

Town of Slaughter Beach, Delaware

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN



February 2019

**SLAUGHTER BEACH DE
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

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EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Town of Slaughter Beach Emergency Operations Plan (SBEOP) with its attachments is to provide the basis for a coordinated response operation before, during and after an emergency or disaster affecting the town of Slaughter Beach. The guidance contained in this plan is designed to develop a state of readiness for all conditions of emergency, including civil disorder, natural disasters or nuclear attack upon the United States. This plan also provides for the necessary coordination with Sussex County, the State of Delaware, and the Slaughter Beach Memorial Fire Company.

SCOPE

The Town of Slaughter Beach Emergency Operations Plan (SBEOP) provides a basis for preparing for and executing emergency operations to prevent, minimize, prepare for, respond to, and recover from injury or damage that may be caused by natural or technological disasters or enemy attack. The Town Council must also ensure the continuity of government operations during such disaster situations.

This plan pre-determines, to the extent possible, actions and interactions to be taken by the Town of Slaughter Beach, in conjunction with the Memorial Fire Company and cooperating agencies to prevent and minimize disasters. These actions include reduction of the vulnerability of its citizens to disasters, protection of life and property of citizens residing in Slaughter Beach as well as visitors to the Town, quick and effective response to disaster occurrences and the implementation of timely recovery actions.

DESIGN

This Plan has two principal components:

The Basic Plan: The Basic Plan provides an overview of the Emergency Operations organization and policies. It describes the overall approach to disaster operations and assigns responsibilities for emergency planning and operations. In general terms, it states WHO will do WHAT and WHEN they will do it.

Hazard-Specific: These Appendices provide guidance unique to a given hazard or situation.

POLICY STATEMENTS

Limitations: Due to the nature of emergency response, the outcome is not easy to predict. Therefore, it should be recognized that this plan is meant to serve as a **guideline** and that the outcome of the response may be limited by the scope, magnitude and duration of the event.

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Non-Discrimination: All local activities will be carried out in accordance with Federal nondiscrimination laws. It is the Town's policy that no service will be denied on the basis of race, religion, national origin, age, sex, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability.

REVIEW AND UPDATE

An update of this plan, including a review of SBEOC responsibilities and procedures, if required, will be conducted by the Town Council or its designated representative(s), as deemed necessary by the Mayor.

SITUATIONS

Hazards

The Town of Slaughter Beach is vulnerable to many of the hazards defined by the Sussex County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan 2016 Update. The hazards identified in the Sussex County plan are:

- Wildfire
- Winter Storms and Nor'easters
- Extreme Heat/Cold
- Flood
- Erosion
- Drought
- Thunderstorm- (Flooding/Straight-Line Winds)
- Tornado- (High Wind)
- Hurricane Wind- (Straight-Line Winds)
- Hail
- Earthquake/Geological
- Hazardous Materials Incident
- Pipeline Failure
- Terrorism
- Tsunami
- Dam/Levee Failure

Other existing hazards include:

- Drinking Water Contamination
- Power Failures
- Fixed Nuclear Facility Accident
- Oil spill accidents in the Delaware Bay

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CHARACTERISTICS OF SLAUGHTER BEACH

The Town of Slaughter Beach is bordered to the North by the Mispillion River, to the south and west by the Primehook National Wildlife Refuge, to the east by the Delaware Bay, and to the north by the Mispillion River; all of which makes Slaughter Beach especially vulnerable to storm surges, flooding and coastal storms.

Location (aviation coordinates): Latitude: 38.9125 Longitude: -75.30556

Topography: Slaughter Beach, like most of the state of Delaware, falls within the nearly level Atlantic Coastal Plain. The elevation ranges from sea level (zero feet) to approximately 14 feet, with the majority of land lying below five feet in elevation.

Size: 13,031 acres

Population: 207 (2010 Census data)

Note: The population during the peak tourist months, (June, July and August) increases to approximately 700 people.

