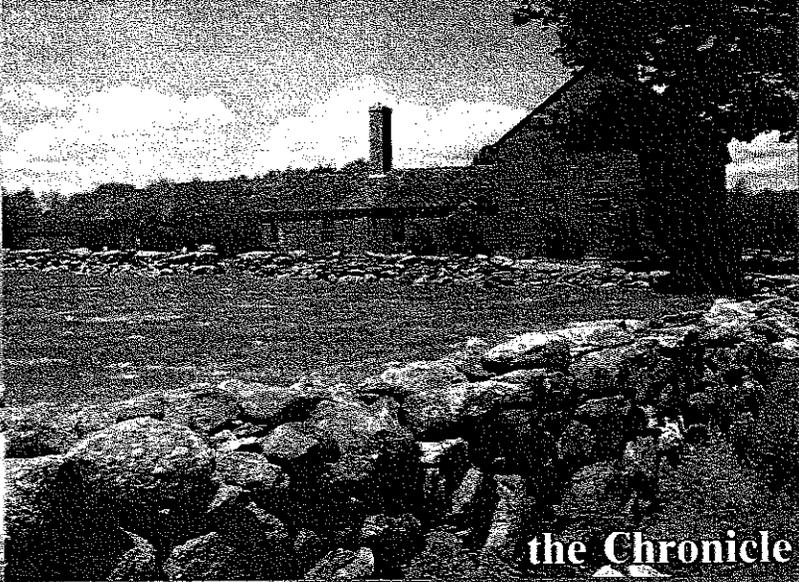


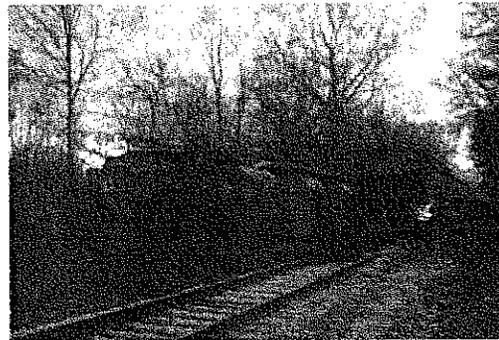
TOWN OF

# COVENTRY

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE 2011



the Chronicle



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## A Message from the Director of Emergency Management

The Director of Emergency Management is responsible for the development of the town's Emergency Operations Plan and working with all the towns' agencies to insure it is updated annually and approved by the State Office of Emergency Management.

The annual review allows all agencies to become familiar with the plan and to better understand what is required of them and other agencies in an emergency. The plan can be used in whole or in part for any emergency occurring in town.



The director also works with State and Federal agencies to acquire grants for emergency equipment and supplies for the emergency responders in town as well as to help upgrade the town's radio system to insure interoperability communications with all state and local emergency responders.

The Town of Coventry also has a dedicated Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT). This group of dedicated individuals is trained for and will be responsible for the operation of the towns' emergency shelters in conjunction with the local chapter of the American Red Cross.

Although we all hope we never need to use the Plan or this guide, I hope you find it informative and helpful and if anyone has any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at any time.

Noel Waite,  
Fire Marshal/Emergency Management Director

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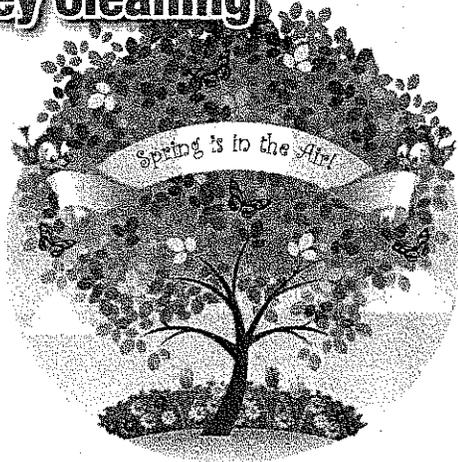
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# POLICE DEPARTMENT

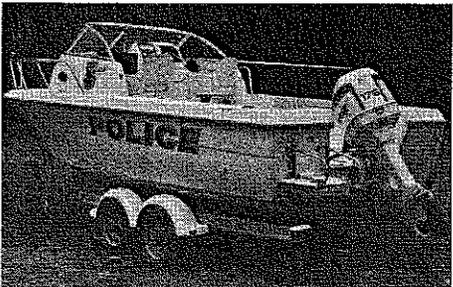
## A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF PALMER



The Coventry Police Department is a full-service agency, that provides 24 hour a day patrol coverage. Our vision of Professional Policing - Community Commitment is in place to demonstrate our dedication to providing the best law enforcement services possible. We investigate all reports of criminal or suspicious activity, investigate accidents and conduct traffic enforcement efforts. We also provide a variety of other public service duties such as fingerprinting, safety presentations and coordinating with other town agencies in matters of public safety.

