



Welcome to Learning Objective 16 Shelter.

By now in week 10 you have just about completed your Emergency Action Plan.

You will have noticed that by now you are accessing information presented in prior Learning Objectives.

Learning Objective 16 is no different. It is a natural progression from Learning Objective 15 Evacuation.

In this learning objective you will be accessing information from;

Risk Management

Rally Points

Communications

Food & Water

And

First Aid

My family needs to seek protection now.

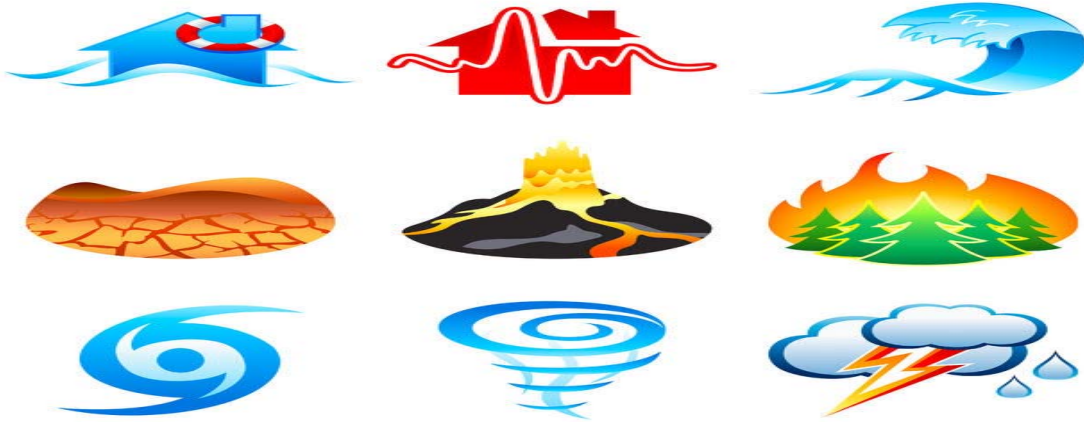


Taking shelter is critical in times of disaster.

Sheltering is appropriate when conditions require that you seek protection in your home, place of employment, or other location where you are, when disaster strikes.

Sheltering outside the hazard area would include staying with friends and relatives, seeking commercial lodging, staying in a mass care facility, or camping out is a safe location.

Current hazard conditions require that we seek a place that is safe



To effectively shelter, you must first consider the hazard and then choose a place in your home or other building that is safe for that hazard. For example, for a tornado, a room should be selected that is in a basement or an interior room on the lowest level away from corners, windows, doors and outside walls.

Because the safest locations to seek shelter vary by hazard, sheltering is discussed in the various hazard sections of the FEMA "Are you Ready" handbook. It is in your best interest to review the necessary material for the hazards that you identified during the hazard identification phase of this workshop. Week Two Learning Objective Four.

These discussions include recommendations for sealing the shelter if the hazards warrants this type of protection.

What are the options available to you?



What are the options available to you?

You have several.

Shelter in Place

Local Friends and Family

Mass Care Facilities (Public Shelters)

Commercial Lodging

Out of Town Friends or Family

Camping Out in your back yard or a suitable county or state camping facility.

Make the right decision while remaining flexible



Now is the time to research the available options.

Identify the courses of actions you should or would take.

Make a decision and stick with it.



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Keep in mind. If the facility you are choosing to shelter in has structural damage it may not be safe to inhabit.

The hazards you may face besides the total collapse of the building may include, fire because of escaping gas from ruptured gas lines, electrical hazards due to broken and disconnected wiring, puncture and wound hazards because of broken glass and debris.

Remember the five steps of the risk management process that we reviewed in week three learning objective number five.

The five steps of Risk Management are;

Step 1—Identify the hazards.

Step 2—Assess the hazards.

Step 3—Develop controls and make risk decisions.

Step 4—Implement controls.

Step 5—Supervise and evaluate.

I have continued to beat the Risk Management process into you throughout this training. It is an ongoing process that cannot be forgotten, neglected or done later.

