Davis County
Hazardous Weather
Plan
(2008, 2009)

Purpose

In an effort to further protect and efficiently respond to a disaster that is weather related, this plan is established to outline procedures that Davis County, Utah will follow in such situations.

Situation and Assumptions

Situation

- It is necessary to send out critical information, (nature of the emergency, evacuation routes, shelter locations, or proper shelter-in-place protection), to help the public take protective actions.

- To protect life safety and lessen economical impacts it is critical to improve the timeliness and effectiveness of hazardous weather warnings for the public.

- Our area is vulnerable to a number of hazards. A number of these hazards can be grouped together as severe storms. Among these severe storms are strong winds, extreme cold, ice accumulations, heavy snow, severe thunderstorms, water spouts, and, although not a storm, extreme heat.

- Severe storms are unpredictable thereby putting the entire county population at risk of injury or, in severe cases, death. Storms also put all of the county's property, facilities and infrastructure at risk.

- Severe storms, although part of nature, can still effect the environment. Lightning ignited fires is a prime example. Other concerns include destroyed habitats, soil erosion, contamination, as well as others.

Assumptions

- Information is available from the National Weather Service (NWS) to warn, guide and help the public take proper protective actions in severe weather related situations.

- Better educated and prepared citizens will respond better to and lessen the financial impact of weather related emergencies.

- In the event of a severe storm, the Davis County Public Works Department will respond. If assistance is needed, requests will be made through the Incident Commander to the EOC utilizing the NIMS concept.

- Economic conditions should remain unaltered in non-affected areas. Repairs and lost sales are likely in the storm affected area. Costs of removing debris, repairing any structural damage, and other possible repairs will differ with each storm. Regulatory and contractual obligations should continue as normal as soon as repairs have been made. Contracted prices for repairs will remain the same as when the storm occurred. Operations and delivery of services will not be altered outside of the disaster area if possible, and will return to normal on a soon as possible basis within the disaster area.

- Public credibility of emergency management will likely remain the same. Severe storms are somewhat, routine so the public generally knows what to expect. However, if those expectations are not met confidence in the program will decrease significantly.

- Equipment and personnel from other city departments and agencies may be employed to assist in storm repairs and cleanup.

Explanation of Terms

Acronyms

Utah DHS	Utah Division of Homeland Security
EOC	Emergency Operations or Operating Center
EMC	Emergency Management Coordinator
NIMS	National Incident Management System
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
UWIN	Urban Wildland Interface

Definitions

Front- An area where warm air and cold air meet, can be cold or warm depending on which air mass is advancing.

Lake Effect Snow- A snow storm that has gained moisture from the Great Salt Lake which causes heavy snow when it reaches land.

Water Spout- A weak tornado that forms over warm water. In Utah they occur in late fall or with late winter storms.

Concepts of Operation

A. General

During a severe storm response it is essential that response agencies understand the use of the Incident Command System as it relates to the National Incident Management System (NIMS). If both the EOC and an ICP are operating, the IC and the EOC must agree upon a specific division of responsibilities. If the local capabilities are overwhelmed, support may come from other jurisdictions such as adjacent county, state, or federal agencies. The use of these resources may be directed from the EOC depending on the level of response.

B. Purpose

Primary responsibility is for the safety and welfare of the residents of Davis County rests with the respective local governments, city and county officials. Accordingly, the primary purpose of this Plan is to provide effective coordinated emergency response to severe weather in Davis County. This Plan is based on a response at the county level of government. It should include all agreements of cooperation between agencies within a jurisdiction. If the situation exceeds this level of government's capabilities, additional assistance will be requested from the State of Utah. The Utah DES will coordinate state agencies; and, if deemed necessary, request a Presidential Declaration through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This major declaration allows supplemental federal financial and technical assistance.

Organization, Direction, Control and Assignments of Officers

A. The Incident Commander will first assess the situation and recommend whether or not the EOC should be activated, and if activated to what level of response. If both the EOC and an ICP are operating, the IC and the EOC must agree upon a specific division of responsibilities to ensure proper response to the incident without duplication of efforts.