Coventry Police Dispatch is a centralized point of contact for a variety of emergency matters. During severe circumstances, we coordinate our efforts with the Town Manager's Office, the Director of Emergency Management, the Fire Departments, as well as other emergency response agencies. If additional resources of equipment or personnel are needed, we have them available through the State Office of Emergency Management as well as mutual aid agreements with other law enforcement agencies in the Capitol Region.

The men and women of the Coventry Police Department stand ready to respond and to assist in any type of emergency situation.



The Coventry Police Department dispatches police units to calls for service received through either 9-1-1 or the main Police Department number 860-742-7331. Calls made to 9-1-1 are answered at TN regional dispatch in Tolland. Fire and Medical units are dispatched from there. 9-1-1 calls for police services are transferred to the Coventry Police Department. We have three full time dispatchers and several part time dispatchers. Our dispatch personnel are trained professionals and will attempt to assist you with your requests. In addition to police duties, the Dispatch Center receives calls for other town services after normal business hours. These requests are then forwarded to the appropriate agency. When reporting an incident to the Dispatch Center it is important to call as soon as possible. The dispatcher will ask for a variety of information, including your phone number, your location, the location of incident, what services are needed (Police, Fire, Emergency Medical Services), a description of the incident and any individuals involved. Remain calm and assist the dispatcher providing as much detailed information as possible. DO NOT confront anyone engaged in a violent incident. BE A GOOD WITNESS. Remember that you may not be the only person calling the Dispatch Center and your call may be placed on hold to answer another call.

### Phone Numbers

**Non-Emergency  
860-742-7331**

**Animal Control  
860-742-4074**

**Police Administration  
860-742-3526**

**EMERGENCY  
9-1-1**

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cell phones, e-mails, text messages, I.M.'s.  
You choose priority order.**

## **NORTH COVENTRY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

The North Coventry Volunteer Fire Department has been providing fire suppression and emergency medical services since 1947 to the Town of Coventry. We operate out of 2 fire stations; 3427 Main St and 999 Merrow Rd, Coventry, CT. Our fleet of equipment includes two engine tanks, one engine, one heavy rescue, a light duty rescue, a quick response medical vehicle and a forestry truck.

The duties of the North Coventry Fire Department are not limited to fire suppression. They also include emergency medical services, HAZMAT operations, technical rescue, vehicle extrication, ice rescue and mutual aid to surrounding town and departments. The men and women of NCFD are classified as first responders in that they are certified to the MRT or EMT level and respond to calls for services either in emergency vehicles or their own personal vehicles.

The North Coventry Fire Department is certified to the Mobile Intensive Care level and is therefore responsible for initiating and providing patient care and preparing the patient for transport by the ambulance. As MIC providers we are also responsible for administration of epinephrine, defibrillation, and aspirin.

Our membership consists of dedicated men and women who respond to calls and attend mandatory training sessions required by OSHA, NFPA and the State of Connecticut. Members logged over 1750 hours of training to meet these requirements and provide a professional service to the residents and visitors of Coventry.

In the event of an emergency, please call 911. This number not only dispatches our services to you, but the dispatch center has the ability to start additional resources we have built into the response. In a time where every second counts, please do not call the fire stations or the police department.

If you come upon our apparatus on the side of the road, please proceed with caution. There may be one of your neighbors coming around the apparatus to get supplies.



## **COVENTRY VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION**

**Dial 911 First and Foremost with any emergency,  
the dispatch center will direct the proper agency to respond.**

Coventry Volunteer Fire Association Inc. (CVFA) has been providing emergency Ambulance and Fire service to the Town of Coventry and Mutual aid towns since 1938. Responding from two Fire Stations, Coventry Central Fire House located at 1755 Main Street and the Substation located at 1645 South Street enables CVFA to provide rapid response.

CVFA provides emergency services, fire suppression, ambulance transportation, surface water rescue, ice water rescue, swift water rescue, HAZMAT operations, search, fire police, auxiliary and non-emergency support services, water evacuation from basements, fire prevention to; schools, nursery schools, day care, boy and girl scouts and the Firefighter Phil Program, Football Stand-bys, and fundraising for community programs. We also coordinate services with Paramedic providers.

