

Emergency Preparedness Fact Sheet

Allegheny County Emergency Services

Fact Sheet # 6

Special Needs Registry

Being prepared for anything also includes being prepared for all constituencies. Nearly 160,000 residents of Allegheny County have some type of disability. To better serve these residents, Allegheny County Emergency Services developed a Special Needs Registry which allows residents to provide voluntary information that would be helpful for emergency responders to know when responding to a call.

Any Allegheny County resident who may require additional assistance due to special needs during a police, fire or medical emergency may submit information to the registry. This includes any physical or mental disability that would keep an individual from leaving the home quickly if they had to do so. It can include individuals with autism, those who are deaf-blind, and those who have intellectual disabilities, as well as individuals who have physical challenges. In the event that the resident is unable to submit information on their own, a person who is authorized to act on their behalf may do so.



The Special Needs Registry is a voluntary registry. The information provided will be shared with 911, fire, police, EMS, emergency planners and first responders in times of crisis. Persons on the registry are volunteering for the list and have the choice to agree to assistance, or to say no. Providing the information does not guarantee that the person will receive immediate or special aid in an emergency or disaster. Residents should always have their own emergency plan in place.

For more information, a list of Frequently Asked Questions, an online registry form, as well as printable forms and a pamphlet about the Special Needs Registry, visit www.alleghenycounty.us/specialneedsregistry.aspx or call the office during the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, at 412-473-1000 (Voice Only) or 412-473-3056 (TTY/TDD Only).



PLEASE NOTE:

The Special Needs Registry is only intended for use by those who do not live in a residential special needs facility—such as an independent living facility, nursing home or hospital. Allegheny County Emergency Services already has information about the locations of such facilities.

September is Emergency Preparedness Month

September is nationally recognized as Emergency Preparedness Month. The “Ready” campaign was started by the federal government to assist the public in preparing for natural disasters. Allegheny County Emergency Services is proud to join that effort as we educate and empower our residents to prepare for and respond to emergencies including natural and man-made disasters.

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