

EMERGENCY PREPARDNESS GUIDE



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WELCOME & INTRODUCTION



Garfield County is no stranger to severe weather and other hazards that can affect our community. The county has experienced events such as severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, flooding, wildfires, and winter weather. Preparing before an event occurs helps protect lives, property, and the overall safety of our community.

Garfield County Emergency Management is led by professionals with extensive experience in public service, emergency planning, and community safety. The Emergency Manager is responsible for protecting and educating the citizens of Garfield County while coordinating preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery efforts for disasters and major incidents, working closely with county officials, public safety agencies, and community partners.

Garfield County Emergency Management works closely with local fire departments, law enforcement agencies, emergency medical services, public works departments, and volunteer organizations. The office also coordinates with county leadership, state agencies, and federal partners to ensure Garfield County is prepared to respond effectively when emergencies occur.

Emergency preparedness begins at home. Families, businesses, and individuals are encouraged to develop emergency plans, assemble emergency supply kits, and stay informed about potential hazards in the area. Taking simple steps ahead of time can significantly reduce the impact of disasters and improve safety for everyone involved.

This guide was developed to provide residents with clear and practical information to help prepare for emergencies in Garfield County. Inside you will find guidance on creating an emergency plan, building an emergency supply kit, understanding severe weather alerts, identifying safe shelter locations, and staying informed during emergency situations.

Preparedness is a shared responsibility. By staying informed and taking proactive steps, the citizens of Garfield County can help build a safer and more resilient community.

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Emergency preparedness and response in Garfield County is a coordinated effort between many agencies and organizations that work together to protect the community during emergencies and disasters.

Garfield County Emergency Management works closely with local, county, state, and volunteer partners to support planning, response operations, and recovery efforts across the county. These partnerships help ensure that resources, personnel, and information can be quickly coordinated when incidents occur.

During emergencies, multiple agencies often respond together to manage the situation, protect lives and property, and help restore the community back to normal day to day life as safely and efficiently as possible. Training, communication, and planning between agencies before an incident occurs are essential to ensuring an effective response. Listed below are some of our public safety partners.

Garfield County Sheriff's Office
Garfield County Rural Fire Departments

Enid Police Department

Enid Fire Department

Oklahoma Highway Patrol

Mercy Regional EMS

Miller EMS

American Red Cross

Local hospitals and healthcare providers

County / Municipal / State public works departments

Oklahoma State Department of Emergency Management

Through coordination and cooperation between these agencies, Garfield County is able to respond effectively to emergencies and support the safety of residents and visitors throughout the county. Their combined experience, resources, and training help ensure that incidents are handled efficiently and that the community receives timely assistance when emergencies occur.

WE ARE A STORMREADY® COUNTY

Garfield County is recognized as a StormReady Community, a designation from the National Weather Service that recognizes communities that have taken steps to improve severe weather preparedness and warning systems. Being StormReady means Garfield County has established communication systems, emergency warning procedures, trained personnel, and public preparedness efforts to help protect residents during severe weather. This designation helps ensure the county is better prepared to respond to severe weather events and provide timely warnings to the public.



Emergencies can happen with little warning. Severe weather, hazardous materials incidents, transportation accidents, or infrastructure failures can disrupt daily life quickly. Preparing ahead of time helps protect your family, your property, and your community. Garfield County Emergency Management encourages residents to take simple steps to prepare before emergencies occur. Planning ahead allows families and businesses to respond calmly and safely when unexpected situations arise.

UNDERSTANDING LOCAL RISKS

Garfield County can experience several types of emergencies residents should be prepared for.

Severe weather such as thunderstorms, tornadoes, and high winds can develop quickly. Winter storms, ice, and extreme cold can disrupt travel and utilities. Natural hazards including flooding, drought, and wildfires may also affect the region.

Hazardous materials incidents may occur during transportation or industrial operations. Transportation emergencies can include highway accidents, train derailments, and pipeline incidents. Infrastructure emergencies may involve power outages, utility disruptions, or industrial accidents.

In some cases, human-caused incidents such as explosions, cyber attacks, or acts of violence may occur. Understanding these risks helps residents prepare and respond safely.

