Polk County Special Populations Plan for Disaster and Emergencies

Version July 10, 2006
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Following disasters in the United States, public health and emergency planners have assessed human service needs and issues that were met or unmet before, during, and after the crises. A primary lesson learned in the aftermath of 9/11, the anthrax attacks that followed, widespread power outages in the Northeastern United States, hurricanes in the South, mudslides in the West and diseases such as SARS and West Nile Virus is that traditional methods of communicating health and emergency information often fall short of the goal of reaching everyone in a community. Those with the greatest needs and greatest risk often are outside the channels of mainstream communication.

Preparedness and response require communication activities with the capacity to reach every person. But to do this, a community must know what sub-groups make up their population, where the people in the groups live and work, and how they best receive information. While that may seem like a statement of the obvious, research indicates that although significant accomplishments have been achieved in certain areas of the United States and different states and community organizations are constantly at work on this issue, many jurisdictions and regions have not comprehensively defined or located their special populations. This plan provides a snapshot that can support state, local, and tribal emergency responders as they advance in their efforts to reach all populations – and specifically, special populations – in day-to-day communication and during crisis or emergency situations. This plan is not intended to replace any existing response plan but instead is intended to annex those existing plans.

**Planning Process**

1. **Research and Fact Finding Process**
   - Survey people from agencies and organizations outside your department to learn their successes and failures in reaching special populations.
   - Conduct focus groups or community roundtables with members of different special population groups to identify their needs and barriers to communication.
   - Analyze data gathered from the surveys, focus groups, and your previous research efforts in defining and locating special populations. Look for common themes.

2. **Community Engagement**
   - Collaborate with community organizations to develop messages and materials to reach special populations.
   - Develop and test messages for cultural and linguistic competence with members of the targeted populations.
   - Identify appropriate, trusted messengers to deliver the messages and appropriate channels of delivery.
   - Maintain ongoing relationships and partnerships with community organizations, government agencies, first responders, and other service providers.

3. **How to Use the Information**
   - In your existing database, enter information from your research on communication barriers for special populations and preferred channels of communication. This database will become your special population Community Network.
   - Create a communication plan to reach special populations using a variety of methods, messages, and messengers. This plan will supplement your organization’s existing crisis communication plan.
   - Test your Community Network. Look for gaps in message delivery.
   - Revise your special population outreach plans according to the outcomes of your test. Schedule tests at least annually.
   - Once you have successfully defined, located, and reached members of your initial special population groups, you can expand your initiative to include more groups.

4. **Next Steps**
   - Develop self-reporting special population registration form.
   - Create database and GIS map.
   - Develop and place materials on Polk County EM Website.
General Planning Assumptions

1. There are two types of communication: *Push Communication* which refers to pushing a message out to the public (television, newspapers, emergency broadcasts, etc) and *Pull Communication* which refers to the public looking for public communications (hotlines, websites, etc).

2. Standard Communication Mechanisms: refers to standard mechanisms of communication to the public during an emergency. This includes radio and television.

3. No one form of public communication will suffice in reaching all populations. Multiple strategies will need to be employed beyond standard communication mechanisms.

4. Polk County does not have a daily newspaper. Discussion should occur with the Osceola Sun, Inter County Leader, Amery Free Press, and The Ledger to determine whether these weekly newspaper agencies have the capacity and are willing to print emergency newspapers as another source of public communications.

5. Neither a Governor nor Local Declared Emergency needs to be in place for this plan to be implemented.

6. This plan is not intended to replace any existing plan for evacuation or sheltering in place. This plan is a tool to help develop a more efficient response for those that may require additional support in an emergency.

7. This plan should remain fluid depending the scope and complexity of an incident.

8. A large scale evacuation or extended shelter-in-place order will be time and resource extensive. If the incident covers multiple counties or is occurring statewide, mutual aid resources will likely not be available.
## County Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLK COUNTY</th>
<th>WISCONSIN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population, 2004 estimate</td>
<td>43,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population, percent change, April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2004</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population, 2000</td>
<td>41,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons under 5 years old, percent, 2000</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female persons, percent, 2000</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White persons, percent, 2000 (a)</td>
<td>97.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American persons, percent, 2000 (a)</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2000 (a)</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian persons, percent, 2000 (a)</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, percent, 2000 (a)</td>
<td>Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000 (a)</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons reporting two or more races, percent, 2000</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White persons, not of Hispanic/Latino origin, percent, 2000</td>
<td>97.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000 (b)</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living in same house in 1995 and 2000, pct age 5+, 2000</td>
<td>61.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign born persons, percent, 2000</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language other than English spoken at home, pct age 5+, 2000</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000</td>
<td>85.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons with a disability, age 5+, 2000</td>
<td>6,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16+, 2000</td>
<td>28.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing units, 2002</td>
<td>21,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeownership rate, 2000</td>
<td>80.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing units in multi-unit structures, percent, 2000</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000</td>
<td>$100,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households, 2000</td>
<td>16,254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons per household, 2000</td>
<td>2.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median household income, 1999</td>
<td>$41,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per capita money income, 1999</td>
<td>$19,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons below poverty, percent, 1999</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Business QuickFacts
- Private nonfarm establishments with paid employees, 2001 | 1,080 | 140,540 |
- Private nonfarm employment, 2001 | 11,832 | 2,400,575 |
- Private nonfarm employment, percent change 2000-2001 | 0.7% | -0.6% |
- Nonemployer establishments, 2000 | 2,737 | 268,268 |
- Manufacturers shipments, 1997 ($1000) | 628,141 | 117,382,992 |
- Retail sales, 1997 ($1000) | 221,593 | 50,520,463 |
- Retail sales per capita, 1997 | $5,792 | $9,715 |
- Minority-owned firms, percent of total, 1997 | F | 3.7% |
- Women-owned firms, percent of total, 1997 | 24.2% | 24.4% |
- Housing units authorized by building permits, 2002 | 430 | 38,208 |
- Federal funds and grants, 2002 ($1000) | 184,342 | 28,843,652 |