What if you neglected the Risk Management process and someone near and dear to you was critically injured or killed because of something that could have been prevented. No amount of wooda, coulda, or shoulda will change the outcome because of your failure to follow the risk management process.

24-hour safety and radio watch



During Sheltering;

Part of your ongoing risk management plan is that someone should always be on watch observing for immediate hazards or dangers and listening to the identified news station for updates to the situation.

Where you are at during the onset of the disaster



Sheltering at the location you are when the disaster or emergency presents itself, will usually depend on the nature of the disaster.

This Could be your home, work, school, or the mall.

A tornado warning will usually require you to stay in place and seek shelter in the safest place possible until the tornado warning has lifted, at which time you can then assess the situation and evacuate yourself as needed.

Bring your supplies



I am going to mention at the very beginning of this learning objective.

If you must evacuate your home to seek safe shelter, you must bring your supplies.

Failure to do so will cause un-needed stress and expenditures, and could cause unnecessary harm to yourself and your loved ones..

Food & Water



You should be managing your food and water store's.

Week six you reviewed the needs and downloaded a three day shopping plan.

By now you should have secured up to week five of the list.

What else do you want me to say. You need food and water to survive.

Clothing, Bedding & Tools



It will be advisable to bring necessary clothing, bedding and any tools that may be needed while you are sheltering away from your home.

These will be covered in following learning objectives.

Having familiar items can sometimes relieve the stress of the situation.

Medical



As noted in several places during the Emergency Action Planning workshop. Your medical needs need to be attended to ASAP.

You may be the only first responder available for some time.

Besides your basic and advanced First Aid kits you should have;

Additional eyeglasses and/or contacts

90 day supply of prescription medications

Any additional medical devices needed for special needs individuals.

Such as Hearing aides and batteries

Shelter at Home



Home is where the heart is.

If possible it is recommend to shelter in place at home.

Ideally we would like to stay in a place that we are familiar with.

Home tends to meet that requirement, in our home we have access to personal items clothing food supplies water etc.

Staying in the home of local family, friend or neighbor



However if your home is destroyed or no longer safe to inhabit, it would be prudent to extract yourself to a new location such as a local family, friend or neighbor's house that you have made a predetermined sheltering agreement with.

Bring your supplies



If you must evacuate your home to seek safe shelter, you must bring your supplies.

Food & Water



You should be managing your food and water store's.

You should bring a minimum of three days food and water., this is your basic plan.

More will be better seven days, 14???

Clothing, Bedding & Tools



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24-hour safety and radio watch



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How about a publicly accessible facility



Publicly accessible facilities for sheltering purposes have three basic categories.

Hotels and Motels

Mass Care Facilities (Public Shelters)

Public Campsites

Mass Care Facilities



Even though mass care shelters often provide water, food, medicine, and basic sanitary facilities, you should plan to take your disaster supplies kit with you so you will have the supplies you require.

Mass care sheltering can involve living with many people in a confined space, which can be difficult and unpleasant.

To avoid conflicts in this stressful situation, it is important to cooperate with shelter managers and others assisting them.

Keep in mind that alcoholic beverages and weapons are forbidden in emergency shelters and smoking is restricted.

Do not allow anyone to wander off. Stay in teams of two at a minimum regardless of where or why you are going.

Bring your supplies



You must bring your supplies.

Do not bring these into a public shelter



Alcoholic beverages and weapons are forbidden in emergency shelters and smoking is restricted.

If you feel so threatened that you need weapons in a public shelter to feel safe, do not go there. Go some place that you will be safe.

Pets



Do you have pets?

Research your county for mass care facilities that accept pets.

More often than not you will need to register with this facility prior to arriving.

Be honest with the kind of pets you plan on bringing into the facility.

Do not be that guy who has to five boa constrictors you want to drag in there, they will not let you in.

Household pets do not include reptiles (except turtles), amphibians, fish, insects/arachnids, farm animals (including horses), and animals kept for racing purposes

Pet Peacocks may be stretching it also.

