

Emergency Planning from one end to the other

For a community to be fully prepared for an emergency, all of the parts of the community need to have an emergency plan, the people who must use the plan understand what they will have to do, and the organizations that need to support each other have agreed on their responsibilities. This planning begins with individual people and families and continues on to the national level.

Personal and Family	In any kind of health emergency, protecting yourself and your family will be your first priority. Because health emergencies, just like natural disasters, can happen with little or no warning, Clark County Public Health is asking you and your family to join us in planning for them in advance. What can I do to protect my family?
Agency/ Organization	To support people who might be in Clark County, if an emergency were to happen, Clark County Public Health has developed an Emergency Response Plan that describes how the agency will respond to public health and other emergencies that might affect our communities [Link to CCPH ERP]. In addition, Clark County Public Health, with our emergency response partners act as a resource for other community organizations, businesses, schools, and others developing emergency response plans. [Can we link to a library of resources?]
County	To ensure that Clark County Public Health Emergency Response Plans are coordinated with other county plans, we work with our county’s Emergency Management Agency, CRESA. CRESA is the Clark County agency responsible for maintaining the Clark County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan or CEMP . The CEMP delegates responsibilities for emergency management among the leadership and the departments of county agencies and their partners. CEMPs are designed to address the hazards and vulnerabilities that are specific to the community. The hazards that we prepare for are described in the Local Hazards and Disasters section .
Regional	To make sure that counties have a way of getting critical resources during emergencies, Washington State is divided into nine Public Health Preparedness Regions. Clark County is designated as the lead county in Region IV which includes Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, and Wahkiakum Counties. Among these counties, several emergency plans have been developed to better allow for needed resources to be moved from a county that isn’t experiencing an emergency to a county that is using all of its resources to respond. [Link to Region IV ERP]
State	To support both counties and regions, the state of Washington has developed multiple emergency response plans that describe how Washington State agencies will support county response efforts during an emergency. http://emd.wa.gov/plans/plans_index.shtml
Nationally	At the federal level, the National Response Framework was created to describe the guiding principles and help all emergency response agencies prepare for and provide a unified national response to emergencies - from the smallest incident to the largest catastrophe. The Framework establishes a comprehensive, national, all-hazards approach to domestic incident response. http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nrf/aboutNRF.htm