### Geography QuickFacts
- Land area, 2000 (square miles) | 917 | 54,310 |
- Persons per square mile, 2000 | 45.0 | 98.8 |
- FIPS Code | 095 | 55 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Populations Category &amp; Description</th>
<th>Lessons Learned</th>
<th>Planning Representatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category I: Economic Disadvantage</strong></td>
<td>People who are economically disadvantaged can be reached through traditional communication channels, particularly television and radio. Messages should be simple and directions easy to follow. The biggest barrier to receiving and acting on health information for this special population is an apparent lack of awareness of possible threats to their health and their family’s well-being. Brochures, refrigerator magnets, picture books, and posters can be distributed through trusted individuals in health clinics, hospital emergency rooms, schools, human service agencies, and neighborhood community centers. In an emergency, you may need to use recognized community leaders to broadcast messages on television and radio; in the event of power failure, outreach may require door-to-door contact and/or reaching people at venues where they may have gathered.</td>
<td>Cal Shladweiler, Human Services  Julie Baryluk, Public Health  Kathy Poirer, Emergency Management  Gail Peterson, Public Health  Jan Place, Human Services  Erica Olson, Public Health  Jay Shrader, WRPPHP  Tom Coen, WRPPHP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category II: Limited Language Competence</strong></td>
<td>Within this broad population category, you may identify common characteristics such as:  - Cultural differences in healthcare and medical practices vary significantly from group to group and from the mainstream population.  - Language is the main barrier for Asian Americans.  - Native Americans are not always hard to reach because of their close-knit community and tribal leadership, but may tend to require tailored messages because of cultural prohibitions.  - Specific cultural and linguistic identifiers are important in defining special populations. Hispanics/Latinos define themselves according to national origin. They speak different dialects and have different cultural practices. People who have limited or no English speaking skills, people who are deaf, and some elderly people will have difficulty understanding both spoken and verbal instructions in English. All printed information such as brochures, posters, directional signs, and pocket guides should be bilingual (English and Spanish) and if possible in other languages dominant in your jurisdiction.  - A more cost efficient approach would be to develop picture books, pocket guides, and directional signs using universal symbols, and maps.  - Another aid could be “I-speak” cards. These are the size of a business card and convey the message “I speak (language). I need an interpreter,” in English and the person’s native language.  - These materials can be prepared in advance of a crisis, distributed through multi-cultural community centers, ESL classes, places of worship, and ethnic markets.</td>
<td>Sue Houston, WeStaff  Julie Baryluk, Public Health  Bonnie Leonard, Public Health  Lisa Cory, Public Health  Jay Shrader, WRPPHP  Kathy Poirer, Emergency Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Populations Category &amp; Description</td>
<td>Lessons Learned</td>
<td>Planning Representatives</td>
</tr>
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<td>------------------------------------------</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Category III: Disability**<br>The disability category can include people who have physical, mental, sensory, or cognitive limitations. The most evident people in this category are those who are blind, deaf and hard of hearing, as well as people who have high-risk or chronic health conditions that affect mobility or make them electricity dependent. Mental disabilities are thought by many health and emergency planners to be the most challenging special needs in widespread emergencies because people who cannot understand and/or follow directions potentially jeopardize others in addition to themselves. Mental disability is a population category that planners say they often leave until last, but such special needs people will require priority attention in some emergency settings. | People with disabilities can be reached through traditional means, such as television and radio, newspapers, brochures, and calling trees.  
- People who are disabled are usually more concerned about a specific health condition or injury than about the threat of terrorism or disaster.  
- People who are blind can be alerted through sirens and radio announcements.  
- People who are deaf can be reached using both closed captioning and in-screen ASL interpretation on television, e-mail alerts, and text messaging.  
- People with mobility limitations are usually self-sufficient, but will need help to access transportation.  
- People with cognitive disabilities can be reached through family members and trusted caregivers.  
- Keep messages simple and repeat them often in an emergency.  
- People who have mobility, sensory, or mental disabilities cannot always use standard resources available in an emergency. This includes people using oxygen, those dependent on electricity or medicines, or those with service animals, such as guide dogs.  
- Your collaborators can help people with almost any form of limiting disability by helping them create a buddy system in which a neighbor or co-worker will check on their welfare and assist them in an emergency. | Jay Shrader, WRPPHP  
Kathy Poirer, Emergency Management  
Brian Rogers, Frederic Resident  
Bonnie Leonard, Public Health  
Darla Lobut, Bethany Assisted Living  
Diane Soransen, Aurora Health Manager  
Tom Recheser, Aurora Program Director  
Elaine Heathfield, Polk County Housing Authority  
Dawn Ferguson, Polk County Adult Development Center  
Karen Swanberg, Aging Office  
Leslie Larson, Polk County Home Care  
Cal Schladweiler, Polk County Human Services  
Dawn Larsson, Birth-to-Three  
Lisa Cory, Public Health |
| **Category IV: Cultural / Geographic Isolation**<br>People can be isolated whether they live in the remote frontier or in the middle of a densely populated urban core. [Rural populations include ranchers, farmers, and people who live in sparsely populated mountain and hill communities. They are vulnerable due to lack of capacity, resources, equipment, and professional personnel needed to respond to a large-scale crisis. In the urban areas, people can be isolated by their language skills, lack of education, cultural prohibitions, chronic health problems, fear, lack of transportation or access to public transit systems, unemployment, and other factors. While they may have access to mass media, they may not have the ability or means to respond in an emergency. | You may find that people who live in rural areas often believe they are at low risk for terrorism. Yet, they are vulnerable because they live near farms and raw food supplies, many power facilities, and U.S. military facilities. Other commonalities geographically and culturally isolated groups might share include:  
- Sheriffs, deputies, and postal workers can be good sources of information about rural residents and tourists/campers. But, many times, emergency crews and sheriff’s deputies cannot physically reach some areas during floods, blizzards, and other natural disasters.  
- Rural residents also include migrant workers who may face additional barriers of language and culture.  
- Churches in rural areas and urban centers are a common source of community information.  
- Many remote rural areas have spotty or unreliable radio and television signals and little cell phone coverage.  
- Factors that isolate people in dense urban areas – poverty, homelessness, low literacy, limited language | Jay Shrader, WRPPHP  
Lisa Cory, Public Health  
Rita Moose, St. Croix Casino and Hotel  
Dennis O’Donnell, Town of Sweden  
Gregory Anderson, Town of Clam Falls  
Donna Johnson, Public Health Jail Nurse |
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Lessons Learned</th>
<th>Planning Representatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **“Temporary residents”** can be a major population for many communities, but there are enormous differences in temporary residents on a military base, a college campus, or in migrant workers’ camps. | Competence, age – also come into play in overcoming barriers to receiving and responding to public health and emergency messages.  
- As with other special populations, messages should be brief, worded simply, transmitted through pictures and other visual aids.  
- People who work at shelters and food banks and police on patrol are most likely to know people who are homeless.  
- Door-to-door outreach, calling trees and recognized trusted neighborhood leaders can be effective in reaching isolated urban dwellers.  
- Radio stations that appeal to specific urban audiences (e.g., young African Americans, Hispanic/Latino cultures) can be recruited as partners in outreach. | Lisa Corey, Public Health  
Joyce Nelson, St. Croix Falls Senior Center  
Kari Flom, Polk County Aging Program  
Kathy Poirer, Polk County Emergency Management  
Rick Gates, Veterans Service  
Jan Place, Economic Support – Human Services  
Cal Schladweiler, Long Term Care – Human Services  
Karen Dalzell, Public Health  
Jay Shrader, WRPPHP |
| **Category V: Age**  
