

Emergency Response Agencies and Organizations

In addition to the many fine local law enforcement, fire department and emergency medical services spread throughout the cities and counties of Kansas, the following is a partial list of state agencies and private organizations that routinely respond when disaster strikes:

- American Red Cross - www.redcross.org
- Civil Air Patrol - www.kswg.cap.gov
- Community Emergency Response Team - www.citizen corps.gov/cert
- Kansas Department of Agriculture - www.ksda.gov
- Kansas Department of Commerce - www.kansascommerce.com
- Kansas Department of Corrections - www.dc.state.ks.us
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment - www.kdheks.gov
- Kansas Department of Transportation - www.ksdot.org
- Kansas Department on Aging - www.agingkansas.org
- Kansas Division of Emergency Management - www.kansas.gov/kdem
- Kansas Health Policy Authority - www.khpa.ks.gov
- Kansas Highway Patrol - www.kansashighwaypatrol.org
- Kansas Homeland Security - www.kansashomelandsecurity.org
- Kansas National Guard - www.kansas.gov/ksadjutantgeneral
- Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services - www.srskansas.org
- Kansas Wildlife and Parks - www.kdwp.state.ks.us
- Salvation Army - www.usc.salvationarmy.org/usc/www_usc_kan.nsf

In an emergency, call 911 or contact your local county emergency manager for help.
County Emergency Managers - www.kansas.gov/kdem/contact_us/cocoordinator_lepclisting.shtml

And You!

You may want to consider becoming a member of your local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) – trained volunteers who respond to an emergency and provide assistance until professional first responders can arrive. For information, go to www.citizen corps.gov/cert

You are also a big part of our emergency team. Every citizen, every family, every business should have an emergency plan and an emergency supply kit readily accessible in the event of a disaster.

Emergency preparedness officials with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency have produced a list of essential items to consider when you pack your emergency kit.

Recommended supplies to include in a basic kit:

- One gallon of water per person per day for drinking and sanitation
- At least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit including a three-day supply of prescription medications
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask or cotton t-shirt to help filter the air
- Moist towelettes for sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Sturdy shoes and extra clothing and blankets
- Three-day supply of pet food
- Cash



You should also consider the unique needs of your own family – prescription medicines, diapers, infant formula, bottles, comfort items, books, paper, pens and a deck of cards or other forms of entertainment. When assembling your kit, consider putting together a spare kit for your car or your office. Just as important as putting your supplies together is maintaining them so they are safe to use when needed.

A checklist with more details and other useful information are free online at www.ready.gov

Keeping Kansans Safe Kansas Disaster Response



A message from Governor Kathleen Sebelius...

In recent years, our state has faced many challenges caused by natural disasters. In 2007, every Kansas county was under an emergency disaster declaration at some point. Our state was hit hard by ice storms, tornadoes and floods.



And although these natural disasters wreaked havoc on our communities, they could not diminish our resolve. Kansans came together. Individual citizens donated their time, money and supplies to aid in the recovery effort.

At the front lines of all of these efforts were Kansas' first responders – working to protect our citizens and rebuild our communities.

As Kansans, it's our responsibility to do our part to prepare for emergencies by assembling a home emergency kit, making plans on what to do when disaster strikes and practicing those plans.

By being prepared, we can continue to keep our families, friends and neighbors safe and secure.

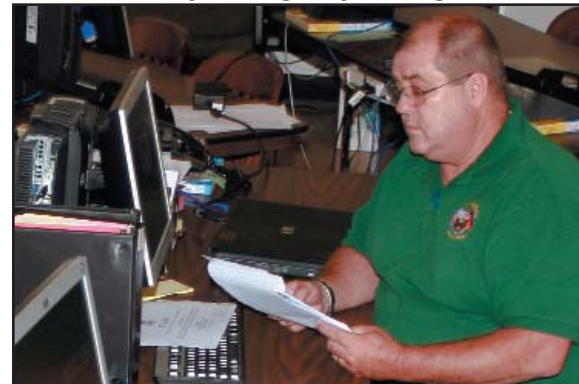
And should we ever find ourselves in a disaster, it's reassuring to know that the men and women who are our first responders are ready to go, day or night, everywhere and always.

Kathleen Sebelius
Governor

Kansas Emergency Responders: On the Job for You

When disaster strikes in Kansas, local emergency responders come to the community's aid, but when the disaster is too big and local resources aren't enough, the county emergency management office invites the state in to help. The Kansas Division of Emergency Management coordinates all state resources through the State Emergency Operations Center in Topeka to ensure that community needs are met with appropriate support. Below are some of the available resources Kansas communities may receive during a disaster. Meanwhile, each Kansan should take steps to prepare for disaster. This helps responders keep Kansans safe.

