

Reno Stake Emergency Planning Guide 2026

Step 1: Identify Likely Disasters in the Reno Stake

Potential Disasters:

- a. Earthquake Magnitude 5.5 or greater. Major impact.
- b. Flood and flash flood-- area around the Truckee River. Minor to major impact.
- c. Mud or Land Slide --Tahoe North area and I 80 corridors. Minor to major impact.
- d. Hazardous material spill-- explosive or poisonous vapor plume from a transportation spill involving an overturned tanker traveling on: I 80 OR 395/ I 515 Minor to major impact.
- e. Forest or brush fire-- mountainside fire in the open land interface area involving homes in all wards.

Minor to major impact.

- f. Tornado or severe wind microburst winds. Minor to major impact.
- g. Technological, power, water, gas, phone, disruption of utility services. Minor to major impact.
- h. Severe weather, especially heavy snow combined with drifting winds. Minor to major impact.
- i. Economic- national and world market forces could create recession conditions of varying magnitude.
- j. Pandemic/Epidemic. Minor to major impact
- k. Terrorist targeted areas: Sparks Tank Farm, Airports (Reno and Stead), Military sites, UNR etc.

What are the effects on the Stake/Ward/Families?

- a. Structural damage to homes (members need to relocate to family/friends/neighbors/tent)
- b. No water
- c. No heat
- d. No electricity
- e. Broken gas lines
- f. Trucks cannot bring in supplies due to road closers – limited food, gasoline and other products
- g. Damaged roads
- h. Grocery store and other business closures
- i. Forced evacuations
- j. Sewer/home sanitation unavailable
- k. Communications outage (cordless phones, cell phones, television, etc.)
- l. Quarantine

Families prepare by:

- a. 96 hr. kit (get-home bag....and /or.... bug out bag)
- b. Emergency water storage... (Minimum of 2 weeks per person...2 gallons of water per person per day, minimum)
- c. 3 months' supply of food, alternative cooking, heating, sanitation etc.
- d. Long-term storage
- e. Family Home Evenings on specific preparedness topics, teaching but not instilling fear in children
- f. Develop a family emergency plan
- h. Get a AM/FM radio: **Washoe County Emergency Center** will broadcast on ALL stations AM and FM in the area of Western Nevada, Eastern Sierra down to Tonopah (AM 780 has a strong signal)
- i. Know who your block captain/section leader/Priesthood leader is to report to in case of emergency
- j. Have red/yellow/green cards readily available (to place in window to identify your status)

GREEN= I/we are ok can help myself/ourselves

YELLOW= need help, NOT I need a band-aid, even those who are walking wounded can report to an emergency station

RED= life threatening or suspected life-threatening

BLACK= we have a death

Family Responsibility after an emergency:

- a. Account for family members and assess damages
- b. Turn off electricity, water and gas **IF** you smell gas [rotten egg smell, i.e. Sulphur smell], **IF** you suspect a gas leak and/or directed to do so by a community response person, or if needed
(It takes the power company to turn the gas back on and it could take some time to do so.)
- c. Take care of individual and family needs first
- d. First Aid needs
- e. Report family status to priesthood leaders/block captains
- f. Check with ministering families/neighbors and report to priesthood leaders (block) captains who are over 5-8 households
- g. Place red/yellow/green card in your front window indicating your status
It is imperative to put out a GREEN card if you are ok, could save a life by not wasting an emergency responders time

GREEN= I/we are ok can help ourselves

YELLOW= need help *NOT* I need a band-aid even those who are walking wounded can report to an emergency station

RED= life threatening or suspected life threatening

BLACK= we have a death

Wards prepare by:

- a. Make a Ward Emergency Plan
- b. Block Captains or Priesthood Leaders in place and trained for checking on and reporting status of members of group.....Have drills..... No more than 6-8 households
- c. Plan in place to communicate with the stake (text- call- small handheld 2- way radios- Zello- HAM -Star Link)
- d. Identify and encourage CERT trained ward members
- e. Assess resources and skills in each ward (electronic and hard copy)
- f. Make sure each family has: Red, yellow, and green paper denoting status

