

PREPARING FOR AN EMERGENCY

**A FAMILY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE FOR
RESIDENTS OF ST. GEORGE CITY**



**ST. GEORGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

When an Emergency Happens... use your plan.

Where Will You or Your Family Be When an Emergency or Disaster Strikes? Emergencies and disasters strike quickly and without warning and can force you to evacuate your neighborhood or confine you to your home. What would you do if basic services — water, gas, electricity or telephones — were cut off?

St. George City and other local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone right away. If disaster strikes, you need to know how to take care of yourself and your family. This self-reliance is important because local officials and relief workers may not be able to reach everyone for 12 to 72 hours.

People can cope with disaster by preparing in advance and with families working together as a team. Preparing for a disaster or emergency is a responsibility that begins with each individual. We cannot control all the emergencies that will occur in our lives, but we can be ready to face them by knowing what to do and taking action to prepare.

Two things that will always help you in an emergency or disaster are **clear thinking** and **quick reactions**. If you can stay calm in a crisis, you'll be better able to make the right decisions. Once you decide the best action to take in a particular situation, do it! There's no room for hesitation in a disaster or emergency.

This booklet will help you and your family develop an emergency plan, assemble an emergency kit, and provide basic information on what to do before, during, and after an emergency. Even though the emergency may be across town and not affect your family directly, by having an emergency plan you may be able to help others affected by the emergency.



A Message from the Mayor:

Dear Residents,

In an effort to better prepare you for a potential disaster or emergency, the St. George City Police Department, Division of Emergency Services has developed this pamphlet for your use as a reference. It is hoped that you and your family will take a minute or two to review the materials gathered within this pamphlet and put them into practice within your home.

The better prepared we are as residents, the quicker the recovery stage may be.

The Division of Emergency Services coordination with the City's Emergency Management Committee will continue to provide updates to this pamphlet over the coming months. I would ask you to put this material in a place where it can be added to when this new material is received.

This pamphlet will also be placed on St. George City's web site (www.sgcity.org) and the updates will added as they become available.

If you have any questions or comments concerning the materials found in this pamphlet, please contact the St. George Police Department at (435) 627-4301.

Sincerely,

Daniel D McArthur
St. George City Mayor



Police Department

A Message from the Chief of Police:

Dear Residents,

The St. George Police Department is vitally concerned for the welfare of our citizens. We have created the Division of Emergency Services, headed by Sgt. Hal Carlson, to directly respond to the emergency preparedness of our community.

This pamphlet was created to provide essential information to prepare us before-hand and how to react in the event of an emergency, whether natural or man-made. The information contained will help to keep our families safe until the police or other emergency personnel can arrive.

I encourage all citizens to read and understand this pamphlet. Keep it in a place where it can be easily accessible in the event of an emergency. Also, periodically check the City's website for any updates to this pamphlet.

As we prepare ourselves for an emergency, we can be better equipped to help our friends and neighbors. As noted by the Mayor, the better we prepare ourselves, the quicker we will be able to recover from an emergency.

Sincerely,

Chief Marlon Stratton
St. George Police Department

What's Inside this Booklet?

Knowing what to do is your best protection and your responsibility!

Section 1: UNDERSTAND WHAT COULD HAPPEN

Section 2: CREATE AN EMERGENCY/DISASTER PLAN

Shelter in Place

Evacuation

Section 3: SUPPLIES AND PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Food/Water and Medical Supplies

Section 4: WHAT TO DO BEFORE AND DURING THE EMERGENCY

How to make your home safer

What to do during an earthquake

Where to go for information and help

Section 1

Understand What Could Happen



FLOOD—Floods can occur in St. George City as a result of heavy storms or failure of water storage facilities. Most injuries and death occur from drowning and structure collapse. Major flooding usually results in an evacuation order. Citizen response to impending flood warnings should be immediate and according to directions from Emergency Service personnel.



EARTHQUAKE—St. George City is in a major earthquake zone. The actual movement or shaking of the earth can last from several seconds to over a minute. As frightening as it is, it is seldom the direct cause of injury or death. The ground does not open up and swallow neighborhoods or homes. Most casualties result from falling objects and debris, splintering glass and fires. Although construction and other technical steps can be taken to reduce damage in an earthquake, the most important preparations the citizen can take relate to steps taken **AFTER** the earthquake is over.



HAZARDOUS MATERIAL ACCIDENT—St. George City has the major state transportation artery, Interstate 15 running right through the middle of town. Vehicles traveling these arteries often carry potentially environmentally hazardous materials. Although generally safe, the potential exists for an accident, which could result in an emergency incident. Citizen response to this type of emergency may result in an evacuation, or shelter in place order. The best plan is to move away from the emergency scene and listen for other instructions.

