

DRAFT 9-6-26

Bayside Emergency & Disaster Preparedness Plan OUTLINE FOR THE BAYSIDE E.D.P. PLAN

Introduction

When disaster strikes, rural communities like Bayside face unique challenges, including isolation, limited local emergency services, and infrastructure vulnerabilities. Creating a tailored plan for Bayside is essential for survival and self-sufficiency. Our residents are also resourceful, resilient, and have practical how-to skills and relevant life experiences. We need a comprehensive, actionable Plan easily accessible for everyone.

Purpose and How to Use this Action Plan

This Action Plan is not a shelf document. The participation and practical experience of residents will help to customize this outline into a useful Action Plan and Quick Reference Guide for Bayside – Jacoby Creek Valley – Indianola. The population clusters – ie.main neighborhoods – of this area are identified and both needs and assets, priority infrastructure safety issues and resources are provided for each neighborhood. This Action Plan presents information in six critical elements:

Executive Summary

- 1.
- 2.
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- 6.

1. Hazard Assessment & Risk Identification

Before building your plan, identify the specific threats common to your geography.

- **Natural Threats:** Wildfires, flash floods, tornadoes, severe winter storms, or earthquakes.
- **Technological/Human Threats:** Extended power grid failures, chemical spills (from nearby rail lines or agricultural operations), or supply chain cutoffs.
- **Impact Mapping:** Identify potential roadblocks (fallen trees, washed-out bridges) that could trap you on your property.

2. Communication & Emergency Contacts

Cell towers often fail or lack coverage in rural zones. You need a multi-layered communication strategy.

- **Primary Contacts:** Local sheriff, rural fire department, closest neighbors, and out-of-state emergency contacts.
- **Communication Hardware:**
 - NOAA Weather Radio (battery or hand-crank) for alerts.
 - Satellite messengers or Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs).
 - Two-way radios (FRS/GMRS or HAM radio) for neighborhood communication.
- **Check-In Protocols:** Establish a mandatory timing schedule to check on elderly or isolated neighbors.

3. Self-Sufficiency & Supply Logistics (The 2-Week Rule)

Rural areas are rarely the first priority for urban emergency responders. Plan to be entirely self-sufficient for **at least 10 to 14 days**.

- **Water Security:**
 - Minimum 1 gallon per person/pet per day.
 - Manual hand pumps for water wells (electric well pumps will fail during grid outages).
 - Water purification tablets or gravity filters.
- **Food Reserves:** Non-perishable, high-calorie food items that require no cooking or minimal water.
- **Power Backups:**
 - Dual-fuel generators (gas/propane) with properly stored, rotated fuel.
 - Portable solar power stations for small electronics and medical devices.
- **Medical Supplies:** Advanced first-aid kits including trauma supplies (tourniquets, splints, and wound sterilizing) and a 30-day supply of critical prescription medications.

4. Property & Asset Mitigation

Preparing your physical land minimizes damage and safeguards your resources.

- **Defensible Space:** Maintain a 30-to-100-foot buffer around homes by clearing brush, tall grass, and dead trees (critical for wildfire zones).
- **Utility Shut-Offs:** Know how and when to safely turn off propane tanks, main electrical breakers, and water lines.
- **Structure Reinforcement:** Clear drainage ditches to prevent property flooding and reinforce outbuildings against heavy snow or high winds.

5. Livestock & Pet Management

Animals require massive amounts of logistical planning during a disaster.

- **Evacuation Transport:** Maintain functional trailers and have a designated livestock-friendly shelter option outside the danger zone.

- **Identification:** Microchip pets; use livestock markers, branding, or fetlock tags for large animals in case they must be released.
- **Emergency Rations:** Store a minimum of 7 to 10 days of feed, hay, and clean water specifically for your animals.

6. Evacuation vs. Sheltering-in-Place

Clear, pre-determined triggers prevent panic when a disaster occurs.

- **Evacuation Triggers:** Explicit thresholds that dictate when to leave immediately (e.g., "fire crosses Highway X" or "floodwaters reach the lower pasture").
- **Escape Routes:** Map at least three different driving routes out of your area, keeping in mind that dirt roads become impassable mud during heavy rains.
- **Go-Bags:** Pack lightweight backpacks for every family member containing cash, copies of property deeds/insurance, clothing, and basic survival tools.

Resources

Maps, Charts and Diagrams

Acknowledgements