

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
**DICKEY COUNTY NORTH DAKOTA**

## **EVACUATION**

### **DEFINITION**

The orderly removal of **INDIVIDUALS OR FAMILIES (I/ F)** from a known or a pending hazard. There are three types of evacuation for Dickey County planning considerations.

- (1) **SELF-** Individuals or families evacuate on their own without being asked or accepting help or guidance from the system
- (2) **Voluntary-** Individuals or families leaving after being asked by the system and accepting guidance as to preferred routs, shelters etc.
- (3) **Mandatory (forced)** - Individuals forcibly removed from a scene to a shelter or to jail

It is critical that the reader understand the three types evacuations described above and the ramifications of each type of evacuation. Further definitions of terms used in this planning are included in the CENTURY CODE 37-17 Disaster Act included in this planning.

### **GOAL**

To design a plan to seamlessly transition from a local incident operations planning used daily, to a STATE or REGIONAL level plan to facilitate the movement of **INCIDENT AFFECTED** populations out of / or into Dickey County, or to assist the STATE or REGION by housing evacuees in our local area.

### **AUTHORITY**

- (1) **Self-** Any Individual may self evacuate when ever they feel in danger
- (2) **Voluntary** -The Incident Commander (IC) in charge of any type of incident may call for a **Voluntary** Evacuation of a residence, community, etc. for the safety of the population and to facilitate incident operations.
- (3) **Mandatory** - It is to be understood that in North Dakota **ONLY** the Governor my call for and enforce a **Mandatory** evacuation. SEE Chapter 37-17-1 Disaster ACT included as part of this planning.

### **KEY CONCERNS**

The **NUMBER ONE CONCERN** regarding the evacuation of large parts or even the whole of Dickey County is there is **NO** means to effectively notify even 50% of our population in a timely fashion. This will require physical visits to each rural farmstead's to initiate an evacuation. Farmers may work lands miles away from their homes so even this would not guarantee a high percentage of notification for our rural citizens.

There is no such thing as local radio station in these days of satellite radio and the normal Emergency Alert System is a dysfunctional joke for the same reason. Most households are on satellite TV and the NOAA weather radios will not function in over half of the county.

The plans for the future (as funding becomes available) is to link are EMERGENCY paging and siren systems infrastructure to a low power radio station ('s) to alert the public at the same time as we alert our emergency personnel and SPECIAL NEEDS populations via the Dickey County All-Call system. SEE DICKEY COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS PLAN for further descriptions and instructions on its use.

This would allow us to activate the sirens in every community, and train the population to turn to an established frequency on their car or home radio and receive guidance and instruction from local government as to what we want them to do. Until this plan becomes a functional, the following guidance must be followed.

**PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Ongoing public information campaigns regarding I/F preparedness are critical to keeping disaster awareness in the fore front of the public’s mind. The CERT programs as well as other programs aimed at the school aged populations are critical to the success in implementing this as well as all emergency planning.

A public awareness will also address the PET Sheltering Requirements for Dickey County Shelters designed the safety and comfort of those I/F who need to shelter in our county.

**NOTIFICATION and SYSTEM ACTIVATION**

- (1) The INCIDENT COMMANDER (IC) will establish the need to and extent of the area to be evacuated
- (2) Contact DICKEY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (DEM), DICKEY COUNTY SHERRIFF (DCSO), or DICKEY COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS (PW) who will contact the following entities and activate the EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC) process. (The scopes of actions are incident dependant)

*The following NOTIFICATIONS and or actions would be initiated concurrently and may be done in varying order depending on the incident requirements!*

**DC-Office of Emergency Management (DEM)**

Notifies	Actions
DC-CERT Coordinator	Open EOC -Plan for Shelter-Incident support staff
Dickey County All-Call	Alert responders- SPECIAL NEEDS facilities
ND-DES – State Radio	Support and Coordination
City/County Commission	Report to EOC- Declarations-Continuum of Gov.
Public Information Officer	Prepare press announcements