DEVELOPING A FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

Every household should have a basic emergency plan. Discuss emergency procedures with your family so everyone understands what to do if an incident occurs. Identify two meeting places: one outside your home and another outside your neighborhood in case evacuation becomes necessary. Create a communication plan so family members know how to reach one another if separated. Text messages and out-of-area contacts can sometimes work when local phone networks are overloaded. It is also important to know how to safely turn off utilities such as electricity, natural gas, and water if damage occurs to your home.

Finally, make sure every household member understands how and when to call 911 for emergencies.

IDENTIFYING SAFE LOCATIONS

Knowing where to go during an emergency can greatly reduce risk.

Identify safe locations in advance at home, work, and school where you can go during different types of emergencies. These areas should be easily accessible and known to everyone in your household or organization. Review these locations with family members and coworkers so everyone understands where to go if an emergency occurs. Practicing how to reach these safe areas ahead of time can help ensure a quicker and safer response when time is limited.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Residents should keep important emergency contact numbers for services and family readily available.

Families should keep important emergency contact numbers easily accessible so they can be reached quickly when needed. This should include 911 for emergencies, family or household contacts, an out-of-area emergency contact, and organizations such as the American Red Cross that may provide assistance during disasters. It is also helpful to have contact information for local hospitals, utilities, and other essential services. Keeping these numbers written down or saved in multiple places can help ensure your family can communicate and get help during an emergency.

Emergencies can disrupt normal services with little warning. Severe weather, winter storms, flooding, hazardous materials incidents, transportation accidents, power outages, or other emergencies may limit access to food, water, and essential supplies.

Preparing an emergency supply kit ahead of time helps ensure you and your family can remain safe and self-sufficient until assistance becomes available. Every household should consider maintaining basic emergency supplies at home, in vehicles, and in portable kits that can be quickly taken during an evacuation.

TYPES OF EMERGENCY KITS

Home Emergency Kit

A home kit should contain enough supplies to support your household for several days if utilities or travel become disrupted.

Vehicle Emergency Kit

Travel can become dangerous during winter storms, severe weather, or highway incidents. Keeping emergency supplies in your vehicle can help if you become stranded or delayed.

Portable or Evacuation Kit

Sometimes residents may be asked to leave their homes due to flooding, hazardous materials incidents, fires, or other emergencies. A portable “go kit” allows you to quickly take essential items with you.

BASIC EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

- Drinking water
- Non-perishable food
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- First aid supplies
- Prescription medications
- Phone chargers or backup batteries
- Warm blankets or clothing
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio
- Personal hygiene supplies
- Important documents and identification copies



These supplies help households remain prepared during power outages, severe weather events, and other disruptions.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO CONSIDER

- Extra clothing and weather protection
- Basic tools and work gloves
- Dust masks or protective coverings
- Cash in small denominations
- Maps of your local area
- Supplies for infants, older adults, or pets

Emergency supply kits should be checked regularly to ensure supplies remain usable. Replace expired food, medications, and batteries when necessary. Store kits in locations that are easy to access, and make sure all household members know where they are kept.

Preparedness looks different for every family. Building a kit based on your household's needs helps ensure you are ready to respond safely during many types of emergencies.

During emergencies, timely and accurate information can help protect lives and property. Weather hazards, infrastructure disruptions, hazardous materials incidents, and other emergencies may require residents to take quick action. Receiving official alerts and updates ensures you have the information needed to respond safely. Residents should use multiple reliable sources to stay informed before, during, and after an emergency.

EMERGENCY ALERTS

Emergency alerts provide important safety information directly to the public. These alerts may warn of severe weather, hazardous conditions, evacuation notices, or other immediate threats. Many alerts are automatically delivered to mobile phones through Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA). These notifications are issued by authorized public safety agencies and do not require an app to receive them. Residents should ensure emergency alerts are enabled on their mobile devices.

NOAA WEATHER RADIO

A NOAA Weather Radio is one of the most dependable ways to receive weather warnings and emergency information. These radios broadcast alerts issued by the National Weather Service and can automatically sound an alarm when a warning is issued for your area.

Weather radios operate continuously and can provide information even when power outages or communication disruptions occur. Many models allow users to program alerts specific to their county.

Keeping a battery powered or hand-crank weather radio in your emergency kit can help ensure you continue receiving alerts during severe weather or power outages.

