can be assessed either visual or using aerial photography.

Once the area has been assessed, the amount of debris may be estimated using a modeling methodology that was developed by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Emergency Management Staff using the actual data from previous disasters. *This modeling technique is describes in **Appendix B**. An estimate for the amount of debris for all the communities in Erie County has been calculated using this model and the results are shown in **Appendix C**. The assumptions used in these calculations are included as part of the appendices.*

1.1.3 Site Selection Priorities

After the amount of debris has been estimated, the next critical issue that the DMTF will need to determine is the number of temporary sites and locations to be used for the collection and processing of debris. Priorities, as determined by the DMTF are:

1st Priority: If possible, establish the site within the damaged area.

2nd Priority: Pre-determined local, county, and state property.

3rd Priority: Private property.

1.1.4 Pre-Designated Sites

The DMTF has pre-identified areas that may be used as temporary collection and processing sites. *These general areas are identified on county maps located in **Appendix D**.* The Erie County Department of Environment and Planning, Sewage Management Division maintains detailed information pertaining to each of these sites. The information includes *exact location, size, available ingress and egress routes, results of environmental assessment, initial data sample, etc.* Baseline data should include *videotapes, photographs, documentation of physical features, and soil and water samplings.* The list of sites will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary as part of the normal maintenance.

1.1.5 Existing Landfills

There are additional solid waste and resource recovery facilities within Erie County, but they are private facilities and are generally restricted to specific products. These facilities will be listed as available resources and will be considered as options by the DMTF when an event occurs. *A listing of existing Erie County landfills, resource recovery facilities and transfer stations is included in **Appendix E**.*

1.1.6 Site Preparation

After a pre-designated site is selected to be activated, there are many preparatory actions that need to be accomplished. *A **Memorandum of Understanding** (MOU) or a **Memorandum of Agreement** (MAO) will be required. An example of MOU and MAO are included in Appendix F.* The initial base line data would be updated, MOU/MAO would be signed and the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning, Sewage Treatment Division would issue an emergency variance to operate. The operation layout would be determined by the DMTF to include ingress and egress routes.

2

Debris Removal

2.1 General Considerations

Geophysical and man-made disasters can generate unprecedented amounts of debris in a few hours or minutes. The debris may be equally heavy in both urban and rural areas depending on the magnitude of the tree fall and associated structural damage such as homes, businesses, utilities and signs, etc. This section provides guidelines on debris issues including *emergency roadway clearance, public right-of-ways removal, mobile home park removal, and household hazardous waste (HHW) removal.*

Debris removal, regardless of source, becomes a high priority following a disaster as it is a visible sign of action and helps to restore a sense of normalcy to a shocked and stunned population. Removal often represents the first visible step towards recovery. In developing a management strategy for a large-scale debris removal operation, the operation should be divided into *two phases*. **Phase 1** consists of the clearance of the debris that hinders immediate life saving actions being taken within the disaster area, and the clearance of debris that poses an immediate threat to public health and safety. **Phase II** operations consist of the removal and disposal of that debris which is determined necessary to ensure the orderly recovery of the community, and to eliminate less immediate threats to health and safety.

2.2 Phase 1: Emergency Roadway Debris Removal

There is an immediate need to open emergency access routes into devastated areas following any type of major geophysical or man-made disaster. *The Department of Transportation (DOT) and local governments must identify routes within their jurisdiction that are essential to emergency operations.* This information is paramount for directing the efforts of local assets, and for identifying areas that State and Federal assistance and target.

- Debris will include fallen trees and broken limbs; yard trash such as outdoor furniture, trash cans, etc / utility poles, power, telephone and cable tv lines, transformers and other electrical devices / building debris such as reefs, sheds, and signs / and professional property such as clothing appliances, boats, cars, trucks, and trailers.
- Roadway debris removal involves the opening of arterial roads and collector streets by moving debris to the shoulders of the roads. There is no attempt to physically remove or dispose of the debris, only to clear key access routes to expedite.
- Movement of emergency vehicles
- Law enforcement
- Resumption of critical services
- Assessment of damage to key public facilities and utilities such as schools, hospitals, government buildings, and municipal-owned utilities.
- The requirement for government services will be increased drastically following a major geophysical or man-made disaster. Therefore, after emergency access has been provided to hospitals, police, and fire stations, the *next priority is to open access to other critical community facilities* such as municipal buildings, water treatment plants, wastewater treatment plants, power generation units and airports.
- Damaged utility systems, structurally unstable buildings, and other heavily damaged public facilities must be expeditiously repaired, deactivated, barricaded, or removed. Activities involving these facilities should be closely coordinated with their owners and/or operators. Demolition of unsafe structures, which constitute a public health and safety threat in most situations, may be deferred if access to the area can be controlled.
- Emergency Management and/or the DMTF should be aware of local, State, and Federal capabilities to provide service for emergency roadway debris removal.
Available resources should include:
 - Local and State Governments
 - Municipal workers and equipment
 - Local and State DOT workers and equipment
 - National Guard
 - Local contractors (hired by Local/State governments)

- Federal Assistance
 - US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service chainsaw crews
 - Local US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) workers and equipment
 - Department of Defense (DOD)
 - Regional contractors hired by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or the USACE

- Local public works or DOT personnel, using all available resources, should supervise immediate debris removal actions. Requests for additional assistance and resources should be made to the county EOC. Requests for additional assistance should be requested to the State EOC. Requests for the federal assistance will be requested through the State Coordinating Officer (SCO) to the FEMA Federal Coordinating officer (FCO). The request will be directed to the federal assistance debris coordinator (if on site and operational), or the USACE district authorized to contract services for FEMA.

- Special crews equipped with chainsaws may be required to cut downed trees. This activity is hazardous and common sense safety considerations are necessary to reduce the chance of injury or possible loss of life. When live electric lines are involved, work crews should coordinate with local utility companies to have power lines de-energized for safety reasons.

- Front-end loaders and dozers should be equipped with protective cabs. Driveway cutouts, fire hydrants, valves, and storm water inlets should be left unobstructed. All personnel should wear protective gear such as hard hats, gloves, goggles, and safety shoes.

- The USDA Forest Service and other State and Federal land management agencies are equipped for last responses to forest fires. In recent years, they have been called upon to respond to other emergencies such as earthquakes, tornados, and hurricanes. The Forest Service is assigned to Emergency Support Function (ESF) #7 under the FRP for firefighting support to state and local agencies. Assistance would be requested through the county, to the state EOC/SCO, to the FCO according to the standard procedures.

- Assessment of the amounts and types of debris to be removed from key routes is very difficult. This drawback slows the development of the right mix of equipment and manpower, especially when contracting for additional resources. Therefore, the equipment rental contract is recommended for this type of debris removal. It will allow the flexibility to respond to local hot spots.

2.3 Phase II: Public Right-of-Way Debris Removal

- Debris after a major disaster should be cleared quickly and as safely as possible, to expedite the emergency operations. Debris should be simply pushed to the shoulders of the roadway during the emergency opening of key routes. There is little time or concern for sorting debris at the time. Remember, the objective is to provide for the safe movement of emergency and support vehicles into and out of the disaster area.
- As removal operations progress, the initial road side piles of debris becomes the dumping location for additional yard waste and other storm generated debris such as construction materials, personal property, trash, white goods (refrigerators, washers, dryers, hot water tanks, etc.), roofing, and even household, commercial, and agricultural chemicals.
- Expedient removal of debris in front of residents homes' should become a priority since it is a positive sign that restoration actions are underway and may help counteract depression and helplessness of the affected residents, The removal operations will also consist in expediting the replacement of key utilities located along public right-of-way.
- The emergency manger and/or DMTF will be faced with the monumental task of coordinating debris removal that represents a significant health and safety hazard to the community. There will be requests from all sectors of the community to remove debris so that residents can start putting their lives and property in order.
- Local and State government force account employees will transition from opening roadways to clearing right-of-way. State DOT forces from other districts or regions and other community work forces (mutual aid agreements) may become available, as will locally hired contractors who normally have limited resources. For large scale/catastrophic disasters, FEMA, USACE, DOD, and large regional contractors with resources, experience, short mobilization times, and an understanding of Federal contracting procedures, if required, will provide direct Federal assistance.

- The emergency management and/or the DMTF will be required to provide accurate information surrounding the magnitude of the debris removal mission. Providing information to FEMA Region II headquarters and coordinating with other agencies may require an independent means to assess debris removal progress. This void can be filled using local or state personnel to create independent field inspection teams. The teams become the “eyes and ears” for the debris staff.

