

Maryland Emergency Operations Plan

Purpose

The purpose of the Maryland Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is to outline an approach and designate responsibilities intended to minimize the consequences of any disaster or emergency situation in which there is a need for state assistance.

Scope

The Maryland EOP reflects a broad organizational approach for all hazards that affect the state and for most response scenarios. The State of Maryland is subject to hazards that could precipitate a disaster. This includes natural hazards such as droughts, floods, hurricanes, and winter storms; and technological hazards such as transportation accidents, pipeline ruptures, and radiological contamination.

Organization

The Maryland EOP is organized into four main sections including the Basic Plan, Response Annex, Recovery Annex, and the Appendices.

Basic Plan

The Basic Plan explains the purpose of the Maryland EOP, the situation and assumptions, and the concept of operations that defines the central tasks that the state will seek to accomplish during most response operations.

Response Annex

The Response Annex is comprised of 16 emergency support functions (ESFs). The emergency support functions outline the principal framework under which each ESF will operate, including the purpose, scope, and operating principles.

Maryland EOP Emergency Support Functions

- Transportation;
- Communications;
- Public Works and Engineering;
- Firefighting;
- Information and Planning;
- Mass Care and Sheltering;
- Resource Support;
- Health and Medical Services;
- Search and Rescue;
- Hazardous Materials;
- Food;
- Utilities and Energy;
- Law Enforcement;
- Debris Management;
- Donations Management; and



- Animal Protection.

Recovery Annex

The Recovery Annex outlines and coordinates the principal programs and services available to support communities following a significant emergency or disaster event. Recovery efforts entail those operations or actions intended to assist a community or region regain its normal appearance and functionality after an event. Potential operations include: re-connecting telephone lines, re-establishing electric and gas services, conducting damage assessments, restoring water treatment facilities, repairing roads and bridges, and helping eligible victims apply for relief funds.

Appendices

The EOP includes four appendices: military support, public information, business continuity, and administration.

A brief overview of each ESF for the Maryland EOP is described below.

Emergency Support Function #1—Transportation

Primary Agency: Department of Transportation

The purpose of ESF #1 is to coordinate the use of transportation resources and services necessary to support emergency response or recovery operations or other disaster assistance initiatives. Transportation support entails providing or utilizing land, air, rail, or water crafts, or other resources, for emergency response or assistance operations, as well as coordinating the use of the resources to facilitate an effective, efficient, and appropriate result. Potential operations include: providing resources or personnel that aid traffic control, relocation, and evacuation efforts; monitoring restricted air space (in cooperation with the Federal Government); conducting damage assessments; performing aerial reconnaissance or photography; transporting patients or medical professionals; conducting ice-breaking operations on navigable waters; and restoring state roads, bridges, and transit systems or establishing similar temporary structures.

Emergency Support Function #2—Communications

Primary Agency: Department of Budget and Management

The purpose of ESF #2 is to coordinate the use of communications resources and services necessary to support emergency response or recovery operations or other disaster assistance initiatives. Communications support includes providing land-line, modem, cellular, and radio assistance or resources for emergency response or assistance missions, as well as coordinating the use of resources to facilitate an effective, efficient, and appropriate result. Potential operations include: receiving and transmitting messages, issuing alert and warning messages or notifications, ensuring technical support and equipment exists that enable functional statewide communications systems, implementing lease agreements for commercial services or equipment, and identifying

government or private sources that can render communications assistance from outside the affected area.

Emergency Support Function #3—Public Works and Engineering

Primary Agency: Department of General Services

The purpose of ESF #3 is to coordinate public works activities necessary to support an emergency response or recovery effort or other disaster assistance initiative. Public Works and Engineering support includes providing engineering, construction management, and building inspection services, providing contracting services, and performing real estate services. Potential operations include: construction or restoration of public buildings, repair or restoration of public structures, repair or restoration of water supply systems and wastewater or solid waste treatment facilities, emergency demolition or stabilization of public facilities or structures, and damage assessments or inspection of damaged buildings and facilities.

Emergency Support Function #4—Firefighting

Primary Agency: Department of Natural Resources

The purpose of ESF #4 is to coordinate fire detection and suppression resources and services necessary to support an emergency response or recovery effort or other disaster assistance initiative. Firefighting support entails managing firefighting activities in wildlands or forests and providing personnel, equipment, and supplies for emergency response or assistance operations when such resources can be useful in urban firefighting operations. Potential operations include: performing fire suppression operations, providing ship-borne water delivery capability, providing supplemental resources to jurisdictions, and conducting damage assessments.