LOCAL NOTIFICATIONS AND INFORMATION

Local emergency management agencies may share updates through several communication channels. Residents should monitor trusted sources such as:

- Local television and radio stations
- Official social media pages for public safety agencies
- The Garfield County Emergency Management mobile app
- National Weather Service sources

These sources may provide information about road closures, shelter locations, evacuation instructions, and other safety updates during an emergency.

USING MULTIPLE INFORMATION SOURCES

No single system provides every alert or update. Using several reliable information sources increases the likelihood that you will receive important warnings quickly.

Combining mobile alerts, weather radios, and trusted local information sources helps ensure you remain informed during changing emergency conditions.

Preparedness begins with awareness. Staying informed allows residents to take action early and respond safely when emergencies occur.

Severe weather can develop quickly and affect Garfield County throughout the year. Thunderstorms, damaging winds, hail, and tornadoes can create dangerous conditions for residents both indoors and outdoors. Understanding weather alerts and knowing where to seek shelter can help reduce risk during severe storms.

Preparing before severe weather occurs allows families to respond quickly when warnings are issued.

UNDERSTANDING WEATHER ALERTS

Weather alerts issued by the National Weather Service provide important information about developing storms.

A **Watch** means conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop in the area. Residents should monitor weather updates and be prepared to take action if conditions worsen.

A **Warning** means severe weather has been detected or is occurring nearby. Residents should take protective action immediately and move to a safe location.

RECOGNIZING SEVERE WEATHER THREATS

Severe storms can produce several hazards that may develop rapidly. These threats may include:

- Damaging winds capable of downing trees or power lines
- Large hail that may cause injury or property damage
- Heavy rainfall that may lead to localized flooding
- Tornadoes capable of causing significant destruction

Staying aware of changing weather conditions can help you recognize when storms are becoming dangerous.

IDENTIFYING SAFE LOCATIONS

Before severe weather occurs, identify a safe place where you can quickly take shelter.

The safest locations are typically the lowest level of a sturdy building in a room away from windows. Basements, storm shelters, or interior rooms often provide the best protection.

Mobile homes and temporary structures may not provide adequate protection during severe storms. Residents in these locations should plan ahead for a safer nearby shelter.

Practicing how to reach safe locations ensures everyone knows where to go if severe weather develops.

PREPARING FOR SEVERE WEATHER

Taking a few steps ahead of time can improve safety during storms, these steps include:

- Monitor weather forecasts regularly
- Keep emergency supplies accessible
- Identify shelter locations in advance
- Stay informed through weather alerts and local notifications

Preparation helps ensure families can respond quickly and safely when severe weather threatens the area.

In the past, Garfield County has experienced winter weather events ranging from light snow to significant ice and freezing rain that have impacted roadways, utilities, and public safety. Winter weather can develop quickly and impact Garfield County with snow, ice, freezing rain, extreme cold, and strong winds. These conditions can create dangerous travel conditions, power outages, and health risks such as hypothermia and frostbite.

Preparing before winter weather occurs allows families to respond quickly and safely when winter storms affect the area.

RECOGNIZING WINTER WEATHER HAZARDS

Winter storms can create several hazards that may develop rapidly. These hazards may include:

- Snow and ice creating dangerous road conditions
- Freezing rain causing power outages and falling tree limbs
- Extreme cold leading to hypothermia or frostbite
- Strong winds causing drifting snow and reduced visibility
- Power outages affecting heating and communication

WINTER TRAVEL SAFETY

Travel during winter weather can be dangerous due to icy roads, reduced visibility, and rapidly changing conditions. Before traveling, check weather and road conditions, keep your gas tank as full as possible, increase your following distance while driving, and keep an emergency kit in your vehicle with blankets, water, snacks, and a flashlight. If you must travel, tell someone your route and expected arrival time so others know where you are in case of an emergency. Being prepared for winter travel can help prevent dangerous situations and improve safety if travel delays or road closures occur.

PREPARING YOUR HOME FOR WINTER WEATHER

Before winter weather occurs, take steps to prepare your home and family for cold temperatures and possible power outages, preparation steps include:

- Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors
- Insulate pipes and seal drafts around doors and windows
- Have blankets, warm clothing, and extra batteries available
- Keep non-perishable food and bottled water available
- Prepare for possible power outages lasting several days

WINTER WEATHER SAFETY

Winter weather often increases the use of heating equipment such as space heaters and generators which can create fire and carbon monoxide hazards if used improperly. Space heaters should be kept at least 3 to 5 feet away from anything that can burn and should be turned off when you leave the room or go to sleep. Never use ovens or stoves to heat your home.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that can be deadly. Generators should always be operated outdoors and away from windows and doors, and homes should have working carbon monoxide detectors on every level. Taking these precautions can help prevent fires and carbon monoxide poisoning during winter weather.