2.4 Further Actions

- *Emergency management and/or the DMTF should be prepared to take the following actions:*
 1. Coordinate through local agencies to establish a contracted workforce capable of expenditures removal of the debris.
 2. Develop an independent team using the local and state personnel to monitor the removal activities. This team becomes the debris manager’s “eyes and ears” in the field
 3. Conduct daily update and briefings with key debris managers. Ensure that all major debris removal actions are reviewed and approved by the local debris manager.
 4. Ensure that a representative of the DMTF attends all briefings to resolve any coordination problems between State and Federal debris removal efforts and local debris removal and disposal efforts.
 5. Coordinate with Local and State DOT and law enforcement authorities to ensure that traffic control measures expedite debris removal activities.
 6. Establish a pro-active information management plan involving the Governor’s Press Secretary, Local EMA, PIO, and other agency PIO’s. Emphasis should be placed on actions that the public can perform to expedite the cleanup process, such as separating burnable and non-burnable debris; segregating HHW; placing debris at the curbside; keeping piles of debris away from fire hydrants, valves, etc; reporting locations of illegal dump sites or incidents of illegal dumping; and segregating recyclable materials.
- The public should be kept informed of debris pick-up schedules, disposal methods and ongoing actions to comply with State and Federal Environment Protection Agency (EPA) environmental regulations, disposal procedures for self-help and independent contractors, and restrictions and penalties for creating illegal dumps.

- Agency PIO's should be prepared to respond to questions pertaining to debris removal from the press and local residents. If required, a Joint Information Center (JIC) may be established to ensure a coordinated response is made to the public. The following questions are likely to be asked:
 - What is the pick-up system?
 - When will the contractor be in my area?
 - Who are the contractors and how can I contact them?
 - Should I separate the different debris materials and how?
 - How do I handle household Hazardous Waste (HHW)?
 - What if I cannot pay?
 - What if I am elderly?
 - What if I miss the initial (or only) pickup?
 - Do I have to cut up small yard debris?

2.5 Debris Removal for Mobile Home Parks

- Hurricanes and Tornados can cause almost complete destruction to mobile homes. This results in extensive amounts of mixed debris confined to relatively small areas. The mixed will include but not be limited to:
 1. Fallen trees, out buildings, screened porches, trailer frames, personal property such as clothing, food, furniture, etc;
 2. Appliances such as stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, etc;
 3. Household chemicals, commercial chemicals, propane and oxygen tanks, gasoline, oil, lubricants, automobiles, trucks, bicycles, lawn mowers, and utility hookups.
- A Catastrophic disaster may require temporary housing that cannot be provided by local or State agencies. If direct Federal Assistance is requested and approved, FEMA may provide mobile homes on a temporary basis under the *Individual Assistance (IA) Program*. FEMA's IA managers must obtain suitable locations to place FEMA mobile homes to provide temporary shelter expeditiously. Local mobile home parks will be surveyed and arrangements made with park owners for FEMA to clear the parks of debris in return to lease pads for FEMA mobile homes. *The local emergency manager and/or DMTF will need to closely coordinate with his/her counterpart in the FEMA IA office to assist in possible clean-up activities and to enforce condemnation procedures.* Legal aspects and health/safety concerns will impact the debris removal activities.

3

Emergency Structural Demolition and Removal

3.1 General Considerations

FEMA may request the Debris Management Task Force for removal of any and all structures that could pose a threat to life and/or cause serious injury. The types of structures may be industrial, commercial, residential, floating, or mobile homes. The purpose of this section is for the structures that reside in the private section, proper documentation and signatures must be acquired otherwise Erie County may be required to purchase the structure/property and be pulled into a costly lawsuit if wrongly demolished.

3.2 Pre-Event Planning

The Debris Management Task Force should have in place a Removal Operations Management Plan for the demolition and removal of damaged structure, before the time it is needed to be put into operation. These plans should be generic enough to be usable for the situation at hand, whatever the structure might be, but in detail so that every demolition and removal activity is accounted for. A sample plan is included in Appendix 1 of this report.

3.3 Concept of Operations

To increase the complication of the disaster at hand, the legality of demolishing private property adds legal work to the incident. Before any demolishing can start the local authority must condemn the structure in order to legally allow the government at any level (municipality, county, state, or Federal) to enter the property and remove the contents. Making sure that all actions are legal and within the power of the government it is important that this is a team process which is done in an expedited manner.

3.3.1 Incident Command System (ICS)

With the numerous agencies working on different tasks during and after an incident that produces debris which have to be removed and managed accountability must be set up for many reasons. The most important reason for the ICS is for personnel safety. Every member of every agency

must be accounted for at all times to make sure they are safe and do not require assistance. The ICS also eliminates the duplication of work and travel time to different job sites.

The agencies working directly under the Demolition and Removal ICS are (1) Demolition Task force (could be part of the Debris management Task Force), (2) Action Officer, (3) Mission Manager, and (4) Emergency Field Office.

3.3.2 Structure Verification

In the time of chaos personnel must continue to think straight and that includes making sure they are demolishing the correct structures.

3.4 Organizational Responsibilities

There are several organizations that are involved in a demolition mission. Each one has a specific responsibility to the total team effort.

1. Demolition Task Force

Like in the standard debris removal mission, it is better to form a “Task Force” whose purpose is the demolition and removal of unsafe structures. The task force is made up of members of the Condemnation Authority usually county or state government, FEMA, and the Corps of Engineers, (Debris Action Officer). If there are several agencies involved in the condemnation process then each should have a representation on the Task Force. There may be other required and if so, they should be added. The point of the Task Force is to agree to a process and a set of specific responsibilities for each, in order to have a successful mission. The Corps of Engineers **CANNOT** execute a demolition mission without full partnership of all the required players. Below is an example of a Demolition Task Force. Remember, the state and local government **MUST** perform the condemnation process and it’s always better for the locals to obtain rights-of-entry (ROE) and rights-of-way (ROW). The Federal Government can do the ROE/ROW but it’s not the best situation. Among other activities it’s Task Forces’ responsibility to set priorities and timelines. This based on health and safety needs, political needs and other operational matters. The corps of Engineers, while a participant in the process, does not set the priorities.

Sample Demolition Task Force Organization

Agency	Function
State Fire Marshall	Condemnation
State Highway Department	Rights-of Entry/Rights-of-Way
State Dept. of Environmental Protection	Disposal Site
FEMA Debris Project Officer	FEMA Oversight/TF Chairman
Corps of Engineer Debris Action Officer	Execution Coordination

2. Action Officer

The Debris Action Officer is the Corps representative on the Demolition task force. The action officer's responsibility is to serve as the project manager (PM) for the Demolition Mission and to provide overall project management oversight of the mission. As such, the Action Officer will attend the Task Force meetings and negotiate specific duties/responsibilities between members and the Task Force. The Action Officer will be responsible for the development of the various execution plans to include schedules, but not necessarily responsible for the total development. These plans and schedules must be a total team effort.

3. Mission Manager

The mission manager, located at the Emergency Operations Center or other designated location, is responsible for mission execution. This individual coordinates and participates as necessary in the total process. He/She coordinates with the contracting and resources management to ensure everything is ready and running smoothly for mission execution.

4. Emergency Operations Center

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is the center of the demolition mission. Once all the documentation is accomplished then it's the EOC that executes. The EOC negotiates with the contractor(s) on daily unit assignments and production requirements. The lead district will have already advertised and awarded an IDIQ type contract such that the resident engineer at the EOC can perform his/her negotiations. A daily production report will be produced by the EOC.

3.5 Structure Verification

Care must be taken to ensure that the structure the contractor is at is the one that is supposed to be demolished. A system of several checks and verifications **MUST** be established. Below are some recommended processes:

- Ensure the individual who owns or has power of attorney for the property to be demolished signs the ROE/ROW. This is a local responsibility, but the Corps should ensure that the locals understand this.
- Once the ROE/ROW package is received at the EOC, assign a QA supervisor. The QA supervisor with the designated inspector and, if possible, with the property owner will physically inspect the property, compare it with the documentation and ensure it's the right tracking number. Marking is recommended by using a stake marked with the appropriate number and colored flag.
- Ensure that within the ROE/ROW package, in addition to the address, the property is geo-coded and has at least two pictures, clearly showing the property and the structure. The pictures should show front and back as the minimum.
- At the EOC, group as much as possible, the structures and assign them to a contractor as a delivery order against the base contract. Each task order will have to be negotiated. Strongly recommend having multiple contractors involved in this operation. It will keep the prices down and the production up. The contractor who works the fastest and cheapest gets more work. Average production rate should be no less than two structures per day per contractor. If Mobile Homes are the majority, a higher production rate can be established.
- When the contractor is ready to start the demolition, the QA inspector will again verify that it's the right location before any work has began.