While many people who are over 65 years of age are competent and able to access healthcare or provide for themselves in an emergency, age can exacerbate a person's vulnerabilities. Chronic health problems, limited mobility, sight, and/or hearing, social isolation, fear, and reduced income can put older adults at risk. Infants and children under the age of 18 can also be vulnerable, particularly if they are separated in an emergency from their parents or guardians. They may be at school, in daycare, or in a hospital or other institution, places where parents can expect them to be cared for during the crisis. There are, however, increasing numbers of young latchkey children home alone after school, a factor that puts them at high risk in an emergency. In addition, separation of family members can cause its own havoc in a crisis, as demonstrated during evacuations for the 2005 hurricane season when members of some families were separated during the event or sent to separate shelters, even to different states. | Most people over the age of 65 and children ages 5 and older can be reached through television, radio, and printed materials. Some frail elderly, however, have hearing, sight, speech, physical, and cognitive impairments that can prevent them from understanding and responding to public health information and emergency directions.  
- You may need to work through trusted caregivers, family members, and neighbors.  
- A senior citizen calling tree, in which senior citizens volunteer to call other seniors in their community, can be an effective outreach tool for both ordinary and crisis communication.  
- Very young children and school aged children who are in daycare or school can be reached through their teachers, daycare providers and family members with messages that promote awareness of public health issues and family emergency planning.  
- Many families bring their children to focus groups, community roundtables and other public involvement meetings. Simple coloring books can easily be created with pictures that illustrate good health habits and public health services and personnel who can be trusted in a variety of circumstances. | Jay Shrader, WRPPHP  
Tom Coen, WRPPHP  
Lisa Cory, Public Health  
Kathy Poirer, Emergency Management  
Brian Hobbs, Public Health  
Mary Bruckner, Arnell Humane Society  
Robert LeMoine, WI Department of Agriculture  
Tammi Larson, Sheriff |
**County Identification of Category I: Economic Disadvantage**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Population Subset</th>
<th>Point of Contact</th>
<th>Barriers to Reach / Concerns</th>
<th>Estimated Population Size</th>
<th>Communication / Notification Mechanism</th>
<th>Location of Population in Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Action Needed / Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid (includes Badgercare which is up to 200% above poverty level)</td>
<td><strong>Polk County Human Services</strong>&lt;br&gt;Phone: (715)485-8400 Fax: (715)485-8490 <strong>Jan Place</strong>, W2/ES Supervisor <strong>Sheila Falb</strong>, W2/ES Lead Worker <strong>Linda Neely</strong>, W2/ES III</td>
<td>• Not all have phones.&lt;br&gt;• Huge populations / geographically spread out.&lt;br&gt;• Individuals belong to multiple categories.&lt;br&gt;• Concerned more with basic needs than preparedness planning.&lt;br&gt;• Very unprepared for emergency.&lt;br&gt;• Transportation needs</td>
<td>7000 (2005 data)</td>
<td>Standard Communication Mechanisms, Door to Door, could do mailing</td>
<td>Cross jurisdiction.</td>
<td>• Jan to check into accessing SSI&lt;br&gt;• Critical to include local municipal officials and emergency responders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIC</td>
<td><strong>Polk County Health Department</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Andrea Siefert</strong>, WIC Coordinator <strong>Luanne Sprester</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Janel Meyer</strong>&lt;br&gt;(715)485-8500</td>
<td>• Not all have phones.&lt;br&gt;• Huge populations / geographically spread out.&lt;br&gt;• Individuals belong to multiple categories.&lt;br&gt;• Concerned more with basic needs than preparedness planning.&lt;br&gt;• Very unprepared for emergency.&lt;br&gt;• Transportation need.&lt;br&gt;• Only see every three months (check pickup). Data may not be current.&lt;br&gt;• Clients can cross jurisdiction.</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>Standard Communication Mechanisms, Door to Door</td>
<td>Countywide, plus</td>
<td>• (+) Contact Proxy if unable to contact client.&lt;br&gt;• not all people on WIC are on Medicaid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless</td>
<td><strong>Polk County Emergency Management</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Kathy Poirer</strong>, Director Phone: (715)485-9280 Fax: (715)485-8315 <a href="mailto:kathyp@co.polk.wi.us">kathyp@co.polk.wi.us</a></td>
<td>• We don't know who / where they are.&lt;br&gt;• Don't want to be cared for by government.&lt;br&gt;• Don't see them selves as needing any help.&lt;br&gt;• No way to reach / communicate with them.</td>
<td>20-100</td>
<td>Personal Contact</td>
<td>Parks and isolated areas</td>
<td>Polk County House Collaborative only has ability to house three families.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Food Access</td>
<td><strong>Polk County Emergency Management</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Kathy Poirer</strong>, Director Phone: (715)485-9280 Fax: (715)485-8315 <a href="mailto:kathyp@co.polk.wi.us">kathyp@co.polk.wi.us</a></td>
<td>• Recipients can only access once a month and can only get three days of food at food shelters.&lt;br&gt;• Contact information may not be accurate.&lt;br&gt;• Limited supplies of food and water for any emergency.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kathy can contact all 9 Polk County Food Shelters: Amery First Lutheran Church, Amery St. Josephs Church, Amery Redeemer Lutheran Church, Clear Lake Lifeline Food Pantry, Frederic Village Hall, Osceola – The Open Cupboard, Saint Croix Falls Ben Franklin, Luck Food</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Polk County Special Populations Plan for Disasters and Emergencies
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Population Subset</th>
<th>Point of Contact</th>
<th>Barriers to Reach / Concerns</th>
<th>Estimated Population Size</th>
<th>Communication / Notification Mechanism</th>
<th>Location of Population in Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Action Needed / Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Food Share                | **Polk County Human Services**  
                          Phone: (715)485-8400  
                          Fax: (715)485-8490  
                          **Jan Place**, W2/ES Supervisor  
                          **Sheila Falb**, W2/ES Lead Worker  
                          **Linda Neely**, W2/ES III | - Not all have phones.  
- Huge populations / geographically spread out.  
- Individuals belong to multiple categories.  
- Concerned more with basic needs than preparedness planning.  
- Very unprepared for emergency.  
- Transportation needs | 3000 individuals  
|                           |                   |                             |                           |                                          |                          | Group discussed: determined many individuals covered under some other service. Difficult to determine who these individuals are. Too many variables.  
| Fixed Incomes             | **Polk County Health Department**  
                          **Julie Baryluk**, Family Health Benefits Counselor  
                          (715)485-8500 | - In evacuation, individuals must be able to get their incomes.  
- Fixed income in nursing homes will follow facility evacuation policy and will be tracked.  
- Individuals will be duplicated in other categories. | Standard Communication Mechanisms, Door to Door | Countywide | Polk County / Municipal Housing Authority (contact Julie B.) She will send email to these folks.  
| Underinsured / Uninsured | **Polk County Human Services**  
                          Phone: (715)485-8400  
                          **Polk County Emergency Management**  
                          Phone: (715)485-9280  
                          **Polk County Health Department**  
                          Phone: (715)485-8800 | - May not seek healthcare because underinsured.  
- May not be poverty, but not insured.  
- May not be here legally.  
- Message to this group need to be clear that underinsured will receive assistance in a health emergency. | Standard Communication Mechanisms, Door to Door | Countywide | Who are they?  
|                           |                   |                             |                           |                                          |                          | Talk with Local Newspapers to discuss printing emergency papers.  
| Unemployed                |                   |                             |                           |                                          |                          |  
|                           |                   |                             |                           |                                          |                          | Pantry, Unity Area Food Pantry.  
|                           |                   |                             |                           |                                          |                          | Could be used as satellites for distributed food in Polk County if sheltering in place is implemented.  