*Coordinate and support DCSO, PW, EOC and Incident Commander*

## **DC-Sheriff's Office (DCSO)**

### **Notifies**

Law mutual aid

### **Actions**

Bring in additional law enforcement-  
24 hour operations  
Secure incident area  
Secure EOC

*Support DEM, PW, EOC and Incident Commander*

## **DC-Public Works (PW)**

### **Notifies**

Activate Combined Public Works Plan  
PW mutual aid as needed

### **Actions**

Secure additional personnel and equipment  
consider fuel issues- tires- general maintenance  
24 hour operations

*Support DEM, DCSO, EOC and Incident Commander*

## **DC-CERT Coordinator (CERT)**

### **Notifies**

All TEAM leaders

### **Actions**

Staff EOC support positions- 24 hour operations  
Set up shelters- PET Areas  
Local teams to assist evacuation notifications

*Support DEM, EOC, LG and the Incident Commander*

## **DC-Public Information Officer (PIO)**

### **Notifies**

PRESS contacts

### **Actions**

Early warning of pending information releases  
Set up location for Press Conferences  
Consider the need and location of a JIC

*Support DEM, EOC, LG and the Incident Commander*

## **CITY/COUNTY Local Government officials (LG)**

### **Actions**

Establish a quorum to make decisions on information presented to you by the IC and all of the other professionals mentioned above as to;

- 1) The conduct of the incident- establish the need to evacuate
- 2) Establish the need to declare an emergency
- 3) Consult with STATE government on your options as a commission.

- 4) Support the PIO in providing approved statements, talking points and presenters

*Support DEM, EOC, and the Incident Commander*

## **EVACUATION CONSIDERATIONS**

**DC-Emergency Operations Center (EOC)** will include the above mentioned agencies working together with IC to ascertain the following:

*(Each incident will present a different scenario so no list can be all-inclusive. The following considerations will be critical for most all incidents requiring an evacuation.)*

- (1) Actual amount of ACTUAL public danger
- (2) Length of time needed to evacuate said area- length of time to be evacuated
- (3) Current and anticipated weather conditions
- (4) Manpower and assets to safely evacuate VS shelter in place
- (5) Ability to secure both evacuated area and its population
- (6) Ability to provide critical emergency services to both responders and evacuees
- (7) Ability to communicate to and track evacuees, responders - information center
- (9) Ability to run operations 24 hours a day considering both supplies and manpower
- (10) Do you have a safe environment to send the evacuees to?
- (11) Do you have the ability to change plans and routes of egress should situations change, and communicate these changes to both responders and the public?
- (12) Is your evacuation LEGAL?
- (13) Have you notified the STATE DES- Neighboring communities likely to be impacted by your evacuation or on the evacuation routes- neighboring healthcare facilities, the PRESS?

The IC, EOC, LOCAL GOVERNMENT (LG) -analyzes the incident using the above mentioned considerations, formulate planning to decide routes, safe areas, shelters, staging areas, and the need of decelerations of emergency.

- (4) Advise and coordinate with ND-DES for mutual aid, and final planning
- (5) Initiate and support the evacuation
- (6) Initiate Public Information Dissemination

## **Implementation Steps -General Population**

If the need to evacuate an area has been decided using the above mentioned criteria the EOC, using input from LAW and PW will develop a written guide sheet to be handed to each evacuee I/F with the following information:

- 1) Nature of the danger or threat requiring evacuation-

- 2) Primary and secondary routes to a staging area or a shelter
- 3) Suggested supplies to be taken with the I/F
- 4) Method to receive future information i.e. radio stations/ information centers etc.
- 5) A phone number to assist in accounting for all I/F while dispersed
- 6) Copy of DC- Pet policy for sheltering in county shelters

This information will be disseminated to the PRESS following normal procedures for emergency notification as outlined in THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER's protocols.

Initiate a Dickey County All Call alert to inform, direct, and assemble all available resources to designated staging areas and to alert schools, rest homes, and the hospital as to the need to activate their own plans.

Initiate and activate DICKY COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS PLAN and assign tactical frequencies as needed.