Garfield County may experience a variety of natural hazards throughout the year, including flooding, earthquakes, drought, and severe weather. These hazards can impact roads, utilities, agriculture, and daily life, sometimes with little warning. Understanding the risks in your area and staying informed during hazardous conditions can help reduce injuries and property damage.

Residents should monitor weather forecasts and emergency alerts, know evacuation routes and safe locations, and prepare emergency supplies in case utilities or travel are disrupted. Being aware of natural hazards and preparing ahead of time helps individuals and families respond quickly and safely when emergencies occur.

FLOODING

Flooding is one of the most common natural hazards and can occur with little warning, especially during heavy rainfall, severe storms, or prolonged rain events. Floodwaters can quickly cover roads, damage homes, and create dangerous conditions for drivers and pedestrians. Even shallow moving water can sweep vehicles off the roadway.

Residents should monitor weather alerts, avoid driving through flooded roads, and be prepared to move to higher ground if flooding occurs. Preparing ahead of time by knowing flood-prone areas and having emergency supplies available can help reduce risks during flood events.

WILDFIRES

Wildfires can occur during dry and windy conditions and can spread quickly across grasslands and rural areas. These fires can threaten homes, agriculture, and roadways while smoke from wildfires can reduce air quality and visibility.

Residents should be aware of burn bans, avoid outdoor burning during dry conditions, and keep grass and vegetation trimmed around structures. Having an evacuation plan and preparing important documents and emergency supplies in advance can help families respond quickly if a wildfire threatens their area.

EARTHQUAKES

Earthquakes can occur without warning and may cause damage to buildings, roads, and utilities. While most earthquakes are minor, stronger earthquakes can cause falling objects, structural damage, and power outages.

During an earthquake, individuals should Drop, Cover, and Hold On by getting under a sturdy table or desk and protecting their head and neck. After an earthquake, check for injuries, gas leaks, and structural damage before re-entering buildings. Preparing emergency supplies and securing heavy furniture can help reduce injuries during earthquakes.

DROUGHT

Drought occurs when there is an extended period of below-normal rainfall, which can impact water supplies, agriculture, and increase wildfire risk. Drought conditions can develop slowly but have long-term impacts on communities and the environment. Residents can help reduce the impact of drought by being aware of increased fire danger during dry conditions. Planning for drought conditions helps protect water resources and reduce the risk of wildfires and agricultural losses.

Hazardous materials are substances that can be harmful to people, property, or the environment if released or handled improperly. These materials are commonly transported on highways and railroads and may also be stored or used in agricultural, industrial, medical, or household settings. Hazardous materials incidents may involve spills, leaks, fires, or airborne releases that can pose health and safety risks to the public.

Residents should be aware that hazardous materials may be present in everyday locations and transportation routes throughout the county. Understanding the risks and following instructions from emergency officials during a hazardous materials incident can help reduce injuries and protect public safety.

UNDERSTANDING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Hazardous materials can include chemicals, fuels, gases, pesticides, and other substances that may be flammable, toxic, corrosive, or reactive. These materials are often marked with warning placards or labels on trucks, railcars, and storage containers that identify the type of hazard present. If you see a spill, vapor cloud, unusual odor, or damaged container, stay away from the area and report it to local authorities. Do not touch, move, or attempt to clean up any unknown substance, as it may be dangerous.

DURING A HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT

If a hazardous materials incident occurs, follow instructions from emergency officials immediately. You may be asked to evacuate the area or shelter in place depending on the situation. Shelter in place means staying indoors, closing and locking windows and doors, turning off heating and air conditioning systems, and moving to an interior room away from outside air. Avoid contact with any spilled materials, smoke, or vapor clouds and stay away from the area until officials say it is safe.

SHELTER IN PLACE

During some hazardous materials incidents, emergency officials may instruct residents to shelter in place instead of evacuating. Shelter in place means staying inside a building to avoid exposure to hazardous materials in the air. If instructed to shelter in place, go indoors immediately, close and lock all windows and doors, turn off heating and air conditioning systems, and move to an interior room away from windows and outside air.