Emergency Support Function #5—Information and Planning

Primary Agency: Maryland Emergency Management Agency

The purpose of ESF #5 is to coordinate the effort to collect, assemble, analyze, and disseminate information about an emergency and the necessary response and recovery operations, particularly to facilitate the provision of disaster assistance. Information and Planning support includes collecting, processing, and disseminating information to state, local, and private officials involved in emergency response and recovery operations, as well as the Federal Government when federal representatives are involved in response and recovery activities. Potential operations include: obtaining damage assessments from affected jurisdictions, gathering data and information and developing reports, collecting deployment information from ESF teams, producing status reports, and creating strategic operations plans.

Emergency Support Function #6—Mass Care and Sheltering

Primary Agency: Department of Human Resources

The purpose of ESF #6 is to coordinate the effort to meet the basic needs of surviving victims following a disaster, as well as to collect, assemble, and report information about victims and assist with reunification of families. Mass Care and Sheltering support includes providing temporary shelter, basic medical care, and food to victims and their families, as well as assisting families in their efforts to reunite. Potential operations include: providing food to responders and emergency workers; administering basic medical care; providing vouchers for clothes and certain other expenses; offering counseling to surviving victims; managing temporary shelters and keeping shelter records; serving meals to displaced families or individuals; operating a Disaster Welfare Inquiry program; and collecting damage assessment information.

Emergency Support Function #7—Resource Support

Primary Agency: Department of General Services

The purpose of ESF #7 is to obtain and coordinate supplemental resources and perform logistical operations necessary to support an emergency response or recovery effort or other disaster assistance initiative. Resource support includes providing or obtaining goods or services and executing logistical or administrative activities for emergency response operations, as well as coordinating the use of the resources to facilitate an effective, efficient, and appropriate result. Potential operations include: procuring equipment or supplies, leasing temporary office space or mobile office units, performing printing or photographic reproduction services, and initiating contracting agreements.

Emergency Support Function #8—Health and Medical Services

Primary Agency: Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

The purpose of ESF #8 is to coordinate the provision of medical care and the dissemination of public health information necessary to support an emergency response or recovery effort or other disaster assistance initiative. Health and Medical support includes coordinating health and medical professionals and their disposition of care and treatment, as well as managing medical supplies and resources, to facilitate an effective, efficient, and appropriate result. Potential operations include: identifying health hazards; disseminating public health information; managing vector control; conducting triage and providing treatment; operating field hospitals; controlling patient loads at hospitals; importing medicines, medical professionals, or supplies into the affected area; establishing temporary morgues; performing forensic examinations and completing victim identifications; coordinating mortuary services and the disposition of remains; offering crisis counseling; and organizing disaster assistance teams.

Emergency Support Function #9—Search and Rescue

Primary Agency: Department of Maryland State Police

The purpose of ESF #9 is to coordinate search and rescue resources and services necessary to support an emergency response effort. Search and Rescue support includes locating, extricating, and providing immediate medical treatment to missing persons or victims trapped in collapsed structures, and retrieving deceased victims from otherwise inaccessible locations. Potential operations include: conducting water and wilderness searches; searching for victims of mine failures and building-collapse incidents; and performing underwater recovery operations.

Emergency Support Function #10—Hazardous Materials

Primary Agency: Department of the Environment

The purpose of ESF #10 is to coordinate the resources and services necessary to support an emergency response or recovery effort essential to the remediation of conditions caused by toxic chemical or hazardous material release. Hazardous Materials support includes confining or containing accidental releases of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes and taking actions that mitigate the effects of the leak. Potential operations include: suppressing chemical fires, conducting soil tests or collecting air samples, constructing stabilizing berms or other barriers, applying retardant materials, collecting concentrated supplies of hazardous materials, removing contaminated soil, and decontaminating a site or individual.