Utilizing PW, CERT, FD, personnel (under direction of LAW) will be briefed as to the situation, safety issues, radio frequencies etc., dispatched to their assigned area to alert I/F and set up roadblocks as needed to limit entrance to the area and to pass the information sheet (above) to the public as they leave the area.

The information sheet (as described above) will be handed to each evacuee possible, as well as attaining a written documentation of the contact. This documentation will be accomplished by using the combination Dickey County Evacuation Refusal/Family locator form. This documentation will be returned to the EOC and will be used to account for the status and location of the public during said evacuation.

**REMEMBER- Evacuation is voluntary unless mandated by the governor!!**

### **Implementation Steps- Special Needs Populations**

EMS with local FD assistance (if needed) will evacuate pre-identified Special Needs I/F to the special needs shelters following the SPECIAL NEEDS PROTOCOLS.

## **EMERGENCY OPERATIONS**

During the incident the IC will be supported by the EOC following established operations protocols in place in Dickey County. The scope of operations will be incident dependant. A full

scale operation needing outside assistance and or assets will follow the **DICKEY COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN**.

IC- request manpower, supplies, equipment...

EOC- finds it and has it delivered to, or personnel report to the **DICKEY COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT** where it will be inspected, logged, staged or delivered to the scene.

See the **DICKEY COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN** for further details.

**NOTE: During the period of evacuation, LAW or their designates, will make every effort to keep the area evacuated secure. It is understood that multiple routs of entry (even cross country) coupled with limited resources will make this extremely difficult if not impossible!**

## **POPULATION TRACKING**

It is to be assumed that the majority of our rural public (who do not self evacuate) will refuse to leave their homes or farms. Most of our rural farms are prepared and equipped better than our towns.

The Dickey County Evacuation Refusal/Family Locater form will be correlated with phone records to get an accurate count of I/F left in the area. A system to identify these I/F will be initiated in the effort to offer all support which can be safely provided during the incident.

**NOTE: These I / F which chose to stay in unsafe areas must understand that emergency services will be curtailed if not impossible to provide for a period of time! (Incident Dependant).**

## **EVACUATED POPULATION**

I will be imperative to do the cross referencing above to assure we know where everyone is, and to tract the families which do leave for their loved ones. This form provides information on their destinations, number of family members, vehicle information etc. The information sheet they fill out (on evacuation contact) will provide a phone number for them to call when they arrive or if they have a change of plans.

Following the incident each family must be accounted for as soon as possible.

## **RECOVERY**

When operations are over, the scene is secure, or the threat is over, the IC will inform the EOC. The EOC and safety checks will be done **prior** to the area or areas being re-opened to public / private use. Dependant on the scope of the incident, re-entry ZONES may need to be established due to limited manpower and assets needed to secure the areas.

The safety checks will include (dependant on the incident) the following concerns.

- 1) Utility safety – downed power lines- sewer systems-water systems
- 2) Roads infrastructure- bridges- culverts- debris etc.
- 3) Public health concerns
- 4) Others concerns which may be identified by the incident

Once the safety of the area has been determined, The **PIO** will issue the *ALL CLEAR* announcement to the same press contacts following **THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER's** protocols. Any special information requested to be disseminated by the EOC will be included at this time.

The EOC will develop an information center location and phone number to be released by the **PIO** for assistance with the following;

- 1) Special possible safety concerns
- 2) Location of cleaning supplies and assistance if needed
- 3) Location of Shelters and Mass feeding, Medical care if needed
- 4) Any other situational information needed

This **INFORMATION CENTER** will be established in a central area and manned by **CERT** personnel (under **DEM**) and will include a first aid center. It may also include a supply dispersion site if needed. (Incident dependant)

## **HOSTING EVACUEES**

Dickey County will gladly assist in sheltering **I/F** displaced by an incident in any of our neighboring counties. We would request the earliest possible notice of their needs thru **DEM** channels as per existing mutual aid agreements. The opening of shelters in Dickey County will require following the **DICKEY COUNTY SHELTER PROTOCOLS** utilizing existing mutual aid agreements.

