

Emergency Management

The goal of emergency management is to provide protection from all hazards for the citizens, properties, and governments within the United States. Effective emergency management includes a functional approach to all emergencies, cooperative planning, appropriate use of resources, and shared responsibilities among the three levels of government.

- ▶ Personal disaster preparedness is the first and most effective intervention to reduce the impact of disasters.
- ▶ The local government is responsible for emergency planning response and continued assessment of its ability to protect citizens and property within the community.
- ▶ In some States, there are several layers between the local and the State level. You must become familiar with your State's structure.
- ▶ The State government is responsible for assisting the communities within the State by reviewing plans and providing guidance. The State government also makes plans and assesses its capability to provide protection from large-scale, statewide disasters.
- ▶ A State will assist communities within the State that do not have adequate resources to protect themselves or to recover from disaster.
- ▶ The Federal government is responsible for assisting the States by reviewing plans, providing guidance, making plans and assessing their capability to provide protection from large-scale, nationwide disasters. It supplements State assistance when State and local resources are insufficient to complete recovery. In the event of a response to a Federally declared disaster, FEMA acts primarily in a coordinating role.