With over 60 adult firefighters-Emergency Medical Technicians-Emergency Medical Responders and 20 Junior Firefighters-Emergency Medical Responders, three Ambulances, Two 1000 Gallon Engine Tanks, Fully Equipped Dive Vehicle, Fire Police Vehicle, Forestry Truck, an Emergency Utility Vehicle and two marine rescue vessels, the members are trained and outfitted with modern medical and fire equipment.

Our members are trained and certified in the administration and/or use of aspirin, glucose, oxygen therapy, glucometers, epinephrine auto injectors, defibrillators, doctor down heating bag and assisting paramedics.

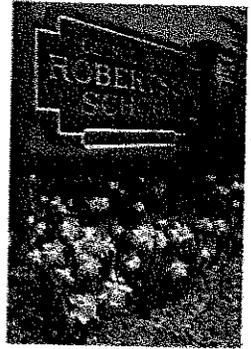
The women and men of CVFA attend mandatory monthly training in emergency medical services and fire to include OSHA and NFPA mandates, State of Connecticut Emergency Medical Services education and responding to over 1100 emergency calls each year. Members contribute each year over 8,000 hours training and over 11,000 hours on emergency calls.



### Emergency Response and Crisis Management

Several years ago Coventry Public Schools developed a comprehensive Emergency Response Protocol Handbook. The administration developed this valuable resource with input from Town and State agencies. This manual is updated on an annual basis and is reviewed annually by the administration and staff of Coventry Public Schools. Each school conducts a minimum of seven fire drills and three crisis response drills a year.

Most recently, school administration along with the Town's public safety agencies came together to form the Coventry Exercise Planning Committee. The purpose of this new committee was to participate in a mock emergency exercise to evaluate the Town's Emergency Management Operation Plan, as well as exercise the individual agencies' Standard Operating Guidelines. The Coventry Exercise Planning Committee has worked together following the guidance set forth in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP). Based on a recommendation from the U.S. Departments of Homeland Security and Education, the Coventry Public Schools administration has participated in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) training courses.



Coventry Public Schools takes the responsibility of providing a safe environment for all students and staff extremely serious. Our Emergency Response Protocol Handbook was developed with the primary goal of providing clear guidance to staff in implementing a safe, timely and prudent response to a crisis situation. The manual is divided into a variety of sections to address the various emergencies that could potentially arise. We feel by having clear procedures in place for staff reference, consistent protocol in each of the schools within the school system will be followed. Although Coventry Public Schools hopes these plans never have to be used, the reality of ever-changing world situations dictates that we are trained, prepared, and able to react to whatever situation presents itself in the schools, the Town of Coventry or the State of Connecticut.

### Emergency Care for Injury of Severe Illness

All schools maintain emergency health and contact numbers for all students and staff members. The school health offices also maintain records of all standing doctors' orders for students that have additional health challenges. The doctors' orders are intended as guidelines for the school nurse or other authorized adults. In the event of a medical emergency, a pediatrician is available at all times for consultation, should that be necessary.

### Procedures for Emergency School Delay/Cancellation



Keeping parents informed is a top priority at Coventry Public Schools. That is why we have adopted the ALERTNOW Notification System, which will allow us to send a telephone message to parents providing important information about school emergencies.

Coventry Public Schools uses ALERTNOW to notify parents of school emergencies, closings, delayed openings, and unplanned early releases. In the event of an emergency at school, parents can have peace of mind knowing they will be informed as soon as possible by phone. We also use the ALERTNOW system to phone parents if their child is absent from school and the nurse

has not received parent notification (attendance call).

In addition, if school is to be closed or the opening is delayed for any reason, it will continue to be announced on radio stations WTIC, 96.5 FM and 1080 AM; WZMX, 93.7 FM; WRCH, 100.5 FM; WILI 98.3 FM and 1400 AM; and television stations WFSB 3; WTNH 8; and WVIT 30, between 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sometimes early release are scheduled or caused by special circumstances. In either case, Coventry Public School students are dismissed at 12:20 p.m. for grades 6-12 and at 1:20 p.m. for grades 1-5, unless otherwise notified. This information is also available on our district website [www.coventrypublicschools.org](http://www.coventrypublicschools.org). Parents should know that in the event of a school closing or early release due to an emergency or weather related issue, all after school activities will be cancelled.

