

Flood Response and Recovery

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The 2008 "500 Year" Flood



Response

Response starts with:

- Planning
- Assessing such as flood plain mapping
- Training
- Exercising
- Meeting and relationship building
- Resource mapping



Response

- In 2008 when departmental and organization resources were being overwhelmed the decision was made to open the Emergency Operations Center and a call center.




Response

Representatives in the EOC

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emergency Management• Red Cross & Salvation Army• Land Information• Sheriff's Department & Dispatch• Fire Department Liaison• Public Health Department• Hospital Representative• Human Services Departments | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• County Administrator• County Board Chair• Finance Committee Representative – need to approve expenditure limits in advance for response• Utilities• Wisconsin National Guard• City, Village and Township Representatives |
|--|---|

Public Information
and Outreach
Call logs to track number & nature of calls



Response
Trained Public Information Officer



Flooding in Fort Atkinson



National Guard Activated

Strategic staging of EMS on each side of closed roads



Response Information for Public Safety

Safety during the flood included:

- Need to evacuate, location of shelters, drinking water safety, electrical hazards, hazards in flood water
- Road closures and recommended safe routes
- Resources for help including contact information
- Sandbagging resources and sites
- First responder safety


Volunteers

- Many people want to volunteer (Spontaneous)
- Vetting
- Find a job for them or direct them to where they can help
- Liability issues
- Volunteer safety
- Needs such as training, food and breaks

Transportation Disrupted



Road Closures & Maps
Essential for Response



HAM Radio Operator Assesses

- ARES/RACES (HAM radio operators) assisted with communication
- Have capabilities to use drones for surveillance & damage assessment



Public Works Role Vital
Sandbagging at Highway Dept.



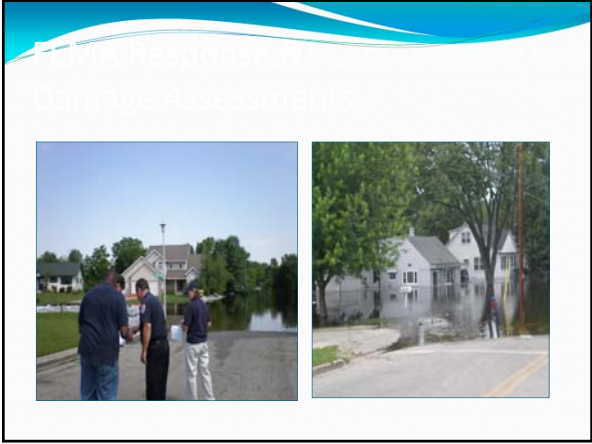


Flooding in Fort Atkinson












Food & Shelter Response

- American Red Cross and Salvation Army fed individuals affected by the flood, volunteers, city and county workers, EOC staff (if needed) and distributed clean up kits.

A white and red American Red Cross van with "Disaster Relief" written on the side, parked outdoors.

The image shows a white van with a red stripe along the bottom. On the side of the van, there is a red cross logo and the text "American Red Cross" and "Disaster Relief". The van is parked on a paved surface with trees in the background.

Response Activities by Partners

- 2 Volunteer Centers opened
- 2 Family Assistance Center
- 2 Red Cross shelters opened

Recovery Starts During Response

- Plan for debriefing and demobilization
- Anticipate clean-up and recovery needs
- Public information key:
 - Clean-up, debris & sandbag removal
 - Mold clean-up
 - Restoring utilities and electrical/gas safety
 - Water safety and well water testing
 - Food safety
 - Protecting vulnerable populations



Recovery

- Long Term Recovery (LTR) Committee assisted with counseling and provided for over \$625,000 in “Unmet Needs” grant funding.
- LTR committee and Unmet Needs subcommittee consisted of VOAD members – all volunteers, emergency management and public health. Provided many volunteer hours in getting services and funding out to those impacted by the flood.

Recovery Takes Years, Not Weeks



You will need additional resources and assistance in going through the recovery process.