# Emergency Management

- John F Ferguson
- Emergency Management Deputy Coordinator
- Middlesex County
- 1001 Fire Academy Drive
- Sayreville, NJ 08872
- john.ferguson@co.middlesex.nj.us

# Emergency Mgt Hierarchy

- Department of Homeland Security-(FEMA)
- Office of the Governor to
- NJSPOEM
- County OEM
- Local municipal OEM

# PHASES OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Mitigation

Prevention and Protection

Response

Recovery

# WHAT IS A DISASTER?

A sudden event, such as an accident or a natural catastrophe, that causes great damage or loss of life

# Train Derailment



# Tornado Devastation



# Sandy Storm Surge Damage



#### Hazards Analysis

- a Floresta
- Severe weather
- # Power outages/utilities emergence
- B: Health Emergencie
- is Hazmat
- a Terrorise

### Hazards Analysis

- Floods
- Severe weather
- Power outages/utilities emergency
- Health Emergencies
- Hazmats
- Terrorism

# Everybody Has a Role in Disaster Planning

- 1. Participates in developing disaster plans.
- 2. Participates in emergency preparedness exercises
- 3. Helps develop confidence in their ability to respond to a disaster.
- 4. Provides leadership during a period of emergency.

# PLANNING

What do you need
Need to have emergency plans
Need Supplies
Method to receive and disseminate
information

- Plan Content:
- 1. As a minimum, the following emergency situations should be addressed:
- 🗖 a) Fire
- b) Severe weather situations;
- c) Utility failure;
- d) Hazardous materials and radiological emergency;
- e) Acts of terrorism or civil unrest;
- f) Any other emergency

- Plan Content:
- g) Develop a safety network for home and work
- □ h) Need method to get important information
- i) Plan for sheltering in-place (water, food, secure home)
- h) Go-bag for evacuation
- j) Transportation plan
- k) Communication plan
- l) Register Ready and /or local emergency management
- http://www.ready.nj.gov/planprepare/pdf/NJ\_Hurricane\_Survival\_Guide\_2018.pdf

- You need to take a personal inventory of what is the most important to your daily existence
- Is it your medication
- Medical equipment?
- Some type of assistance
- Know which hazard causes you the most difficulty and what you'll need to overcome it

- Need to have an emergency supplies for home
- Should have water (gallon per day per person)
- Food supply for 3 days if you have can food don't forget a manual can opener
- NOAA weather radio and flashlight batteries or have crank type units
- First aid kit, whistle, wrench or pliers, towelettes for cleaning (saves water) garbage bags
- If you have pets, need pet supplies food, water

### Support Network

- Make arrangements prior to an emergency
- Exchange important items and information
- Show where your important emergency supplies and information are located
- Practice methods making contact via several means
- Communicate when situations change like being out of the area
- You and your network can support each other for various situations

### Support Network

• Make a list of family, friends and others that can check on you to make sure you are safe. If possible include a person outside of the area in your support network because they might not be affected by the situation. Make sure that person has all your information along with local emergency contact information so they can let them know about you and your location if they can not reach you.

### Support Network

- Questions to answer; can the person handle physical assistance that maybe needed
- Are they really available to assist
- Do they have transportation you require
- Remain in contact with them, to see if anything has changed
- Do you have more than one support person (can be hard if only depending on one person)
- Have you reached out to them early once you hear of a possible disaster

#### Vital Records

- Methods: pre-positioned/stored, hand carried, backed-up at third location, cloud computing
  - Hard copy
  - Electronic copy
  - Cyber storage of electronic copy- how will you access this data? Who has the passwords?
- Copies should be but not limited to: family records, wills, deeds, account information, insurance policies, medical provider info, medication list, and cash
- Make sure originals are in protected container (from fire and water)

#### Communications

- Across spectrum of technologies
  - Cellphone
  - Land lines
  - Land mobile radios
  - Satellite phones
  - Television
  - Radio (AM, FM)
  - E-mail
  - Internet
  - Weather radios
  - RACES (Radio Amateurs in Civil Emergency Service)



#### Communication

- Give clear specific instructions to rescue personnel
- Don't be afraid to ask for accommodations( like you can't stand for long periods)
- Wear medical alert tags or bracelets
- Have a means to communicate (written information cards, or statements letting people know about you and what you may need)
- Also have a contact list
- Information about any of support equipment

### **Emergency Shelters**

- If possible have someone in your support network accompany you to the shelter
- Shelters most likely don't have special equipment (like oxygen or mobility aids)
- Service animals are allowed in shelters, not pets unless the shelter is animal friendly (pets will be housed away from the sheltering area

#### Final Items

- Make sure your local responders know about you, either by signing up with NJ Register Ready or contacting your local emergency manager
- Prepare by using guidance from NJ Jersey
   OEM website, FEMA's website, American Red
   Cross or your local municipality's website

# Questions

THANK YOU