



Brigham Citizen Corps Newsletter Spring 2011

Newsletter for CERT, VIPS, ARES, MRC

Ready.gov Announces Program for 2011

Ready.gov kicked off *Resolve to be Ready in 2011* at the beginning of this year. The program has three areas of focus—Make a Plan, Get a Kit, and Be Informed. We continually hear these simple messages, but many of us still have not taken steps necessary to be truly prepared. In addition to these three areas of focus, the Brigham Citizen Corps Council is encouraging families, neighborhoods and districts to PRACTICE. Having the materials is not enough. We must know how to use them and know how our neighborhood plans should function. All districts are encouraged to design and carry out an exercise of their emergency plan.

Visit Ready.gov or BeReadyUtah.gov for more information. The Emergency Management office at the city also has materials available to help you succeed in getting prepared.

Don't Drop The Ball,

Resolve to be Ready[®]
in 2011

Keeping New Year's resolutions can be hard, but emergency preparedness is one resolution that can be easy to keep with Ready's three simple steps:

- 1. Make a Family Emergency Plan**
- 2. Get an Emergency Supply Kit**
- 3. Be Informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur in your area and their appropriate responses.**

For more information on how to prepare your family, home and business for all types of emergencies, visit ready.gov or call 1 (800) BE-READY
TTY 1 (800) 462-7585

FEMA  ready.gov





UNITING COMMUNITIES -
PREPARING THE NATION

Brigham City Citizen Corp Mission Statement

The mission of the Brigham City Citizen Corp Council is to harness the power of every individual through education, training, personal responsibility and volunteer service to make the community safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the threats of crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds.

The Citizen Corps Newsletter is published as a service to the Brigham Citizen Corps volunteers and to citizens of Brigham City.

Bonnie Griggs, Newsletter Editor

Brigham City Citizen Corps Council:

Executive Board:

Chairperson	Reese Jensen
Vice Chairperson	Sharon Christensen
Discovery District Coord.	Garl Waldron
Bunderson District Coord.	Doug Harford
	Peggy Harford
Lake View District Coord.	Hal Berry
	Bonnie Griggs
Foothill District Coord.	Dean Lowder
	Ryan Smith
BEHS District Coord.	Open
Interfaith Council	George Fuller

Core Groups:

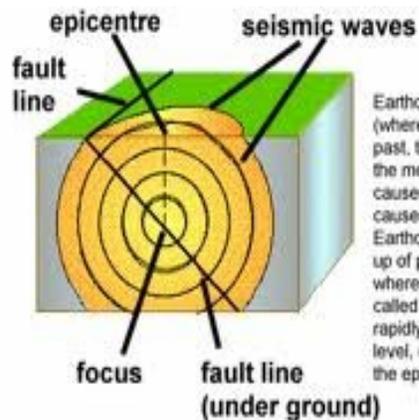
CERT Chairperson	Michael Allen
VIPS Chairperson	Maryann Barnett
MRC Representative	Jon Mitchell
ARES Representative	Bob Haynie

EX-Officio Members:

- Dennis Fife, Mayor
- Jim Buchanan, Emergency Services Director
- Paul Tittensor, Police Chief
- Brian Nawyn, Fire Chief
- Gregg Weight, Ambulance Chief

Earthquake Tidbit

There are 45 states and territories throughout the United States that are at a Moderate to High risk for an earthquake. Are you prepared?



Earthquakes

Earthquakes occur along plate margins (where plates meet). When plates move past, towards or away from each other the movement is not smooth. Friction causes the plates to get stuck. This causes pressure to build up. Earthquakes occur when this build up of pressure is released. The point where the earthquake starts is called the focus. Energy waves race rapidly from this point. The point at ground level, directly above the focus, is called the epicentre.



Thanks to all our citizens who helped fill sandbags in preparation for possible flooding.



Flood/Flash Flood Preparedness

Now is the time to prepare your home and family for flooding. What you do now could not only save your home, but also your life and the lives of your family.

Make a Plan...Create a disaster plan, practice it, and adhere to it.

Get a kit.....Prepare a disaster supply kit, complete with the essentials needed to survive an emergency. The Utah Department of Public Safety's Division of Homeland Security and American Red Cross offer excellent informatwhat to include in a kit at <http://bereadyutah.gov> and <http://www.utahredcross.org>.

Be Informed...Know your area's flood risk. Be alert to the possibility of a flood by monitoring local media sources and other service providers from America's Weather Enterprise, NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, and/or NOAA's National Weather Service web sites.

Get involved.

Brigham City Preparedness Fair

The Brigham City Preparedness Fair will be held September 24, 2011, at the newly remodeled Christensen Academy Building on Main Street. Booths will be open from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

We have invited local vendors to participate by displaying and demonstrating a verity of emergency preparedness items that will aid families in their emergency preparations.

