

Preparedness starts with Kansas

Every family, every business, every school should have an emergency plan. Everyone should know the plan and practice it at least once a year.

Along with the plan, you should have a basic emergency kit containing the essentials needed to survive on your own for at least three days.

A basic home emergency kit should contain:

- Water - one gallon per person, per day for drinking and sanitation
- Food - nonperishable, high-energy foods that do not require cooking
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Necessary medications
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to seal home, allowing for a safe place for you to stay inside
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger
- Bedding -- blankets, pillows, air mattresses, etc.



Other items may be added as storage space permits, such as important family documents, extra clothing, disposable plates and eating utensils, board games and cards.

Additional information about emergency preparedness may be found online at www.ksready.gov.

Emergency Response Agencies

While almost any Kansas agency may have some part in emergency response and recovery within the state and not all agencies may be needed in a particular event, these agencies often play a key role:

- Kansas Division of Emergency Management
- Kansas National Guard
- Kansas Homeland Security
- Kansas Wing, Civil Air Patrol
- Kansas Animal Health Department
- Kansas Bureau of Investigation
- Kansas Corporation Commission
- Kansas Department of Agriculture
- Kansas Department of Commerce
- Kansas Department of Corrections
- Kansas Department of Education
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
- Kansas Department of Transportation
- Kansas Department of Veterans Affairs
- Kansas Department on Aging
- Kansas Division of Labor
- Kansas Forestry Service
- Kansas Geological Survey
- Kansas Highway Patrol
- Kansas State Fire Marshal
- Kansas Water Office
- Kansas Wildlife and Parks

In addition, there are a number of nongovernmental agencies and organizations that respond to disaster, including Citizens Corps, the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

KDEM	(785) 274-1409
Public Affairs Office.....	(785) 274-1192

Kansas Emergency Response



The Adjutant General's Department

- When a disaster strikes a community, a major player in the response and recovery operations is the Adjutant General's Department.
- The adjutant general is appointed by the governor and serves as director of the Kansas Division of Emergency Management, commander of the Kansas National Guard, and director of Kansas Homeland Security. The department's mission is to be the "9-1-1" for our state and nation's emergency responders, protect life and property in Kansas, provide military capability for our nation and be a valued part of our communities.

Kansas Division of Emergency Management

- The Kansas Division of Emergency Management within the Adjutant General's Department coordinates the state's disaster response efforts. KDEM provides guidance to Kansans and communities regarding how to plan for disasters, conducts training and exercises with county governments, provides response assistance to counties, and administers recovery programs for individuals and communities on behalf of Kansas and FEMA



Kansas National Guard

- The adjutant general administers the joint federal-state program that is the Kansas Army and Air National Guard. Approximately 7,700 Guardsmen currently serve the state of Kansas.
- Soldiers and Airmen stand ready to respond to disasters within the state and for federal missions at home and abroad.



Kansas Homeland Security

- Kansas Homeland Security, within the Adjutant General's Department, coordinates statewide activities pertaining to the prevention of and protection from terrorist-related events.
- This involves all aspects of prevention/mitigation, protection/preparedness, response and recovery.



State Emergency Operations

In the event of a disaster within the state, whether natural or man-made, the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM) coordinates with local emergency managers to provide assistance needed to protect Kansans and their property and minimize the effects of a disaster.

- Response is conducted in accordance with the Kansas Response Plan. Under the plan, the Adjutant General, as director of KDEM, coordinates the state's emergency response.
- All state agencies are a resource of the adjutant general in a disaster, including the Kansas National Guard.
- The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in Topeka may activate to:
 - * **Watch level** -- KDEM staff monitor the situation and remain in contact with local emergency management.
 - * **Partial activation** -- KDEM staff and representatives of key state agencies staff the SEOC.
 - * **Full activation** -- 24-hour staffing with all primary state agencies and social service organizations notified and required to send staff. Federal assistance may be needed.
- Based on advice from the adjutant general and other emergency management officials, the governor may declare a State of Disaster Emergency, *even if county officials do not*. This declaration allows state resources and personnel to be activated and prepositioned.
- The state does not take control from local authorities. State agencies will assist and augment county resources, working within the rules and regulations that govern them.
- A state declaration also allows the governor to request a federal disaster declaration from the president, if necessary.
- A federal declaration may provide FEMA assistance for individuals, local governments and some nonprofit organizations. Loans from the Small Business Administration may also be available to replace homes, personal property and business losses.