- Pushing food / water out to those that can't come in to receive.  
- Having enough supplies to provide to a large group sheltered in place, isolated / quarantine, shelters.
## County Identification of Category II: Limited Language Competence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Population Subset</th>
<th>Point of Contact</th>
<th>Barriers to Reach / Concerns</th>
<th>Estimated Population Size</th>
<th>Communication / Notification Mechanism</th>
<th>Location of Population in Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Action Needed / Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Legal Migrant Workers** | **Jean Frenzel,** Department of Workforce Development | - Legal issues in regards to treatment and evacuation  
- Trust in government  
- Spread across numerous counties  
- Very mobile  
- Communication will be difficult  
- Adequate interpreters availability  
- Cultural barriers  
- Seasonal workers  
- Access to the media is very limited  
- Reaching in timely manner | Chinese – 10  
Somalian - 500  
Hispanic– | Media, Door-to-door, employers | Multi-jurisdictional | Identify major employers:  
Jenni-O (Barron)  
Seneca (Cumberland)  
Bishop (Balsam Lake)  
MPM (Frederic)  
?Cardinal Glass (Amery)  
Panda King (Amery, St. Croix, Siren)  
Farms (contact UW Ext AG)  
Contact Jean to participate, Technical Colleges WITC, |
| **Illegal Migrant Worker** | **Polk County Emergency Management**  
**Kathy Poirer,** Director | - Legal issues in regards to treatment and evacuation  
- Trust in government  
- Spread across numerous counties  
- Very mobile  
- Communication will be difficult  
- Adequate interpreters availability  
- Cultural barriers  
- Seasonal workers  
- Access to the media is very limited  
- Reaching in timely manner | | Employers, Media?, Cultural Community, reach through the legal migrant worker community, dispense information at grocery stories and food shelves, Hotline with multiple messages | Multi-jurisdictional | Farms, Seneca (Cumberland) |
| **Immigrants**  
Bosnia  
Serb  
Hispanic  
Somalia  
Chinese  
Hmong | **Jean Frenzel,** Department of Workforce Development  
**Sue Houston,** Westaff Branch Manager | - Legal issues in regards to treatment and evacuation  
- Trust in government  
- Spread across numerous counties  
- Very mobile  
- Communication will be difficult  
- Adequate interpreters availability  
- Cultural barriers  
- Seasonal workers  
- Access to the media is very limited  
- Reaching in timely manner | | Panda King Restaurant Churches (Pastors?) | | |
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<tr>
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</table>
| Illiterate                | Polk County Area Literacy (715)405-7323 literacy@lakeland.ws | ▪ Materials need to be developed appropriately (lower grade reading levels, pictorials)  
▪ Admission by individuals may not happen  
▪ Need for additional staff to read forms, paperwork to individuals  
▪ Develop an appropriate ethical screening process | | Standard Communication Mechanisms, auditory, word of mouth, door-to-door, churches, community centers, food shelves, Employers | | |
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</thead>
</table>
| Blind / Visual Impairment | Polk County Human Services Phone: (715)485-8400 Fax: (715)485-8490 | - Instructions must be verbal or written in brail  
- No private transportation  
- Mobility needs assistance  
- Brail Signage  
- Staffing  
- May have service animal | NA | Standard Communication Mechanisms, Brail Converter, Door-to-door | Multi-Jurisdictional | WISCONSIN COUNCIL OF THE BLIND: (800) 783-5213 |
| Deaf / Hard of Hearing | Polk County Human Services Phone: (715)485-8400 Fax: (715)485-8490 | - Accessing existing databases because of HIPAA  
- Adequate sign language interpreters  
- Provide universal pictorals  
- Getting them to understand the need or issue  
- Some may not have TTY  
- Electricity dependant for communicating  
- Individuals must have deaf/hard etiquette/protocol  
- May have service animal | 300-500 | Utilize TTY to contact individuals; television – closed captioning; door to door; postal service; email; direct messages through Senior Centers & Meals on Wheels; Faith Based Community | | Local Telephone Providers for TTY. Sheriff has the ability for TTY. |
| Developmentally Disabled | Polk County Human Services Phone: (715)485-8400 Fax: (715)485-8490 DD Case Managers Cal Schladweiler Polk County Adult Development Center (715)485-3149 | - Staff needed to coach, train and inform and provide direct care  
- Need repetitive coaching  
- Transportation  
- Communication and understanding  
- Difficult to identify  
- Cannot self identify contra indicators, medications taking, etc.  
- Identify special needs facility  
- May not have adequate resources to treat / provide for  
- May have service animal  
- May crosswalk into multiple categories  
- Learning disabilities  
- Comprehension  
- Ability to follow instructions | 300-500 | Universal pictures and signs  
Contact through Employer Guardians  
Social Workers Care givers | | DD Centers:  
1. Adult Family Centers  
2. Community Based Residential Facilities  
3. Impact Seven  
CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING WESTERN WISCONSIN (CILWW): (715) 233-1070 Menomonie, WI 54751 http://www.cilww.com CILWW is a nonprofit community based organization that provides services for people with disabilities. |
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</thead>
</table>
| Physically Disabled       | Polk County Human Services Phone: (715)485-8400 Fax: (715)485-8490 Polk County Emergency Management Kathy Poirer, Director Phone: (715)485-9280 Fax: (715)485-8315 kathyp@co.polk.wi.us Polk County Health Department Phone: (715)485-8800 Fax: (715)485-8501 | • Mobility