Major Roadways: There are two major roadways that provide ingress and egress to the Town of Slaughter Beach. *Cedar Beach Road (Route 36)* provides northern ingress/egress from Route 1. *Slaughter Beach Road (Route 224)* provides southern ingress/egress from Route 1.

Waterways:

Delaware Bay: Slaughter Beach is bordered on the east by the Delaware Bay, which is vulnerable to storm surges, coastal storms and sea level rise. The Bay serves as a shipping lane for ocean going ships, transporting a variety of materials, including frequent shipments of un-refined petroleum products.

Mispillion River: The Town of Slaughter Beach is bordered on the north by the Mispillion River. The river feeds into area marshlands increasing beach vulnerability to tidal flooding and road closure.

Tidal Marsh Lands: The Town of Slaughter Beach has approximately 12,800 acres of tidal marsh lands which lie on the west side of the Slaughter Beach. These tidal lands increase the potential of tidal flooding to beach properties as a result of high winds.

Drinking Water Sources/Intakes: The water supply for Slaughter Beach comes from four (4) privately owned ground wells. The wells are screened at

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shallow depths within the unconfined aquifer, creating a vulnerability to contamination at the ground surface.

Target Points for Nuclear Attack: There are no nuclear targets located within the Slaughter Beach area, (as determined by FEMA). However, Slaughter Beach could expect to receive cIn addition, due to the close proximity of Hope Creek Generating Plant in Lower Alloways Creek, New Jersey to Slaughter Beach, radioactive fallout would affect this area in the event of a nuclear accident.

ASSUMPTIONS

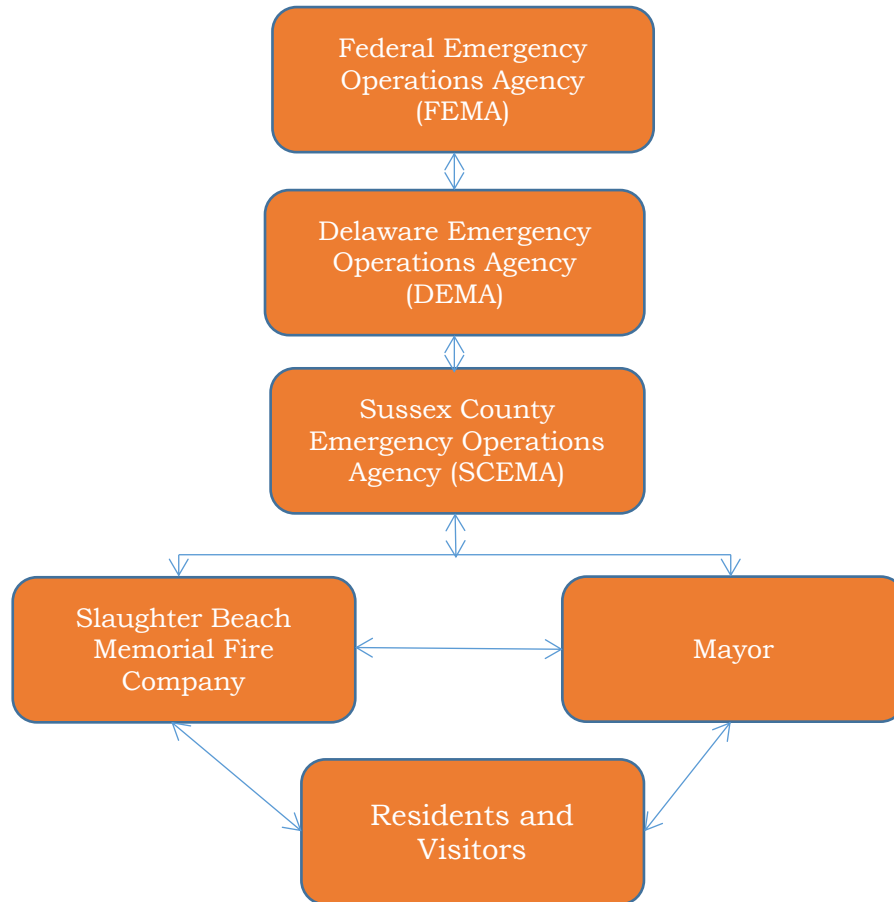
This Plan does not substitute government services for individual responsibility. It is expected that citizens will be aware of developing events and take appropriate steps to respond in a safe and timely manner. Since the Town's resources are limited and may be overwhelmed at the onset of a disaster event, individuals and organizations should be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours following a disaster. The Town will make every effort to provide information to the public, via the media to assist citizens in dealing with the emergency.

