



LA National Guard Emergency Management Bulletin

July 2024
Volume FY24 Issue 10



Purpose

The National Guard (NG) Emergency Management (EM) program is responsible for all activities and operations related to preparing for, mitigating the potential effect of, preventing, responding to, and recovering from all multi-agency and/or multi-jurisdictional emergencies on or impacting NG installations nationwide. The NG EM Program functions within an all-hazards environment consisting of all natural, technological (man-made), and terroristic hazards.

Vision

To provide the NG EM services when and where they are needed with the joint and interagency capacity necessary to effectively and efficiently protect the NG community and mission capabilities from all hazards.

Mission

To provide integrated and comprehensive NG EM services necessary to protect our community and mission capabilities from all hazards in a cost effective, implementable, and sustainable manner through resiliency.

LANG EM WEB PAGE:

<http://geauxguard.la.gov/resources/emergency-management/>



IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

EMERGENCY
Fire-Police-Ambulance
911

Michael Green 504-278-8031
LMD Emergency Management Program
Coordinator
michael.s.green39.nfg@army.mil

1LT Damilola Babalola 318-290-5869
LTC-P EM Manager
damilola.i.babalola.mil@army.mil

Peter Knight 504-278-8011
Jackson Barracks AT/ EM Manager
peter.d.knight2.nfg@army.mil

Chris Letendre 225-319-4667
GWLC EM Manager
christopher.a.letendre.nfg@army.mil

CPT Jason Medcalf 318-299-4151
Camp Minden EM Manager
jason.a.medcalf.mil@army.mil

LA National Guard Joint Operation
Center 888-278-8748

GOHSEP 225-925-7500

American Red Cross
1-800-RED-CROSS

Federal Emergency Management
Agency 1-800-621-FEMA

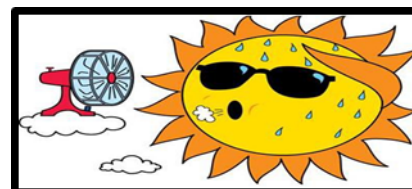
National Poison Control Center
1-800-222-1222

National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-7233



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

This month's bulletin will focus on Shelter in Place procedures, summer heat, fireworks safety, and water safety. Summer means vacation, outdoor activities, and fun in the sun! It's a time when families hit the road to visit national parks or distant relatives. The warm months and long days mean that there is plenty of time for baseball games and barbecues. The sultry temperatures practically invite you to take a dip in the pool or ocean. But don't let the sunny days and warm nights fool you, summer also holds significant weather and water hazards. Heat waves can be lengthy and deadly. Lightning deaths are at their peak during the summer. Beach hazards such as rip currents can catch the unprepared and it's the hurricane season. But you're not powerless in the face of these hazards. With just a few simple steps, you can become weather-ready. Stay safe this summer. Know Your Risks, Take action and be a force of Nature! The best time to prepare is before the event happens. Always Remember, "Be Prepared".



Michael Green
Emergency Manager Program Coordinator
michael.s.green39.nfg@army.mil



Things to Know About Water Safety

- ✓ Ensure every member of your family learns to swim so they at least achieve skills of water competency; able to enter the water, get a breath, stay afloat, change position, swim a distance then get out of the water safely.
- ✓ Employ layers of protection including barriers to prevent access to water, life jackets, and close supervision of children to prevent drowning.
- ✓ Know what to do in a water emergency – including how to help someone in trouble in the water safely, call for emergency help and CPR.

Why is Water Safety So Important

- ✓ It only takes a moment. A child or weak swimmer can drown in the time it takes to reply to a text, check a fishing line or apply sunscreen. Death and injury from drownings happen every day in home pools and hot tubs, at the beach or in oceans, lakes, rivers and streams, bathtubs, and even buckets.
- ✓ The Red Cross believes that by working together to improve water competency- which includes swimming skills, water smarts and helping others – water activities can be safer...and just as much fun.

What Does It Mean to Be Water Competent?

Water competency is a way of improving water safety for yourself and those around you through avoiding common dangers, developing fundamental water safety skills to make you safer in and around the water, and knowing how to prevent and respond to drowning emergencies. Water competency has 3 main components; water smarts, swimming skills and helping others.



Water Smarts

Take these sensible precautions when you're around water (even if you're not planning to swim).

- Know your limitations, including physical fitness, medical conditions.
- Never swim alone; swim with lifeguards and/or water watchers present.
- Wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket appropriate for your weight and size and the water activity. Always wear a life jacket while boating, regardless of swimming skill.
- Swim sober.
- Understand the dangers of hyperventilation and hypoxic blackout.
- Know how to call for help.
- Understand and adjust for the unique risks of the water environment you are in, such as:
 - River currents.
 - Ocean rip currents.
 - Water temperature.
 - Shallow or unclear water.
 - Underwater hazards, such as vegetation and animals.