We encourage all citizens to participate. The fairs in the past have been very well attended. We are certain that if you choose to attend your effort will be well rewarded.

It is the mission of the Brigham City Citizen Corps and Emergency Services to make our community safer, stronger and better prepared to respond to threats of crime, public health issues and disasters of all kinds.



FEMA

(ARES) Amateur Radio Emergency Services

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) consists of licensed Amateurs who have **voluntarily registered** their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the Public Service when an Emergency or Disaster Strikes. Every licensed Amateur, regardless of membership in the ARRL or any other Local or National organization, is eligible for membership in the ARES. **The only qualification, other than possession of an Amateur Radio license, is a sincere desire to serve.**

Because ARES is an Amateur Service, only Amateurs are eligible for membership. The possession of Emergency-Powered Equipment is desirable, but is not a requirement for membership. ARES has been sponsored by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) since 1935.

As Volunteer Amateur Radio Operators and ARES Members we practice, train and put together a personal communication “Grab-n-Go Kit” so we will be ready for any Emergency or Disaster. This Kit is different from our personal Emergency Kit that would have cloths, food, personal medications, etc. We want to be ready for any type of communications emergency.

A communications emergency doesn't necessarily mean there has been an

earthquake, hurricane or tornado. A telephone line may have been damaged in some way and communications may be out over an area.



Amateur Radio Communications helps to fill the emergency need. We are not going to take over, we are here to help if needed and requested. When normal communications are restored our Emergency Communications need would be over but we can also help in other ways.

We are here to serve our County and Community's. We also provide communications for such things as Parades, Marathons, Bike Rides like the “Tour de Cure” which is sponsored by the American Diabetes Association (ADA). As Amateur Operators we don't ask for compensation.



Something to think about

Choose an emergency contact person outside of you area, as it may be easier to call long-distance after a local/regional emergency.

Power Outage Safety

- First, check fuses and circuit breakers in your home. A blown fuse or tripped breaker can cause outages. If not caused from inside, customers should report the outage: please call toll free **1-877-548-3768**.
- Turn off all electrical equipment to prevent overloading the circuits in your home when power is restored.
- Those on life support need to have a back-up system and a plan of action for an outage.
- If you see a downed power line, call **911** immediately. Then, call us toll free at 1-877-548-3768. Do not touch it! Keep everyone, including pets, out of the area.



Natural Gas and Earthquakes

Utah residents live in earthquake country, and when the 'big one' hits, expect widespread power loss and other energy outages, like disruptions in your natural gas service. You can safeguard your home against possible damage and service disruption by securing your water heater. A full water heater is very heavy and if unsecured, can move during an earthquake. If it moves too far or falls over, it is likely to break both water and gas lines. If broken, you will need to turn off both utilities at the meter for safety. To secure your water heater, call a contractor or purchase a "do it yourself" kit at a hardware store.



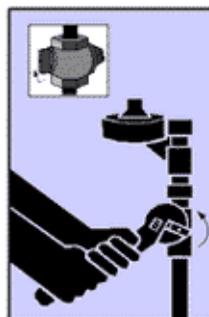
Turning off Natural Gas

Although not always necessary after a disaster, know how to turn off your gas meter. However, only do so if absolutely necessary. Only a certified professional can restore service and you may have to wait extended periods of time for gas to be restored if you unnecessarily turn off your meter.

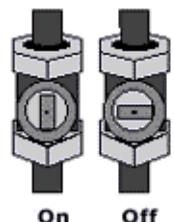
When Should You Turn Off Your Gas Meter?

- ✎ There is structural damage to your home.
- ✎ You smell Natural Gas.
- ✎ You hear gas leaking, usually a hissing sound.
- ✎ There is a fire.

**Caution: Do not shut off the gas if doing so jeopardizes your safety.*



Close-up of a typical gas valve



Don't be Fuelish

Most gas stations and convenience stores require electricity to pump fuel into your car and support business transactions. Unfortunately, few stations have backup power for emergencies or disasters. During a power outage, which could last for several days or longer, refueling your car may not be an option. Always keep your gas tank filled half full or higher to avoid running out of gas during a power outage or any other emergency.



Summer : Stay Cool



- ☀ Move to the lowest level of your home.
- ☀ Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- ☀ Drink plenty of water, even if you do not feel thirsty. Avoid caffeine or alcohol.
- ☀ Stay out of the sun.
- ☀ Open a few windows to create a breeze throughout your house.
- ☀ Wrap wet cloths around your head or neck.
- ☀ Keep the heat out: use mylar blankets from your emergency supply kit to cover your sun facing windows.