Assistance would be available from Federal, State, County, private and/or volunteer agencies should the Town deplete its resources or require equipment or expertise which it does not presently have available.

Figure 1 reflects an overview of typical response and recovery actions among Federal, State and local governments during a major disaster or emergency.

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Figure 1 - Statewide Disaster



CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

It is the desire of the Town Council to provide for a comprehensive emergency management program that meets the needs of those who may have been or might be affected by an emergency or major disaster. The Mayor will initiate this Emergency Operations Plan as necessary, with the assistance of the Town Council and members of the Memorial Fire Company when needed.

B. Phases of Emergency Management

Actions performed during an emergency management process fall into one of the following categories:

Mitigation: The mitigation process involves the prevention or reduction of the probability of a disaster occurring and attempts to minimize the undesirable effects of unavoidable hazards.

Preparedness: The preparedness process develops the response capabilities needed in the event an emergency should arise.

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Response: The response process occurs after the onset of an emergency, or directly preceding the onset given enough lead-time. This process serves to reduce disaster damage and possible casualties and to expedite the recovery process.

Recovery: The recovery process consists of both a short term and a long-term process.

- Short Term: Operations that seek to restore vital services to the community while providing for the basic needs of the public.

- Long Term: Operations that strive to restore the community to its normal or improved status.

C. Direction and Management

The Mayor authorizes the implementation of the Town of Slaughter Beach Emergency Operations Plan.

In the absence of the Mayor, action by Town Council is required to issue a Local State of Emergency; order evacuation; or implement the Slaughter Beach Emergency Operations Plan (SBEOP).

In situations of extreme emergency, activation of municipal emergency operations plans may be ordered by declaration of the Governor or the President of the United States.

Because of the devastating affect that one community's actions could have on other local communities, any intention of declaring a Local State of Emergency or ordering an evacuation must first be discussed and coordinated with the Sussex County Administrator, through the Sussex County Emergency Operations Center.

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

The Mayor or his/her designee may request assistance from voluntary and private sector groups by mutual aid agreements, letter of understanding, or contact by telephone to any number of such agencies.

The Mayor or his/her designee may request assistance from Sussex County to the Sussex County EOC, when the required effort for response and/or recovery is beyond the capabilities of the Town of Slaughter Beach.

Should assistance be required beyond the capabilities of the Town of Slaughter Beach and Sussex County, the Sussex County EOC will request necessary assistance from the State of Delaware.

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Should assistance be required beyond the capabilities of the Town of Slaughter Beach, Sussex County and the State of Delaware, the Director of the Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) will request necessary assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

CONTINUITY OF TOWN COUNCIL

Continuity of Government (COG) preserves, maintains or reconstitutes the government's ability to maintain and preserve its lawful leadership and authority under the threat or after the occurrence of any enemy attack, terrorist attack, or catastrophic natural event. The purpose of COG is to reduce or mitigate disruptions to normal government operations. Specifically, COG achieves a timely and orderly recovery from an emergency and ensures the restoration of full government services to the Town's residents by:

- Preserving lawful leadership and authority.
- Preventing the unlawful assumption of authority.
- Preserving vital government documents.
- Assuring that mechanisms and systems necessary for continued government
- Direction and control are in place prior to the crisis.
- Assuring that government services essential to the continued welfare of the public can be delivered during an emergency.