The Town of Coventry and the Coventry Public Schools also communicate important information to residents and school employees via email. Anyone can sign up to receive email-blast updates on town information and on school emergencies/closings. Information regarding this service can be found on our website at [www.coventrypublicschools.org](http://www.coventrypublicschools.org).

### Public Safety

Should the need arise, Coventry High School will be used as a community shelter for events requiring more capacity than the Town Hall can handle. The high school is equipped with a generator that is capable of providing power, water and heat to a number of areas including the cafeteria, kitchen, showers, gyms, media center and Veterans Auditorium. This shelter is operated by the Coventry Fire Departments and Human Services Department along with the American Red Cross.

During public health emergencies district administrators and school nurses meet with state and regional health officials to discuss plans for a coordinated strategy. Coventry Public Schools works with state and local health departments to provide locations for vaccination clinics and other needs as they develop. The Coventry Board of Education cooperates in response to public health emergencies, following procedural and sanitation recommendations and promoting safe practices for staff and students as prescribed.



Coventry Public Schools has a plan in place for AED/CPR availability at school sponsored activities such as sporting events. These devices have proven their worth by saving lives. The district has a number of certified coaches and staff to support this program, many of whom are volunteers.

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

### A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Town of Coventry Department of Public Works maintains 107 mile of roadways and 11 facilities and grounds within the community. Users of the Town's infrastructure should use proper care and conduct their activities in a responsible manner. Reports of any defects that are noticed should be called in. Reporting any defects during normal operating hours can be done directly to the Public Works Office at 860-742-6588 and after hours to the Police Department at 860-742-7331. The Public Works will dispatch a crew and respond within one hour from the notice of the defect.



Typical emergency call outs are for fallen trees or tree branches. If these trees or branches are near or on electrical wires the Public Works crews cannot cut or clear them until the electric utility informs the Department that the tree or branches are no longer a threat to the employees.

The Public Works Department may be called upon to close roadways using barricades if the situation will not be cleared by the electric utility in a timely manner. Many times the electric utility will cut and clear the tree or branches and place them on the edge of the roadway for clean up the next day.

Road closures may also be done by the Public Works Department for flooding or water across the roads. Any long term road closures are called into the Police Department to inform them and Tolland Dispatch that emergencies vehicles may not have access.

During winter conditions the Public Works Department operates in accordance with the Town Council approved policy that states anti icing material will be applied upon the onset of inclement winter weather and will continue along with plowing as dictated by the weather event. At times during blizzard conditions some roads may become impassable due to drifting and may be closed until weather conditions subside and allow the crew to clear the roadway.

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## **Safety Around Downed Power Lines is Critical; Important Safety Tips for Dealing with Electricity**

Electricity plays a vital role in the quality of life we enjoy. It powers our lives and allows us to take advantage of the technological explosion our forefathers could never have envisioned. But when nature's wrath brings storms to the region, downed power lines represent a very real danger to everyone around them.

At Connecticut Light and Power we take that danger very seriously. Here are important steps you must take to ensure that downed power lines do not create injuries, or worse, in the wake of storm damage:

- Treat all downed, hanging or burning wires as though they are "live" (energized) and stay away from them.
- Be especially attentive to children who might be outdoors, if fallen wires are in the neighborhood.
- Immediately report any downed, hanging or burning wires to CL&P at 1-800-286-2000, your local police or fire department. If you happen to be in a vehicle and wires are on or near it, stay in your vehicle and tell others not to touch it. You should call 911 immediately.

Electricity inside your home can also be dangerous, if proper precautions are not taken. Here are some other very important safety tips on how to treat electricity safely in your home:

- Never touch broken electrical cords or ones that have wire showing.
- Keep fingers and objects away from light sockets or electrical outlets. Use plug covers so no one will get hurt.
- Do not pull on cords to unplug them. Hold on to the plug.
- Do not touch anything electrical while you are wet or standing in water.
- Stay away from fallen power lines.
- Never fly kites or balloons near power lines.
- Do not climb utility poles or trees close to power lines.
- Do not touch or go near electrical equipment. There are good reasons this equipment is marked "Danger," "High Voltage" or "Keep Out."
- If a toy gets caught in electrical equipment, DON'T TOUCH IT. Find an adult to call CL&P. We'll do our best to get your toy back for you and no one will get hurt.
- Stay away from pad-mounted transformers. Those are the metal cabinets on concrete pads that contain electrical equipment. They are not safe places to play.
- If a pet gets stranded on a utility pole, don't panic. Call us for help at 1-800-286-2000 (860-947-2000 in Hartford/Meriden).