GREEN= I/we are ok can help ourselves

YELLOW= need help *NOT* I need a band-aid even those who are walking wounded can report to an emergency station

RED= life threatening or suspected life threatening

BLACK= we have a death

Ward Responsibility after an emergency:

- a. Implement Ward Emergency Plan
- b. Account for all ward members using section or block captains/Priesthood leaders
- c. Determine members' needs and formulate plans to address them
- d. Arrange for services as needed (shelter, equipment, sanitation, medical needs etc.)
- e. Communicate with Stake and report any needs that cannot be handled on the ward level
- f. Assist families that have been separated to reunite as soon as possible
- g. Assess special needs: mobility issues, visual, hearing, mental, recent surgery, widows, aged, members and non- members)
- h. Assess damage to homes
- i. Determine an evacuation center-- away from disaster: Listen to the radio and/or follow local responders' direction. Usually all high schools, Lawlor, Convention Center and our stake center can be used.
- j. Animals: UNR Equestrian center, Livestock events center [small domestic pets located near humane shelters]
- k. Organize clean-up crews.

Responsibility of Wards: (The following information is reported to the stake through the bishop or designated representative)

1. Determine and report the condition of members and missionaries. Block captains and or priesthood leadership will do this and information will be given to the bishop who then contacts the Stake.
2. Help to locate and reunite family members who have become separated...utilizing ward council/ priesthood ministers/sister ministers and other ward members
3. Obtain medical care for those who have been injured or who have other health challenges. Doctors/Nurses and other trained medical ward members including CERT teams and first aid certified individuals. Medical needs will be reported to the Stake Council especially those that the ward cannot handle. (see list of medical personnel)
4. Needs that cannot be handled by the ward will be referred to the Stake.
5. Assess needs and arrange for the supply of basic provisions and services for members and non-members living in ward/stake boundaries. Wards take care of needs in ward boundaries and the stake helps fill in the gaps.
 - a. Food Relief Society
 - b. Temporary Shelter Young Men
 - c. Clothing/ Blankets..... Young Women
 - c. Sanitation Elders
 - d. Children’s activities ...Primary

In the period following a disaster: (The Stake Council helps fill in the gaps where the wards cannot.)

1. Wards aid members who have suffered damage to homes or belongings, emotional trauma, or loss of livelihood.
 - a. Identify members in the ward who can give emotional counsel (see list of professional counselors)
 - b. Identify members who will be willing to help with skills, equipment, and labor. (see handout of Church guidelines on volunteering)
2. Work with civil authorities and relief organizations to identify and respond to opportunities for the Church to assist with community needs. Bishops check with Stake President/Stake Council.

PANDEMIC PLANNING

Checklist for Ecclesiastical Leaders

This checklist provides guidance for ecclesiastical leaders in preparing for a possible pandemic.

1. Include pandemic preparedness in stake and ward emergency action plans:

Task	Not Started	In Progress	Completed
Obtain copies of "Pandemic Planning" fact sheets from the Risk Management Division.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assign stake and ward welfare specialists to plan for pandemic preparedness.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Include pandemic preparedness in written stake and ward emergency action plans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discuss and coordinate ward emergency action plans in the stake bishops' welfare council.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide cross-training for essential leader responsibilities so if the leaders become sick, backups are ready to carry on the work.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Educate and train others on emergency action plans:

Task	Not Started	In Progress	Completed
Train stake and ward welfare councils on pandemic preparedness as incorporated in stake and ward emergency action plans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Train members on ward emergency action plans, and provide pandemic planning resource materials as needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourage seasonal influenza vaccinations for all ecclesiastical leaders and members as appropriate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advise members to follow local public health directives as well as stake and ward emergency action plans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Test and evaluate the plans:

Task	Not Started	In Progress	Completed
Use a tabletop/practice exercise to test the ward and stake emergency action plans. Review and revise the plans as needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REFERENCES