Appendix J is a final Checklist of actions and reminders that should be done before the demolition of the structure takes place.

Appendix K is an example of a means to do "work tracking." These examples show the different types of paper work that should be completed to determine what work has been completed, by who, and who was paid for completing/working on it.

Appendix A

Core agencies and points of contact for the Debris Management Task Force

Local Governments

County

ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Contact Person: Deputy Commissioner CD/ODP

Office address: Public Safety Campus

45 Elm St. Buffalo, NY 14203

Office Phone: (716) 858-4799 (716) 898-3696 (24hr)

FAX: (716) 858-7937

Municipal

Grand Island

Contact Person: Superintendent of Highways

Office Phone: 773-9632

Fax: 773-9634

E-mail : highway@grand-island.ny.us

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator CD-145

Office Phone: 773-9600 x 616

Tonawanda

Contact Person: Superintendent of Highways

Office address: 450 Woodward Avenue

Kenmore, New York, 14217

Office Phone: 875-8822

Fax: 875-6725

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator

Office Phone: 861-7100

City of Tonawanda

Title: Disaster Coordinator

Office Phone: 692-2121

Amherst

Highway Department

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent

Office address: 1042 North Forest Rd

Amherst, NY 14221

Office Phone: 631-5990 (x 7260)

Fax: 631-7265

E-mail: hdispatch@amherst.ny.us

Contact Person: Director of Emergency Services and Safety CD-138

Office address: 5583 Main St
Williamsville, NY 14221

Office Phone: (716) 839-6707

Fax: (716) 631-7076

Clarence

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator

Office Phone: 860-3899

Newstead

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator

Office Phone: 369-8758

Buffalo

Contact Person: Commissioner of Public Works, Parks & Streets

Office address: 502 City Hall

Buffalo, NY 14202

Office Phone: 851-5636

Cheektowaga

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent

Office address: 3145 Union Rd

Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Office Phone: 686-3450

Fax: 686-3995

E-mail: Highwaydeptweb@tocny.org

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator CD-132

Office Phone: 583-4303

Lancaster

Highway Department

Office address: 525 Pavement Rd

Lancaster NY 14086

Office Phone: 683-3426

FAX: 685-0271

Contact Person: Coordinator CD-122

Office Phone: 683-6363

Alden

Highway Department

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent

Office address: 12800 W. Main St
Alden NY 14004

Office Phone: 937-7336

FAX: 937-0289

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator

Office Phone: 510-7095

Lackawanna

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator CD-150

Office Phone: 822-4900

West Seneca

Contact Person: Superintendent of Highways, Sanitation and Buildings & Grounds

Office address: 39 South Avenue

Office Phone: 674-4850

FAX: 677-4330

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator CD-133

Office Phone: 558-3238

Elma

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent

Office address: 2170 Bowen Road
Elma NY 14059

Office Phone: 652-2515

FAX: 652-3560

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator CD-133

Office Phone: 652-7635

Cell: 713-0018

Marilla

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent

Office address: 1883 West Ave
Marilla, NY 14102

Office Phone: 652-7311

Fax: 652-2541

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator

Office Phone: 863-7240

Hamburg

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent

Title: Highway Superintendent
Office address: 2720 Lakeview Rd
Hamburg NY 14085

Office Phone: 649-7700 (24 hrs. Hamburg Dispatch: 648-5111) Fax: 649-7791

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator CD-134

Office Phone: 480-9871
Contact Person: Richard Dimpfl (village)
Title: Disaster Coordinator CD-140
Office Phone: 491-8684

Orchard Park

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent
Office address: 4350 South Taylor Rd
Orchard Park, NY 14127
Office Phone: 662-6442 Fax: 662-6457
Email: Ophighway@orchardparkny.org
Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator CD-148
Office Phone: 662-6444

Aurora

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent
Office address: 251 Quaker Road
East Aurora, NY 14052
Office Phone: 652-4050 Fax: 652-1123
E-mail: Highway@townofaurora.com
Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator
Office Phone: 863-6942

Wales

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent
Office address: 12345 Big Tree Rd Wales Center, NY 14169
Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator CD-146
Office Phone: 860-5691

Evans

Contact Person: Superintendent of Highways
Office address: 8787 Erie Road Angola, NY 14006
Office Phone: 549-3533
Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator CD-139
Office Phone: 549-3600

Eden

Contact Person Highway Superintendent
Office address: 8197 N. Main St Eden, NY 14057
Office Phone: 992-3823 Fax: 992-2787
Email: Highway@edenny.org
Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator CD-147
Office Phone: 861-0850

Boston

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent

Office address: 6401 Town Park Lane Boston, NY 14025

Office Phone: 941-5869

Fax: 941-3677

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator CD-143

Office Phone: 816-6518

Colden

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent

Office address: 8947 State Rd Colden, NY 14033

Office Phone: 941-5012

Fax: 941-9335

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator

Office Phone: 941-9243

Holland

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent

Office address: Town Hall, 47 Pearl St (P.O Box 46) Holland, NY 14080

Office Phone: 537-2201

Fax: 537-9454

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator

Office Phone: 440-3667

Brant

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent

Office address: 992 Brant Farnham Rd Brant, NY 14027

Office Phone: 549-4770

Email: highway@brantny.com

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator

Office Phone: 864-8757

North Collins

Highway Department

Office address: 2051 Spruce St (PO Box 2) North Collins NY 14111

Office Phone: 337-33214

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator

Office Phone: 390-9034

Collins

Highway Department

Office address: 14097 Palmerton St Collins NY 14034

Office Phone: 532-2830

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator

Office Phone: 532-5838

Concord

Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator
Office Phone: 998-0925

Sardinia

Contact Person: Highway Superintendent
Office address: Community Center, 12320 Savage Rd Sardinia, NY 14134
Office Phone: 496-7526 Fax: 496-8917
Contact Person: Disaster Coordinator
Office Phone: 667-5201

State Governments

NYS Emergency Management Office Region 5

Contact Person:

Title: Regional Director
Office Phone: (315) 331-4880 Fax: (315) 331-3934
Cell Phone: (716) 432-8849 Pager: (716) 528-4569
Contact Person: District Coordinator
Cell Phone: (716) 207-5021 Pager: (315) 331-4880
Fax: (315) 331-3934

State Warning Point: 24 hrs. (518) 292-2200
SEMO Director: (518) 292-2301

State DOT

Contact Person: Regional Director
Office address: 100 Seneca St Buffalo, NY 14203
Office Phone: 847-3238
Contact Person: Regional Construction Engineer
Office address: 100 Seneca St Buffalo, NY 14203
Office Phone: 847-3273 24HRS. Office 847-3973

Federal Assistance

US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service chain saw crews
Local US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) phone: 879-4160
Department of Defense (DOD): (703) 428-0711
Regional contractors hired by FEM} or the USACE
Coast Guard Buffalo
Marine Safety: 843-9315 Search and Rescue: 843-9560 (24hrs)
Federal Highway Ad (202) 366-4000

*For additional phone numbers refer to the County of Erie Department of Emergency Services Disaster/Emergency Response Directory.

APPENDIX B

US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Emergency Management modeling technique using actual data from previous disasters

Initial Planning Data

- For planning purposes, the worst-case scenario should be used for the subject area.
- The most accurate process is to determine the defamed areas by using Doppler Radar (National Weather Service Broadcasts) and Geographical Information Systems
Doppler Radar will define the storm's intensity and the exact track of the eye of the storm in relation to the affected area.
- Track the storm and plot the eye path and 5-mile wide bands out from the center of the storm in relation to the affected area.
- The wind speed of the center of the storm will normally determine the reported storm category with the outward or 5-mile bands being a lesser category.
- Track the storm inland until the wind speeds dissipate below hurricane strength.

Divide outlined areas by storm category.

- Enter coordinates in a GIS database to determine areas and demographic information

Such as: -population -schools -businesses

Step 1 -Estimating Debris Quantities

The formula used in this model will generate debris quantity as an absolute value based on a known/estimated population or a debris quantity per square mile based upon population density per square mile.