Winter: Stay Warm



- ❄ Close off unused rooms. Put blankets and towels around windows and under doors to prevent heat from escaping.
- ❄ Wear layers of loose fitting, warm clothing. Wear a hat. Mittens are better than gloves.
- ❄ Let faucets slowly drip to prevent pipes from freezing.
- ❄ Eat small snacks throughout the day to maintain body heat.
- ❄ Know the symptoms of hypothermia and take care to keep children and the elderly safe.



For more information:
www.bereadyutah.gov



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Be Ready

Utah!



For Power Outages.

Introduction

In a state vulnerable to earthquakes, severe weather, floods, and wildland fires, Utah residents will experience power outages. During an outage, the furnace doesn't heat, the AC doesn't cool, the kitchen stove doesn't cook, and the lights are off. Power outages can happen at any time, during any season, and may last for a few days or even a few weeks. Utah residents need to prepare before the lights go out.



In this brochure, learn how you and your family can safely:

- Stay warm or cool.
- Use alternative lighting
- Cook without electricity
- Preserve perishable foods
- Report power outages and natural gas leaks.
- Secure your water heater for emergencies.

Special Considerations

Any household dependent on electricity requires a well thought out, practiced, and tested plan for power outages. Caregivers of patients on life-support should know how to provide backup power or relocate a patient to a facility with electricity. Those requiring critical medications should keep at least a week's supply of medications and supplies in case the pharmacy closes and know how to preserve medication requiring refrigeration.

What can you use for light and heating during an outage?

Light



Flashlights and glow sticks are easily carried, reliable, and safe. Keep several flashlights on hand with extra batteries stored in a cool, dry place. LED flashlights are best as they have the brightest, most reliable bulbs and longest battery life. White and yellow glow sticks come in several sizes and will glow for 30 minutes to 12 hours; perfect to hang in hallways or closets.



Battery-powered lanterns are safe to use and easily light up an entire room. They do require more batteries than flashlights and the batteries do not last as long. Again, LED models are best. Although available, kerosene lanterns are discouraged because of fire risk. Storage of flammable fuel is required and lanterns are easily knocked over or forgotten resulting in fires.



Candles are long-lasting, inexpensive, and readily available. **However, candles are extreme fire hazards and not recommended.** If you must use candles, light them in a candle lantern and never leave them burning unattended. Do not use candles after a natural disaster, such as an earthquake, as candles may ignite natural gas or other gas vapors causing an explosion.

Heat and Cooking



Generators provide extensive power to your home and life-support equipment. However, generators are expensive and require extensive safety measures. Do not connect your generator directly into a house's main fuse box or circuit panel. A generator must be connected through an approved transfer switch that isolates your home from the electric utility's system and prevents backfeed into power lines. Permits, inspection, and installation by a licensed electrician are required for the switch. Also, safe and legal storage of sufficient fuel may not be possible.



Cooking stoves. The main hazards of alternate cooking sources are carbon monoxide poisoning and fire. **NEVER** use gasoline, propane, or charcoal barbecues/grills inside your home or in your garage. They emit odorless and deadly carbon monoxide fumes. If you suddenly develop headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, or confusion, get to fresh air immediately and call 911.



Fireplace. If your fireplace is rarely used, hire a professional technician to inspect the chimney for blockage or damage. Do not use your fireplace after an earthquake until you have it inspected. If a fire is lit in an earthquake damaged chimney, fire risk increases and build-up of carbon monoxide is likely.

Backup fuel: If you must store extra fuel to power generators or other devices, store it safely and legally away from the house in an outdoor shed in containers designed specifically for fuel. Contact your local Fire Department for local law fire codes for fuel storage regulations.

Always read the manufacturer's instructions before using any alternative lighting, heat, or cooking sources.

General Power Outage



- Have an emergency kit including water with a week's supply of water, non-perishable food, flashlights, extra batteries, and a battery-operated radio. A week's supply of food and water are critical as most stores will close during a power outage.
- Keep extra cash on hand. Extended power outages may prevent money withdrawals at ATMs or banks.
- Know how to manually open your electric garage door, security door, or gates.
- Keep a corded landline telephone in your home. It is likely to work even when the power is out.



Food in a Power Outage:



- Try not to open refrigerator or freezers. Your full freezer should keep food frozen and safe for a couple of days if kept closed.
- Keep a few coolers on hand. In the event of an outage longer than four hours, fill coolers with ice and store the most perishable foods from your refrigerator.
- Perishable foods left out above 40°F for more than two hours are at risk of spoilage, which may cause food poisoning, and should be discarded.
- If cold enough during the winter, store food outside to keep cold. Secure food from animals.
- When in doubt, throw it out!