<https://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/community/faithcomchecklist.html>

Stakes prepare by:

- a) Stake Emergency plan in place. Everyone knows responsibilities.
- b) Hold Stake communication drills (FOUR times a year)
- c) Master folder of skills and resources in the stake (hard copy)
- d) Temporary church building use for, shelter, medical, morgue, quarantine room, etc. (Understand Church guidelines)
- e) Media Area spokesperson assigned to answer questions:
 - 1. Noah Bond – Regional
 - 2. President Charles Woodman Stake President
- f) Identify resources within the stake to help other community members *See attachment at end: Volunteer form*

Stake Responsibility after an emergency:

- a. Implement Stake Emergency plan
- b. Set up a Stake command center: Golconda Stake Center High Council Room...If Truckee River is impassable--- Members who attend the Robb Drive building go to that building, *if building is destroyed go to Billingshurst Middle School's ball field*
- c. Assess and handle the needs that wards cannot and communicate through each ward's emergency specialist who in turn reports to Emergency Communication Specialist
- d. Communicate with stake members via ward ministers/runners. *(See Communication page)*
Provide names of dead, missing, injured and number who require skilled help
- e. Assess structural damage to all church buildings in stake
- f. Oversee the work of stake leaders with specific assignments
- g. Coordinate with local community resources
- h. Coordinate with area authority on relief effort
- i. Providing detailed needs to Church area authority (Elder Dobbs)

Step 2: Gather Critical Information

1. Missionaries Contact Information—Ward Mission Leader is to check with the missionaries assigned to them. Missionaries are to contact district leader. If you are unable to make contact with them, contact Zone Leader. If unable to contact them, contact the Mission President
2. Ward Map of all members
3. List of members with special needs such as disabled, elderly, on oxygen, house bound, mobility issues, etc.
4. List of members with equipment or skills (such as medical and emergency response training)
5. Communication specialist in each ward contacts Block captains. Block Captains then report to the Assistant Communication Specialists, who report to the Stake Emergency Preparedness Communication Specialist who reports to the Stake President
6. Contact information for public safety agencies

Reno and Washoe County Resources

Emergency Police/Fire 911
Reno Fire: Non-emergency 328-3659
Truckee Meadows Fire 324-6000
Police: Non-emergency 334-2677
Sheriff's Office785-9276
Sheriff Search and Rescue911

REMSA911
St. Mary's.....770-3000
Renown Regional Center.....982-4100
Renown South Meadows.....982-7000
Northern Nevada Hospital..... 331-7000

Washoe County Emergency Management: Kelly Echeverria...337-5898 KEcheverria@washeocounty.gov.
*Bob Miller AARES.... head communication for Washoe County cell: 284-0767-- *right hand to Kelly Echeverria*
Red Cross, Reno Office..... 856-1000
NV Energy Power Emergency Repair..... 834-4100 Resources Phone Number
Truckee Meadows Water (TMWA)..... 834-8080
City of Reno Sewer 954-4601
Air Quality 784-7200/ after- hours 784-7200
Washoe County Animal Control 353-8900
Roads 328-2180
AT&T 877-999-1085
Waste Management: (Garbage) 329-8822
Washoe County Information Departments/Programs.....211

Tahoe- Incline Village Area

Emergency: Sheriff/Police/Fire 911
Incline Village Community Hospital 775-833-4100 880 Alder Ave. Incline Village, Nevada 89451
NV Energy 775-834-4444
IVGID Water 775-832-1203 (emergency) 1220 Sweetwater Rd. Incline Village, Nevada 89415
TahoeRoads.info

Truckee Area

Emergency: Sheriff/Police/Fire 911
Tahoe Forest Hospital 530-587-6011 10121 Pine Ave, Truckee, CA 96161
PG&E (power company) 530-587-3896
Public Utility District (water company)530-582-3930 11570 Donner Pass Rd. Truckee, CA 96060
Road Information... I 80 around Truckee www.truckee.com weather-roads-webcam