B. The Incident Commander will be responsible for the response actions and safety of first responders to the scene.

    a. The Safety Officer of the command staff of the ICS will consider the following hazards to first responders:

        i. Debris in general
        ii. Broken glass

iii. Falling branches
iv. Heat stroke/hypothermia
v. Additional storms
vi. Unstable buildings
vii. Live electrical wires
viii. Hazardous materials spills
ix. Animals
x. Fires or explosion
xi. Darkness or poor visibility
xii. Heavy equipment
xiii. Torn metal
xiv. Unstable/icy footing

C. The EOC or the IC through his/her general staff will address these emergency service functions (ESF):

1. **Transportation**
   In the event of a severe weather emergency, agencies within ESF #1, under the direction of the Public Works Director, will:

   a) Clear an emergency vehicle lane.

   b) Clear remaining roads of debris.

   c) Identify damage to any transportation infrastructure.

   d) Facilitate in evacuating persons in danger.

   e) Monitor traffic flow in effected areas.

   f) Prioritize and initiate emergency work due to the severe storms.

2. **Public Works**
   In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #2, under the direction of the Public Works Director, will:

   a) Coordinate the emergency restoration of critical public services and facilities, such as potable water, water systems for firefighting, sanitation, sewage, etc.

   b) Coordinate for emergency landfill areas.

   c) Enact emergency Mutual Aid Agreements if necessary.

3. **Communication**

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #3, under the direction of the Emergency Services Division Chief, will:

a) Coordinate and be responsible for 800, VHF & UHF radio systems and telephone (land, cellular, or satellite) systems between responders. Including coordination between various communications networks such as Dispatch, Public Works, Utilities, etc…

b) Coordinate and be responsible for 800, VHF & UHF radio systems and telephone (land, cellular, or satellite) systems between responders and the EOC.

c) Coordinate and be responsible for 800, VHF & UHF radio systems and telephone (land, cellular, or satellite) systems between the EOC and any other critical locations (i.e. a public shelter).

d) Coordinate with A.R.E.S. if A.R.E.S. services are needed.

4. **Firefighting**

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #4, under the direction of the Fire Chief, will:

a) Assist with search and rescue as needed.

b) Suppress any fires as a result of the storm.

c) Serve as emergency medical service personnel.

d) Request help from neighboring jurisdictions as needed.

5. **Information and Planning**

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #5, under the direction of the County Coordinating Officer, will:

a) Maintain logs, formal records and file copies of all expenditures in order to provide clear and reasonable accountability and justification for reimbursement. Including a Disaster Operations Contribution Record, Disaster Operations Work Records, Force Account Work Data, Contract Work Data, and other Source Work Data.

b) Provide storm disaster management related information through the EOC's computer programs and disseminate it through the EOC.

c) Maintain incident logs, mission tracking log, mutual aid request log and document all EOC briefings, and meetings, plus other information tracking procedures.

d) Gather information and data from briefings, messages, status boards, and other sources in order to develop periodic situation reports for distribution within the EOC.

e) Establish and maintain a Message Control Center.

f) Monitor Newscasts to insure accuracy of public information.

g) Collect and process information and data from damage assessment teams, fire, police, public works, utility and other field responders.

6. Mass Care

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #6, under the direction of the Red Cross, will:

a) Coordinate needed sheltering in the case of a severe storm, including the sheltering of those with special needs.

b) Coordinate mass feeding facilities.

c) Document shelter registration

d) Coordinate medical, energy, food, law enforcement, and energy concerns in shelters.

7. Resource Support

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #7, under the direction of the Emergency Management Bureau, will:

a) Procure and deploy resources to the various requesting agencies.

b) Document and be held accountable for where and how supplies are used.

c) Request needed supplies from appropriate agencies.

d) Activate the County's Mutual Aid Agreements.

8. Health and Medical Services

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #8, under the direction of the Davis County Health Department and the Fire Authority, will:

a) The Davis County Health Department will assess the needs of medical care personnel, food and drug safety, potability of water, wastewater, crisis counseling, solid waste disposal, public health information release, victim identification and mortuary services.

b) The Fire Authority will be responsible for emergency medical care personnel, equipment and supplies, responder safety, medical command and control.