Lastly, whether you are a contractor working on a site or a homeowner working around your own home, please note: digging can be dangerous if you don't check first for underground wiring or cable. Underground wires could be for power, telephone or cable television. Or, there could be other underground utilities such as natural gas, water or sewer.

Never dig around your home or business without first calling to check for underground wiring or cable.

In Connecticut, call "Call Before You Dig" (CBYD) at 1-800-922-4455, or visit the Call Before You Dig website. This statewide clearinghouse will contact member utilities to come to the site and mark underground utilities. They will respond to calls made to CBYD for marking CL&P underground lines. Connecticut law requires you to call at least two full working days, excluding week-ends and holidays, before digging.

**For more information on these and other important electrical safety tips, please call Connecticut Light & Power at 1-800-286-2000 (860-947-2000 in Hartford/Meriden).**

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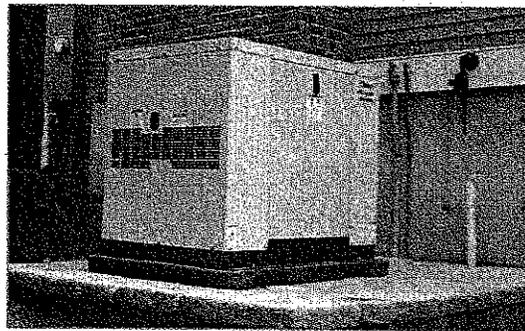
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## IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### Emergencies: 911

Police routine: 860-742-7331

#### Fire routine:

CVFA: 860-742-3510

NCFD: 860-742-1606

Shelter locations: 860-742-7331

Homelessness, fuel assistance, emergency food:  
860-742-5324

Power outages: 800-286-2000

Street flooding: 860-742-6588

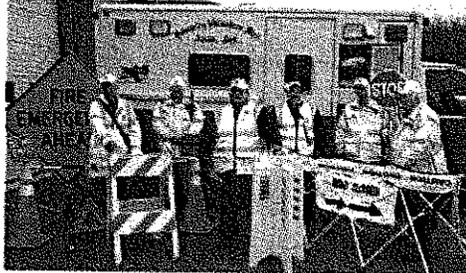
Public health problems:  
860-742-4065

## Home Guide To Emergency Preparedness : Preparing a Plan for Emergency Events

Dear Coventry Resident:

Every citizen of Coventry should understand what to do if an emergency event occurs in their community. Your safety will depend on being alert, knowing what to do, when to stay in your home and when to go to a shelter, what to do with your family pet, and how to get up-to-date information on the emergency.

There are many emergencies that can impact Coventry. The most common are winter storms, power outages, flooding and hazardous materials incidents. Every emergency including very serious ones, such as terrorist acts and plane crashes, involve the same basic planning for your protection. This Emergency Operations Guide for the community provides information on what action will be taken by town officials to ensure your safety. Please sign up for Coventry Alerts at [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org).



If you have any questions, I can be reached at town hall at (860) 742-6324 or by email at [JElsesser@coventryct.org](mailto:JElsesser@coventryct.org).

John Elsesser, Town Manager

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# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

## COVENTRY'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

In the event of a town-wide emergency, police, fire & emergency medical personnel will be called to duty to provide for your protection. Also, public health, public works, transportation, schools and volunteer organizations will be mobilized to carry out their missions.

You will be advised of the nature of the emergency and the steps you will need to take to ensure your safety. This information would be broadcast over radio stations. WTIC-AM(1080 AM) and WTIC-FM (96.5 FM) , WILI ( 98.1 FM) as well as cable television channels 13(Coventry Community Television) and 17 (Coventry Education).

The CTAlert and/or Coventry Alert Reverse Notification systems may also be used to call your house, or if you have registered, send e-mails, text messages or call your cell phone.

If evacuation is ordered, you will be advised where to go and what to bring. In many cases, sheltering in place (your home or place of employment) will be the safest method.

Consider going to a friend's or relative's house before going to a shelter. Persons with severe medical conditions are advised to shelter in place, if possible. The Coventry Town Hall is used for small emergencies and Coventry High School is used for large disasters. Shut off water and electricity before leaving your home, if instructed to do so. Lock your home. Take your pets, your disaster supply kit and use travel routes specified by local authorities.