Stay inside until emergency officials announce it is safe to leave. Having supplies such as water, food, medications, and a battery-powered radio available can help you remain safely indoors during a shelter-in-place situation.

EXPOSURE TO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

If you believe you have come into contact with a hazardous material, leave the area immediately and seek fresh air. Remove contaminated clothing and wash exposed skin with soap and water as soon as possible. Avoid touching your face, eyes, or mouth until you have washed thoroughly. Seek medical attention if you experience symptoms such as difficulty breathing, dizziness, nausea, skin irritation, or burning eyes. Drought occurs when there is an extended period of below-normal rainfall, which can impact water supplies, agriculture, and increase wildfire risk. Drought conditions can develop slowly but have long-term impacts on communities and the environment.

Residents can help reduce the impact of drought by conserving water, following local water restrictions, and being aware of increased fire danger during dry conditions. Planning for drought conditions helps protect water resources and reduce the risk of wildfires and agricultural losses.

Garfield County has many systems and infrastructure that can become technological hazards if they fail or are involved in an incident. These hazards may include power outages, transportation accidents, utility failures, or equipment failures that disrupt daily life and create dangerous conditions. Unlike natural hazards, technological hazards are often caused by equipment failure, human error, or system malfunctions.

Residents should stay informed during these incidents, follow instructions from local officials, and be prepared for disruptions to power, water, transportation, and communication systems. Preparing emergency supplies and having a family emergency plan can help reduce the impact of technological hazards on households and communities.

POWER OUTAGES

Power outages can occur due to storms, equipment failure, vehicle accidents, or high demand on the electrical system. Extended power outages can impact heating and cooling systems, water systems, communication, and medical equipment.

During a power outage, use flashlights instead of candles when possible, keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed to preserve food, and unplug electronics to prevent damage from power surges when electricity is restored. Residents should also have backup lighting, extra batteries, and a way to receive emergency information.

TRANSPORTATION INCIDENTS

Transportation incidents may involve accidents involving trains, commercial vehicles, aircraft, or other transportation systems. These incidents can block roadways, disrupt travel, or create hazardous conditions that require emergency response.

If you encounter a transportation incident, avoid the area, follow detours and instructions from emergency personnel, and do not approach accident scenes. Keeping emergency supplies in your vehicle and having alternate travel routes planned can help reduce risks during transportation emergencies.

COMMUNICATION FAILURES

Communication failures can occur when phone systems, cellular networks, internet services, or radio systems become overloaded or damaged during emergencies. Communication outages can make it difficult to receive emergency alerts or contact family members.

Residents should have alternate ways to receive emergency information, such as weather radios, local alerts, or community notification systems. Families should also have an emergency communication plan that includes meeting locations and out-of-area contacts in case normal communication systems are unavailable.

CYBER AND SYSTEM OUTAGES

Cyber incidents and system outages can disrupt communication networks, utilities, banking systems, and other services that communities rely on every day. These outages may be caused by cyber attacks, system failures, power outages, or infrastructure damage. When systems are down, services such as phone networks, internet access, payment systems, and emergency notifications may be limited or unavailable.

Residents should prepare by keeping some cash available, maintaining backup copies of important documents, and having alternate ways to receive emergency information. Families should also have a communication plan in case phone or internet service is unavailable.

Garfield County relies on infrastructure systems such as water systems, natural gas lines, roadways, and industrial facilities that support daily life and public services. When these systems fail or are damaged, they can create infrastructure and industrial hazards that disrupt essential services and create dangerous conditions for residents and emergency responders. These incidents may include water system failures, natural gas leaks, oil or fuel spills, roadway failures, or wastewater system failures.

WATER SYSTEM FAILURES OR CONTAMINATION

Water system failures or contamination can occur due to equipment failure, broken water lines, flooding, or contamination of the water supply. During these incidents, residents may be instructed to boil water before drinking, conserve water, or use bottled water until the system is safe.

Residents should follow boil orders or water usage restrictions issued by local officials and avoid drinking or cooking with water that may be contaminated unless instructed it is safe to do so.