9. **Search and Rescue**
    In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #9, under direction of the Fire Authority, will:

    a) Locate, extricate, and provide for the immediate medical treatment of victims trapped due to the disaster.

    b) Request assistance as needed.

10. **Hazardous materials**
    In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #10, under command of the Fire Authority, will:

    a) Respond to any hazardous material spills or leaks as a result of the storm, decontaminate the area and victims and declare the area safe for return.

11. **Food and Potable Water**
    In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #11, under the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, will:

    a) Identify food and water needs in the aftermath of a severe storm and dispense it through volunteer agencies such as the Red Cross.

    b) Anticipate the demand for food and water by using projection modes to calculate the number of affected people.

    c) Work with ESF #6 to identify the number of people in shelters and others in need of food and water. Also identify locations of all mass feeding sites.

    d) Assess warehouse space and needs for staging areas.

    e) Coordinate with ESF #15 to request needed supplies through the media.

f) Coordinate with ESF #17 in accepting and managing donated supplies.

g) Monitor nutritional concerns.

12. Energy

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #12 will:

a) Assess energy system damage, energy supply, demand, and requirements to restore such systems.

b) Assist local agencies in obtaining fuel for transportation and emergency operations.

c) Recommend actions to save fuel.

d) Provide technical assistance involving energy systems.

e) Process all fuel and power assistance requests received.

13. Law Enforcement

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #13, under the Davis County Sheriff's Office, will:

a) Join in search and rescue efforts for missing persons as needed.

b) Evacuate persons in endangered areas.

c) Restrict access to and patrol evacuated areas.

d) Provide security to public emergency shelters, feeding sites, other mass care facilities and staging or storage areas.

e) Help in traffic control in the disaster area.

14. Legal

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #14 will:

a) Advise on emergency powers of local government and necessary procedures for invocation of measures to restrict or deny access, limit or restrict use of water or other utilities, use any publicly or privately owned resources, and remove debris from publicly or privately owned property.

b) Advise Davis County Officials on possible liabilities arising from disaster operations.

c) Advise Davis County Officials on record keeping requirements and other documentation necessary for the exercising of emergency powers.

d) Ensure the safe keeping of legal documents in the legal department.

15. Public Information

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #15, under the direction of the Public Information Officer, will:

a) Confirm and release information regarding the severe storm.

b) Publicize any evacuation orders quickly and effectively.

c) Set up a media center in the EOC to access information concerning the severe storm.

d) Actively solicit information from all ESF's and city liaisons to ensure current and complete information is being disseminated.

e) Release public information concerning needed volunteers and donated goods, reentry and other recovery issues.

f) Ensure media (print, computerized, radio and television) are monitored for correct and consistent informational releases.

16. Facilities

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #16, under the direction of the Building Facilities Management Division, will:

a) Ensure that county buildings are safe and effective.

b) Provide facilities repairs and operating services in a timely manner

c) Determine potential use of county building facilities that may be used to house people and/or equipment, or help in other response efforts.

d) Provide for facility security.

17. Volunteers

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #17, under the direction of Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters, will:

a) Inventory, update and maintain a data base of offers of services and goods.

b) Liaison with other ESF's regarding available donated resources.

c) Maintain a daily log of activities and action plans, including scheduling staff and submitting information to ESF #5.

d) Assist in the coordination of field activities related to donated goods including the Donations Hot Line, Data Base Regional Relief Center, Staging Area and volunteer donations liaisons.

e) Ensure appropriate information intended for public distribution is made to ESF #15.

18. Animal Services

In the event of a severe storm, agencies within ESF #18, under the Davis County Animal Services Division, will:

a) Manage emergency medical care for animals, including commercial livestock, wildlife and domestic pets.

b) Coordinate efforts to provide food, water and shelter for animals, and store and distribute animal food and medical supplies.

c) Assess needs for and coordinated efforts to rescue or capture animals.

d) Assist and coordinate the capture and confinement of loose animals, including wildlife displaced from their natural habitat.

e) Dispose of dead animals.