**NOTE:** Due to limited empty housing, normal daily of daily use of our emergency shelters, our volunteer shelter operators, limited funding, and the need to protect and support our local populations we currently cannot support long term sheltering for out of the area **I /F**.

**All evacuees must adhere to the Dickey County Policies regarding sheltering, PETS and their conduct while they are sheltering in our facilities.**

## **CHAPTER 37-17.1 NORTH DAKOTA DISASTER ACT**

**37-17.1-01. Short title.** This chapter must be cited as the North Dakota Disaster Act of 1985.

**37-17.1-02. Purposes.** The purposes of this chapter are to:

1. Reduce vulnerability of people and communities of this state to damage, injury, and loss of life and property resulting from natural or manmade disasters or emergencies, or hostile military or paramilitary action.
2. Provide a setting conducive to the rapid and orderly start of restoration and rehabilitation of persons and property affected by disasters or emergencies.
3. Clarify the roles of the governor, state agencies, and local governments in mitigation of, preparation for, and response to and recovery from disasters or emergencies.
4. Authorize and provide for coordination of emergency management activities by agencies and officers of this state, and similar state-local, interstate, federal-state, and foreign activities in which the state and its political subdivisions may participate.
5. Provide for a statewide emergency management system embodying all aspects of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

**37-17.1-03. Limitations.** Nothing in this chapter may:

1. Interfere with the course or conduct of a labor dispute, except that actions otherwise authorized by this chapter or other laws may be taken when necessary to forestall or mitigate imminent or existing danger to public health or safety.
2. Interfere with dissemination of news or comment on public affairs. Any communications facility or organization including radio and television stations, wire services, and newspapers, may be required to transmit or print public service messages furnishing information or instructions in connection with a disaster or emergency situation.
3. Affect the jurisdiction or responsibilities of units of the armed forces of the United States or of this state, or of any personnel thereof, when on active duty. State and local emergency operational plans must place reliance upon the forces available for performance of functions related to disasters or emergencies.
4. Limit, modify, or abridge the authority of the governor to proclaim martial law, provide aid or assistance to civil authorities, or exercise any other powers vested in him under the Constitution of North Dakota, or statutes, common law, or sovereign powers of this state independent of, or in conjunction with, any provisions of this chapter.
5. Change or modify the responsibilities of the American National Red Cross as defined by the Congress of the United States in Public Law 58-4 [33 Stat. 599; 36 U.S.C. 1], as amended.



**37-17.1-04. Definitions. As used in this chapter:**

1. "Disaster" means the occurrence of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or manmade cause including: fire, flood, earthquake, severe high and low temperatures, tornado storm, wave action, oil spill, or other water or air contamination, epidemic, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, riot, or hostile military or paramilitary action, which is determined by the governor to require state or state and federal assistance or actions to supplement the recovery efforts of local governments in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.
2. "Disaster or emergency worker" means any person performing disaster or emergency responsibilities or duties at any place in this state subject to the order or control of, or pursuant to a request of, the state government or any political subdivision.
3. "Emergency" means any situation that is determined by the governor to require state or state and federal response or mitigation actions to immediately supplement local governments to protect lives and property, to provide for public health and safety, or to avert or lessen the threat of a disaster.
4. "Emergency management" means a comprehensive integrated system at all levels of government and in the private sector which provides for the development and maintenance of an effective capability to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from known and unforeseen hazards or situations, caused by an act of nature or man, which may threaten, injure, damage, or destroy lives, property, or our environment.
5. "Mass care" means food, clothing, shelter, and other necessary and essential assistance provided to a large number of affected people in response to, or recovery from, a disaster or emergency.

**37-17.1-05. The governor and disasters or emergencies - Penalty.**

1. The governor is responsible to minimize or avert the adverse effects of a disaster or emergency.
2. Under this chapter, the governor may issue executive orders and proclamations, and amend or rescind them. Executive orders, proclamations, and regulations have the force of law.
3. A disaster or emergency must be declared by executive order or proclamation of the governor if the governor determines a disaster has occurred or a state of emergency exists. The state of disaster or emergency shall continue until the governor determines that the threat of an emergency has passed or the disaster has been dealt with to the extent that emergency conditions no longer exist. The legislative assembly by concurrent resolution may terminate a state of disaster or emergency at any time. All executive orders or proclamations issued under this subsection must indicate the nature of the disaster or emergency, the area or areas threatened, the conditions which have brought it about or which make possible termination of the state of disaster or emergency. An executive order or proclamation must be disseminated promptly by means calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public, unless the circumstances attendant upon the disaster or emergency prevent or impede such

dissemination, and it must be promptly filed with the division of emergency management, the secretary of state, and the county or city auditor of the jurisdictions affected.