- determine population (P) in the affected area
- for example, 1990 census data for Harrison County, MS, is 165,500 P=165,500
- The assumption of 3 persons per household (H) is used for this model
- Known/estimated population (P) for a jurisdiction may be used to determine a Value for H or $H=P/3$

Example

A category 4 storm passes through Harrison County, MS. The area is primarily single-family dwellings with some apartment complexes, schools, and shopping centers. Vegetation characteristic is heavy because of the proliferation of residential landscape shrubbery and trees throughout the area. The storm is very wet, with rain before and continuing for a few days after the hurricane.

Formula: $Q=H(C)(V)(B)(S)$

$H = P/3 = 165,500/3 = 55,167$ (3 persons/household)

$C = 50$ (Factor for a Category 4 storm)

$V = 1.5$ (Multiplier for heavy vegetation)

$B = 1.3$ (Multiplier for heavy commercial due to schools/stores/apartments)

$S = 1.3$ (Multiplier for wet storm event)

The $Q = 55,167 \times 50 \times 1.5 \times 1.3 \times 1.3 = 6,992,374$ cubic yards of debris or 7 million cy

The Model Formula: $Q= H (C)(V)(B)(S)$ where:

Q is the quantity of debris in cubic yards

H is the number of households

C is the storm category factor in cubic yards

V is the vegetation characteristic multiplier

B is the commercial business/industrial use multiplier

S is the storm precipitation characteristic multiplier

C is the storm category factor as shown below. It expresses debris quantity in cubic yards (cy) per household by hurricane category and includes the house and its contents, and land foliage.

Hurricane Category	Value of "C" Factor
1	2cy
2	8cy
3	26cy
4	50cy
5	80cy

V is the vegetation multiplier as shown below. It acts to increase the quantity of debris by adding vegetation, including shrubbery and trees, on public rights-of-way.

Vegetative Cover	Value of "V" Multiplier
Light	1.1
Medium	1.3
Heavy	1.5

B is the multiplier that takes into account areas that are not solely single-family residential, but includes small retail stores, schools, apartments, shopping centers, and light industrial/manufacturing facilities. Built into this multiplier is the offsetting commercial insurance requirement for owner/operator salvage operations.

Commercial Density	Value of "B" Multiplier
Light	1.0
Medium	1.2
Heavy	1.3

S is the precipitation multiplier that takes into account either a "wet" or "dry" storm event. A "wet" storm for category 3 or greater storms will generate more vegetative debris due to the uprooting of complete trees.

Precipitation Characteristic	Value of "S" Multiplier
None to Light	1.0
Medium to Heavy	1.3

Step 2-Debris Storage Site Requirements

Estimate debris pile stack height of 10 feet

60% usage of land area to provide for roads, safety buffers, bum pits and household hazardous waste areas

$$1 \text{ acre (ac)} = 4,840 \text{ square yards (sy)}$$

$$10 \text{ foot stack height} = 3.33 \text{ yards (y)}$$

$$\text{Total volume per acre} = 4,840 \text{ sy/ac} \times 3.33 \text{ y} = 16,117 \text{ cy/ac}$$

From the example above, the acreage required for debris reduction sites is:

$$7,000,000 / 16,117 \text{ cy/ac} = 434 \text{ acres (required for debris storage only, no buffers, etc)}$$

To provide for roads and buffers, the acreage must be increased by a factor of 1.66

$$434 \text{ ac} \times 1.66 = 720 \text{ acres or, since one square mile (sm)} = 640 \text{ acres}$$

$$720 \text{ ac} / 640 \text{ as} / \text{sm} = 1.12 \text{ sm.}$$

If you assume a 100 acre storage site can be cycled every 45 to 60 days or one time during the recovery period, then $720/2 = 360 \text{ ac}$ or four 100 acre sites would be required.

The number of sites varies with:

-Size

- distance from source
- speed of reduction (mixed debris is slower than clean woody debris).
- removal urgency

The USACE commonly removes approximately 70% of the total volume generated with local governments, volunteer groups, and private individuals removing the remainder. If 7 Million cy were estimated, the USACE would estimate removing approximately 4.9 million cy or debris.

Step 3- Categories of Debris

Debris removed will consist of two broad categories:

- clean wood debris
- construction and demolition (C&D) debris
- the clean debris will come early in the removal process as residents and local governments clear yards and rights-of-way
- the debris removal mission can be facilitated if debris is segregated as much as possible at the origin along the right-of-way, according to type
- the public should be informed regarding debris segregation as soon as possible after the storm.
- time periods should be set for removal, the first 7-10 days clean woody debris only, then followed by other debris, with the metals segregated from non-metals
- Most common hurricane-generated debris will consist of the, following:
 - 30 % clean woody debris
 - 70 % mixed C&D

Of the 70 % mixed C&D:

- 42 % burnable but requires sorting
- 5 % soil
- 15 % metals
- 38 % land filled

Based upon the above, 7,000,000 cy of debris would break down as follows:

- 2,100,000 cy clean woody debris
- 4,900,000 cy mixed C&D
 - of the 4,900,000 cy of mixed C&D 2,058,000 cy is burnable but requires sorting 245,000 cy is soil, 735,000 cy is metals, and 1,862,000 cy is land filled
 - burning will produce about 95 % volume reduction .
 - Chipping and grinding reduce the debris volume on a 4-to-1 ratio (4cy is reduced to 1cy) or by 75%
 - the rate of burning is basically equal to the rate of chipping / grinding, about 200 cy/hr.

However, chipping requires on-site storage and disposal of the chips/mulch.

APPENDIX C

Estimate of the amount of debris for all the communities in Erie County calculated using the USACE modeling technique .

Step 1-Estimating Debris Quantities

The formula used in this model will generate debris quantity as an absolute value based on a known/estimated population or a debris quantity per square mile based upon population density per square mile.

- determine population (P) in the affected area
- 2000 census population data for Erie County, NY is 950,265
- $P = 950,265$
- The assumption of 2.41 (2000 census data) persons per household (H) is used for this model
- Known/estimated population (P) for a jurisdiction may be used to determine a value for H or $H=P/2.41$

Example

A category 4 storm passes through Erie County, NY. The area is primarily single-family dwellings with some apartment complexes, schools, and shopping centers. Vegetation characteristic is heavy because of the proliferation of residential landscape shrubbery and trees throughout the area. The storm is very wet, with rain before and continuing for a few days after the hurricane.

Formula: $Q=H(C)(V)(B)(S)$

- $H = P/2.41 = 950,265/2.41 = 394,301$ (2.41 persons/household)
- $C = 50$ (Factor for a Category 4 storm)
- $V = 1.5$ (Multiplier for heavy vegetation)
- $B = 1.3$ (Multiplier for heavy commercial due to schools/stores/apartments)
- $S = 1.3$ (Multiplier for wet storm event)

The $Q = 394,301 \times 50 \times 1.5 \times 1.3 \times 1.3 = 49,977,652$ cubic yards of debris or 50 million cy

The Model Formula: $Q= H (C)(V)(B)(S)$ where:

- Q is the quantity of debris in cubic yards
- H is the number of households
- C is the storm category factor in cubic yards
- V is the vegetation characteristic multiplier
- B is the commercial/business/industrial use multiplier
- S is the storm precipitation characteristic multiplier

C is the storm category factor as shown below. It expresses debris quantity in cubic yards (cy) per household by hurricane category and includes the house and its contents, and land foliage.

Hurricane Category	Value of "C" Factor
6	2cy
7	8cy
8	26cy
9	50cy
10	80cy

V is the vegetation multiplier as shown below. It acts to increase the quantity of debris by adding vegetation, including shrubbery and trees, on public rights-of-way.

Vegetative Cover	Value of "V" Multiplier
Light	1.1
Medium	1.3
Heavy	1.5

B is the multiplier that takes into account areas that are not solely single-family residential, but includes small retail stores, schools, apartments, shopping centers, and light industrial/manufacturing facilities. Built into this multiplier is the offsetting commercial insurance requirement for owner/operator salvage operations.

Commercial Density	Value of "B" Multiplier
Light	1.0
Medium	1.2
Heavy	1.3

S is the precipitation multiplier that takes into account either a "wet" or "dry" storm event. A "wet" storm for category 3 or greater storms will generate more vegetative debris due to the uprooting of complete trees.

Precipitation Characteristic	Value of "S" Multiplier
None to Light	1.0
Medium to Heavy	1.3

Note: Steps 2 and 3 of this model can also be applied to other debris generating events once an estimated quantity of debris is established.