D. Damage Reporting Procedures

In an effort to enhance the ability of the National Weather Service to understand the characteristics of severe weather activity as it happens, it is important to provide basic storm damage reports from observers/weather spotters on the ground in "real time". In an effort to provide this information to the NWS, all emergency responders in Davis County will provide the EOC with "real time" preliminary damage reports from the field. This information will be passed on to the National Weather Service Office in Salt Lake City via normal established channels. The NWS office in Salt Lake City can be reached by calling 800-882-1432 ext. 1 or 801-524-4377.

E. EOC Activation Procedures

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be activated for all incidents requiring a significant dedication of resources and/or extraordinary interagency coordination. The County Commissioners, or Emergency Management Director will make the decision regarding EOC activation. Not all disasters require full activation, in those instances, partial EOC activation will be ordered, and only relevant agencies and functional coordinators will be activated upon request of the Commission, Emergency Manager, or the Incident Commander.

F. Spotter Activation Criteria

In conjunction with local weather monitoring equipment to gather storm related data, local Weather Spotters will be notified by either the National Weather Service (NWS) office in Salt Lake or the EOC communications center to go to specific locations and monitor weather conditions. Weather Spotters utilized by the EOC can be reached via Amateur Radio network (See Agency Procedures to Contact ARES). Weather Spotters trained with the county can be viewed on the training roster included in this annex. The NWS office in Salt Lake City also maintains a list of local Weather Spotters which they can also be used to obtain assistance in other weather related events.

Reporting

All information gathered by Weather Spotters will be sent back to the County EOC (ESF #5) and forwarded on to the NWS. The NWS office in Salt Lake City can be reached by calling 801-524-4378 (24-hr number) or 1-800-882-1432. If the NWS office has activated or requested assistance from local Weather Spotters in any other weather related events, local Weather Spotters will send information directly back to the NWS office to the individual who activated them.

C. Local Warning Systems

Davis County resources are dispatched by four separate dispatch centers. These Emergency Communications Center are operational 24-hour per day 7-day a week Dispatches are responsible for after hours notification of the Emergency Services Division Emergency Management staff, responders and the media if conditions warrant. The County Commissioners, Emergency Management Staff, Fire Authority, Fire Chief Officers or Sheriff Command Level Personnel may request notifications and warnings take place if conditions warrant. Conditions to be considered include threat to life and property and safety of the responders. Notifications and warnings will be carried out in accordance with the County Emergency Management Plan.

Dispatch centers are equipped with an emergency generator, computers and uninterrupted power supplies. These Centers have paid special attention and are outfitted to ensure continuous and unaffected operation.

Assignment of Responsibilities

- County Commissioner

    1. Will provide guidance on severe storm management issues.

    2. Will issue a declaration that a Local State of Emergency exists when required.

    3. Provides policy direction to the County Emergency Support Team during emergencies.

    4. Will coordinate the response efforts of the Community Emergency Support Team with the community leaders during an emergency

    5. Represents Davis County when dealing with the State and Federal Legislated Delegations, the Governor, and /or the President of the United States.

- County/City Emergency Manager

    1. Has working knowledge of the Davis County Severe Weather Response Plan.

    2. Advises county/city officials to ensure appropriate measures are taken to protect the population.

    3. Serves in an appropriate capacity and provides technical input on the development of the Severe Storm Response Plan.

    4. Assists the planning team, through the planning process, in identifying individuals who should be assigned functional responsibilities necessary to the planning and implementation of Severe Storm Response Plan.

    5. Develops, in conjunction with county officials, a system for rapid notification of the appropriate elected officials, key staff, public safety officials, volunteer organizations, and institutions/sites at risk.

    6. Assists the local fire/emergency response agencies in the preparation for a coordinated re-entry into the evacuated area.

    7. Develops and delivers training to those individuals, agencies, and services that will be expected to respond to a severe storm.

8. Coordinates planning with the health department, and hospitals to maintain an ability to handle and treat victims.

- **City, Township, Town Responsibilities within Davis County**

A. Serve in an appropriate capacity and provide technical input on the development of severe storm response guidelines relating to your city.

B. Assist through the planning process in identifying the individuals who should be assigned functional responsibilities necessary to the planning and implementation of the Severe Storm Response Plan.