National Services

Poison Control 1-800-222-1222
Department of Public Safety-Emergency Services and Homeland Security 801-538-3400

7. Stake Preparedness Coordinators develop a working relationship with Washoe County and Reno emergency response team and all other Stake preparedness coordinators in the Coordinating Council. *Be in contact with our representative in VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) See Step 3 number 2*
Contact information for community organizations—see below

LIST Transient Bishops use:

775-322-7073.....Catholic Services--- supplemental food and clothing
775-329-0485.....Reno Sparks Gospel Mission for Men—breakfast and lunch and emergency sheltering for men
775-688-4563...Salvation Army 775-688-4555 office number--Michael Dominguez cell 775-234-2947---Mobile and congregate feeding, emergency sheltering, distribution of disaster recovery supplies and materials, family location & reporting services disaster welfare inquiry, recovery and reconstruction assistance
775-329-5363.....St. Vincent's Dining Room
775-322-7073.....St. Vincent's Haven
775-322-3466.....Victorious in His Sight Shelter for women and children
775-329-4145.....Homeless shelter for women additional number: 775-322-9574

Other community resources

CERT

Sierra NV chapter Red Cross: Public Sheltering, Food, Clothing, Emergency First Aid, disaster Health Services, disaster Mental Health, Family Reunification, Disaster Welfare Inquiry

Truckee Meadows Law Enforcement chaplaincy: critical incident stress debriefing and counseling for disaster workers and victims.

Northern NV Amateur Radio Service: Emergency communication for responding agencies

National Weather Service: broadcasts over NOAA weather radio system, activates Emergency Alerts System, weather updates

NV Baptist convention: mobile kitchen, feeding and food preparation and serving

Adventist Disaster Response: mobile kitchen, feeding, clothing, emergency shelter, water distribution, (6) 60 person tents with sides.

Center Street Mission: emergency Sheltering

NV Humane Society: emergency sheltering of pets and livestock

UNR Radio Pack: ham radio communications

NV Hispanic Services: bilingual translation services and outreach services

Boy Scouts of America: volunteers support of relief organizations

Martin Luther King, JR. Hall: emergency sheltering

Food Bank of Northern NV: bulk food for relief organizations

Reno Friends: volunteer support of relief organizations

Cooperative Disaster Child Care Relief: volunteers trained to direct childcare activities in emergency shelters

St. Vincent's Food Pantry: supplemental uncooked food—must be income eligible with identification

Care Chest of Northern NV: medical supplies, durables, (free to check out for a time) prescriptions

Crisis Call Center

Community Services Agency of Washoe Co: one time rental, mortgage, move-in assistance. Services for homeless

Mennonite Disaster Services: clean-up and re-building homes

AT&T: special equipment for disaster victims on case-by-case basis

Project Restart: primary resource for homeless

NV Energy: special payment arrangements for disaster case-by-case

Sparks Christian Fellowship: supplemental food

University Family Fellowship Vineyard: food pantry

Children's Cabinet: children and family services

Church World Service: unmet needs of disaster victims

ELCA disaster Relief: unmet needs of disaster victims

Step 3: Outline assignments and procedures Stake Council Responsibilities:

1. (A) Primary Location: **Golconda Stake Center**

a. If Truckee River is impassable: NORTH of River /stake Council reports at:

1st Robb Drive gym OR Parking Lot

SOUTH of River:

1st Stake Center High Council Room OR North Parking lot at Stake Center if structural

If damage prohibits entrance to either building:

b. Tahoe North... Gym OR if structural damage...parking lot

Opening **Stake Center** Charlie Woodman..... (775)233-7800 Cheryl Woodman (775)848-1200

Opening **Robb Drive building** Lane Dameron (620)255-9896 Lisa Dameron (620)255-9895

Opening **Tahoe North** Alan Crosbie (530)308-0140

2. **Stake President:**

- Receive conditions of the stake members and report to the Area Authority as needed