• Do not self identify
• Equipment needs dependant on electricity
• Access/assistance to medications administration (heavy analgesics)
• Access to pharmacy
• Personal care assistance/needs
• Staffing
• Special or accessible transportation needs
• Seasonal issues effect mobility
• Special feeding needs (tube)
• Daily living needs
• May crosswalk into multiple categories
• May have service animal | <250 | Peer interaction Information through contacting Governmental agency Employers Religious community Traditional media Door-to-door Mailings County Website Emails Communicate through agencies (schools) POC | | |
| Chronic Mentally Ill / Dementia / AODA | Polk County Human Services Mental Health Unit Phone: (715)485-8400 Fax: (715)485-8490 | • Isolated
• Lack of resources (media, communications)
• Lack of understanding
• Distrust / Paranoia
• Medications (access to)
• Staffing
• Difficult populations to identify
• Confusion / Denial
• Can be physically aggressive
• Training responders to respond and manage
• Special Needs Facilities
• Learning disabilities
• Consideration of separate sheltering needs from general shelter population | Rely Caregivers, peers, family and staff Regularly visited establishments (Café, Bar, Church, Senior Centers, Post Office, AA and NA) | Multi-Jurisdictional MEDICAL ALERT ID VERY FEW IN CBRF ARE MENTALLY ILL Golden Age Manor, Amery River Bend, Catholic Charities (CBRF), Amery Comforts of Home (CBRF), St. Croix Falls Any of the CBRF/SENIOR HOUSING | |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sexual Offenders</strong></td>
<td><strong>Polk County Sheriff Department</strong>&lt;br&gt;Wayne Rolstad, Probation Officer&lt;br&gt;Local Police Chief</td>
<td>▪ Should be easily reachable because of being registered.&lt;br&gt;▪ Where to place? In general population shelter? (need to investigate)&lt;br&gt;▪ Medication dependant.</td>
<td>Total = 52 (060506)</td>
<td>Standard Communication Mechanisms</td>
<td>Multi</td>
<td>Contact Probation / Parole Officer&lt;br&gt;Luther Social Services out of Eau Claire&lt;br&gt;Wisconsin Sex Offender Registry (On-Line)&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://offender.doc.state.wi.us/public/">http://offender.doc.state.wi.us/public/</a>&lt;br&gt;Phone: (608)240-5830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tribal Communities</strong></td>
<td><strong>Carol Meyer, Disaster Planner</strong>&lt;br&gt;St. Croix Tribal Center&lt;br&gt;(715)349-2195</td>
<td>▪ Communication – may not have phones connected.&lt;br&gt;▪ Go through tribal police department.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tribal Police</td>
<td>Round Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jail</strong></td>
<td><strong>Polk County Sheriff Department</strong>&lt;br&gt;(715)485-8370</td>
<td>▪ DEFINITELY REACHABLE&lt;br&gt;▪ Issues are when to evacuate? Possibly Chemical from Bishop or structural damage from natural disaster.&lt;br&gt;▪ Sheriffs Department should follow own policies and procedures for evacuation.&lt;br&gt;▪ Jail is the best place for sheltering-in-place.</td>
<td>125</td>
<td></td>
<td>Balsam Lake</td>
<td>Polk County Jail has 4 Negative Air Pressure Rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transitional Housing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Polk County Salvation Army</strong></td>
<td>▪ ON HOLD</td>
<td></td>
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<td>ON HOLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Campground / Parks / Recreation / Summer Surge</strong></td>
<td><strong>Polk County Parks Department</strong>&lt;br&gt;(715)485-9294&lt;br&gt;<strong>Polk County Tourism Center</strong>&lt;br&gt;(715)483-1410&lt;br&gt;Municipal Parks&lt;br&gt;Resort Owners&lt;br&gt;National Park Service&lt;br&gt;<strong>Inter-State State Park</strong>&lt;br&gt;(715) 483-3747</td>
<td>▪ Sheer number needed to be contacted.&lt;br&gt;▪ Number of parks and resorts needed to be reached.&lt;br&gt;▪ Communication.&lt;br&gt;▪ Advise to leave area return to home.&lt;br&gt;▪ May not know the area or where to go.&lt;br&gt;▪ More concern on resort owners and campgrounds.</td>
<td>Variable. Likely growth in Summer Months.</td>
<td>Word of mouth, designated staff</td>
<td>Multi-jurisdictional</td>
<td>Polk County Parks: Apple River, Atlas, Black Brook, DD Kennedy, Lotus&lt;br&gt;Inter-State State Park has two campgrounds with 85 family campsites.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Cabin Owners              | Chief Elected Official | ▪ Number and location of cabins.  
▪ Difficult to reach or communicate with.  
▪ May not no where to go for service.  
▪ Isolated.  
▪ Hunting Cabins, Vacation Cabins, and Lake Cabins. | Up to and exceeding 40,000 | Door to door. Lakes Associations Local Police Chiefs and Fire Departments Restaurants, Gas Stations, Bars, etc. | Rural, lakes | |
| Isolated Households       | Chief Elected Official | ▪ Difficult to reach and communicate with.  
▪ May not wanted to be contacted.  
▪ May not want to leave.  
▪ May not no where to go. | | Door to door, Radio, television, possible telephone | Multi | |
| Special Events / Fairs    | Event Coordinator, Chief Elected Officials | ▪ Clearly identified Shelters  
▪ Lack of Evacuation Procedures.  
▪ Not familiar with the area.  
▪ Crowd Control audience  
▪ May be difficult to keep crowd in area for intentional release.  
▪ Traffic control.  
▪ Transportation. | | Word of mouth, event announcements, law enforcement, fire | Multi | County Clerk is a contact. All permits for townships go through County Clerk.
### County Identification of Category V: Age