4. An executive order or proclamation of a state of disaster or emergency shall activate the state and local operational plans applicable to the political subdivision or area in question and be authority for the deployment and use of any forces to which the plan or plans apply and for use or distribution of any supplies, equipment, and materials and facilities assembled, stockpiled, or arranged to be made available pursuant to this chapter or any other provision of law relating to a disaster or emergency.
5. During the continuance of any state of disaster or emergency declared by the governor, the governor is commander-in-chief of the emergency management organization and of all other forces available for emergency duty. To the greatest extent practicable, the governor shall delegate or assign command authority by prior arrangement embodied in appropriate executive orders or emergency operational plans, but nothing herein restricts the governor's authority to do so by orders issued at the time of the disaster or emergency.
6. In addition to any other powers conferred upon the governor by law, the governor may:
  - a. Suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business, or the orders, rules, or regulations, of any state agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in managing a disaster or emergency.
  - b. Utilize all available resources of the state government as reasonably necessary to manage the disaster or emergency and of each political subdivision of the state.
  - c. Transfer the direction, personnel, or functions of state departments and agencies or units thereof for the purpose of performing or facilitating emergency management activities.
  - d. Subject to any applicable requirements for compensation under section 37-17.1-12, commandeer or utilize any private property if the governor finds this necessary to manage the disaster or emergency.
  - e. Direct and compel the evacuation of all or part of the population from any stricken or threatened area within the state if the governor deems this action necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster or emergency mitigation, response, or recovery.
  - f. Prescribe routes, modes of transportation, and destinations in connection with an evacuation.
  - g. Control ingress and egress in a designated disaster or emergency area, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein.
  - h. Suspend or limit the sale, dispensing, or transportation of alcoholic beverages, firearms, explosives, and combustibles.

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

**DICKEY COUNTY NORTH DAKOTA**

date: \_\_\_\_\_ time: \_\_\_\_\_

**REFUSAL OF EVACUATION**

I, the undersigned, do hereby refuse the request to evacuate the area as described by this official representing the Emergency Services of Dickey County. I further understand that the evacuation order / request for this area was implemented due to the following facts:

[ ] Emergency Services [ FIRE-EMS-LAW ] cannot be guaranteed in this area due to an existing disaster condition and my safety and that of my family is in imminent danger as declared in the evacuation request / order.

[ ] Emergency Services [ FIRE-EMS-LAW ] cannot be guaranteed in this area due to the anticipated worsening of the current situation or infrastructure (roads, electricity, communications) failures causing an increasing safety concerns for both responders and the public.

I understand that my refusal to evacuate at this time may place myself or my family's life at great risk and may even result in death.

I will hold Dickey County, the Emergency Services of Dickey County, their volunteers and employees harmless for any consequences resulting from my refusal to evacuate this area.

I have had the situation resulting in the evacuation request / order explained to me and I feel I understand the risks and consequences of my failure to evacuate at this time.

I further acknowledge by signing this form, I am of legal age and of sound mind to make this decision.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Responsible Party Signature*

**Family Information -Please Print**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of family members: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Names and ages: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Next of kin: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

**DICKEY COUNTY NORTH DAKOTA**

date: \_\_\_\_\_ time: \_\_\_\_\_

**EVACUATED FAMILY LOCATOR**

**Family Information -Please Print**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of family members: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Names and ages: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Next of kin: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Vehicle information**

Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] I /we will be evacuating to the \_\_\_\_\_ shelter located

[ ] I / we will be evacuating to:

\_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Responsible Party Signature*

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_