## CREATING YOUR OWN PLAN

Create an emergency communication plan. Choose an out-of-town contact your family will call or e-mail to check on each other.

Establish a meeting place. Having a known meeting place away from your home will save time and confusion should your home be affected or the area evacuated.

Assemble your disaster supply kit and keep it with you (see Emergency Preparedness Kit below).

Keep your family vehicle full of fuel.

Check the supplies and rethink your needs every year.

## PREPARING YOUR HOME FOR AN EMERGENCY

Planning for any emergency requires considering all likely scenarios that could result when things that you rely on daily, like electricity, water, heat, air conditioning, telephone service and transportation, are disrupted or lost for a considerable amount of time.

Consequently, you should plan on having food, water and other essentials to get you through the emergency. Most emergency management planners suggest having enough supplies to last you and your family for three-to-five days for weather-related events. However, many things may impact your decision, including storage space, special needs, number of people in the household and available resources.

## YOUR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT

The seven basic items that should be stored in your home are water, food, first-aid supplies, clothing and bedding, tools, emergency supplies, medications and specialty items. Keep a sufficient supply of daily medications. Keep the items that you would most likely need at home in one easy-to-carry container such as a trash can, camping back-pack or duffel bag. Store it in a convenient place and put a smaller version in your car. Keep items in airtight plastic bags. Remember to change the stored water and rotate the food supplies every six months (place dates on containers).

Check the supplies and re-think your needs every year. Consult your physician or pharmacist about storing prescription medications, and maintain a list of your prescription needs.



### WATER

Store water in plastic containers or purchase bottled water, avoiding containers that will decompose or break, such as glass bottles. Plan for one gallon of water per person per day. Water should be stored in a cool, dark place with the date labeled on the container. Do not store tap water.

### FOOD

Store a supply of three-to-five days worth of nonperishable food per person. Foods should require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking and little or no water. Examples include: ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits and vegetables; canned or boxed juices, milk and soup; condiments such as sugar, salt and pepper; high-energy food like peanut butter, jelly, low-sodium crackers, granola bars and trail mix; vitamins; foods for infants or persons on special diets; cookies, hard candy, instant coffee and sweetened cereals. Bulk food items such as wheat, powdered milk, corn and soybeans can be stored for long periods of time.

### FIRST-AID KIT

Assemble a first-aid kit for your home and each vehicle. Items should include sterile adhesive bandages in assorted sizes, gauze pads, hypoallergenic adhesive tape, triangular bandages, sterile roller bandages,

Store a supply of 3 to 5 days worth of non-perishable food per person.

Assemble a first-aid kit for your home and each vehicle.

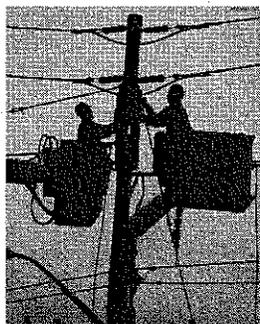
scissors, tweezers, needle, moistened towelettes, antiseptic, thermometer, tongue blades, tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant, safety pins, cleansing soap, latex gloves and sunscreen. Also, aspirin, anti-diarrhea medication and laxatives.

## TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

Keep the following items handy for all-around use: extra batteries of assorted sizes (check shelf life before purchasing), mess kits or paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, battery-operated radio, flashlight, carbon monoxide and smoke detectors, medicine dropper, whistle, plastic sheeting and local map. For sanitation, pack toilet paper, soap and liquid detergent, feminine supplies, plastic garbage bags with ties, a plastic bucket and lid, disinfectant and house-hold chlorine bleach.

## PUBLIC EMERGENCY SHELTERS

When conditions warrant, Coventry's Emergency Management Team may establish community-based shelters where residents can seek refuge, as well as to sleep and eat. Coventry Town Hall would be used for small emergencies and Coventry High School would be used in large disasters. Call 742-7331 to check. Coventry CERT members and the Department of Human Services, assisted by the Connecticut chapter of the American Red Cross, staffs and operates the shelters. Persons needing a shelter are asked to bring a change of clothing, bathing and sanitary supplies, pre-filled prescription and other medical needs, denture and eye care materials, and special dietary supplies or requirements. With the exception of guide dogs, pets will be sheltered separately. Consider going to a friend's or relative's house before going to a shelter.



energized. If downed lines are located, don't go near them or touch anything that they may be in contact with. Report downed power lines immediately.