#### Table of Contents

**Special Population Subset** | **Point of Contact** | **Barriers to Reach / Concerns** | **Estimated Population Size** | **Communication / Notification Mechanism** | **Location of Population in Jurisdiction** | **Action Needed / Notes**
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
**Senior Center** | Kari Flom, Director Polk County Aging Department Phone: (715)485-8599 Fax: (715)485-8598 | ▪ Staffed with volunteers.  
▪ Volunteers may not know what to do with emergency message.  
▪ Various hours and days.  
▪ Many centers are shared buildings.  
▪ May not have any emergency response procedures. | Milltown SC: 7-22  
Frederic SC: 15-25  
Luck SC: 9-100  
Osceola SC: 12-15  
Amery SC: 30-200 | Senior Center Director | Amery, Luck, St. Croix Falls, Frederic, Balsam Lake, Cushing, Milltown, Osceola, Clear Lake | Amery, Luck, St. Croix Falls, and Frederic have own buildings.  
**Milltown Senior Center**  
Arlo Miller (715)472-8946  
**Frederic Senior Center**  
Shirley Sandquist (715)327-4155  
**Luck Senior Center**  
Osceola Senior Citizens Club  
Evie Podeszwa (715)294-3670  
Does not have a Center. Meets last Wednesday of each month at noon at the United Methodist Church in Osceola.  
**Amery Area Senior Center**  
Kari Fladwood (715)268-6605 |
**Day Care** | Jan Place, Polk County Human Services Phone: (715)485-8400 Fax: (715)485-8490 | ▪ In-home care that are not certified/licensed  
▪ Transportation for evacuation may be issue.  
▪ Certified facilities do not have to have emergency plans (licensed facilities do).  
▪ Parental notification (reunite). | 65 Licensed or Certified / 400-500 Children | Telephone, HHS Database, Emergency Notification, Fire / Law Enforcement Notification | | |
**Schools** | Principal / Administrator Polk County Emergency Management / Sheriffs Department | ▪ Have to have evacuation policy.  
▪ Where are they taking them to evacuate?  
▪ During non-school year may be difficult to reach.  
▪ Seasonal timing. | 8 Public School Districts / 3 Parochial School Districts | | Amery School District  
(715) 268-9771  
Luck Public Schools  
(715) 472-2151  
Unity School District  
(715) 825-3515  
Clear Lake School District  
(715) 263-2114  
Osceola School District  
(715) 294-4140  
Frederic School District  
(715) 327-5630  
St. Croix Fall School District |
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| Nursing Homes / Assisted Living Facilities | Polk County Emergency Management Kathy Poirer, Director | EVACUATION:  
- Transportation  
- Staffing  
- Medical Concerns  
- SHOULD have emergency evacuation policies  
- Shared resource duplication  
- Family notification  
- Facilities to evacuate to  
- Time / Coordination  
SHELTER IN PLACE:  
- Inadequate supplies  
- Staffing  
- Medical supplies / equipment  
Facilities should have their own Evacuation Plans but may not have the resources available to execute in a timely manner. | (715) 483-9823 Mustard Seed Faith Academy (Amery)  
(715) 268-6359 Valley Christian School (St. Croix Falls)  
(715) 483-9126 Seventh Day Adventist  
(715) 327-4956 | | | Assisted Living Facilities:  
Comforts of Home, Frederic, St. Croix Falls,  
River Bend, Amery, Good Samaritan, St. Croix Falls,  
Community Based Referral Agencies:  
Aurora Residential, Balsam Lake, Bethany,  
Centuria, Clear Lake Manor, Clear Lake  
Nursing Homes: 6  
Good Sam, St. Croix,  
Golden Age and Willow Ridge, Amery  
Frederic Care Center, Frederic,  
Pioneer Home, Luck  
Simenstad, Osceola |
| Home bounds / Frail Elderly             | Polk County Aging Department Phone: (715)485-8599 Fax: (715)485-8598 Polk County HomeCare Tel: (715)485-8530 | EVACUATION:  
- Transportation  
- Medical Supplies / Care Givers  
- Refuse to leave  
- Mobility  
- Facilities  
SHELTER:  
- Supplies, food, water, power, medications, Communications, Home Health,  
1000’s Homecare Carevan – 200-300 Meals of Wheels - 200-300  
Telephone, Emergency Contacts, Face-to-Face, General Emergency Broadcast, | | | | Polk County Transportation Corporation / Veterans Office may have contacts of;  
Meals on Wheels / Transportation List, Aging (non-comprehensive); HomeCare, HS |
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| Senior Meal Sites         | Kari Flom, Director Polk County Aging Department Phone: (715)485-8599 Fax: (715)485-8598 | EVACUATION:  
- Transportation  
- Staffing  
- DO not have emergency evacuation policies  
- Facilities to evacuate to  
SHELTER IN PLACE:  
- Do not have comprehensive SIP Policy  
- Inadequate supplies  
- Staffing  
- Medical supplies / equipment | 200 per day | Telephone / General | Comforts of Home, Frederic; Peace Lutheran, Dresser; Milltown Community Center, Milltown; Ridgeview Apts., Clear Lake; Congregational Church, Amery |
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<tr>
<td>Household / Domesticated Pets</td>
<td>Grantsburg Animal Hospital Phone: (715)463-2536 Fax: (715)463-3179 Sue Johnson, DMV</td>
<td>Vets may not have plan in place. Individual plans not in place. May not evacuate if they have to leave pets. No facilities for (suggestions Fairgrounds) ‘People’ shelters may not allow pets. Tracking system for pets? Vaccination / medication considerations. Records of shots? Interstate Health Certificate to transfer over State lines. Staffing needs for caring of pets. Food needs.</td>
<td>Dogs (36.5% of households / 1.52 per household) Cats (30.9%/1.95) Birds (5.7%/2.16) Horse (2.0%/2.54)</td>
<td>General Communication</td>
<td>Multi-jurisdiction</td>
<td>Bob to check Emergency Management in Division regarding Dept of Ag statewide plan. Dr. Varty out of Bloomer (FED VET/ Animal Health Division of WI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock / Animal Husbandry</td>
<td>Polk County UW Extension Ag Agent Phone: (715)485-8600 Fax: (715)485-8601 Grant Burdick, Polk County Fair Board</td>
<td>Space / facilities / shelters Food and water Transportation Capture Vaccination / Medication Farmers will not evacuate without taking care of livestock. Farmers tend to help each other (support system), may not be as large an issue for government to help.</td>