Swimming Skills

Learn how to perform these 5 skills in every type of water environment that you may encounter (such as in home pools, oceans, lakes, rivers and streams):

1. Enter water that's over your head, then return to the surface.
2. Float or tread water for at least 1 minute.
3. Turn over and turn around in the water.
4. Swim at least 25 yards.
5. Exit the water.



Helping Others

These actions will help your family avoid emergencies – and help you respond if an emergency occurs:

- Paying close attention to children or weak swimmers you are supervising in or near water.
- Knowing the signs that someone is drowning.
- Knowing ways to safely assist a drowning.
- Knowing ways to safely assist a drowning person, such as “reach or throw, don't go”.
- Knowing CPR and First Aid.



Fireworks Safety

Every Fourth of July, more fires are reported nationwide than on any other day of the year, with 50% of those fires being fireworks-related. Homes, wooded & grassy areas, and even automobiles have been destroyed by fire because of fireworks. The Fire Department has responded to many fireworks-related grass fires, in addition to structure fires that were also caused by fireworks. Most commonly the fires are caused by bottle rocket-type fireworks, where the rockets can land in dry vegetation or on rooftops and still retain enough heat to cause a fire.

In recent years, fireworks have been one of the leading causes of serious injuries that require emergency treatment in a hospital ER. Fireworks can cause severe burns, fractures or scars, and can even result in death or life-long disfigurement. The thousands of serious injuries that occur each year typically involve damage to the eyes, head or hands, with the risk of fireworks-related injuries highest for children 5 - 14. Even though novelty fireworks, such as fountains and sparklers, are assumed to be "safe", they can reach temperatures of more than 1,000° F, and account for 36% of all emergency room fireworks-related injuries.

There are safer alternatives to using fireworks on the Fourth of July. Public fireworks displays can be the safest and smartest, and are often the most economical, fireworks alternative.

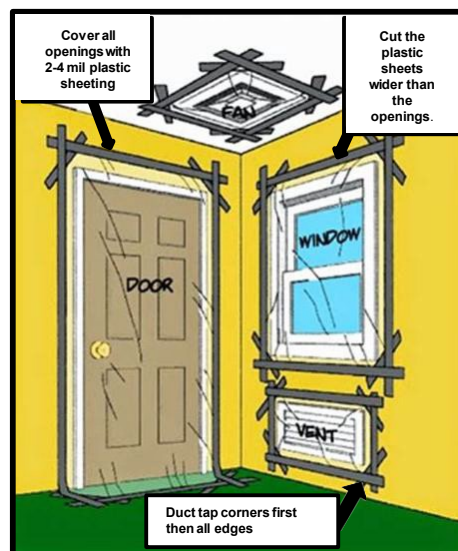




SHELTERING-IN-PLACE

In the event of an emergency, local emergency management organizations have plans and procedures to direct personnel to evacuate or take some form of shelter. For nonessential and nonemergency personnel, the preference is generally evacuation. In specific instances, evacuation or moving to a civilian shelter or designated place is more dangerous than remaining where you are, such as with short- or no-notice emergencies including hazardous materials events. **In these instances, you may be directed to shelter-in-place.**

Sheltering-in-place means to take temporary protection in a structure or vehicle—typically your workplace or residence—that is not certified, insured or staffed for emergency conditions. Installation procedures designate which responsible party or office will order personnel to shelter-in-place and for how long the order is expected to be in effect. Remember, **preparing your residence is your own responsibility.**



How to Prepare

- Have an emergency supply kit ready.
- Know how to turn off your heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems without damaging the components.
- Know how to close and secure doors, windows, vents and other exterior openings quickly.
- Identify potential interior space for sheltering-in-place.


How You Will Be Notified

Any of the following emergency warning procedures may alert you to shelter-in-place:

- A voice announcing system using exterior (Giant Voice) and interior speakers or sirens
- Automated Community Notification Systems for sending recorded voice messages or text
- Emergency Alert System (EAS) broadcasts on the radio or TV
- Residential route alerting—messages announced from vehicles with loudspeakers

Shelter in Place in Four Easy Steps

If there is an outdoor release of hazardous chemicals that may contaminate the outside air or a tornado siren has been sounded, please do the following:

- 
Seek refuge inside a building and remain there.
- 
Ventilation systems will be turned off.
- 
Keep tuned to media, if possible.
- 
Wait for "all clear" from officials.



QUARANTINE, ISOLATION, & SHELTER IN PLACE *WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?*



Quarantine

Quarantine is defined as mandatory isolation or restrictions on where you can go, intended to stop a contagious disease from spreading.



Isolation

Isolation applies to individuals who contract COVID-19. These individuals may be put into isolation in a hospital or at home..



Shelter in Place

Shelter in Place applies to a broader group of individuals, and can last for weeks or longer. It is not specifically related to confirmed exposure to the virus causing COVID-19. During a Shelter in Place, individuals may only leave home only for essential activities.

These activities may include picking up medicine, visiting a doctor, grocery shopping, caring for a family member in another household, socially distant outdoor exercise, or performing work for an essential business.

