

Evacuation Plan

Purpose:

1. To establish responsibility, policies and procedures to evacuate all or part of the population from any area(s) within the City of Lewes that are threatened or have been affected by a disaster to locations designated to provide relative safety and shelter.
2. To provide for an orderly and coordinated evacuation of the population should the need arise because of natural hazards, terrorism, or other man-made incidents.

Assumptions:

1. Major storms are likely to impact the entire Delmarva Peninsula on both sides (ocean and bay).
2. Summer populations are approximately one-third higher than the year round populations, and can exceed 1.5 million people on the Delmarva Peninsula.
3. There are a limited number of evacuation routes (east-west Routes 9/404, north-south Routes 1, 13 and 113) available to residents and visitors of the City of Lewes and some state and county roads are subject to flooding.
4. An evacuation could include all emergency service organizations of the city.
5. Residents and visitors to the city will be alerted and provided emergency information through the following local radio stations via the Emergency Alert System (EAS):
 - WGMD-FM (92.7)
 - WKIX-FM (106.0)
 - WWTR-FM (95.9)
6. NOAA's National Weather Radio will broadcast continuous weather information on local frequencies 162.550 MHz (Lewes, DE) and 162.474 MHz (Salisbury, MD).
7. Whenever local evacuations are recommended, the Sussex County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will post the list of designated shelter locations on the county's web site at www.sussexcounty.net/depts/EOC/index.html.
8. The public will receive and understand official information related to evacuation.
9. The public will act in its own interest and evacuate dangerous areas when advised to do so.
10. If necessary, local authorities can carry out a Governor declared evacuation.

SITUATION

1. There are several emergency situations that may require an evacuation of all or part of the city. Evacuations may be required as a result of flooding, hazardous material accidents, wild fires, transportation accidents, etc.
2. Only the Governor can "direct and compel" an evacuation. However, a local governing body (municipal or county) can "recommend" an evacuation as opposed to "ordering" an evacuation.
3. Authorized fire authority representatives having jurisdiction have the power to recommend evacuation of hazardous areas in the performance of their duty.

EXECUTION

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:

1. The function of evacuation in the State of Delaware must be coordinated with the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). For the City of Lewes, Sussex County EOC will coordinate with the City regarding evacuation recommendations, determine the best evacuation routes, and designate shelters to receive evacuees.
2. Within the City of Lewes, the direction and control of the function of evacuation, once coordinated with Sussex County EOC, is exercised initially by the Mayor or his designated representative through the Emergency Operations Center.
3. Evacuation may be recommended by the Mayor and/or Designee, as appropriate.
4. If deemed necessary, the Governor may order evacuation of selected areas.

TASKS:

• PRE-DISASTER PHASE

Incident Commander (Mayor or designated representative):

1. Coordinates with all appropriate agencies to ensure emergency
2. Maintains the Lewes Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP).
3. Coordinates identification of feasible evacuation routes likely to be available in potential disasters.
4. Coordinates identification of emergency shelters.**
5. Coordinates with appropriate agencies to plan for emergency
6. Coordinates with appropriate agencies to plan for mass feeding
7. Develops evacuation plans. Plans will specifically identify

**When warranted by the specific circumstances, shelters will be opened "as needed" throughout the affected areas of the Delmarva Peninsula. Guidelines will be provided for who should evacuate and who should shelter-in-place, so that residents and visitors can make appropriate decisions. The public will be notified of shelters that are open via radio and TV.

Police

1. Identifies evacuation routes.
2. Identifies traffic control points.
3. Identify potential impediments to evacuation, plan alternate/contingency routes to avoid impediments, and report actual impediments to the EOC for removal.

Fire Department

1. Provide assistance with evacuation
2. Identify fire hazards
3. Provide EMS transports
4. Provide Fire Police for traffic control as needed

Medical Services “Beebe Medical Center or closest Hospital”

1. Plans for Emergency Medical Services.
2. Coordinates in identifying emergency shelter.

School District

1. Plans for supporting Emergency Medical Services.
2. Plans for providing mass transportation.

• **DISASTER PHASE**

Incident Commander (Mayor or designated representative)

1. Activates the EOC and augments as required. (See Annex A)
2. Alerts all City Departments and responsible agencies.
3. Coordinates allocation and dispatch of transportation resources.
4. Coordinates information with the Public Information Officer.
5. Coordinates evacuation operations.

Police

1. Man traffic control points.
2. Coordinates law enforcement activities.
3. Provides security in evacuated area.

Medical Services

1. Coordinates Emergency Medical Services.

School District

1. Supports Emergency Medical Services.
2. Provides mass transportation.

• **RECOVERY PHASE**

Incident Commander (or designated representative)

1. Coordinates return of evacuees as required.

Police

1. Coordinates Law Enforcement activities during return to normal activities.

Fire Department

1. Secure hazardous areas/situations

Medical Services

1. Coordinates conclusion of provision of Emergency Medical Services.

School District

1. Provides support to Emergency Medical Services as required.
2. Provides mass transportation for return of evacuees as required.

• **EVACUATION ROUTES:**

[Sussex County Evacuation Map](#)

*** The US Army Corps of Engineers is currently conducting a Hurricane Evacuation Study for the Delmarva Peninsula. The study, when completed, will provide up-to-date information relative to vulnerable populations, expected behavioral patterns, and the adequacy of road networks to handle an evacuation; providing current data on which a new ranking can be based.

Coordinating Instructions: This annex is effective for planning immediately upon receipt and for execution upon the recommendation/order of proper authority as outlined herein.

OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS AND DIRECTIVES:

1. Delaware Code, Title 20; Chapter 31, "Emergency Management"
2. Delaware Emergency Operations Plan
3. Sussex County Emergency Operations Plan
4. Lewes Beach Emergency Evacuation Plan
5. Beebe Medical Center Emergency Operating Procedures
6. Hospital Emergency Incident Command System (HEICS)

ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS:

Administration and Logistics to support this annex will be in accordance with the Basic Plan.

DIRECTION AND CONTROL:

Direction and Control of Evacuation Operations within the City of Lewes will be as follows:

1. **EMERGENCY EVACUATION WITH NO PRIOR NOTICE** – (Examples: Man-made incidents such as hazardous materials spills, wild land fire, etc.). Evacuation may be recommended by the Fire Chief, Lewes Fire Department, Inc., or may be directed under Delaware Law "Authority of the Fire Officer in Charge" at the time of the incident.
2. **NATURAL DISASTERS THAT TYPICALLY PROVIDE SOME PRIOR NOTICE** - (Examples: Weather related incidents such as hurricanes, Northeastern storms, flooding, etc.). Evacuation recommendations will be coordinated among other local jurisdictions as well as Sussex County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA).

3. EVACUATION: The Lewes Police Department will assist with evacuations as needed.