NATURAL GAS LEAKS OR PIPELINE FAILURES

Natural gas leaks or pipeline failures can create fire and explosion hazards. Signs of a gas leak may include a strong odor similar to rotten eggs, a hissing sound, or dead vegetation near a pipeline or gas line.

If you suspect a gas leak, leave the area immediately, avoid using electrical switches or open flames, and call 911 or your local utility company from a safe location. Do not return to the area until emergency officials say it is safe.

OIL OR FUEL SPILLS

Oil or fuel spills may occur from vehicle accidents, equipment failures, or storage tank leaks. Fuel spills can create fire hazards and environmental contamination.

Residents should stay away from spill areas, avoid contact with spilled materials, and report spills to local authorities. Do not attempt to clean up large fuel or oil spills yourself.

WASTEWATER SYSTEM FAILURES

Wastewater system failures may cause sewage backups, overflows, or contamination that can create health hazards and environmental concerns. These incidents may occur due to equipment failure, heavy rainfall, or system damage.

Residents should avoid contact with contaminated water, follow public health guidance, and report sewage overflows or backups to local utility authority providers.

ROADWAY FAILURES

Roadway failures may include bridge damage, sinkholes, washed-out roads, or other structural failures that make roadways unsafe. These incidents may occur due to flooding, erosion, heavy traffic, or infrastructure damage.

If roadway damage is observed, avoid the area, follow road closures and detours, and report unsafe road conditions to local authorities. Never drive around barricades or road closure signs.

Garfield County communities, businesses, schools, and public events may face human-caused threats involving intentional acts such as violence, terrorism, or other security incidents. These incidents can occur with little warning and may create dangerous and rapidly changing situations that require individuals to act quickly to protect themselves and others. Residents should remain aware of their surroundings, report suspicious activity to local law enforcement, and follow instructions from emergency officials during security incidents.

ACTIVE THREAT / ACTIVE SHOOTER

An active threat or active shooter incident involves an individual actively attempting to harm people in a populated area. These situations are unpredictable and may develop quickly, often with little or no warning. Law enforcement's primary objective during these incidents is to stop the threat as quickly as possible and secure the area so emergency medical services can assist the injured.

The Department of Homeland Security and the FBI recommend the Run, Hide, Fight method for surviving an active threat incident. If possible, Run by evacuating the area and getting to a safe location away from the threat. If evacuation is not possible, Hide by locking and blocking doors, turning off lights, silencing phones, and staying out of sight. As a last resort, Fight to stop the attacker and protect yourself or others. Follow all instructions from law enforcement and keep your hands visible when officers arrive.

PERSONAL SAFETY AND SECURITY INCIDENTS

Human-caused threats may also include assaults, violent incidents, or other security situations that occur in public places, workplaces, schools, or community events. These situations may develop quickly and require individuals to make decisions to protect themselves and others.

During any dangerous situation, try to leave the area if it is safe to do so, seek shelter in a secure location, and contact law enforcement when it is safe. Being aware of exits, maintaining situational awareness, and having a plan for emergencies can help improve personal safety during security incidents. Staying alert and aware of your surroundings can help you recognize dangerous situations early and take action quickly.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND VIOLENCE INCIDENTS

Human-caused threats may also include assaults, violent incidents, or other public safety emergencies.

During any dangerous situation, try to leave the area if it is safe to do so, seek shelter in a secure location, and contact law enforcement when it is safe.

Being aware of exits, maintaining situational awareness, and having a plan for emergencies can help improve personal safety during security incidents.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Suspicious activity may include unusual behavior, unattended packages, individuals attempting to access restricted areas, or people asking questions about security procedures or building layouts. The Department of Homeland Security promotes the "If You See Something, Say Something" program, which encourages the public to report suspicious behavior to law enforcement.

If you observe suspicious activity, do not confront the individual. Report the information to local law enforcement and provide as much detail as possible, including the location, description of the person, and what activity was observed.

Explosions can occur due to industrial accidents, natural gas leaks, hazardous materials incidents, transportation accidents, or intentional acts such as criminal or terrorist activity. Garfield County has transportation routes, pipelines, industrial facilities, and fuel storage infrastructure that could be involved in an explosion if an accident, equipment failure, or intentional act occurs. Explosions can cause fires, structural damage, flying debris, and secondary hazards that may injure people or damage nearby buildings. These incidents may occur with little warning and can create dangerous conditions in surrounding areas.