Step2 -Debris Storage Site Requirements

-estimate debris pile stack height of 10

-feet 60% usage of land area to provide for roads, safety buffers, bum pits and household hazardous waste areas

1 acre (ac) = 4,840 square yards (sy)

10 foot stack height = 3.33 yards(y)

total volume per acre = 4,840 sy/ac x 3.33 y = 16,117 cy/ac

- From the example above, the acreage required for debris reduction sites is:
 $50,000,000/16,117 \text{ cy /ac} = 3,102 \text{ acres}$ (required for debris storage only, no buffers, etc.)

- To provide for roads and buffers, the acreage must be increased by a factor of 1.66

$3,102 \text{ ac} \times 1.66 = 5,149 \text{ acres}$ or, since one square mile (sm) = 640 acres

$5,149 \text{ ac} / 640 \text{ as} = 8.05 \text{ sm}$.

- If you assume a 100 acre storage site can be cycled every 45 to 60 days or one time during the recovery period, then $5,149/2 = 2,575$ ac or thirty 100 acre sites would be required.
- The number of sites varies with:
 - size
 - distance from source
 - speed of reduction (mixed debris is slower than clean woody debris).
 - removal urgency

The USACE commonly removes approximately 70% of the total volume generated with local governments, volunteer groups, and private individuals removing the remainder.

If 7 million cy were estimated, the USACE would estimate removing approximately 4.9 million cy of debris.

Step 3-Categories of Debris

Debris removed will consist of two broad categories:

- clean wood debris
- construction and demolition (C&D) debris
- the clean debris will come early in the removal process as residents and local governments clear yards and rights-of-way
- the debris removal mission can be facilitated if debris is segregated as much as possible at the origin along the right-of-way, according to type
- the public should be informed regarding debris segregation as soon as possible after the storm
- time periods should be set for removal, the first 7-10 days clean woody debris only, then followed by other debris, with the metals segregated from non-metals
- Most common hurricane-generated debris will consist of the following:
 - 30 % clean woody debris
 - 70 % mixed C&D
 - Of the 70 % mixed C&D:
 - 42 % burnable but requires sorting
 - 5 % soil
 - 15 % metals
 - 38 % land filled

Based upon the above, 50,000,000 cy of debris would break down as follows:

15,000,000 cy clean woody debris

35,000,000 cy mixed C&D

Of the 35,000,000 cy of mixed C&D 14,700,000 cy is burnable but requires sorting

1,750,000 cy is soil, 5,250,000 cy is metals, and 13,300,000 cy is land filled

Burning will produce about 95 % volume reduction

Chipping and grinding reduce the debris volume on a 4-to-1 ratio (4 cy is reduced to 1cy) or by 75%

The rate of burning is basically equal to the rate of chipping / grinding, about 200 cy/hr. However, chipping requires on-site storage and disposal of the chips/mulch.

Municipalities requiring addition assistance:

Municipality	Reason
Amherst	Erie Community College North Campus University at Buffalo North Campus
Buffalo	HSBC Arena Dunn Tire Park University at Buffalo South Campus Canisius College Erie Community College City Campus
Orchard Park	Ralph Wilson Stadium Erie Community College South Campus

APPENDIX D

Pre-identified areas that can be used as temporary debris collection and processing sites

The soil conditions and topography of the site should be evaluated prior to using a site. In the preparation of designing the layout of the site, attention should be paid for ways to help return the site to its original condition (if not better) afterwards. One means of doing this is scrapping the topsoil away, exposing bedrock or clay (if present). This topsoil should be piled to the sides of the site and re-spread after the site is no longer needed.

1. Erie Community College - North Campus (Parking lots)
6205 Main St Williamsville, NY 14221
634-0800 Fax: 851-1429
2. Erie Community College - South Campus (Parking lots)
4041 Southwestern Boulevard Orchard Park, NY 14127
648-5400 Fax: 851-1629
3. Erie Community College - City Campus (Parking lots)
121 Ellicott Street Buffalo, NY 14203
842-2770 Fax: 851-1129
4. University at Buffalo - North Campus
1835 Millersport Highway Buffalo NY 14221
University Police Emergency Number: 645-2222
5. University at Buffalo - South Campus
3435 Main St Buffalo, NY 14214
University Police Emergency Number: 645-2222
6. Buffalo State College- 1300 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14222
878-4000 University Police: 878-6333
7. Walden Galleria (Parking lots)
Security Department: 1 Walden Galleria Drive Buffalo, NY 14225
Office: 681-7600 ext. 126
Emergency line: 681-3247 Supervisor's pager: 497-0961
8. Eastern Hills Mall (Parking lots)
4545 Transit Rd Williamsville, NY 14221
631-5191
9. Boulevard Mall (Parking lots)
1569 Niagara Falls Boulevard Amherst, NY 14228
834-8600
10. McKinley Mall (Parking lots)
3701 McKinley Parkway Buffalo, NY 14219
824-0462
11. A site on Two Mile Creek Road in the City of Tonawanda
12. A 9.9-acre site on Gowans Road in Angola (Can store approximately 3,000 cubic yards of various types of debris) (Site is used to dump snow removed from the business district during bad winters -3 to 4 times on average per bad winter)
13. Town of Amherst Compost Facility: 560 Smith Rd (716) 689-1280
14. Town of Amherst Highway Department: 1042 North Forest Rd, Amherst, NY 14221 (716) 631-5990 Fax: (716) 631-7265

APPENDIX E

Existing Erie County landfills, resource recovery facilities and transfer stations

I. CID Waste Management Inc. (Privately Owned)

10860 Olean Road, Chaffee, NY 14030

Phone: (716) 496-5000

Fax: (716) 496-5500

Services:

Waste Disposal, Landfill, Collection of Recycle, Recycle Disposal

2. Town of Marilla Landfill

Eastwood Drive, Marilla, NY 14052

Phone: (716) 655-1505

Services: Landfill

3. C & D Landfill / Schultz Landfill Inc. (Privately Owned)

777 Indian Rd Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Phone: (716) 681-6874

APPENDIX F

Examples of Memorandum of Understanding (MOD) and a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on temporary debris collection and processing sites

Memorandum of Understanding

Emergency Variance to Operate

During and after a crisis and/or disaster debris blocking the roadways and affecting daily life can be just as bad, if not worse than the initial event. It is understood that debris has to be removed in a fast manner to improve rescue efforts and to eventually return to daily activities.

I the undersigned understand my property and/or the property I am responsible for will be used as a temporary staging area for emergency debris removal. I understand that once there, it will become a low priority for removal and might remain for an extended period of time. This staging area is designed to help additional efforts of clearing the streets and the general community of debris generated by a crisis and/or disaster.

It is to my understanding that it is the reasonability of the County Debris Management Task Force to designate ingress and egress routes to the property in use, with the minimum impact to the current condition of the land or other operations taking place on it. I the undersigned understand it is my/our responsibility to mark any sewer lines, water lines, and any other utility lines located on the property.

Land Owner / Care Taker

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Company: _____

Contact information:

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Pager: _____

E-mail: _____

Erie County Department of Emergency Services

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Contact information:

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Pager: _____

E-mail: _____

Erie County Department of Environment and Planning

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Contact information:

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Pager: _____

E-mail: _____

Sewage Treatment Division

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Contact information:

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Pager: _____

E-mail: _____

Memorandum of Agreement

Emergency Variance to Operate

Some crisis and/or disastrous events can cause more damage and hamper daily life more by the debris they cause, rather than the event itself. I the undersigned agree to allow my property (or the property that I am responsible for) to be used as a temporary staging area for debris in an effort to clear the streets and public property faster. I also agree that it is the responsibility of the County Debris Management Task Force to designate ingress and egress routes to my property in use, with the minimum impact to the current condition of the land or private operations taking place on it. It is the landowner's responsibility to mark any sewer lines, water lines, and any other utility lines located on the property.

Land Owner I Care Taker

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Company: _____

Contact information:

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Pager: _____

Email: _____

Erie County Department of Emergency Services

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Contact information:

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Pager: _____

Email: _____

Erie County Department of Environment and Planning

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Contact information:

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Pager: _____

Email: _____

Sewage Treatment Division

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Contact information:

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Pager: _____

Email: _____

Illegal activities

Some natural disasters (such as wildfires) have been started to cover illegal activities. When the cause of the disaster seems suspicious or the environment that the debris removal is taking place seems out of the ordinary, close attention should be paid to watch for any cover-ups.

Some examples of such illegal activities are:

- murder
- break and entry (robbery)
- grand larceny
- vandalism

Suggested actions if suspicious activities are believed to have taken place:

- If still in progress immediately contact the local, county and/or state police/sheriff
- notify the local police department to respond at the earliest availability if non life threatening

Illegal Dumping

During and/or after a disaster people take advantage of the situation and illegally dump both hazardous and nonhazardous materials.

