Washington State
**Department of Social
& Health Services**

ODHH Office of the Deaf
and Hard of Hearing

Resources on Emergency / Disaster Preparedness,
Notification Alerts, Weather Radio, 9-1-1, Smoke Alarms

Emergency / Disaster Preparedness

Emergency or disaster preparedness involves planning for the emergency or disaster before it occurs. Make sure you know kind of emergency or disaster can affect the community where you live, work, and play.   You can broaden your knowledge of preparedness topics by reviewing information provided at various government and non-profit web sites.   There are many resources available to help you develop a plan, gather supplies and be prepared for disaster or emergencies and what to do if something happens.

Federal-National Resources

- Federal Emergency Management Agency www.Ready.gov and www.fema.gov
- American Red Cross www.redcross.org
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) www.bt.cdc.gov
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS) www.dhs.gov/files/prepresprecovery.shtm
- Citizens Corps www.citizencorps.gov
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/index.shtm
  National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) www.noaa.gov
- National Weather Service (NWS) www.nws.noaa.gov
- Critical Infrastructure Assurance Office (CIAO) www.ciaogov
- White House www.whitehouse.gov/response
- U.S. Fire Administration www.usfa.fema.gov
- USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station www.wildfireprograms.com
- http://72hours.org/index.html - resources on personal preparedness
- www.flu.gov/index.html - federal website on flu and Pandemic Flu preparation
- Humane Society - www.humanesociety.org/news/news/2011/03/disaster_planning_2011.html - Disaster planning for pets

Washington State Resources

- Seattle & King County - www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness.aspx
- Seattle & King County - http://3days3ways.org/
- National Weather Service - www.wrh.noaa.gov – click on the city for details in your area.
- WA Military Department/Emergency Management Division (EMC) www.emd.wa.gov/index.shtml
- Winter Weather Preparedness Tips and Resources for Western WA - http://takewinterbystorm.org
- Department of Health - www.doh.wa.gov/phepr/default.htm
- Department of Social and Health Services - www.aasa.dshs.wa.gov/professional/EmergencyPlanning - resources for emergency planning
- Department of Social and Health Services/ County Hazard Identification Vulnerability Analysis (HIVA) http://www.aasa.dshs.wa.gov/professional/EmergencyPlanning/CountyHIVA.htm

Local Resources

- City of Auburn - www.auburnwa.gov/emergency/disaster.asp
- City of Kent - www.ci.kent.wa.us/emergencymanagement

- City of Renton - www.rentonwa.gov/emergencies
- City of Tukwila - www.ci.tukwila.wa.us/disaster/disasterprepare.html

Deaf/Hard of Hearing/Deaf-Blind Resources
- HSDC/Emergency Education Program - www.hsdc.org/deaf_hardofhearing/emergency
- Community Emergency Preparedness Information Network (CEPIN) www.cepintdi.org – for deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind people.
- Emergency Management Ontario - www.emergencymanagementontario.ca/english/media2009/videos/EMO_ASL.html -ASL interpreter in video on family preparedness
- Northeast Texas Public Health District www.accessibleemergencyinfo.com/home.html - accessible resources covering a wide range of emergencies and disasters including videos in ASL and captioning
- Rochester Red Cross & National Technical Institute on Deafness www.rochesterredcross.org/Portals/1/RRC-pdfs/Deaf_Preparedness_Brochure.pdf - "Disaster Preparedness in the Deaf Community" publication
- Gallaudet University Technology Assessment Program - http://tap.gallaudet.edu/Emergency/

Disabilities Resources
- FEMA, "Accommodating Individuals With Disabilities In The Provision Of Disaster Mass Care, Housing, And Human Services" www.fema.gov/oer/reference/
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) www.fema.gov/hazard/hurricane/2005katrina/disability.shtm - accessible videos
- Red Cross - http://www.redcross.org/museum/prepare_org/disabilities/animaltips.htm - tips for service animals
- National Organization on Disability (NOD) - http://nod.org/research_publications/emergency_preparedness_materials
- FCC Emergency Access Advisory Committee (EAAC) www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/emergency-access-advisory-committee-eaac