If an explosion occurs, immediately leave the area if it is safe to do so and move away from damaged buildings, fires, or debris. Follow instructions from emergency officials and avoid returning to damaged areas until authorities say it is safe. Be aware of secondary hazards such as gas leaks, fires, hazardous materials releases, or additional explosions.

INDUSTRIAL EXPLOSIONS

Industrial explosions may occur at facilities such as grain elevators, fuel storage facilities, manufacturing plants, fertilizer facilities, or other industrial sites. These explosions may be caused by equipment failure, fuel vapors, dust explosions, chemical reactions, or pressurized equipment failures. In agricultural areas like Garfield County, grain elevators and fertilizer or chemical facilities can present explosion risks due to combustible dust, fuel storage, or chemical processes.

If an industrial explosion occurs nearby, stay away from the area, follow evacuation instructions from emergency officials, and avoid smoke or vapor clouds that may contain hazardous materials. Do not approach damaged facilities or attempt to

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EXPLOSIONS

Some hazardous materials are flammable, reactive, or explosive if released, mixed with other substances, or exposed to heat. Hazardous materials explosions may occur during transportation accidents, industrial incidents, or storage tank failures.

If a hazardous materials explosion occurs, avoid the area, stay upwind and uphill if possible, and follow instructions from emergency officials. Do not attempt to approach or clean up hazardous materials.

GAS OR INFRASTRUCTURE EXPLOSIONS

Explosions may also occur due to natural gas leaks, propane leaks, or infrastructure failures involving pipelines or fuel systems. These explosions often occur in buildings, near pipelines, or in areas where fuel vapors accumulate.

If you suspect a gas leak, leave the area immediately, avoid using electrical switches or open flames, and call 911 from a safe location. Do not re-enter the area until emergency officials say it is safe.

INTENTIONAL EXPLOSIONS

Explosions may also occur due to natural gas leaks, propane leaks, or infrastructure failures involving pipelines or fuel systems. These explosions often occur in buildings, near pipelines, or in areas where fuel vapors accumulate.

If you suspect a gas leak, leave the area immediately, avoid using electrical switches or open flames, and call 911 from a safe location. Do not re-enter the area until emergency officials say it is safe.

Recovery after a disaster involves more than just repairing damage. Recovery may include debris removal, restoring utilities, repairing homes and infrastructure, replacing personal property, and addressing financial and emotional impacts caused by the disaster. Recovery can take days, weeks, or even months depending on the severity of the incident.

Resources available in Garfield County may include local government agencies, Garfield County Emergency Management, the American Red Cross, faith-based organizations, volunteer groups, and other nonprofit organizations that assist with sheltering, food, cleanup, and recovery assistance. State and federal agencies may also provide assistance when disasters are large enough to qualify for additional support. Understanding available recovery resources can help individuals and families recover more quickly after emergencies or disasters.

RECOVERY RESOURCES

Recovery after an emergency or disaster may involve repairing homes, restoring utilities, replacing property, and addressing financial or emotional impacts. FEMA recommends that residents first ensure their safety, document damage, contact their insurance company, and follow instructions from local officials before beginning cleanup or repairs. If a federal disaster is declared, assistance may be available to help individuals and communities recover.

Recovery can take days, weeks, or months depending on the severity of the disaster. Knowing what resources are available and keeping important records can help speed up the recovery process for individuals and families.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE

If a presidential disaster declaration is issued, residents may be eligible for disaster assistance through FEMA. Assistance may include temporary housing, home repairs, replacement of personal property, and other disaster-related expenses for eligible individuals and families.

Residents can apply for disaster assistance online at DisasterAssistance.gov, through the FEMA mobile app, or by calling the FEMA Helpline. Disaster Recovery Centers may also open in affected areas to provide in-person assistance, answer questions, and help residents complete applications.

DOCUMENTING DAMAGE AND LOSSES

After a disaster, it is important to document damage and losses as soon as it is safe to do so. Take photos or videos of damaged property, keep receipts for repairs and cleanup, and make a list of damaged or lost items. Contact your insurance company as soon as possible to begin the claims process.

Keeping copies of important documents such as insurance policies, identification, property records, and financial information can help speed up the recovery and assistance process after a disaster.

