Emergencies Happen

The Nation’s Voice for People with Hearing Loss
Anytime, Anywhere

Oroville Dam, California
How do You Learn About Emergencies?

• Television
• Internet
• Text Alerts
• Friends & Family
Emergency Alerts: TV

- Emergency Managers *Still* Rely on TV
- FCC: emergency information must be visual: graphics, crawls or captioning; in the top 25 markets, alerts must be captioned
- FCC Consumer Help Center for complaints, information: [https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us](https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us)
21\textsuperscript{st} Century Communication and Video Accessibility Act of 2010

CVAA

• Requires captioning of video programming shown on television to be captioned when viewed on line
• Screens smaller than 13” must be caption capable

http://transition.fcc.gov/cgb/dro/cvaa.html
Local Television News Alerts

• Many local news stations do provide local alerts via:
  – Apps for iPhone and Android
  – Facebook
  – Twitter Feeds, etc
  – Registries for breaking alerts via email
WEA: Wireless Emergency Alerts

- Enabled mobile phones receive text alerts of imminent threats to life and safety
- Targeted to a specific geographic area
- Older cell phones may not be WEA capable
Text Alerts

Local Emergency Management Agencies

– You must register

– Provides immediate emergency notifications from the government agency to your cell, work or home phone, via text, email or voice message

– Targeted to the local jurisdiction

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Accessible
NOAA Weather Radios

• Local weather & emergency alerts
• Does not work as an AM or FM radio
• Turns on when a message is sent
• Some models: visual &/or tactile alerts
• Visit www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr
Emergency Kits

- Food
- Water
- First Aid
- Important papers
- Cash
Emergency Kit

Communication Tools

- Smartphone, cell Phone and *car charger*
- Portable TTY, *batteries or charging units*
- Spare hearing aid and/or CI, *batteries*
- Spare glasses
- Personal assistive listening device, *batteries*
- External phone amplifier, *batteries*
Emergency Kit

• Portable captioned TV, tablet or smart phone batteries and/or car adaptor
• Portable radio, batteries
• Glow stick
Remember Your Pets

• Service dogs go with you, but need an emergency kit of their own
• Animal emergency kit: food, water, pictures, ID, medications, medical records, name of vet
• Find a safe haven for pets in advance: Humane Society, shelters, friends, family, hotels
Shelter in Place vs. Evacuation

Shelter in place when going outside is dangerous

- Tornados
- Chemical spills

Evacuation when you must leave the immediate area

- Hurricanes, floods
- *Always* have at least a ¼ tank of gas in your car
- Plan ahead if you depend on public transportation
Reaching 911

**Text-to-911** via mobile device

- In 2014, FCC adopted rules to implement text-to-911 service.

- May 17, 2013: FCC Order requires a “bounce back” message.
  - Consumers who text where text-to-911 is not available must receive an immediate message.

- FCC’s Text to 911 Registry as of 2/2017, over 800 jurisdictions
Using Relay to Call 911

• TTY
  – Still can have a direct line to emergency responders via TTY, though that may sunset

• Captioned Landline Phones, cell phone captioning apps, and IP Relay
  – Relay will always introduce a delay
  – If you can voice for yourself, do it!
Fire Safety

• The risk of death is 51% lower in homes with working – accessible – smoke alarms
• Residential sprinklers decrease the home fire death rate per 100 fires by 74%
• Installing both smoke alarms and a fire sprinkler system reduces the risk of death in a home fire by 82%, relative to having neither
Fire Safety

• Understand what works for you!
  ➢ Visual
  ➢ Tactile
  ➢ Low frequency alerts
  ➢ Personal receivers

• Don’t forget: Carbon Monoxide
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