

## **Daviess County Emergency Management**

### **General Information About All Shelters**

Owensboro and Daviess County now have equipment to operate 4 emergency shelters following a major disaster. There are 200 cots each at First Baptist Church, Owensboro Christian Church and Good Shepherd Church and 200 in a cargo trailer ready to go when and where needed.

A shelter is a place to go in the event of a large scale emergency, evacuation or disaster. Shelters are noisy, crowded, and have few personal comforts. It is important to note that shelters should be your refuge of last resort if you have absolutely no where else to go. For your comfort, if possible, it would be preferable to arrange to stay outside the area of danger.

Please remember, being in a shelter is stressful for everyone. Please treat your fellow evacuees with courtesy and kindness.

### **Food and Water**

It may be difficult to have water for your use initially. You are responsible for bringing bottled water to the shelter in the event this should happen. One gallon per person, per day, is recommended. You should also bring a 3-day supply of non-perishable foods or healthy snacks for yourself, your caregiver, and any family member accompanying you. Though food is usually supplied, it may take several hours for meals to be prepared.

### **Notification**

In the event of an emergency/disaster, shelter openings will be announced. It is very important to monitor the local television and radio stations for weather updates and shelter information. You can also monitor this website under **Shelter Openings**, or you may phone our office at 270-685-8448.

### **Shelter Rules**

- We are guests at the Shelter. Please treat the facility, equipment, and staff respectfully
- You must sign in when you arrive and sign out when you leave
- No disorderly or disruptive behavior
- Absolutely NO SMOKING in the Shelters
- No alcohol or drugs
- No guns or weapons of any kind

## **Functional Needs Shelter Information**

**Individuals with functional needs are encouraged to make arrangements, in advance, for sheltering and evacuation transportation, if needed.**

Daviess County Public Health Department, Emergency Management and many other agencies and volunteers have established a Functional Medical Need Shelter for use during an emergency situation.

A Functional Needs Shelter is different than a Public Shelter; it is a refuge for people who have specific medical needs that cannot be met in a Public Shelter.

The Functional Needs Shelter is not a hospital or nursing home. It is not for people who need 24-hour dedicated care, who require hospital beds, ventilators, or have other complex care needs. These individuals need to discuss other sheltering arrangements with their caregiver, health care provider, or physician. If ambulance transportation is required, this should be discussed at that time also. These arrangements should be made well in advance, not when the order to evacuate has been announced or the disaster hits.

### **Accommodations**

This facility provides us an area to stay during an emergency situation. A limited number of cots are available and are offered on a first come - first served bases, so there is the possibility there will not be cots available for everyone in the shelter, so prepare your supplies accordingly. Hospital beds will not be available. If you require a hospital bed, you will need to discuss other sheltering arrangements with your caregiver, health care provider, or physician.

The shelter has an emergency generator to supply power to medical equipment. There may be times in order to conserve available power, that air conditioning will not be available.

### **Medical Care**

The Functional Needs Shelter is not a substitute for regular health care. Basic medical assistance and monitoring will be available. The shelter is not equipped with advanced medical equipment, and is not staffed to provide advanced levels of care. Individuals who require advanced care should discuss other sheltering arrangements with their caregiver, health care provider, or physician.

Functional Needs Shelters are appropriate if you:

- have minor health/medical condition(s) that require professional observation, assessment, and maintenance
- require assistance with personal care and/or assistance with medications but do not require hospitalization or a medical institution
- need assistance with medication administration and/or vital sign readings and are unable to do so without professional assistance.

Reasonable accommodation will be made for shelter residents with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Residents with certified service animals are welcome at all shelter sites.

### **Functional Needs Shelter Kit Checklist**

In an emergency, if you have a medical condition that requires basic medical assistance and monitoring, but does not require hospitalization, a Functional Needs Shelter may be appropriate for you. Family members and caregivers are encouraged to accompany you. Use this checklist to help you prepare a Functional Needs Shelter Kit that will make your stay as comfortable as possible.

### **Medical Supplies And Equipment**

- A list of your current medications and at least a 7-day supply of them
- Documentation of specific medical information (including provider contact information)
- First-aid kit
- Oxygen supplies
- Nebulizers
- Wound Care supplies
- Ostomy supplies
- Catheter supplies
- Cane, folding mobility cane or walker
- Wheelchairs/Scooters/Lift equipment
- Batteries and/or chargers for electric wheelchair or scooter
- Repair kit for electric wheelchair or scooter
- Diabetes equipment
- Glucose meter/strips/lancets
- Insulin/syringes
- Other insulin supplies

## **FOOD ITEMS**

- Non-perishable dietary items
- Special dietary foods if required
- Snacks or other comfort foods (meals are provided at the shelter)

## **EQUIPMENT**

- Alternate communication devices (portable TTY, dry erase board or writing tablet with pens, pencils or markers)
- Flashlight
- Radio
- Extra batteries
- Cell phone and charger

## **PERSONAL EQUIPMENT**

- Eyeglasses
- Extra pair of dark glasses, if medically required
- Hearing aids (and extra batteries)
- Dentures
- Pair of heavy gloves to use while maneuvering a wheelchair over glass and debris

## **BEDDING**

- For functional medical client
- Bedding (medical cot provided)
- Lawn/lounge chair
- For caregiver or family member(s)
- Air mattress or cot and bedding
- Lawn/lounge chair

## **PERSONAL ITEMS**

- Undergarments/Socks
- Shoes (durable)
- Incontinence supplies
- Soap/shampoo
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste/toothbrush
- Brush/comb
- Wash cloth
- Towel
- Important papers | I.D. with current address
- Entertainment items
- Books/Magazines
- Toys/Cards/Games
- Portable radio/CD player/headset

## **INFANT CARE ITEMS**

- Formula/Food
- Diapers

## **SERVICE ANIMAL SUPPLIES**

- Food and medicine
- Toys
- Plastic bags, disposable gloves and other supplies
- Proof of current vaccinations

**THESE ITEMS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT THE SHELTER**

- Pets (except for service animals)
- Firearms or weapons
- Alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs
- Perishable food items