Medical needs



Some counties have mass care shelters that are intended to assist people who have chronic health issues.

If you are responsible for somebody who has chronic ongoing medical issues that will need medical attention you should contact your office of emergency management, American Red Cross, local hospitals anybody that manages your local shelters and determine if facilities will be available to you.

If they will not be available to you then you will need to make arrangements to attend to this individual's needs by other means.

24-hour safety and radio watch



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Commercial Lodging



If you decide to go this route prior-planning will be valuable.

You will not be the only family wanting lodging.

Do you have pets? Will they allow access?

Pre-paying for lodging may be the only way to secure a room during an emergency situation. Keep in mind that if you do not show up on time the room may be given away and you may lose the deposit. Stay in contact.

Map X your route of travel. Identify possible locations that you may need to stop at. Call the facilities and determine their requirements.

This may be just a stop over while in route to another location or the shelter you plan on staying in until you can return home or move on.

Bring your supplies



You must bring your supplies.

Commercial Lodging facilities are notorious for the costs of food and beverages.

Road trip, were going to be staying with Auntie J



If you choose to go to an out of town shelter.

Inform the POC at your destination of your route, the number of vehicles to include year, make, model, and license plate number for each vehicle in your party.

Identify by name who is coming and what vehicle they are in.

If you are traveling with more than one vehicle, now will be the time to break out the alternate coms to stay in contact.

Do not become separated.

If you are traveling with more than one vehicle and one breaks down, you must be prepared to abandon the vehicle, load passengers and equipment in remaining vehicle and move on.

It is logistically better to travel with one good vehicle that you are confident will make the trip.

Bring your supplies



Bring your supplies.



As stated in Learning Objective 15 Evacuation. Traveling does pose risks.

Remember the five steps of the risk management process that we reviewed in week three learning objective number five.

The five steps of RM are—

Step 1—Identify the hazards.

Step 2—Assess the hazards.

Step 3—Develop controls and make risk decisions.

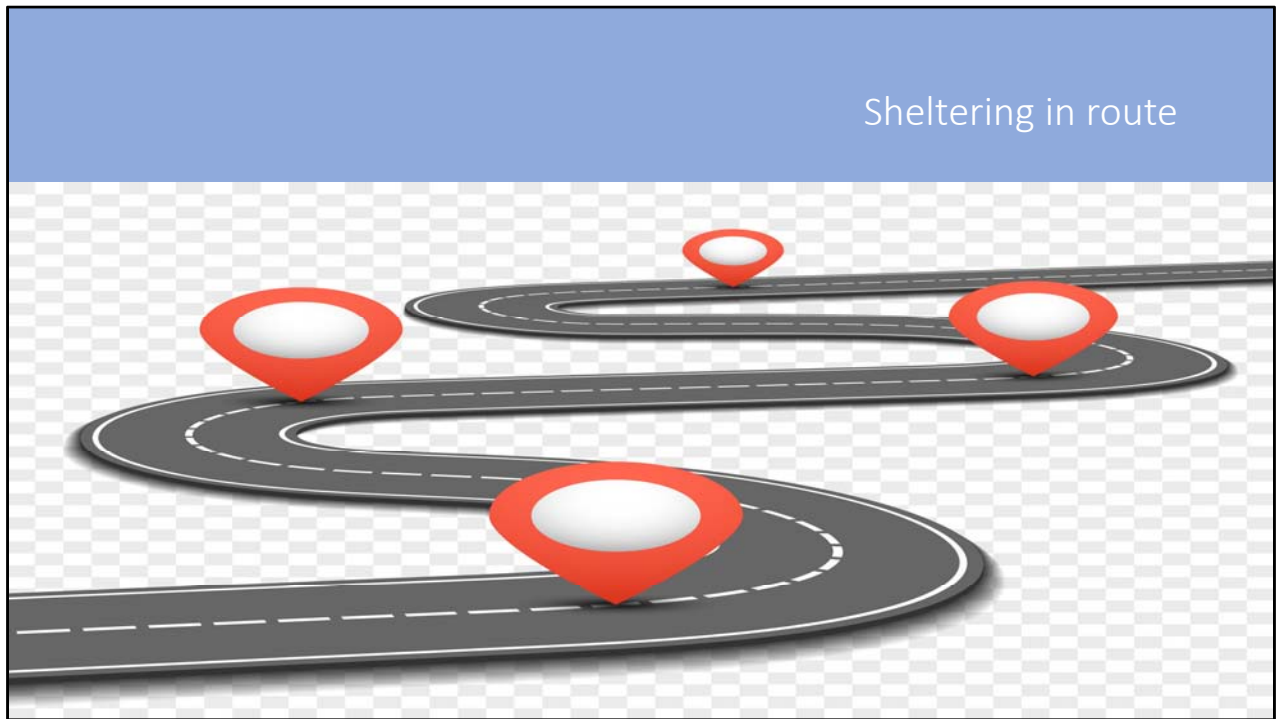
Step 4—Implement controls.