<td>UW Extension UW Extension General Communication Town Chairperson</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture requires Premise ID number to register species (more applicable to disease outbreak).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exotic Animals Small Exotic Wildlife Natural Wildlife</td>
<td>Polk County DNR Phone: 715-485-3518</td>
<td>Can’t develop plan for individuals with exotics. We would provide information of where to take an exotic animal. Would still need to provide transportation. Provide education and awareness. Exotics may not be registered, unknown and may not become apparent until a disaster occurs.</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Fawndarosa, St. Croix Falls; Home for Life Animal Sanctuary, Alden Township; Pet Store, Animal Wildlife Rehabilitator, Dresser; Arnell Memorial Humane Society, Amery</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture handles commercial exotics (only natural wildlife) Department of Agriculture can provide list of Licensed Deer Farms Exotics may be housed at Rehab Centers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Function</td>
<td>Shelter-in-Place</td>
<td>Evacuation</td>
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<td><strong>Purpose</strong></td>
<td>Individuals will be asked to stay inside of the home or business during a natural or man-made disaster that possesses the potential to cause harm or death. Sheltering-in-Place keeps individuals inside a protected area and out of danger.</td>
<td>Individuals will be asked to temporarily leave their home or business during a natural or man-made disaster that possesses the potential to cause harm or even death to a given geographical population.</td>
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<td><strong>Advantages / Disadvantages</strong></td>
<td>The advantages of instituting shelter-in-place are: It is instantaneous; People are more comfortable in their familiar surroundings; and Necessities (e.g. telephone, radio, television, food, and clothing) are readily accessible. The major disadvantage is that accurate, reliable information is more difficult to receive.</td>
<td>The advantages of evacuating are that persons are away from the exposed area, and if the community moves to mass care shelters, information and medical relief are instantaneous. The disadvantages of evacuation are: Evacuation is time consuming; Evacuees may not be informed of where to go; The contaminant plume may shift into the evacuation route; People are unwilling or unable to leave their residences; Evacuees may move to locations other than mass care shelters making it more difficult to track them; and Evacuees may return to the affected area prior to the danger passing. In reality, evacuation is usually considered a last resort to protect the community because of the complex nature of completing a successful evacuation.</td>
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<td><strong>Situations</strong></td>
<td>Chemical release, infectious disease outbreak, nuclear incident, blizzard and freezing weather, Heat Waves</td>
<td>Chemical release, natural disasters, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Heat Waves</td>
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<td><strong>Command and Control</strong></td>
<td>The ultimate responsibility for ordering shelter in place rests with local government public officials. This should be a decision that is made with the appropriate agencies involved. Shelter-in-place should be strongly encouraged by officials (voluntary). Large scale shelter-in-place that is mandated will likely be extremely difficult to enforce and manage, hence a voluntary approach is more practical and is likely to be followed by the public. In a shelter-in-place incident, incident command shall be utilized; likely a Unified Command structure will be implemented. Depending incident and complexity, an ideal unified command structure will likely be made of Public Health, Emergency Management, Law Enforcement, Chief Elected Official, and Fire.</td>
<td>If a municipality is to be evacuated, the chief elected official will issue the order. If the evacuation involves more than one jurisdiction, or an area outside of a municipality, the order will be issued on a county level by Sheriff (Statute 59), or his designated elected representative. The decision to evacuate should be made with appropriate emergency response agencies. Once the decision to evacuate has been made, Incident Command shall be utilized; likely a Unified Command structure will be implemented. A Unified Command Structure for evacuation will likely be made up of Law Enforcement, Fire and Chief Elected Official.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Assumptions</strong></td>
<td>1. When asked to shelter in place, most of the public will comply voluntarily. 2. Special needs populations will generally not have enough supplies in house to shelter-in-place for any extended period of time (&lt;4 days). 3. Effective ongoing public communication will be critical. 4. It will be difficult to enforce any type of shelter-in-place. 5. Sheltering-in-place will be resource intensive if the event lasts for over 4 days.</td>
<td>1. Sufficient warning time will normally be available to evacuate the threatened population. 2. The principal mode of transportation will be private vehicles. 3. Particular areas of the County, or special populations within the County, will need additional time to accomplish an evacuation. 4. The public will both receive and understand official information related to evacuation. The public will act in its own interest and will evacuate dangerous areas promptly when advised to do so. 5. If there is sufficient advanced warning, some residents will evacuate prior to being advised to do so by public officials.</td>
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</table>
### Shelter-in-Place

**Emergency Management, Fire, Police, Sheriff Department of Local Health Department** will determine if there is a need for alerting the general public to shelter in place.