• Establish and direct the operations of a Stake Emergency Operations Center as necessary at *Stake Center*

- Determine and direct the use of Church buildings during an emergency
- Direct and mobilize stake resources in coordination with Bishops
- Coordinate with and receive directions from the Area Authority regarding relief efforts
- Coordinate with Government agencies/Red Cross etc. to request help where needed
- Oversee Stake Leaders in the following areas:

a. *High Council* members come to Stake Center to help with initial communication and immediate needs.

b. **Members of the High Council (per their Stake assignment) assist during long-term emergencies:**

Facilities---- Assesses damage to buildings, oversight and care for buildings used as evacuation centers. *Jensen

Communication: Checks with each bishop status of ward and what is needed from stake *Chamberlain

Young Men: Coordinate home safety assessment, coordinate help using YM where needed *Reed

Young Women: Set up tables and assist YW Pres. where needed/help other H.C. as needed *Silva

Relief Society: Assists and helps with the setup of mass feeding with Stake Relief Society *Hodnet

Primary: Assists with setting up enclosure for children at buildings with Stake Primary *Gardner

Athletics: Work with CERT getting into neighborhoods--stranded members/also assist as needed other high councilmen *Watts

Sunday School Pres: Triage / First Aid *Westhoff
(see list of professional medical people from our stake)

YSA: Transportation to hospital, help evacuate stranded members from home to Church, help obtain medical supplies, food, materials for enclosures, etc. , also to be used as needed *Garn

Security : Security of buildings and people at Church Buildings *Lusetti

Self-Reliance: Create safe area for trained Professionals visiting those needing emotional help **Hodnett

Emergency Preparedness: Assist security, transportation, communication and emergency needs *Kempton

English Connect: Assist in Triage and language translation *Childs

Relief Society: mass cooking (prepare/obtain/prepare/serve food and direct sheltering) **Relief Society President**

Young Women: Advise and assist in obtaining clothing needs and blankets **Young Women's President**

Primary: Advise and assist in the care of children during mass sheltering **Primary President**

High Council help, assist and coordinate with the Stake Clerk on reporting

g. **Stake Relief Society Presidency**: Advise and assist in mass sheltering and feeding.

h. **Stake Primary Presidency**: Advise and assist in care of children during mass sheltering.

j. **Stake Preparedness Coordinators**: Work at communication command center with communication specialist.

Step 4: Identify Emergency Communication Methods

David Chamberlain is over the Stake Communications.

Alternative communication methods:

- a. Internet (email, social media)
- b. Mass calls and/or text messaging
- c. Radio including

FRS (family radio service) channel 7 privacy code 7

Ham Radio using Repeater **147.210** (frequency) off set (+ or – 600)
coverage is Reno /Sparks/ North Valleys

OR if it is too busy---- use Simplex: 445.000

**coverage is Reno/Sparks/Spanish Springs/
Virginia City/Carson City/Lake Tahoe/ Truckee/Fernley/Fallon/Dayton**

Golconda Wards Ham Radio (2-way communications) Simplex frequency: 455.000

Robb Dr. Wards Ham (2-way communications) Simplex frequency: 445.000

See Emergency Communication Plan *next page* for details

Dave Chamberlain ---*Stake communications specialist*

HAM RADIO OPERATORS by ward: SeeEmergency Communication Plan next page

d. People act as couriers **in pairs** to hand carry communications between various wards and stake officers c on foot/bicycle/ATV etc.

4. AM/FM radio stations: **All radio stations will broadcast emergency information**
Reno/Sparks (western NV, eastern CA. down to Tonopah) (**780 AM** is the strongest radio station)

Reno Nevada Stake Emergency Communications PLAN

Objective of the Plan is to be able to establish communications between each ward in the stake in the event of some type of community wide emergency so the leadership of the stake can measure the response needed to assist the ward members who need help and assistance.

To establish communications in the event of an emergency several things are required, depending on the nature of the emergency.

