

Emergency Preparedness Fact Sheet

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.



The mission of Allegheny County Emergency Services is to support our citizens and first responders for the safety and sustainability of our community through prevention, preparation, protection, response and recovery from manmade and natural all-hazard emergencies and acts of terrorism. In order to meet that mission, the Department has four divisions which work together to ensure its vision is met.

The **9-1-1 Communications** division serves as a vital link between the residents, business, visitors and public safety agencies of Allegheny County. There are over 250 public safety communicators who work in the 911 Center, handling over one million calls each year and dispatching police, fire and EMS agencies throughout 130 municipalities.

The **Emergency Management** division's role is to provide a comprehensive, integrated program of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery for emergencies and disasters of any kind. It accomplishes this through coordination with Local Emergency Management Coordinators and by utilizing a Local Emergency Planning Committee to bring together diverse groups for emergency planning and problem solving in the county.

The **Fire Academy** division provides the highest level of fire, rescue, hazardous materials and terrorism training and certification programs to emergency services responders and private industry emergency responses teams in the region. This is accomplished through an ongoing program of curriculum development and delivery which meets PA State Fire Academy and the National Fire Academy standards and accreditation criteria.

The **Fire Marshal's Office** division is focused on protecting our community from the perils of fire, explosions and other hazardous conditions. This can include fire prevention education, fire investigations and compliance inspections.

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