Some illegally dumped materials to watch for are:

- unmarked 55-gallon drums
- tires
- batteries

Suggested actions if suspicious materials are found:

- if it involves hazardous material immediately contact the local and County Hazmat teams
- contact the local police department to respond and file a report at their earliest availability

New York State Earthquakes

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Intensity</u>	<u>Magnitude</u>
12/19/1737	New York City	VII	~
3/12/1853	Lowville, Lewis County	VI	~
2/7/1855	Hudson Valley River Area	VI	~
10/23/1857	Buffalo	VI	4.30M _{fa} SC
12/18/1867	Northern New York	VI	4.30M _{fa} SC
11/4/1877	Northern New York	VII	4.90M _{fa} SC
2/5/1878	Flushing	VI	~
8/10/1884	New York City	VII	5.50M _{fa} SET
5/28/1897	Northeast New York	VI	4.70M _{fa} SC
2/10/1914	Ontario, CA	VII	5.20M _{fa} SC
2/3/1916	Schenectady	VI	4.10M _{fa} SC
3/18/1928	Saranac Lake	VI	4.10M _l EPB
8/12/1929	Attica	VIII	5.20M _n ST
4/20/1931	Lake George area	VII	4.70M _n ST
4/15/1934	Adirondack Mountains, Near Lake Champlain	VI	4.50M _l EPB
11/1/1935	Quebec-Ontario Border	VII	6.20M _s GR
9/5/1944	Between Massena, NY and Cornwall, ON	VIII	5.80M _n ST
1/1/1966	Attica	VI	4.60M _n STR
6/13/1967	Attica	VI	4.40M _n STR
6/7/1974	Wappingers Falls area	VI	2.90M _n DG
6/9/1975	Northern New York	VI	3.50M _n ST
2/26/1983	Near Langrangeville	VI	2.90M _n GS
10/7/1983	Blue Mountain Lake area	VI	5.10M _l PAL
10/19/1985	Southeast New York	VI	4.00M _l PAL

Data from MCEEI <http://mceer.buffalo.edu/infoService/faqs/eqlist.asp>

Erie County Emergency Response to High Water Events

Flood Plans can enable a flexible response to problems caused by flooding. Although barriers may protect potential flood areas from predictable weather events, flooding can occur at any time.

- Prolonged or intensive rainfall
- Rapid snow thaw
- Abnormally high creeks and stream levels
- Major storms

Flood Warnings

A typical flood warning time is around 30 to 60 minutes. Sample flood warning messages are:

- Flood Alert – Flooding is possible
- Flood Warning – Flooding of homes, businesses and main roads is expected
- Severe Flood Warning – Severe flooding may cause Imminent danger
- **Minor Flooding** - minimal or no property damage, but possibly some public threat or inconvenience
- **Moderate Flooding** - some inundation of structures and roads near streams. Some evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations are necessary.
- **Major Flooding** - extensive inundation of structures and roads. Significant evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations.

Flash Flood or Flood Watch: Indicates flash flooding or flooding is possible within the designated watch area. When a watch is issued, be alert and ready to take action.

Flash Flood or Flood Warning: Flash flooding or flooding has been reported or is imminent. You should take necessary precautions and actions at once.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

When a flood warning message is received, Erie County Emergency Services can alert relevant agencies. Depending upon the scale of potential flooding, the main difficulties are:

- Care of evacuated, hurt or homeless people
- Protecting of utilities
- Availability of transport
- Flood alleviation e.g. clearing blocked culverts and drains
- Providing emergency health advice
- Providing road barriers and signs
- Coordinating emergency support

Police

Primary police responsibilities:

- Unified Command
- Coordinate emergency services, local authorities, media etc
- Assist evacuation
- Secure, protect and preserve the scene, and control traffic
- Organize and disseminate casualty information
- Provisionally identify dead people
- Restore order

Fire & Rescue Services

Primary fire service responsibilities:

- Rescue trapped casualties
- Control fires, released chemicals and other hazards
- Assess hazards concerning evacuation
- Ensure safety of rescue personnel
- Minimize environmental dangers
- Liaison with ambulance services and medical services
- Recover dead in conjunction with the police
- Stand by during recovery

Emergency Manager

Primary emergency coordination responsibilities:

- Unified Command
- Monitor Flood stage heights
- Prepare Emergency Plans for local resources and useful equipment
- Advise residents of flood prone areas to obtain sandbags
- A single point of contact for information
- Issuing warning messages to local authorities
- Advise on weather, water flow, warnings and evacuation
- Issue media statements
- Issue situation updates
- Coordinate shelter operations
- Coordinate EOC if needed

Highway & Engineering Departments

- Unified Command
- Deployment sandbags for flood defense
- Free obstructions to storm and waste water drainage
- Repair breaches in flood defenses
- Visually monitor creeks and streams

Protective Actions

- Fill sandbags not more than $\frac{3}{4}$ full
- Lay them in layers with each row tight to each other, end to end
- Stamp them down before laying another row on top
- If a wall is more than two sandbags high, place a double line of bottom sandbags, followed by a second double line, then a single line on top.
- Make sandbags with compost bags, carrier bags or pillowcases filled with sand or earth
- Put a plastic sheet down first to act as an extra seal
- Protect all water entry points including air bricks, air vents and utility openings
- If gas vents are sealed, disconnect any gas supply
- Seals around doors and windows should be made watertight
- It can take 60 sandbags to correctly seal an external door

Advice for Public

1. FLOOD WARNING: 'GO IN, STAY IN, TUNE IN'
2. Stay calm
3. Ensure that neighbors know of the warning, and be prepared to help them
4. Keep a list of useful telephone numbers
5. Monitor NOAA weather or local radios
6. Make a flood kit: medications, warm clothing, sealed food, blankets, matches, candles, flashlights, portable radio, spare batteries, rubber gloves, personal documents
7. Do not drive, walk or swim through floods.
8. Be aware of hidden dips in a road
9. Floods often contain sewage - avoid food that may have been contaminated by floodwater
10. Avoid wet electrical equipment
11. Ventilate your property as much as possible, while maintaining security
12. Do not drive down flooded streets

If Flooding is Imminent

- Turn off electricity and gas
- Move family members, pets and supplies upstairs

Personal Flood Plans

- Discuss a plan with family members, friends and neighbors
- Know how to disconnect gas, electricity and water supplies
- Know where to move vehicles in an emergency.
- Store valuable property in a raised secure location
- Fill containers with clean water (Avoid using flood waters or local water)
- Care for the needs of pets and domestic animals

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION LIST

Department of Emergency Services to notify the following:

- » *Commissioner of Emergency Services*
- » *Deputy Commissioner of Disaster Preparedness*
- » *Deputy Commissioner of Fire Safety*
- » *Deputy Commissioner of Emergency Medical Services*
- » *Emergency Services Coordinator*
- » *Advanced Life Support Coordinator*
- » *Deputy Fire Coordinator*
- » *Commissioner of Public Works*
- » *Sheriff*
- » *County Executive*
- » *Commissioner of Personnel*
- » *Director of IT*

Hazard Analysis Report

Erie County

New York



**Prepared by:
Erie County Department of Emergency Services
March 2003**

Background

On March 26, 2003, Erie County conducted a hazard analysis using the automated program, *HAZNY* (Hazards New York). *HAZNY* was developed by the American Red Cross and the New York State Emergency Management Office.

The results of this hazard analysis are presented in this report.

HAZNY and Erie County

HAZNY is an automated interactive spreadsheet that asks specific questions on potential hazards in a community and records and evaluates the responses to these questions. *HAZNY* also includes historical and expert data on selected hazards. *HAZNY* is designed specifically for groups, rather than individual use. Erie County assembled a group of local officials to consider and discuss the questions and issues raised by the *HAZNY* program. Representatives from Erie County Department of Emergency Services facilitated the meeting and recorded the results.

The Results

The Group analyzed hazards potentially affecting Erie County. *HAZNY* rated each hazard based on the Group's assessment and assigned a numerical value.