Step 5—Supervise and evaluate.

24-hour safety and radio watch



At a minimum, Someone should always be on watch observing for immediate hazards or dangers and listening to the identified news station for updates to the situation.



Keep in mind that you may need to shelter in route to your out of town location.

The farther you get away from the affected area, the more normal the world around you should become.

Practical Exercise



Because the safest locations to seek shelter vary by hazard, sheltering is discussed in the various hazard sections.

These discussions include recommendations for sealing the shelter if the hazards warrants this type of protection.

1. Identify the hazards you are preparing for and review them in the FEMA “Are you Ready” hand book. Make adjustments and preparations as needed.
2. Conduct a Map X to review your primary and secondary local shelter locations away from your house.
3. Conduct a Map X to review your primary and secondary out of town shelter locations
4. Make contact with your local and out of town friends or family and make clear arrangements for future consideration.
5. Pick a weekend. Turn off the power and the phones and conduct a shelter in place exercise using the materials you have prepared for your emergency action plan.
6. Practice packing your vehicle for movement to an alternate shelter site.
7. Go to the alternate shelter site. Unpack the vehicle and find out what you forgot.

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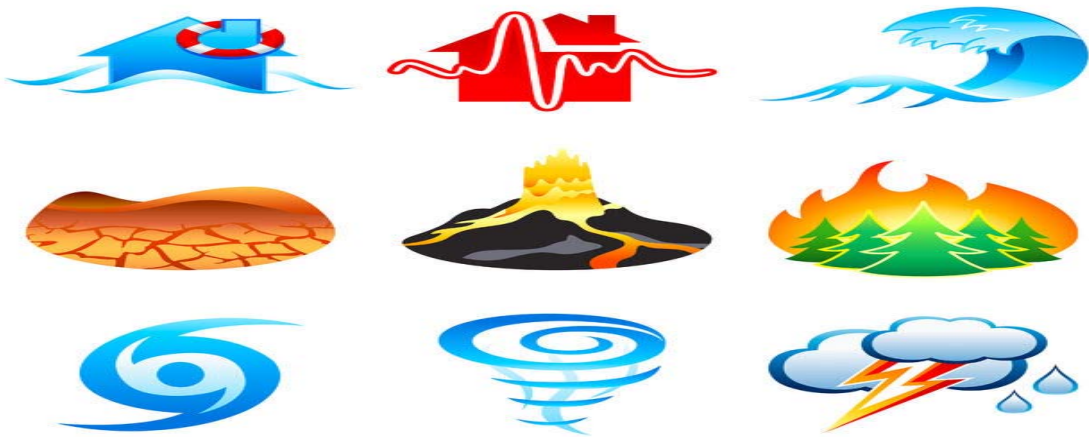


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Now is the time to research the available options.

Identify the courses of actions you will take.

Make a decision and stick with it.

Questions?



If you have any questions or concerns, post them to the blog for review by myself and your cohort.

Or post your question to me at eapworkshop@emergencyactionplanning.com

