

The Role of a Partner Agencies in Emergency Management

“Our strength shines in our unity, our weakness shows when we are divided.”



Delaware County Emergency Management Agency puts a high value on our community partnerships. We believe in taking a whole community approach as we create, review, and update Delaware County plans. By working closely with our partner agencies, we can share an understanding of community needs and capabilities as a whole, thus improving our planning and training efforts.

We have many partner agencies which contribute to our planning, training and operational efforts. For example, if we have a power outage during extreme weather (very high or low temperatures), we may ask our partners to open a cooling/warming station, or possibly a full-blown shelter. Most likely, these would be faith-based groups or the Red Cross. We would work with those partners on what the needs of the community would be, what they can offer and how best to implement this information into a plan that would work for everyone.

Another example would be the need to evacuate an area due to flooding, hazardous materials spill, or other reasons. We would naturally work with partners such as EMS, fire departments and law enforcement, however, the role expands with the need to provide shelter, food other resources to the evacuees. We would then reach out to our partner agencies that we have included in our planning efforts. Some of those agencies include:

- Red Cross
- Salvation Army
- Faith-based groups
- Pet shelters
- Delaware General Health District
- Amateur radio operators
- Delaware Area Transit Agency (DATA)
- United Way
- People in Need
- ReStore
- Helpline 2-1-1/Connections
- Goodwill
- YMCA
- Local schools

Delaware County EMA continually updates, revises, and creates plans to meet the ever changing needs of the community. Public safety is our business, and we are proud to have the opportunity to bring new partners into the fold. The more we work together the more we benefit the community.