

# River Bend Ward

Reno Nevada Stake

Reno, Nevada

January 2019

Please Note: The intent of a Ward or Stake Emergency Response Plan is to organize in advance how the ward members will be mobilized to assist one another, how the buildings will be used, and to assign leadership responsibilities in the event of an emergency. The plan is not a document to itemize what kind of supplies to keep on hand or how to build your food storage—members should be encouraged to make their preparation a matter of prayer and research emergency preparedness and food storage resources accordingly. Remember, this plan is a mobilization document intended to keep the ward members organized in the event of an emergency.



## **Preparing for Emergencies**

Identify Possible Disasters within the River Bend Ward:

- Earth Quake (magnitude of 5.5 or greater) – Major impact
- Floods – Areas around the Truckee River (minor to major impact)
- Mud/Landslides – Areas of the ward on hills (minor to major impact)
- Fires – Areas to the north near gullies greater impact
- Hazardous Material Spills-Areas near the freeways greatest impact
- Tornado or Severe Wind-minor to major impact
- Severe Weather/heat or cold-minor to major with concern for single and elderly
- Power Outages-(water, gas, electricity, garbage, telephone)if associated with severe weather, major concern for single and elderly
- Health Epidemic (a widespread occurrence of a disease in a community at a particular time.)-concern for those not vaccinated
- Pandemic (widespread occurrence of a disease in a community at a particular time.)—major with concern for food and supplies in each home if quarantined
- Terrorist/Biological threats targeted at large public areas (airport, UNR, convention center, church buildings
- Drought-minor to major
- Infestation-minor to major
- Economic—minor to major with loss of jobs and funds

## **Possible Effects on the Ward/Family/Stake**

- Structural Damage
- No water/Heat/Electricity
- Broken Gas or Electric lines
- No trucks to bring in supplies-limited groceries, gas, other products
- Damaged/blocked roads
- Grocery store and other business closures including medical offices
- Forced evacuations
- Sewer/Home Sanitation unavailable
- Communication outages
- Quarantine
- Church building closures
- Bishop's storehouse closure

The Ward Council should review and discuss progress towards encouraging members to acquire a year's supply of food, fuel where possible and funds to prepare for an emergency by:

- Sacrament meeting talks under the direction of the bishopric
- Relief Society/Elders quorum and youth meetings to emphasis and teach
- Use of the cannery
- Firesides
- Checking the accuracy of the ward address list and map of all member homes
- Identify those who will potentially need additional help and Assign members to care for them
- Encourage ward members to complete the special skills/equipment survey
- Finding a way to communicate with all ward members if telephones/cell phones are not available
- Establish a way to inform less active members and those of other faiths of plans in the ward for response to emergencies

Emergency response agencies could be overburdened and might not be able to get to your neighborhood immediately after a disaster

You and your neighbors may need to take the initial emergency response actions and take care of others for at least 72 hours. Past emergency disasters may have thrust many untrained people into positions of providing first aid and rescuing people. You need to be prepared.

**1. Identify people who:**

- Have medical, electrical, child-care, leadership, firefighting, and survival skills.
- Own chain saws, citizen band radios, four-wheel drive vehicles, motorcycles and water purifiers.

**2. Organize ward areas and assign Block Captains**

3. Joining and forming a community response team can greatly improve your chances of surviving a disaster and can improve the self-sufficiency of neighborhood.

4. Sign up for CERT. It is a training program that prepares you to help yourself, family, and neighbors in the event of a disaster. As a member of a CERT team, you can respond to disasters, participate in drills and exercises, and take additional training

## **Family First**

Each head of household ensures the safety and well-being of his/her family, tends to those needs first and makes a report to their Block Captain regarding needs and injuries. Each family should be contacted by your Block Captain, but if you don't hear from them, reach out to them or your ward leadership-(it's possible they are in need of help and cannot reach out to you.)

## **Make a ward emergency plan**

- Have a map of the ward area with all members and missionaries living within the boundaries identified
- Identify members with special needs such as the disabled and elderly-those without transportation, etc.
- Organize ward areas and assign Block Captains and in place and trained for checking and reporting the status of members/group—Groups should have no more than 8 households per captain and ideally should be able to check on all of their group within a few minutes—
- Have a plan in place to communicate (2-way radios?, Ham, email, phones etc)
- Identify CERT and Medically trained members
- Identify those who are willing and able to be a runner/bicycler to deliver messages if telephone lines are down
- Have all members complete survey and have an electronic copy and a hard copy with the bishop and Elders Quorum President
- Give each family a binder with colored papers to be placed in a visible place denoting:

Green: WE ARE OK – DO NOT NEED HELP

YELLOW: WE NEED HELP BUT CAN WAIT—HELP OTHERS FIRST

RED: WE NEED IMMEDIATE HELP – LIFE THREATING (SHOCK, BLEEDING, HEART ATTACK, UNABLE TO MOVE, OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS)

BLACK: WE HAVE A DEATH

- Arrange for services as needed (shelter, equipment, transportation sanitation, medical needs, etc) Who is going to do what? (e: Priesthood, Relief Society, Young Men/Young Women, Sunday School)
- Communicate with the stake and report and needs that cannot be handled on the ward level
- Assist families that have been separated to reunite as soon as possible

