



Mid-America Council Emergency Procedures



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Why have an Emergency Plan?

- To protect and provide for the health and safety of Scouts, Scouters, visitors & employees
 - Accurate attendance log (at check-in and check-out)
- Provide training for incidents requiring swift decisive actions in a response
- To help protect & preserve the property

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How & where do you fit in?

- **Everyone has a job and a function within the Mid-America Emergency System**
- **Learn your role and responsibilities**
 - Know where to find and how to use the emergency plan
 - How you respond may effect the outcome of an incident
 - Awareness on your part may help resolve issues before they become serious
- **Practice**
 - Participate in all camp emergency drills to help you understand the emergency system in case of a real situation



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Mid-America Emergency Operation Plan

- **KNOW IT!**
- **FOLLOW IT!**



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Camp Staff Emergency Functions

- **Camp Director**
 - Provide direction & control for your camp.
 - Manage accountability for persons in your camp.
 - Manage pre-determined safe area.
- **Program Director**
 - Provide program for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts at pre-determined safe area.

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Camp Staff Emergency Functions

- **Camp Staff/Instructors**
 - Provide direction & control for your staff & persons in your area.
 - Provide direction to pre-determined safe area.
 - Provide information to the Camp Director on the status of persons under your control.
- **Scout Leaders/Parents**
 - Provide leadership for all participants in your immediate area.



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Situations to prepare for...

We can't predict what situations may arise in your camp, but the following are some situations you should be prepared for.



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Injured/Lost Campers

- Contact Camp Director.
- Do not move injured person, perform only basic first aid.
- Emergency team leader will coordinate lost person incidents.
- Follow your Emergency Operations Plan.



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Fire

- **Dangers of fire:**
 - Asphyxiation
 - Heat
 - Smoke
 - Burns



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If a Fire Starts...

- Get out quickly.
- Go to your pre-determined safe area.
 - NEW: Keep your keys on your person and be prepared for evacuation.
- Contact the Camp Director.
- Follow your Emergency Operations plans.



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Fire Safety DON'TS

- Try to suppress large fires.
- Get too close.
- Fight it alone.
- Enter smoke-filled areas.





Three Classes of Wildfires

Surface fire



Ground fire



Crown fire



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Thunderstorms

- **A severe thunderstorm is:**
 - One that produces hail at least three-quarters of an inch in diameter, has winds of 58 miles per hour or higher, or produces a tornado.



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Risks Posed by Thunderstorms

- **Lightning**
- **Hail**
- **Downbursts and straight-line winds**
- **Tornadoes**
- **Flash floods**
 - Note: Flash Flooding is the second largest weather event that kills in the United States.





Thunderstorm Preparedness

- Pay attention to warnings!
 - Know your weather
- Understand the risk.
- Know where to seek shelter.
- Be Prepared.



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If You Are Outdoors . . .

- **Get away from water sources.**
- **Seek shelter in a substantial building or to pre-determined safe area.**
- **Go to low-lying area and make yourself a small target.**
- **Use the “Duck & Tuck” method, cover your head with your hands.**
- **Avoid natural lightning rods such as tall individual trees.**
- **Note: Lightning is the 3rd largest weather event that kills in the United States.**

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Tornadoes

- **A tornado is:**
 - A powerful, circular windstorm that may be accompanied by winds in excess of 250 miles per hour.



Tornado Damage

- Rip trees apart.
- Destroy buildings.
- Uproot structures and objects.
- Send debris and glass flying.
- Overturn cars and mobile homes.

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Tornado Preparedness

- Know the risk.
- Pre-determine a “safe” location, and be prepared to modify your plans based on current weather patterns.
- Develop a warning system for your site.
- Conduct staff tornado drill prior to the event.

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Warning Systems to use

- Weather patterns
- Sirens (if available)
- Telephones
- Radios
- Runners

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Heat Alerts

- Heat alerts will be announced using radios or runners, whichever applicable.
- Decrease or shut down the sale of soda and slushies.
- Make sure that people increase their intake of water.
- Make sure that people reduce their activity level.
- Note: Heat is the single largest weather event that kills in the United States.

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Bomb Threats

- Attempt to keep the person on line as long as possible.
- Record the exact time of the call.
- Write down all information obtained, using as many exact words as possible.
- Notify Camp Director.
- Camp Director will work with the Sheriffs Department during incident.
- DO NOT use any electronic devices such as cell phones or radios until the all clear is given.

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Bomb Threats continued

- Be prepared to evacuate site if deemed appropriate by the Camp Director and Sheriff.
 - Utilize a check-out procedure to account for all participants
- Escort Scouts, Scouters, visitors & staff to announced assembly area.
 - NEW: Keep your keys on your person and be prepared for evacuation.
- Write down all information obtained, using as many exact words as possible.
- Do not re-enter the area until the Camp Director provides the “all clear”.
- Watch for suspicious persons and actions.
- DO NOT speak with any media, direct all questions to the Scout Executive or Council Office.

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Disruptive Individual or Group

- Remain Calm.
- Contact Camp Director, they will make determination for need of assistance from the Sheriff's Office.
- Alert staff.
- Isolate Scouts, Scouters, visitors & staff from the disruption.
- Make announcements about any required schedule changes.

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Disruptive Individual or Group

- Keep a phone line free for communication with the Council Office and Sheriff's Office.
- If necessary, the Camp Director may need to prepare a letter to send home with campers to explain the incident.
- Be prepared to help provide materials for such an action if required.

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Wildlife

- Encourage campers to stay away from any wild or domestic animals they may encounter.
- Report immediately to the Camp Director any animals that seem to be sick, lethargic, exhibit aggressive behavior or seem out of place.





Available Trainings

- **There are many useful trainings available online for Camp Staff (required), Scout Leaders and parents.**
- **Go to my.scouting.org**
 - Physical Wellness
 - Safe Swim Defense
 - Safety Afloat
 - Climb on Safely
 - Trek Safely
 - Weather Hazards

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Planning is important!

To summarize - See that EVERYONE has a safe & fun time at camp, plan ahead and be prepared!



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