

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Severe weather and other natural and man-made disasters seem to be occurring at an ever increasing frequency. It is important both at home and in the workplace to reasonably prepare for the types of emergencies that are most likely to occur so we can minimize the destruction and disruption that they cause.

In the workplace the employer is required, under the PESH Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) and Fire Prevention Plans (FPPs) regulations to pre-plan for “foreseeable” emergencies to protect employees when these incidents happen. The NYS Workplace Violence Prevention regulation requires public employers in NYS to assess their work places and take actions to prevent violence against their employees. Emergency preparation at home is a voluntary but vital responsibility.

In the EAP and FPP regulations, employers with more than 20 employees are required to develop written plans to respond to foreseeable emergencies and to implement controls for potential fire hazards, like fuel dispensing areas and large fuel storage tanks. The EAP would address emergencies involving severe weather (flooding, blizzard, tornadoes, hurricanes, etc.), natural disasters (fire, earthquake, tidal wave, etc.), fire, a large chemical release, and violence (active shooter, bomb threat, etc.). It is then required to train employees about the actions they are expected to take when an emergency occurs involving the identified emergencies. For the home, many organizations, like the National Safety Council (NSC), the American Red Cross (ARC), and the American Library Association (ALA) and government agencies, like the federal and state Departments of Homeland Security, have developed resources to help residents develop emergency plans for their home.



PREPAREDNESS TIPS

- Discuss the kinds of disasters that could affect the area where you live and make plans with the people that you will need to account for during those emergencies.
- Put the plan in writing where it can be easily accessed in an emergency, like in the contact list on your phone under Emergency Plan or ICE (In Case of Emergency). It does not have to be complicated, just bullet points on the actions to take and who to contact.
- Pick and confirm an emergency contact from outside the area for everyone to contact if local communication is not working.
- Put emergency contacts on your phone and on a card in case the phone is not working.
- Make plans for child and pet care in case you cannot get back home as expected.
- Practice and review the plan every 6 months.
- Have “go packs” ready with essentials, including medicine.
- Know evacuation routes and alternate routes to home and work.
- If you have not been trained on Emergency Action Plans at work and do not know your level of responsibility, ask your employer. If no information is available, contact your Local/Unit President and report that your employer does not have emergency planning completed for your location.
- Know the emergency call in number for your employer.

For more information and resources visit:

www.cseany.org/safety



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Knowledge is power—but collective action saves lives.

At CSEA, transforming knowledge into action is central to our mission of protecting workers. When hazards and close calls are documented and reported, they can be addressed before they cause harm. That’s how we prevent injuries and illnesses—by making sure problems don’t get ignored. Your voice and vigilance are essential. Now more than ever, we need your help to ensure every workplace is safe, healthy, and accountable.

THE LIFE YOU SAVE COULD BE YOUR OWN!