These values are categorized as follows:

321 to 400 HIGH HAZARD
241 to 320 MODERATELY HIGH HAZARD
161 to 240 MODERATELY LOW HAZARD
44 to 160 LOW HAZARD

The Group rated the 31 hazards as follows:

Hazard	Rating
TERRORISM	338
HAZMAT (IN TRANSIT)	302
HAZMAT (FIXED SITE)	293
EXPLOSION	262
TRANS ACCIDENT	262
WINTER STORM (SEVERE)	254
FIRE	248
ICE STORM	243
SEVERE STORM	238
EPIDEMIC	236
OIL SPILL	230

TORNADO	224
CIVIL UNREST	206
RADIOLOGICAL (FIXED SITE)	203
STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE	200
FLOOD	191
ICE JAM	189
EARTHQUAKE	188
UTILITY FAILURE	186
AIR CONTAMINATION	182
WATER SUPPLY CONTAMINATION	178
RADIOLOGICAL (IN TRANSIT)	175
MINE COLLAPSE	168
TSUNAMI / WAVE ACTION	168
EXTREME TEMPS	166
WILDFIRE	166
DROUGHT	158
FUEL SHORTAGE	144
FOOD SHORTAGE	143
INFESTATION	128
DAM FAILURE	122

Hazard(s) rated as high: TERRORISM

TERRORISM: 338, High Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region

Cascade Effects: Highly Likely

Frequency: A Frequent Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: More Than One Week

Recovery Time: More Than Two Weeks

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

Hazard(s) rated as moderately high: HAZMAT (IN TRANSIT), HAZMAT (FIXED SITE), EXPLOSION, TRANS ACCIDENT, WINTER STORM (SEVERE), FIRE, ICE STORM

HAZMAT (IN TRANSIT): 302, Moderately High Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region

Cascade Effects: Some Potential

Frequency: A Frequent Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: Two to Three Days

Recovery Time: One to Two Weeks

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

HAZMAT (FIXED SITE): 293, Moderately High Hazard

Potential Impact: Several Locations

Cascade Effects: Highly Likely

Frequency: A Frequent Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: Two to Three Days

Recovery Time: One to Two Days

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death to Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

EXPLOSION: 262, Moderately High Hazard

Potential Impact: Several Locations

Cascade Effects: Highly Likely

Frequency: A Regular Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: Less Than One Day

Recovery Time: One to Two Weeks

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death to Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

TRANS ACCIDENT: 262, Moderately High Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region

Cascade Effects: Some Potential

Frequency: A Regular Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: Two to Three Days

Recovery Time: One to Two Days

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property

- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

WINTER STORM (SEVERE): 254, Moderately High Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region

Cascade Effects: Some Potential

Frequency: A Regular Event

Onset: One Day Warning

Hazard Duration: Four days to One Week

Recovery Time: More Than Two Weeks

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

FIRE: 248, Moderately High Hazard

Potential Impact: Several Locations

Cascade Effects: Some Potential

Frequency: A Frequent Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: Less Than One Day

Recovery Time: Less Than One Day

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

ICE STORM: 243, Moderately High Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region

Cascade Effects: Highly Likely

Frequency: A Regular Event

Onset: One Day Warning

Hazard Duration: Four days to One Week

Recovery Time: One to Two Weeks

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

Hazard(s) rated as moderately low: SEVERE STORM, EPIDEMIC, OIL SPILL, TORNADO, CIVIL UNREST, RADIOLOGICAL (FIXED SITE), STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE, FLOOD, ICE JAM, EARTHQUAKE, UTILITY FAILURE, AIR CONTAMINATION, WATER SUPPLY CONTAMINATION, RADIOLOGICAL (IN TRANSIT), MINE COLLAPSE, TSUNAMI / WAVE ACTION, EXTREME TEMPS, WILDFIRE

SEVERE STORM: 238, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region
Cascade Effects: Some Potential
Frequency: A Regular Event
Onset: No Warning
Hazard Duration: Less Than One Day
Recovery Time: One to Two Days
Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

EPIDEMIC: 236, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region
Cascade Effects: Highly Unlikely
Frequency: An Infrequent Event
Onset: No Warning
Hazard Duration: More Than One Week
Recovery Time: More Than Two Weeks
Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Little or No Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

OIL SPILL: 230, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region
Cascade Effects: Some Potential
Frequency: A Regular Event
Onset: No Warning
Hazard Duration: Less Than One Day
Recovery Time: One to Two Days
Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Moderate Damage to Private Property

- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

TORNADO: 224, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region

Cascade Effects: Highly Likely

Frequency: An Infrequent Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: Less Than One Day

Recovery Time: Three Days to One Week

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

CIVIL UNREST: 206, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Several Locations

Cascade Effects: Some Potential

Frequency: A Frequent Event

Onset: Several Days Warning

Hazard Duration: Two to Three Days

Recovery Time: Less Than One Day

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

RADIOLOGICAL (FIXED SITE): 203, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Several Locations

Cascade Effects: Highly Unlikely

Frequency: An Infrequent Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: Four days to One Week

Recovery Time: Three Days to One Week

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE: 200, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Several Locations
Cascade Effects: Some Potential
Frequency: An Infrequent Event
Onset: No Warning
Hazard Duration: Two to Three Days
Recovery Time: Less Than One Day

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

FLOOD: 191, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Small Region
Cascade Effects: Some Potential
Frequency: A Regular Event
Onset: Several Days Warning
Hazard Duration: Four days to One Week
Recovery Time: Less Than One Day

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

ICE JAM: 189, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Small Region
Cascade Effects: Highly Likely
Frequency: A Regular Event
Onset: Several Days Warning
Hazard Duration: One Day
Recovery Time: One to Two Days

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

EARTHQUAKE: 188, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region
Cascade Effects: Highly Likely
Frequency: A Rare Event

Onset: No Warning
Hazard Duration: Less Than One Day
Recovery Time: Three Days to One Week

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

UTILITY FAILURE: 186, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region
Cascade Effects: Some Potential
Frequency: An Infrequent Event
Onset: No Warning
Hazard Duration: Less Than One Day
Recovery Time: One to Two Days

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Little or No Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

AIR CONTAMINATION: 182, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region
Cascade Effects: Some Potential
Frequency: An Infrequent Event
Onset: Several Hours Warning
Hazard Duration: Two to Three Days
Recovery Time: Less Than One Day

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Little or No Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

WATER SUPPLY CONTAMINATION: 178, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Small Region
Cascade Effects: Some Potential
Frequency: An Infrequent Event
Onset: No Warning
Hazard Duration: Less Than One Day
Recovery Time: Three Days to One Week

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Little or No Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

RADIOLOGICAL (IN TRANSIT): 175, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region

Cascade Effects: Highly Unlikely

Frequency: A Rare Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: Two to Three Days

Recovery Time: One to Two Days

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

MINE COLLAPSE: 168, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Several Locations

Cascade Effects: Some Potential

Frequency: A Rare Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: Less Than One Day

Recovery Time: More Than Two Weeks

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

TSUNAMI / WAVE ACTION: 168, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Small Region

Cascade Effects: Some Potential

Frequency: A Rare Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: Less Than One Day

Recovery Time: Three Days to One Week

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

EXTREME TEMPS: 166, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region

Cascade Effects: Some Potential

Frequency: An Infrequent Event

Onset: Several Days Warning

Hazard Duration: Four days to One Week

Recovery Time: One to Two Days

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Little or No Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

WILDFIRE: 166, Moderately Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Small Region

Cascade Effects: Some Potential

Frequency: A Rare Event

Onset: No Warning

Hazard Duration: Four days to One Week

Recovery Time: One to Two Days

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

Hazard(s) rated as low: DROUGHT, FUEL SHORTAGE, FOOD SHORTAGE, INFESTATION, DAM FAILURE

DROUGHT: 158, Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region

Cascade Effects: Some Potential

Frequency: An Infrequent Event

Onset: More Than One Week Warning

Hazard Duration: More Than One Week

Recovery Time: One to Two Days

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

FUEL SHORTAGE: 144, Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region
Cascade Effects: Some Potential
Frequency: An Infrequent Event
Onset: More Than One Week Warning
Hazard Duration: More Than One Week
Recovery Time: Less Than One Day

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Little or No Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

FOOD SHORTAGE: 143, Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region
Cascade Effects: Highly Likely
Frequency: A Rare Event
Onset: Several Days Warning
Hazard Duration: More Than One Week
Recovery Time: One to Two Days

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death is Likely, but not in Large Numbers
- Little or No Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

INFESTATION: 128, Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Throughout a Large Region
Cascade Effects: Some Potential
Frequency: A Rare Event
Onset: More Than One Week Warning
Hazard Duration: More Than One Week
Recovery Time: Three Days to One Week

Impact:

- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
- Moderate Damage to Private Property
- Little or No Structural Damage to Public Facilities

DAM FAILURE: 122, Low Hazard

Potential Impact: Single Location
Cascade Effects: Highly Likely

Frequency: A Rare Event
Onset: Several Hours Warning
Hazard Duration: Less Than One Day
Recovery Time: One to Two Days

- Impact:**
- Serious Injury or Death Unlikely
 - Moderate Damage to Private Property
 - Moderate Structural Damage to Public Facilities

Biggest Hazards

HAZARDS THAT OCCUR WITH NO WARNING*

TERRORISM
HAZMAT (IN TRANSIT)
HAZMAT (FIXED SITE)
EXPLOSION
TRANS ACCIDENT
FIRE
SEVERE STORM
EPIDEMIC
OIL SPILL
TORNADO
RADIOLOGICAL (FIXED SITE)
STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE
EARTHQUAKE
UTILITY FAILURE
WATER SUPPLY CONTAMINATION
RADIOLOGICAL (IN TRANSIT)
MINE COLLAPSE
TSUNAMI / WAVE ACTION
WILDFIRE

* No warning was selected from the Onset Tab.