## WHAT TO DO WHEN ELECTRICAL POWER IS LOST

Disruption of electrical service can occur as a result of many things, including lightning, high winds, ice and heavy snow, and equipment failure. For the most part, service is normally restored within a short period. However, major power outages can happen for extended periods from time to time. When power is lost, you should: **Check to see if your neighbors have power.** It may be only in your home, a blown fuse or a tripped circuit. If your neighbors are also without service, call Northeast Utilities at 860-947-2000. If you must go outside to assess the situation, take a flashlight and watch for downed power lines that could still be

## Shelter Locations

To find out if the town has activated its shelters, call 860-742-7331.

If prolonged power outages warrant the opening of shelters, they would be most likely located at:

### Small emergencies:

Coventry Town Hall,  
1712 Main Street

### Large disasters:

Coventry High School,  
Ripley Hill Rd.

**TREES** are the primary cause of power outages in Coventry.



Power companies have regularly scheduled programs for trimming trees. When planting and/or trimming trees on your property, always seek professional help in trimming limbs or branches that are close to power lines.

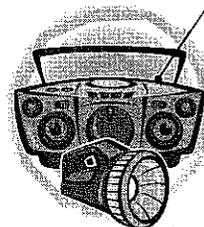
## TURN OFF ALL MAJOR APPLIANCES

Leave just a couple of light switches on in the home & the front porch light. When major appliances (refrigerators, electric water heaters, air conditioners & pumps) are left on, they could overload electric lines when power is restored causing a second outage.

**Keep refrigerators & freezers closed.** Food can be kept cold enough for a day or two, if the doors are kept closed. During the winter, you may be able to store some items outside in a proper container. If temperatures are below freezing, it's possible to freeze water outside in containers and place them inside your refrigerator to help keep food cold. Try to consume perishable foods first. Some partially frozen foods can be refrozen as long as they contain ice crystals or are no warmer than 40° Fahrenheit. Consider purchasing a thermometer for both the refrigerator and freezer. Don't refreeze seafood, poultry, ice cream, cream sauces or anything susceptible to spoilage. When in doubt, throw it out.

During times of prolonged outages, your power company may provide dry ice at a designated location; bring an ice cooler or suitable container to transport it back home. As a rule of thumb, 25 pounds of dry ice will keep a 10-cubic-foot freezer at the proper temperature (32° F) for three to four days.

**Use flashlights or battery-operated lanterns** to illuminate your home. Candles and kerosene lanterns are not recommended for lighting because of the inherent fire safety hazards.



## PORTABLE EMERGENCY GENERATORS

Use portable emergency generator for limited electrical power during an outage. But, take care to ensure that they do not pose a threat to you and your family. Never fuel or run a portable generator in the home or garage, as gas-powered generators pose a serious fire and carbon monoxide threat. Generators should be installed by a licensed electrician in compliance with Northeast Utilities' guidelines to ensure the generator is equipped with a double-throw transfer switch that protects your equipment and prevents feedback on power lines. Always operate according to the manufacturer's instructions. For additional information on the proper use of emergency generators, call Northeast Utilities at (800) 286-2000.

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

## OTHER SYSTEMS

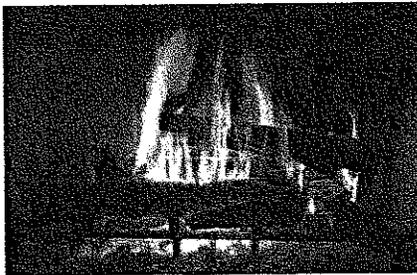
**Water Systems with Electric Pumps:** such as wells or cisterns will not operate when the power is out. Use alternative sources of water until power is restored.

**Propane Gas Appliances** may not work if the electricity is off because the equipment may require electricity for ignition or valve operation.

**Water Heaters** that are drained to prevent damage from freezing must have their power circuit shut off as well. Failure to do so could result in loss of the heating element when power is restored. Never turn on a water heater unless the tank is full.

**Plumbing** can freeze when power is lost during cold weather periods. Drain pumps, supply lines, water heaters, boilers and traps in drains of tubs, sinks, commodes, dishwashers and washing machines. To avoid flooding when temperatures rise, turn off supply lines to outside spigots.