COMMUNITY RECOVERY

Recovery is not only about individual households but also about restoring community services, infrastructure, and local businesses. Local governments, emergency management agencies, volunteer organizations, and state and federal agencies work together to help communities recover after disasters.

Community recovery may include debris removal, restoring utilities, reopening roads and schools, and rebuilding damaged infrastructure. Recovery efforts may continue long after the initial disaster has ended.

EMERGENCY - POLICE / FIRE / AMBULANCE - DIAL 911

GARFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE (NON-EMERGENCY)	(580) 237-0240
GARFIELD COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	(580) 242-6013
GARFIELD COUNTY CLERK	(580) 237-0225
GARFIELD COUNTY CONTROLLED BURNING REPORTING	(580) 237-0240
ENID POLICE DEPARTMENT (NON-EMERGENCY)	(580) 242-7000
ENID FIRE DEPARTMENT (NON-EMERGENCY)	(580) 234-0541
CITY OF ENID	(580) 234-0400
AMERICAN RED CROSS	(580) 237-5994
POISON CONTROL CENTER	1-(800)-222-1222
INTEGRIS HEALTH ENID HOSPITAL	(580) 233-2300
ST. MARY'S REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	(580) 233-6100
NATIONWIDE RUNAWAY HOTLINE	1-(800)-786-2929
NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE	1-(800)-422-4453
NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE	1-(800)-799-7233
NATIONAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE HELPLINE	1-(800)-622-4357
CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN	1-(800)-843-5678
SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE	1-(800)-422-4453
OKLAHOMA CRISIS LINE	DIAL 988
OKLAHOMA TOBACCO HELPLINE	1-(800)-784-8669
OKLAHOMA SUBSTANCE ABUSE HELPLINE	1-(800)-622-4357
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	(405) 426-8000
OKLAHOMA HIGHWAY PATROL (NON-EMERGENCY)	(405) 425-2323
OKLAHOMA TURNPIKE AUTHORITY	1-(800)-745-3727
OKLAHOMA GAS & ELECTRIC	(405) 272-9595
OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS	1-(800)-664-5463
OKLAHOMA ROAD CONDITIONS	1-(844)-465-4997
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	(405) 521-6000
OKLAHOMA CORPORATION COMMISSION	(405) 521-2331
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF OKLAHOMA	1-(833)-776-7697



CONCLUSION

The information in this Emergency Preparedness Guide was compiled using preparedness guidance from the **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** and **Ready.gov**. These organizations provide nationally recognized recommendations to help individuals, families, and communities prepare for disasters and unexpected events. Many of the preparedness and safety recommendations in this guide are based on FEMA and Ready.gov resources. For additional preparedness information, visit www.ready.gov

Preparing for emergencies before they happen helps reduce injuries, protect property, and allows individuals and families to respond more safely and confidently during disasters. Emergencies and disasters can occur with little warning, but taking simple steps such as making a plan, building an emergency supply kit, staying informed, and understanding potential hazards can make a significant difference. By preparing for emergencies, you are helping protect not only yourself and your family, but also your neighbors and the entire community.



The image is a promotional banner for the Garfield County Emergency Management App. On the left is the Garfield County Emergency Management logo, which is a circular seal featuring a mountain, a sun, and a river, with the text "GARFIELD COUNTY OKLAHOMA" and "EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT" around the perimeter. To the right of the logo, the text "GARFIELD COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, OK" is displayed in white on a red background. Below this, there is a QR code and a link to download the app from the App Store and Google Play. The QR code is labeled "Scan to download our free app!". The App Store and Google Play logos are also present. On the right side of the banner, a smartphone screen displays the app's interface, which includes a header with the Garfield County Emergency Management logo and a grid of icons for various services: Local Weather, Damage Report, GCEM Blog, Emergency Contacts, Director's Tips, Your Emergency Plan, Shelter Registration, Where Am I, and Ask The Director.

Residents are also encouraged to download the **Garfield County Emergency Management App**, which is a valuable resource for local emergency alerts, weather updates, preparedness information, road closures, and emergency notifications specific to Garfield County. The app provides important information directly from local emergency management officials and is one of the best ways to stay informed during severe weather and emergency incidents. Receiving alerts and information directly from local officials can help residents make informed decisions, stay safe during emergencies, and better prepare before dangerous situations occur.

-  www.gcem.org
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