The general public will be notified through:

- Emergency Alert System (EAS) broadcasts on the radio or television.
- Outdoor warning sirens or horns.
- News media sources—radio, television and cable.
- NOAA Weather Radio alerts.
- Residential route alerting—messages announced to neighborhoods from vehicles equipped with public address systems.

Facilities that handle potentially dangerous materials, like nuclear power plants, are required to install sirens and other warning systems (flash warning lights) to cover a 10-mile area around the plant.

**Procedures for Sheltering in Place**

The appropriate steps depend on the emergency situation. If you hear a warning signal, listen to local radio or television stations for further information. You will be told what to do, including where to find the nearest shelter if you are away from your "shelter-in-place" location.

1. Bring children and pets indoors immediately. If your children are at school, do not try to bring them home unless told to. The school will shelter them.
2. Close and lock all outside doors and windows. Locking may provide a tighter seal.
3. If you are told there is danger of explosion, close the window shades, blinds or curtains.
4. Turn off the heating, ventilation or air conditioning system. Turn off all fans, including bathroom fans operated by the light switch.

### Evacuation

- Most evacuees will seek shelter with relatives or friends rather than accept public shelter.
- Some residents may refuse to evacuate regardless of warnings.
- Some people will lack transportation. Others who are ill or disabled may require vehicles with special transportation capabilities.
- Either separate facilities or special attention needs to be taken into consideration when opening general shelters for individuals who are convicted sexual offenders.

### Movement Control and Guidance

1. The size of the threatened area to be evacuated will be determined by conditions at the time of the emergency.
2. Traffic movements during evacuation will be controlled by use of designated routes and traffic control points. The evacuation area will identify at least two routes of egress. One lane of each route will be kept open to permit ingress of emergency vehicles.
3. Traffic movement is directed to designated reception areas and shelters within the County and in adjacent counties if needed.
4. Vehicles experiencing mechanical problems during the evacuation will be moved off the roads. Stranded evacuees will be picked up by other evacuating vehicles, or by emergency response personnel.

### Staging Areas and Pick-up Points and Routes

1. The County will determine designated staging areas as mobilization points to organize the emergency response personnel and equipment entering from areas outside the County.
2. Pick-up points and/or routes will be established as needed. Evacuees without vehicles will be instructed to go to the nearest pick-up point.
3. Pick-up routes will be designated for the rural areas. If possible, emergency vehicles will travel these routes at least twice during the evacuation to assure all evacuees without vehicles are assisted.

### Evacuation of Special Populations (Institutions, Facilities and Special Care Individuals)

1. Institutions within the County are responsible for developing procedures for evacuation of their facilities.
2. Ambulatory patients and staff of medical facilities within the county may be evacuated by buses. Ambulances and vans will be provided for evacuation of non-ambulatory individuals. Procedures for rapid evacuation and/or in-place sheltering should be included for facilities in the danger zone from hazardous materials releases.
3. Schools will develop evacuation procedures. Buses will be utilized for students without their own vehicles. Schools within the danger zone for hazardous materials
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<th>Function</th>
<th>Shelter-in-Place</th>
<th>Evacuation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Close the fireplace or woodstove damper.</td>
<td>spills will develop procedures for in-place sheltering and “walk-away” evacuations. Parents will be advised of the location of reception centers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Get your disaster supplies kit and make sure the radio is working.</td>
<td>4. The Incident Commander or appointee shall make best attempts to provide transportation for disabled or handicapped individuals. Using ICS, this can be accomplished by developing a Transportation Group in the Operations Section. Transportation may occur through pick-up of these individuals by various emergency responders. The Human Services Department and the Health Department will advise the Incident Commander of individuals known to need transportation assistance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Take everyone, including pets, into an interior room with no or few windows and shut the door.</td>
<td>5. The Polk County Jail will develop procedures for the relocation of prisoners to jails outside of the threatened area.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>If you have pets, prepare a place for them to relieve themselves where you are taking shelter. Pets should not go outside during a chemical or radiation emergency because it is harmful to them and they may track contaminants into your shelter. The Humane Society of the United States suggests that you have plenty of plastic bags and newspapers, as well as containers and cleaning supplies, to help deal with pet waste.</td>
<td>6. Evacuation from parks and recreation areas will be coordinated by the Polk County Sheriff's Department or municipal police department as appropriate. Evacuation of State parks and recreation areas in the County will be coordinated by the Sheriff's Department in coordination with other necessary partners. County and State parks representatives should advise Sheriff's/Police Departments of the scheduled special events which may draw crowds to the parks or recreation areas.</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>If you are instructed to seal the room, use duct tape and plastic sheeting, such as heavy-duty plastic garbage bags, to seal all cracks around the door into the room. Tape plastic over any windows. Tape over any vents and seal electrical outlets and other openings. As much as possible, reduce the flow of air into the room.</td>
<td>7. Large employers within the County have procedures for evacuation of their employees. These procedures include, if needed, the temporary shut-down of their facilities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Call your emergency contact and keep the phone handy in case you need to report a life-threatening condition. Otherwise stay off the phone, so that the lines will be available for use by emergency responders.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Keep listening to your radio or television until you are told all is safe or you are told to evacuate. Do not evacuate unless instructed to do so.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>When you are told that the emergency is over, open windows and doors, turn on ventilation systems and go outside until the building’s air has been exchanged with the now clean outdoor air. Follow any special instructions given by emergency authorities to avoid chemical or radiological contaminants outdoors.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*an interior room

The room should have ten square feet of floor space per person in order to provide sufficient air to prevent carbon dioxide buildup for five hours. In this room, you should store scissors, plastic sheeting pre-cut to fit over any windows or vents and rolls of duct tape to secure the plastic. Access to a water supply is desirable, as is a working hard-wired telephone. Don't rely on cell phones because cellular telephone circuits may be overwhelmed or damaged during an emergency. Also, a power failure will render most cordless phones inoperable.
<table>
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<th>Evacuation</th>
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<td>Spontaneous Shelters: Churches, Nursing Homes, Schools</td>
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<td>Pre-identified Shelters: (See Annex E of the County EOP)</td>
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<td>Delivery of food, water and medical supplies to individuals.</td>
<td>Transportation of individuals in an effected area out of the hot zone to shelters.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>▪ Transportation Mechanisms</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>▪ Water and Food</td>
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