C. Develop, in conjunction with the city officials, a system for rapid notification of the Mayor and Council, key staff, public safety officials, volunteer organizations, and institutions/sites at risk.

D. Oversee PIO functions in coordination with the Incident Command, to prepare and disseminate emergency public information guidance and materials concerning protective actions to the population at risk. This may include the use of the Emergency Alert System (EAS), Weather Radio, TV stations, and other available resources.

E. Assist the local fire/emergency agencies in the preparation for a coordinated re-entry into the evacuated area.

F. Develop and deliver training to those individuals, city agencies, and services that will be expected to respond to a severe storm emergency.

G. Coordinate planning with the LEPC, health department, and hospitals to maintain an ability to handle and treat mass casualties due to a severe storm.

- City Councils

  1. Report to and function from the appropriate EOC.

  2. Participate in the Policy Group and in major policy decisions in regard to severe storm response actions.

  3. Extend or cancel use of resources as emergency measures for public safety.

  4. Establish policy for the mitigation and recovery within the jurisdiction.

- Volunteer Organizations Responsibilities

1. Maintain a comprehensive resource listing of all member organizations, points of contact, and the types of services each organization could provide on a voluntary basis in case of a major severe storm.

2. Derive consensus guidelines and standards from the member organizations as they pertain to severe storm response procedures.

- **Responsibilities Common to All Agencies/Facilities**

    1. Designate personnel who are available and capable of training and leading in severe storm preparedness measures and actual severe storm response functions.

    2. Designate personnel, if appropriate, to an Emergency Response Duty Roster. Such personnel are available on a 24-hour basis for the period of assignment. The roster information shall be given to Dispatch and shall be updated as necessary.

    3. Adhere to the provisions and procedures of the Davis County Hazardous Weather Response Plan.

    4. Channel on-site media communications through the designated Public PIO or IC.

    5. Cooperate with the directions of the IC for on-site emergency response activities.

    6. Educate and train employees in severe storm response measures.

    7. Participate in a post incident evaluation to aid future prevention and improved emergency response.

    8. Conduct and/or participate in drills or exercises using this response system.

7.   **Resource Management**

In the event of a disaster the response effort will need:

Personnel
Considerations include:
>
> The quantity of personnel needed
> Personnel response time
> Personnel capabilities
> Personnel limitations
> Personnel costs the County can expect to bear
> The liability associated with using personnel

Equipment

Equipment considerations include:
The quantity of equipment needed
Equipment response time
Equipment capabilities
Equipment limitations
Equipment costs the County can expect to bear
The liability associated with using equipment

Training

Training considerations include:
The quantity of training needed
Training needed related to response time
Training capabilities
Training limitations
Training costs
The liability associated with training

Facilities

Facility considerations include:
The quantity of facilities needed
Facilities response time
Facilities capabilities
Facilities limitations
Facilities costs
The liability associated with facilities

Funding

Funding considerations include:
The quantity of funding needed
Funding response time
Funding capabilities
Funding limitations
Funding issues/costs

Expert Knowledge

Expert Knowledge considerations include:
The amount of expert knowledge needed
Expert knowledge response time
Expert knowledge limitations
Costs for expert knowledge that the jurisdiction can expect to bear
The liability associated with expert knowledge

Materials

Material considerations include:

The quantity of materials needed
Materials response time
Materials capabilities
Materials limitations
Costs the County can expect to bear
The liability associated with materials

8. <u>Administration and Support</u>

- **Records**

Certain expenses incurred in carrying out emergency response and recovery operations for certain hazards may be recoverable from the responsible party or, in the event of a Presidential disaster declaration, partially reimbursed by the federal government. Therefore, all government entities should keep records of labor, materials, and equipment used and goods and services contracted for during large-scale emergency operations to provide a basis for possible reimbursement, future program planning, and settlement of claims.

- **Post-Incident Review**

A post-incident review shall be conducted in the aftermath of a significant emergency event. The purpose of this review is to identify needed improvements in plans, procedures, facilities, and equipment. Incident Commanders, department/agency heads and other key personnel who participate in major emergency operations should also participate in the post-incident review.