



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Pike County General Health District

Emergency Response Plan

Updated October 2014

Pike County General Health District Emergency Response Plan

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Pike County General Health District Emergency Response Plan

Primary Agency: Pike County General Health District

Support Agencies: Pike County Emergency Management Agency
Pike County Sheriff's Department
Pike County Emergency Medical Services
Local Fire Departments
Pike Community Hospital
Pike County Coroner
American Red Cross
Scioto Paint Valley Mental Health
Ohio Department of Health
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Ohio Department of Agriculture

Introduction

The Pike County General Health District has the overall responsibility for protecting the public health of the residents of Pike County. In this capacity, the Pike County General Health District is the primary agency to respond to public health emergencies. The Emergency Response Plan is a necessary document to adeptly prepare for and respond to such emergencies.

Purpose

This plan determines, to the extent possible, actions to be taken by the Pike County General Health District and support agencies to prevent disease, reduce the vulnerability of Pike County residents to disasters, respond effectively and efficiently to the actual occurrence of disasters, and provide for recovery in the aftermath of any emergency involving debilitating influence on the normal pattern of life within the community.

Scope

The framework of this plan was developed using a modified functional approach which consist of the Basic Plan (ERP), functional annexes, and appendices. These pieces are supplemented by the implementing instructions which will be utilized to execute all or specific portions of the ERP in conjunction with the roles and responsibilities identified in the Pike County Emergency Operations Plan. The Pike County General Health District Emergency Response Plan utilizes an All Hazards planning and preparedness approach.

Policies

NIMS Adoption and Compliance Statement

Plans, exercises, & trainings are developed and structured to be consistent with local, regional, state, & federal regulations, standards, and policies and to comply with the National Response Plan (NRP), National Incident Management System (NIMS) – HSPD-5, and National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) contributing to the National Preparedness Goal - HSPD-8.

Emergency Response Plan Integration into County Emergency Operations Plan

The Pike County General Health District Emergency Response Plan is integrated into the Pike County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) as Annex H (also known as ESF-8). The Pike County Emergency Operations Plan is the single legal document that describes responsibilities of agencies and individuals for carrying out specific actions in preparation for an emergency or disaster in Pike County. The Pike County General Health District Emergency Response Plan (ERP) functions, as a part of the Pike County EOP, to provide specific information for the preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery responsibilities of the Pike County General Health District for public health-related disaster situations in Pike County.

Annex H/ESF-8 Agencies and Resources Coordination

Annex H is coordinated by the Pike County General Health District at the local-level, by the Southeast Ohio Public Health/RMRS at the regional-level, and by the Ohio Department of Health at the state-level. State-level ESF-8 resources can be activated upon request from the local Emergency Management Agency (EMA) when local resources have been exhausted.

Phases of Emergency Management for Public Health

Mitigation

Mitigation activities are those designed to either prevent the occurrence of an emergency or long-term activities to minimize the potentially adverse effects of an emergency.

Preparedness

Preparedness activities, programs, and systems are those that exist prior to an emergency and are used to support and enhance response to an emergency or disaster. Planning, training, and exercising are among the activities conducted in this phase.

Response

Response is activities and programs designed to address the immediate and short-term effects of the onset of an emergency or disaster. It helps to reduce the casualties and damage and to speed recovery. Response activities include direction and control, emergency information and warning, mass dispensing, and other similar operations.

Recovery

Recovery is the phase that involves restoring systems to normal. Short- term recovery actions are taken to assess the damage and return vital life support systems to minimum operating standards; long term recovery actions may continue for months or maybe even for years.

Situations and Assumptions

Situations

Pike County is exposed to many hazards, all of which have the potential to disrupt the community, cause damage and result in casualties. Possible hazards for Pike County include, but are not limited to, floods, wind storms, tornadoes, severe winter storms, extreme heat and drought, power outages, wildfire, earthquake, human infectious disease, HAZMAT spills, nuclear plant accident, civil disturbance, and terrorism. Pike County is a rural county, many parts of which are geographically isolated, with limited resources for emergency preparedness and response.

Assumptions

Disasters:

- May occur at any time with little or no warning.
- Require significant information-sharing at the unclassified and classified levels across multiple jurisdictions and between public and private sectors.
- Involve single or multiple geographic areas.
- May have significant county and state impact and/or require significant county and state information sharing, resource coordination, and/or assistance.
- Can span the spectrum of incident management to include prevention, protection, response, and recovery.
- Involve multiple, highly varied hazards or threats.
- May result in numerous casualties, fatalities, displaced people, property loss, disruption of normal life support systems, essential public services, and basic infrastructure; and may cause significant damage to the environment.
- Impact critical infrastructure across sectors.
- May overwhelm capabilities of County and State Governments, and private sector infrastructure owners and operators.
- Attract an influx of spontaneous volunteers and supplies.
- May require short-notice asset coordination and response.
- May require prolonged, sustained incident management activities.

Concept of Operations

Emergency Response Plan Activation Authority

The Pike County Health District Emergency Response Plan can only be activated under the authorization of the Health Commissioner or by his designee. The Emergency Response Plan may be activated as deemed necessary by the Health Commissioner

during a disaster, bioterrorism event, or public health emergency that is impacting or has the potential to impact the health of the residents of Pike County.