Emergency Support Function #11—Food

Primary Agency: Department of Agriculture

The purpose of ESF #11 is to coordinate the effort to provide bulk food resources necessary to support an emergency response or recovery effort or other disaster assistance initiative. Food support includes identifying sources of food supplies, obtaining food resources, and arranging to transport food to designated staging sites in the affected area. Potential operations include: researching governmental food programs and stockpiles, negotiating with food suppliers, developing a food procurement strategy, organizing a food transportation plan, coordinating with private and volunteer groups, analyzing staging sites, and establishing a temporary food assistance program.

Emergency Support Function #12—Utilities and Energy

Primary Agencies: Maryland Energy Administration, Public Service Commission

The purpose of ESF #12 is to provide a liaison to the utility and energy industries to facilitate a coordinated restoration of electric, gas, and commodity fuels, as well as energy delivery systems in affected areas. Utilities and Energy support includes communicating with providers, coordinating restoration strategies, and reviewing emergency plans. Potential operations include: coordinating restoration plans, implementing rationing measures, allocating fuel resources, coordinating delivery

schedules with wholesale providers, locating supplemental resources and arranging for distribution or delivery, and participating in damage assessment operations.

Emergency Support Function #13—Law Enforcement

Primary Agency: Department of Maryland State Police

The purpose of ESF #13 is to coordinate the deployment and activities of law enforcement units when multiple agencies respond to a disaster site or in an emergency operation. Law Enforcement support entails deployment of uniformed personnel to assist local forces in field operations to ensure security, maintain stability and order within communities, and otherwise guard the public safety. Potential operations include: establishing perimeter security at an incident site, restricting air traffic, managing traffic patterns, patrolling communities, implementing protective action orders, and apprehending offenders.

Emergency Support Function #14—Debris Management

Primary Agency: Department of the Environment

The purpose of ESF #14 is to coordinate the collection and disposal of debris after a disaster event. Debris Management support entails removing debris from public property and rights-of-way, enabling vehicle access and re-instituting traffic patterns, minimizing health risks that might result from disaster debris, and disposing of debris in the most efficient, effective, and permissible manner. Debris Management activities include: conducting damage assessments, clearing roadway systems and waterways, implementing mutual aid agreements, establishing and maintaining temporary storage sites, coordinating contractors, deploying volunteers, segregating debris and isolating power and other utility lines, establishing and managing disposal sites, demolishing condemned property, disseminating guidance to the public, and monitoring operations and sites for compliance with state and federal regulations.

Emergency Support Function #15—Donations Management

Primary Agency: Maryland Emergency Management Agency

The purpose of ESF #15 is to establish an efficient and effective statewide process for receiving, sorting, and distributing donated resources and goods to victims following a disaster. Donations Management support entails coordinating a system that receives and distributes freely offered goods and services, and matching them with victims who demonstrate a need. Donations Management activities include: providing guidance to citizens, managing a tele-registration and database system, establishing collection facilities, creating a system to sort and distribute donated items, and storing donated resources until they are needed.

Emergency Support Function #16—Animal Protection

Primary Agency: Maryland Department of Agriculture

The purpose of ESF #16 is to establish a program that ensures the care and sheltering needs of domestic pets and livestock are met following a disaster or animal health emergency. Animal Protection includes educating pet owners and the farm community about emergency preparedness, disseminating guidance to animal owners, and coordinating medical and shelter arrangements. Potential operations include: rescuing stray and abandoned animals, tracking occupancies at boarding facilities, coordinating the emergency provision of essential medical supplies and drugs, organizing the participation of animal relief organizations in response and recovery, establishing temporary shelters, ensuring adequate supplies of food are available at boarding facilities and temporary shelters, and providing grief counseling to victims whose animals are lost, injured, or killed.

A brief description of the appendices to the Maryland EOP is described below.

Appendix A—Military Support

The purpose of Appendix A is to coordinate the deployment and use of military forces and equipment in support of emergency operations conducted by the State of Maryland. Military Support entails providing resources, personnel, and equipment in support of efforts undertaken by individual agencies or by ESF teams.

Appendix B—Public Information

The purpose of Appendix B is to coordinate the collection of accurate data and information and the timely dissemination of information and guidance to the public before, during, and after a disaster or emergency event. Public Information support entails summarizing essential data and facts from briefings, reports, and announcements and sharing that material with the public and media, as well as coordinating the dissemination of alert, advisory, or informational messages.

Appendix C—Business Continuity

To be developed

Appendix D—Administration

Appendix D describes the agreements and understandings surrounding this Plan and the financial management policies supporting it.