County Emergency Managers



- Local county emergency managers are the first point of contact for coordinating response to natural and man-made disasters in communities
- County officials may issue a local disaster declaration if conditions warrant
- County emergency managers contact the Kansas Division of Emergency Management to request state assistance, if needed, once local resources have been exhausted

Kansas Highway Patrol



- Command van provides a mobile dispatch command center, facilitating efficient communication
- Helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft relay vaccines and other vital equipment, transport first responders and provide damage assessment and surveillance
- Troopers support local law enforcement officers for security patrols, traffic control and other operations

Kansas Department of Agriculture



- Coordinates emergency response activities regarding agriculture and natural resources
- Support includes food and water protection, plant and animal disease control and eradication and nutritional assistance programs

Kansas Division of Emergency Management



- Coordinates all disaster response and recovery activities pertaining to state-declared emergencies
- Assists in mitigation and prevention of disasters, emergencies and civil defense emergencies
- Provides education and training on emergency preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation
- Provides information to the public on disaster-related events and operations

Kansas Department of Transportation



- Facilitates inter-agency communication through its Communications on Wheels mobile communication vehicle
- Operates two Highway Advisory Radios with a range of about five miles that can be used to repeat vital emergency information on AM radio
- Provides personnel and equipment to assist with road closures, debris removal and other disaster-related activities

Kansas National Guard



- Provides personnel and equipment for operational support, including:
- Emergency communications
 - Emergency response access clearing
 - Power generation
 - Security
 - Transportation of equipment and supplies

Kansas Department of Health and Environment



- Provides pertinent health information to the public
- Vital records replacement
- Assists with vaccine procurement/distribution
- Collaborates with federal and local authorities on clean up
- Monitor air quality and provide safety guidance to first responders and relief workers
- Coordinates medical and behavior health response teams, supplies and other assets.

Kansas Animal Health Department



- The Livestock Commissioner of the Kansas Animal Health Department has authority to direct emergency responders to incidents threatening or affecting the health of livestock
- The Livestock Commissioner and the administrator of the Kansas Division of Emergency Management will serve as the Unified Command in events involving control and eradication of animal disease

Civil Air Patrol



- Searches for missing persons, aircraft and emergency locator transponders
- Provides air and ground transportation
- Aerial reconnaissance and airborne communications
- Transportation of live human organs, blood and tissue

Lists are not comprehensive. Contact individual agencies for complete information on services offered.

We're part of a team

As director of the Kansas Division of Emergency Management and the Adjutant General, I have the pleasure of working closely with emergency responders of all disciplines across the state: county emergency managers, law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical personnel and the National Guard. I'm proud to be part of this statewide team as we plan for and respond to disasters of every kind in Kansas.



All disaster response begins with local responders, the dedicated county and city professionals who know the area better than anyone else. We work hard to support the team your county has in place, coordinating with the county emergency manager and bringing in resources as needed to support what communities already have. We appreciate the efforts of all of the local responders who work with us to ensure the best and most effective resources are provided as needed.

We ask every Kansan to keep local emergency phone numbers easily accessible for when disasters happen. In addition, develop a family emergency kit with food, water and medicine for each family member, and have a family plan in case the disaster happens when you aren't together and phone or other communication lines are down. These simple actions can be life-saving as you wait for additional help to arrive from local, state or federal resources.

Maj. Gen. Tod Bunting, Adjutant General of Kansas and Director, Kansas Division of Emergency Management

Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services

Individuals receiving food assistance are eligible for replacement benefits for food lost in a disaster. Medical and vision cards can be replaced. If Individual Federal Disaster Assistance is approved, SRS will temporarily waive verification requirements for those applying for benefits. SRS can assist with locating child care, redirecting child support payments, replacing assistive technology equipment, providing crisis counseling and ensuring the safety of special needs populations.

Kansas Department of Commerce

The Kansas Department of Commerce Urgent Need grants may be used for project activities that address an urgent need resulting from a sudden and severe natural or other disaster that has created conditions that pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community. These conditions must be of recent origin and have become urgent within six months following the disaster.

Kansas Department of Corrections

The Department of Corrections can provide minimum security inmate work crews to assist with a variety of storm recovery efforts. Inmate crews in the past have been involved in clean up activities following ice storms, tornadoes, wind storms and floods at various locations around the state.

Kansas Health Policy Authority

The Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA) oversees all health insurance purchasing by the State, including publicly funded programs, such as Medicaid, State Children's Health Insurance Program, MediKan and the State Employee Health Benefits Plan. For individuals enrolled in publicly funded programs, KHPA works in partnership with other agencies, such as SRS, to help people access public health insurance benefits they may be eligible for. In instances where a person may not have access to personal documents, such as in flooding or losses due to a tornado, KHPA temporarily waives verification requirements. This allows our partners to establish health care coverage quickly for those whose financial situation may have been immediately changed by the disaster.

KHPA provides a support role to first responders by providing information and guidance so that those who are eligible for health care coverage and who may have an emergent need to access that coverage are connected with those resources immediately.

Kansas Department on Aging

In emergency situations, the 11 Kansas Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) are the primary contact for seniors in need of services. The Kansas Department on Aging works with the AAAs and adult care facilities to coordinate communications between helping agencies and government entities.