Floods
- National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) www.FloodSmart.gov - for more information about flood insurance, preparation, recovery, and more
- National Weather Service - www.wrh.noaa.gov - click on the city for details in your area
- King County Flood Warning Center
  206-296-4535 or 800-768-7932 - 24 hours during a flood to answer questions and provide information 206-296-8200 or 800-945-9263 - recorded flood phase information for area rivers www.kingcounty.gov/flood - real-time flood gage data and flood phase information www.kingcounty.gov/safety/FloodPlan.aspx - plan for floods

Emergency / Disaster Notification Alerts
Sign up to receive alerts on severe weather, terrorism, disaster, and Amber events. Alerts can be sent to your email address, pager, cell phone, or home phone. Be aware that services and features vary.

- The Emergency Email and Wireless Network – http://emergencyemail.org - click on Washington State and then your county. When you register, specify how you want to receive a message and select Pacific Standard Time (PST) zone

- Regional Public Information Network (RPIN) - www.rpin.org/rpinweb - one-stop resource for alerts serving residents in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties.
- Twitter **-** http://twitter.com/kcalerts - sign up to receive updated information via real time "tweets"
- See "Weather Radio"
- WA Military Department/Emergency Management Division - www.wadisasternews.com/go/site/1105/ - Washington Disaster News

Emergency/disaster alerts are provided by city, county or local governments throughout the state for people who live or work in those areas.   Visit your local government or your local emergency management office's website to sign up for those alerts.   Some are listed here:

- City of Auburn –www.auburnwa.gov/emergency/disaster/auburn_alert.asp or (253) 876-1925 to register if you have no access to the internet
- City of Kent–www.kentcodered.com or 253-856-4440, to register if you have no access to the internet
- City of Renton–http://rentonwa.gov – click on CodeRed
- City of Tukwila - http://www.ci.tukwila.wa.us/listserv/hhdam_elist.html

Weather Radio

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) - www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/special_need.htm - resources on a specialized radio designed to receive short text messages for deaf and hard of hearing. The NOAA broadcast National Weather Service (NWS) warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazardous information.

9-1-1

Calling 9-1-1 is becoming much easier.   You can call from a landline, video relay service, internet protocol (IP) relay service, pager or cell phone. Here are some resources:

- Department of Justice (DOJ) - www.ada.gov/911ta.htm - ADA requirements for emergency telephone numbers and 9-1-1 to be accessible.
- Rave Mobile Safety - www.smart911.com to provide additional information used by 9-1-1 dispatcher
- HSDC/Emergency Education Program - www.hsdc.org/deaf_hardofhearing/emergency for 9-1-1 call centers to obtain TTY training
- Federal Communication Commission (FCC) http://transition.fcc.gov/cgb/dro/e911tty.html - on accessibility compatibility with 9-1-1
- WA Military Department/Emergency Management Division www.emd.wa.gov/e911/e911_index.shtml to learn about the state 9-1-1 program.
- National Emergency Number Association (NENA) - www.nena.org – search for resources on 9-1-1 accessibility standards including TTYs, IP and VRS services.

Smoke Alarms

When buying a smoke alarm, be sure it has an Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS), a battery between the device (alarm) and power source (wall plug) in case the power goes out.   Most smoke alarms will not operate when losing electricity.   Some alarms with strobe lights will work with only electricity, not

battery.   Ask if the strobe light will flash with the backup battery.   Get an alarm that has visual, vibrating and audible alert that will accommodate all hearing, hard of hearing, late-deafened, deaf-blind friends and family members in your home.

- Check your local fire department or fire marshal's office to see if they distribute specialized smoke alarms for deaf and hard of hearing. While most do not, there are a few distribution programs in the state.   To advocate for distribution of specialized smoke alarms by your local fire department or fire marshal, get more information here: http://www.cepintdi.org/firegrant2010

- U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) - - has information on consumer safety and specialized smoke alarms for people who are deaf and hard of hearing
  www.usfa.fema.gov/campaigns/smokealarms/alarms/index.shtm
  www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/hearing.pdf
  www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/disability/fswy19.shtm
  www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/fswy19.pdf

- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) www.nfpa.org - has information on consumer safety and specialized smoke alarms for people who are deaf and hard of hearing