HAZARDS THAT OCCUR MOST OFTEN*

TERRORISM
HAZMAT (IN TRANSIT)
HAZMAT (FIXED SITE)
FIRE
CIVIL UNREST

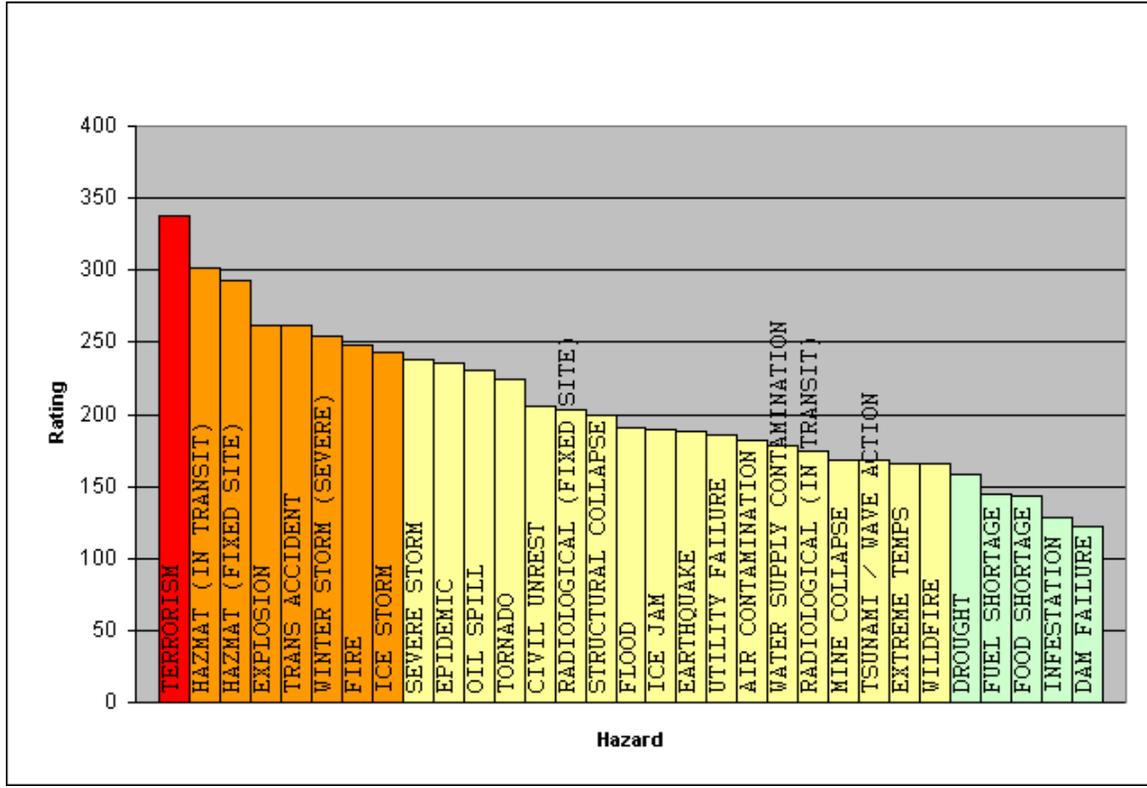
*A frequent event was selected on frequency Tab.

HAZARDS THAT PRESENT THE GREATEST THREAT TO LIFE*

HAZMAT (FIXED SITE)
EXPLOSION

*Serious injury and death in extremely large numbers was selected from the Impact Tab.

Figure 1. Chart of Hazards vs. Ratings



**EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS) PLAN
FOR
ERIE COUNTY, NEW YORK**

PURPOSE

1. To have a plan to alert the citizens of the affected areas of Erie County of a natural or technical (including man made) disaster.
2. To give advanced warning to potentially affected citizens on what steps should be taken to prevent injuries or deaths from occurring.
3. To meet Federal guidelines set down for a plan by each county to be established by January 1, 1997.

AUTHORITY

Title 47 U.S.C. 161, 154 (1) & (o), 303 (r), 524 (g) and 606; and 47 C.F.R. Part II, FCC Rules & Regulations, Emergency Alert System; Article 2B Executive Law; Article 209 Municipal Law

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this plan is to help prevent injury or death to the citizens of Erie County from natural or technological (man made) hazards. This plan contains procedures for local officials and/or the National Weather Service to transmit emergency information to the public during a local emergency using EAS. Those authorized to activate the plan will rely heavily on the voluntary cooperation and resources of the broadcast media and cable TV.

This document is intended to supplement existing procedures in the EAS New York State Plan as promulgated by the State Emergency Communications Committee. Acceptance of or participation in the plan shall not be deemed as a relinquishment of program control and shall not be deemed to prohibit a broadcast or cable licensee from exercising her/his independent discretion and responsibility in a given situation. Stations originating emergency communications shall be deemed to have conferred rebroadcast authority. The concept of management of each broadcast station and cable station exercising discretion during the broadcast of emergency instructions to the general public is provided by FCC rules.

DEFINITIONS

1. Emergency - A situation posing an extraordinary threat to the safety of life and property. Examples are tornadoes, floods, earthquakes, icing conditions, heavy snows, widespread fires, discharge of toxic gases, widespread power failures, industrial explosions, civil disorders, radiological emergencies, etc.

2. Designated Local Government Officials - The person or persons designated by the state and local government as specified in Appendix B.

HAZARDS WHICH REQUIRE PLAN ACTIVATION

1. Hazardous materials incidents which require notification of residential areas, private industries, or municipalities (including schools) for evacuation or shelter-in-place.
2. Natural disasters such as tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, flash floods, blizzards, earthquakes, etc.
3. Any other major emergency where the public would need to be notified.

WHO CAN ACTIVATE THE PLAN

1. President
2. Governor
3. State Emergency Management Office (SEMO)
4. County Executive and/or Commissioner of Emergency Services
 - a. Authority to activate may be delegated to County Warning Point or 911 Dispatch Center
 - b. Village and/or Town officials should contact the County Executive or Commissioner of Emergency Services for activation within their jurisdiction
5. National Weather Service

HOW TO ACTIVATE THE PLAN

1. Direct Activation by National Weather Service:
 - a. Activation of EAS for severe weather and flash flood warnings will be done directly using the Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME) on NOAA Weather Radio (NWR).
2. Activation by County Executive and/or Commissioner of Emergency Services (*through media sources*)
 - a. Telephone call is made to participating LP-1 radio station (see list below).
 - b. Proper authentication is completed (see below).
 - c. LP-1 radio station records message.
 - d. LP-1 radio station transmits message using appropriate EAS coding.

3. Activation by County Executive and/or Commissioner of Emergency Services
(through National Weather Service)
 - a. Communications is established with the National Weather Service by the following means:
 - High band radio - county frequency
 - Facsimile message
 - NYSPIN (Erie County Sheriff and Emergency Services)
 - Hand delivery
 - If any of the above is not available, then a low band portable will be taken to the National Weather Service for use on either Erie County F-2 or state wide fire ground F-4 frequencies.
 - b. Authentication of message completed
 - c. NWS broadcasts message on NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) using the Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME).

LIST OF PARTICIPATING LP-1 STATIONS

WBEN-AM/WMJQ-FM	876-1665 or 876-1344
WGR-AM/WWKB-AM	881-3086 or 843-0302
WIVB-TV	876-6627

AUTHENTICATION

1. The following authentication should be used in order to activate the EAS System:

The code word _____(for tests) and the code word _____(for emergencies) shall be used.
2. A return telephone call to the appropriate number shall be made to verify the activation for emergencies.