- Assess damage to homes
- Determine evacuation center—away from the disaster—listen to the radio and or follow local responders directions. Usually all High Schools, Lawlor Events Center, the Convention Center and our Stake Center can be used upon approval
- Be aware of sheltering for pets and other animals: UNR equestrian Center, Live Stock Events Centers
- Organize clean-up crews
- Report to Stake who reports to local government/first responders, area authority/Salt Lake
- Wards aid members who have suffered damage to homes or belongings, emotional trauma, or loss of livelihood
  - Identify Members homes who can help house additional members
  - Identify members in the ward who can give emotional counsel
  - Identify members who will be willing to help with skills, equipment, labor

Work with civil authorities and relief organizations to identify and respond to opportunities for the church to assist with community needs. Bishop check with Stake President/Stake Council

### **Establish Evacuation Sites:**

#### 1. Evacuation

- a. Establish group meeting areas (Stake Center, \_\_\_\_\_)Goal of no member left behind—group leaders responsible for checking on arranging rides if needed for members
- b. For partial evacuation (possible fire) establish shelter for those needing it—church, community, other members homes
- c. In the event of Shelter-in-Place (pandemic, ice storm, flooding, natural disaster, etc) Check on all members—reporting back to assigned bishopric members
- d. Evaluate food and supplies in shelter in place areas

#### 2. Responding to Community Emergencies

#### Responsibilities of the Ward Welfare Committee

After ensuring that all families are cared for, the ward welfare committee should convene to:

- Review any instructions or counsel from civil authorities and the stake presidency.
- Make an initial assessment of the condition of members and others.

- Determine what help to offer the ward and community
- Confirm overall responsibilities, making sure that the Bishop and others, as he directs, are available to minister to the people and that others, as assigned, focus on the physical arrangements needed at the time.
- Set the time and method for follow -up communications.

### **PRIORITY OF ACTIONS IN AN EMERGENCY**

1. Account for all ward members
2. Assess need of the Ward
3. Assist those who are injured or in danger
4. Report to the Bishop/Stake President
5. Arrange for services as necessary

### **SELECTED SERVICES**

The ward may be called on to provided services to assist members, including:

- |                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| ▪ First Aid, Medical Assistance | Food Preparation |
| ▪ Temporary housing             | Comfort          |
| ▪ Sanitation                    | Recreation       |
| ▪ Clean-up                      |                  |

### **Families Prepare by:**

- Having a 96 hour kit
- Storage emergency water (minimum of 2 weeks 1 gallon per person per day)
- Storing a 3 months supply of food, alternative cooking, heating, sanitation, etc.
- Having long term storage (food, clothing, shelter, sleeping bags, etc.)
- Preparing their children though FHE lessons on specific lessons—teaching but not instilling fear in their children (if we are prepared, we will not fear)
- Develop a Family Emergency plan with areas designed as a gathering place—practicing fire drills
- Get an AM/FM radio – Washoe County will broadcast on all stations AM and FM in Western Nevada, Eastern Sierra down to Tonopah (AM 780 has a strong signal)
- Know who your Block Captain/Section Leader/Priesthood Leader is to report to in case of an emergency
- Have Green, Yellow, Red and Black card readily available to identify your status
  - Green—We are ok
  - Yellow—We need help but help Serious injuries first
  - Red – We need help now—life threatening (shock, bleeding, heart attack, etc)
  - Black – We have a death

### **Family Responsibilities After an Emergency**

- Account for all family members and assess the damages (property)
- Turn off electricity, water and gas IF you smell gas (a Rotten egg-sulfur smell). If you suspect a gas leak and/or are directed to do so by a community response person or if needed

**\*\*\*The Power Company requests that you do not turn back on the gas by yourself. It may take them a while to get to you but they can check and make sure it is safe to turn it on**

- Take care of Individual and Family needs first
- First aid needs
- Check with neighbors and report family status and needs or availability to help others to your block captain
- Place Colored Status Card where it can be seen from the street

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

<b><u>Emergency Police/Fire.....</u></b>	<b><u>911</u></b>
Reno Police Non Emergency.....	775-334-2677
Reno Fire Department-non emergency.....	775-328-3659
Washoe County Sheriff's Office .....	775-328-3001
Truckee Meadows Fire.....	775-324-6000
Sheriff's Office.....	775-785-9276
Sheriff Search and Rescue.....	911
REMSA (ambulance).....	911
St. Mary's Hospital.....	775-770-3000
Renown Medical Center.....	775-982-4100
Renown South Meadows.....	775-982-7000
Northern Nevada Hospital.....	775-331-7000
VA Hospital.....	775-786-7200
Washoe County Information Departments/Programs.....	211
Washoe County Health Department.....	775-328-2400
Washoe County Emergency Management:Aaron Kenneston.....	775-337-5898
Red Cross.....	775-756-1000
<b>**Bob Miller AARES...Head Communication for Washoe County—right hand to Aaron</b>	
University of Nevada, Reno.....	775-784-1110
NV Energy-emergency repairs.....	775-834-4100
Reno Emergency Services.....	775-334-2677/911
Truckee Meadows Water – TMWA.....	775-934-8080
City of Reno Sewer.....	775-954-4601
Air Quality.....	775-784-7200
Washoe County Animal Control.....	775-535-8900
NV Humane Society.....	775-856-2000
SPCA.....	775-324-7773
Road Conditions.....	877-999-1085
Waste Management.....	775-329-8822