1. Support of bishops, their counselors and the Elders Quorum Presidency. If the leadership of the ward does not support the effort in their respective wards then there will be little or no communications in an emergency, resulting in a great deal of confusion and lost time in getting assistance to those in need.
2. Required item is qualified and tested ham radio operators who are willing to use their own equipment to participate in quarterly drills and tests of a communications network. A *minimum of two operators should be in each ward.*
3. A plan to communicate across the Truckee River and with the members who are in the Tahoe North Ward area and the Verdi Area. This can be resolved with the use of hand-held radios, satellite phones, Zello (if the internet is still available), citizen band radios, and ham radios that utilize local repeaters (if commercial power is still available.) It may be necessary to operate ham radios on the simplex bands if repeaters are busy and/or if commercial power is not available.

Repeater--- 147.210-100.0 **back up to that repeater --- 147.150+123.0**

Simplex frequency would be---145.000 (use only when repeaters are inoperative)

FRS--- (family radio service, small hand held radios)—**channel 17 privacy code 7 line**

(Line of site coverage only)

Zello --- Zello is a free app that can be downloaded on your smart phone. Zello allows two way walkie-talkie type communication that has been found to work during an emergency when cell phone lines are overloaded and non-functioning.

Zello cannot work without internet access, but if both you and your contact are within one network, the voice will be transferred using the shortest way – Wi-Fi network in your case. Internet will be used only to log into Zello network and do some service data exchange

4. People who would be acting as courier to hand carry communications between the various wards and stake officers. The Young Men could be utilized for this purpose, and they should travel in pairs for safety and security purposes. This would be needed if the local infrastructure was compromised and other forms of communications were not possible. The physical distance between Reno and the Tahoe North/Verdi areas would present a significant challenge to this method of communicating.

Of concern is the fact that our Stake is separated by the Truckee River, as well as having the Tahoe North ward some 50 miles distant. A high councilman, bishop, or elders quorum present would need to be designated to act as the liaison between the south and north sides of the river in the event of an emergency.

At each location, the Golconda building, the Robb Building, and the Tahoe North building, each ward should have a person able to receive and report the needs and conditions of the ward members. These people would then report to a person(s) at each location designated as the gathering point for the incoming information so the information can be compiled and prioritized so it can be forwarded to the stake president, who can then *forward the information and needs to the area authority*. This person should have a supply of writing instruments and a good supply of note pads/paper to write up reports and needs. Information can be separated by wards or areas as needed.

Stake Presidency areas of responsibility would be:

President Woodman---everything and everybody.

President Hunsaker—Hunter Lake, Skyline and Tahoe North wards

President Hiatt—Beaumont, Canyon Creek and Peavine Valley wards

Step 5: Encourage Member Preparation

1. Regularly encourage members to engage in preparedness efforts and to follow the counsel outlined in the pamphlets “All is Safely Gathered In” and “Family Home Storage (04008) and Family Finance (04007)
2. Look at the stake website--- Reno Nevada Stake-Ministering to All: www.renonvstakeinfo.org
Preparedness---- renonvstakeinfo.org/preparedness/
Self-Reliance----- renonvstakeinfo.org/self-reliance/
3. Channels for doing this might include:
 - a. Quorum and Relief Society meetings
 - b. Sacrament meeting talks
 - c. Priesthood/Sister ministering messages
 - d. Ward Emergency Preparation Specialists
4. Encourage members to do the following via publicizing in the weekly Sacrament Program or announce in: Relief Society, Elders Quorum, Young Women and Primary
 - a. Encourage members to put together a 96-hour kit
 - b. Encourage members to get a 2- week water storage 2-3 gallons per day
 - c. Encourage members to get a 3-month supply of food
 - d. Encourage members to have long-term food storage
 - e. Encourage members to have alternate sources of: light, cooking source and power
 - f. Encourage members to have a family emergency plan
 - g. Encourage members to have family drills in case a disaster happens
 - h. Hold Preparedness workshops in above categories
5. Encourage attendance at Stake classes