

CAMPBELL COUNTY WINTER WEATHER PLAN

I. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. History of Winter Weather in Campbell County

Campbell County, KY, experiences frequent and severe winter weather events, including heavy snowfall, ice storms, and extreme cold temperatures. Notable events include the Ice Storm of 2009, which caused significant power outages and infrastructure damage, and the Blizzard of 1978, which resulted in paralyzing snow accumulation and disruption of essential services.

B. Description of Winter Weather Hazards

1. **Heavy Snowfall:** Accumulations can disrupt transportation, utilities, and emergency services.
2. **Ice Storms:** These events can cause widespread power outages, hazardous travel conditions, and damage to trees and infrastructure.
3. **Extreme Cold:** Prolonged periods of subzero temperatures can lead to hypothermia, frostbite, and increased demand for heating resources.
4. **Freezing Rain and Sleet:** These conditions can create dangerous driving conditions and contribute to power outages.

C. Assumptions

1. Winter weather may lead to prolonged power outages, transportation disruptions, and an increased need for emergency shelters.
2. Emergency services may be delayed due to hazardous conditions.
3. Residents will rely heavily on local resources during the initial response period.
4. Vulnerable populations, including the elderly and those with medical conditions, will require special assistance.

II. MISSION

The purpose of this plan is to establish basic policies and procedures for winter weather preparedness, response, and recovery in Campbell County, KY, to ensure the safety and well-being of residents and minimize property damage.

III. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

A. Local Leadership

1. Local elected officials or designees will provide direction and control: the mayor or their designees inside city limits and the County Judge-Executive or designees in unincorporated areas.
2. The Campbell County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) will coordinate preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.

B. Coordination with State and Federal Agencies

State and federal resources that supplement local efforts will be directed by the respective agencies that supply them.

C. Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The EOC will be activated during severe winter weather events to coordinate response efforts and resource allocation.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Phases of Operations

1. **Preparedness:**

- Develop public awareness campaigns on winter weather risks and personal preparedness.
- Maintain and test communication systems, including the RAVE Mobile platform.
- Preposition emergency equipment and supplies, such as snow removal equipment, generators, and sand/salt supplies.
- Conduct training exercises for emergency responders.
- Identify and prepare warming shelters and emergency facilities.

2. **Response:**

- Disseminate timely warnings through NOAA weather radios, social media, and local media outlets.
- Activate EOC and coordinate resource deployment.
- Implement snow and ice removal plans for critical transportation routes.
- Establish and staff warming centers and shelters.
- Coordinate search and rescue operations for stranded motorists and at-risk individuals.

3. **Recovery:**

- Assess and document damages for potential state and federal assistance.
- Restore utility services and transportation infrastructure.
- Replenish and rehabilitate emergency resources.
- Conduct public health interventions to mitigate the effects of prolonged cold exposure.

B. Warning Systems and Public Information

1. Utilize the National Weather Service (NWS) products:

- Winter Weather Advisory: Issued for conditions causing significant inconvenience.
- Winter Storm Watch: Alerts for potential severe winter conditions.
- Winter Storm Warning: Indicates imminent or ongoing severe winter weather.
- Ice Storm Warning: Issued for dangerous ice accumulations.

- Wind Chill Advisory/Warning: Alerts for potentially life-threatening cold conditions.
- 2. Provide real-time updates through multiple communication platforms.

C. Evacuation Procedures

1. Identify areas where residents may need evacuation, including those without heat, inaccessible due to snow or ice, or at risk of structural collapse.
2. Develop plans for the transportation of evacuees to designated shelters.
3. Provide for the care of pets and livestock during evacuations.

D. Utility Management

1. Coordinate with utility companies to prioritize restoration of critical services.
2. Develop procedures to address downed power lines and damaged gas infrastructure.

V. TRAFFIC CONTROL

1. Deploy snowplows and salt trucks to maintain clear priority routes.
2. Establish detours and communicate road closures through public advisories.
3. Coordinate with law enforcement to manage traffic during hazardous conditions.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

The Campbell County OEM will:

1. Coordinate with local agencies and volunteer organizations.
2. Maintain an inventory of resources and personnel.
3. Provide regular updates to state emergency management and federal agencies as required.

VII. GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

A. Kentucky Emergency Operations Plan (KyEOP) B. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Guidelines C. Campbell County Debris Management Plan

This plan is subject to annual review and revision to incorporate lessons learned from prior events and to address evolving hazards and resources.

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