Typical Course of Actions

- Identify the threat
- Analyze the threat
- Determine incident objectives
- Identify public health resources
- Request resources
- Formulate Incident Command structure
- Assign responsibilities
- Respond
- Monitor progress
- Report critical information
- Assess situation
- Demobilize
- Recovery operation
- After Action review
- Review and revise plans

Resource Requests

In the event that the Health District becomes overwhelmed or runs out of material resources, the Health Commissioner or Incident Commander will contact the Pike County Emergency Management Agency at the Emergency Operations Center to request resources. The Pike County Emergency Management Agency will then approach the Ohio Emergency Management Agency with this request. The Ohio Emergency Management Agency will then contact the appropriate agency, i.e., the Ohio Department of Health at the ESF-8 desk at the Ohio Emergency Operations Center, to make the official request. In addition to making the formal request, it is appropriate for the Pike County General Health District to contact the Ohio Department of Health or the ESF-8 desk at the Ohio Emergency Operations Center for a consultation.

Assignment of Responsibilities

Pike County General Health District Roles and Responsibilities

- Assessment of county health and medical needs.
 - Assistance in assessing potable water and waste water/solid waste disposal issues and coordination to provide potable water and wastewater/solid water disposal equipment.
- Public Health Surveillance
 - Surveillance and investigations to determine disease patterns and potential disease outbreaks and implement prevention strategies.
- Monitoring of the availability and utilization of health systems' assets.
 - Supply, restock, and prioritize health-related equipment and supplies.
- Provision of public health and medical related services, supplies, and personnel.

- Provide logistical support for public health personnel in the field.
- Provide pharmaceuticals, medical equipment, and supplies as available (includes the coordination and tracking of medical resources and equipment).
- Provide consultation for the decontamination of people, buildings, and the environment, when applicable.
- Provide mass dispensing clinics for the prophylaxis of the entire county population, if necessary.
- Identification of areas where public health problems could occur.
 - Public Health assessments of conditions at the site of the emergency to determine health needs and priorities.
- Provision of medical related information releases and public health recommendations and related releases to the public.
- Research and consultation on potential health hazards, medical problems, and appropriate levels of PPE, when applicable.
- Coordination of behavioral health assistance.
- Environmental sampling and analysis/collecting specimens for lab testing.
 - Coordination with ODH on specimen submission of possibly hazardous or contaminated substances throughout an emergency.
 - Testing of products for public consumption.
- Veterinary support.
- Assistance and support for mass casualty and mass fatality incidents.
 - Assist with Triage Operations.
 - Assist in the identification of mass burial sites.
 - Assist in the handling of infectious/contaminated bodies.
- Coordination with other local, regional, state, and federal partners.
 - Assess and make recommendations concerning the public health needs of emergency responders.
 - Staff the ESF-8 desk at the Pike County Emergency Operations Center.

Support Agency Roles and Responsibilities

Pike County Emergency Management Agency – Provides resource coordination and acquisition.

Pike County Sheriff's Department – Provides security for the Health District response activities, equipment, and pharmaceuticals.

Pike County Emergency Medical Services – Assists with transportation and provides medical support to nursing staff.

Local Fire Departments – fight fire

Pike Community Hospital – Provides medical staff and supplies if possible.

Pike County Coroner – Provides information and assistance to the Health District on the handling of the deceased during a mass casualty incident.

American Red Cross – Provides volunteer assistance.

Scioto Paint Valley Mental Health – Assists in the coordination of mental health services.

Ohio Department of Health – Provides subject matter experts for consultation and guidance, provides laboratory services, and provides equipment and/or pharmaceuticals.

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency – Provides information and/or assistance regarding clean-up or decontamination of environments that pose risk to the public health.

Ohio Department of Agriculture – Provides information and/or assistance regarding food safety and animal health.

Plan Development and Maintenance

Development

The Pike County General Health District Emergency Response Plan design and content is coordinated with other public health jurisdictional response plans within the Southeast Region, the Southeast Ohio Public Health Regional Medical Response System, the Hospital All Hazards Plan and the Ohio Department of Health ESF-8 Plan.

The Pike County General Health District Emergency Response Plan is to be kept current through an ongoing revision system. The Emergency Response Coordinator, in collaboration with the core emergency staff, are responsible for ensuring that all necessary revisions to the plans are made and distributed to plan holders. Plan revisions may also be coordinated with the input from support agencies identified within this plan.

Plan holders are prohibited from making changes, revisions, or additions to individual copies of the plan. Revisions are to be made on one master copy maintained by the Emergency Response Coordinator and distributed to the proper plan holders.

Plan Holders include:

- Pike County General Health District Core Emergency Response Staff (Health Commissioner, Director of Administrative Services, Director of Nursing, Director of Environmental Health, Emergency Response Coordinator, Public Health Infrastructure Epidemiologists, Public Health Nurse, Sanitarians).
- Pike County Board of Health
- Pike County Commissioners
- Pike County EMA
- Pike County EMS
- Pike County Sheriff's Office
- Pike Community Hospital

Maintenance

The Pike County General Health District Emergency Response Plan and accompanying Annexes, Appendices, and Implementing Instructions will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis for content changes based on information gathered from exercises, trainings, and Federal/State guidelines. Necessary updates to implementing instructions will be made as changes occur.

Authority and Reference**Authority**

Ohio Revised Code, Section 3707

Pike County Board of Health Resolution 09-2003

Reference

Vinton County Emergency Support Function-8

Ohio Emergency Support Function-8

Bureau of Public Health Preparedness Planning Unit, All Hazard Emergency Response Plan Framework and Planning Guidance