**Life support equipment** required for family members who depend on these devices (respirators, ventilators, oxygen equipment or other life-sustaining devices) should be listed with Coventry Human Services—860-742-5324 and the power company, with your doctor's approval. You should have a contingency plan that includes an alternate power source for the device and an alternate location for the person.



## KEEPING WARM

Select a single room in the home in which the entire family can live; ideally a room which gets sunlight during daylight hours. Use fireplaces and wood-burning stoves with care and always supervise them when burning.

Make sure the fireplace is in proper working condition and has been inspected before use. Wear layers of clothing, including hats, sweaters and coats, which entrap warm air and helps to maintain body heat for longer periods.

For homes with propane heaters, keep vents clear of ice and snow. Do not attempt to keep warm in a vehicle.

## KEEPING UPDATED ON AN EMERGENCY

Getting information during an emergency situation is vital, especially at the height of the event, when evacuation may be required.

Keep a battery-operated radio handy. Town emergency information will be broadcast over radio stations, WTIC-AM (1080 AM) and WTIC-FM (96.5 FM), (WILI 98.1 FM) as well as cable television channels 13 (Coventry Munivision), 17 (Coventry Education) and Coventry Alerts.

Make sure to register for Coventry Alerts so we can notify you by phone, e-mail or text message of emergencies and up-dates as the event progresses. You can sign up at the home page of the Town website, [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org).

## CHECK ON RELATIVES AND NEIGHBORS

During storms and other emergency events, check to see how your relatives and neighbors are coping, especially senior citizens and persons with

## Web Sites

### Coventry

[www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org)

### Northeast Utilities

[www.nu.com](http://www.nu.com)

### Connecticut Light & Power

<http://www.cl-p.com/outage/OutageMap.aspx>

### Connecticut Natural Gas

[www.ctcorp.com](http://www.ctcorp.com)

### Cable: Charter Communications

[www.charter.com](http://www.charter.com)

### AT&T

[www.att.com](http://www.att.com)

### State of Connecticut

[www.state.ct.us](http://www.state.ct.us) [www.ctalert.gov](http://www.ctalert.gov)

### American Red Cross

[www.ctredcross.org](http://www.ctredcross.org)

### Federal Emergency Management Association

[www.fema.org](http://www.fema.org) [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

### Eastern Highlands Health District

[www.ehhd.org](http://www.ehhd.org)

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# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

disabilities. If possible, consider helping them plan or locate resources for assistance. The Coventry Human Services Office can be reached at 860-742-5324.

## WHAT TO DO FOR PETS IN EMERGENCIES

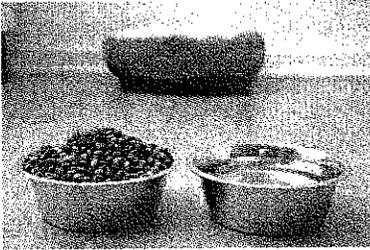
Emergency planning should include all members of the family, including pets. If your family must relocate to a shelter or other site, confine your pet (if appropriate) to a specific room in the house and provide plenty of food and water to sustain the animal while you are away. If possible, arrange for someone to board the animal, or locate a relative or friend who can check on its well being on a regular basis. If you place a dog or cat in a kennel, make sure that the facility meets all requirements for long-term care and has an adequate disaster plan, itself.

## PET DISASTER KIT

Put together a basic disaster kit for your pets, in case you must leave your residence quickly. Recommended items would include:

- An airline-approved carrier for each dog or cat, or other pets, with ID, photo, vaccination records, registrations, special needs list, sufficient medicines and a muzzle/leash.
- An extra supply of pet food (for dogs, a lower protein dog formula will produce less stool, a benefit when kept in-doors).
- Plenty of clean water.
- Bowls (disposable containers if you must leave your residence), can opener, kitchen trash bags, bleach (disinfectant and water purification), blankets, towels, paper towels, and other waste disposal supplies.

For more information on emergency preparedness for pets, call the Connecticut Humane Society at 860-594-4502, or the Humane Society of the United States at 202-452-1100.



## Safety Notes

Never use gas ovens or stovetops to heat homes; also charcoal or propane grills should not be used inside the home.

They pose a serious threat of fire and creation of poisonous carbon monoxide.

Kerosene heaters should always be used in a well-ventilated room, and never refueled inside the home or in an attached garage.

When removing ashes from the fireplace, make sure that the ashes have been cooled and are placed in a metal container outside and away from the home.

Emergency Preparedness Guide

Town of Coventry

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