Lines of Succession: Established to list the order or line of those entitled to succeed one another under emergency conditions. The Vice Mayor, in the event of absence of the Mayor, will perform such other duties and have such other powers of the Mayor as are prescribed by the Charter of The Town of Slaughter Beach, or by any other ordinance of the Slaughter Beach Town Council. The alternatives to other key positions are maintained in each department.

Preservation of Records: The Town Council shall develop and maintain procedures to preserve essential records, files and reference materials.

PREPAREDNESS PHASES

- MITIGATION AND PREPAREDNESS PHASE - CODE GREEN: This phase consists of ROUTINE MITIGATION AND PREPAREDNESS activities conducted by Town Council a routine basis.
- READINESS PHASE - CODE YELLOW: This phase consists of READINESS activities during the period when Tropical Storm Force Winds are forecast to arrive within 120 to 72 Hours (5 Days to 3 days).
- INCREASED READINESS PHASE - CODE ORANGE: This phase consists of INCREASED READINESS activities during the period when Tropical

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Storm Force Winds are forecast to arrive within 72 to 48 Hours (3 Days to 2 Days).

RESPONSE PHASES

This phase forecast to arrive within 48 to 24 Hours (2 Days to 1 Day).

With the departure of tropical storm force winds (or other effects), the RECOVERY PHASE begins and includes actions related to emergency relief from the effects of the event.

Recovery activities include, but are not limited to:

- Assist with life-saving operations and with the restoration of essential services.
- Assess the needs of the community and complete detailed damage assessments for submission to SCEMA that will be the basis for requesting Federal disaster assistance.
- Compile and submit required forms and documentation required to claim reimbursement of disaster related expenses
- Represent the Town on Federal/State Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) Teams and facilitate their access to damaged areas.
- Prioritize recovery projects and assign functions accordingly.
- Coordinate recovery efforts and logistical needs with supporting agencies and organizations.
- Preserve and file all documentation of the event, including events log, cost analyses and estimated recovery costs.
- Facilitate the establishment of Disaster Assistance Centers with the assistance of DHSS and the American Red Cross or other agencies qualified assist, when necessary, to assist private businesses and citizens with individual recovery.
- Coordinate, as necessary, with other partners to ensure efficient use of time and resources during recovery and reconstruction activities.

PUBLIC WARNINGS

The primary method of public notification and information for situations requiring prompt action, such as evacuation or sheltering-in-place, will be through the use of the Statewide Delaware Emergency Notification System (DENS). DENS is a Reverse-911 system that uses a Geographic Information System (GIS) database to identify and provide emergency notification and information to the entire state or to an any area as specifically defined. The system is activated through the Sussex County Emergency Operations Center (911 Center) by designated authorized individuals of the Town. Notifications can be made by landline, by cellphone users who have voluntarily registered for DENS alerts, or via text message for registered users.

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Advance notification warnings will also be disseminated by radio, television, National Weather Service (via NOAA Weather Radio).

When possible, members of the Memorial Fire Department will alert the public using loudspeakers and making door-to-door contacts.

MAJOR TASK	RESPONSIBILITY
Alerting Town Officials	Sussex County Emergency Management Agency
Alerting and warning the general public of an emergency or impending emergency.	Memorial Fire Department and/or Mayor, or designee with the input and guidance of Sussex County Emergency Operations Center
Alert the general public when an emergency necessitates the activation of Town's EOC.	Memorial Fire Department and/or Mayor, or designee, with the input and guidance of the Sussex County Emergency Operations Center.

EVACUATION

This process provides for the evacuation of people in the Town of Slaughter Beach from areas where hazards from a disaster threatens their safety and health. Residents are responsible for staying alert and making themselves aware of mandatory evacuation notification through local radio and media outlets.

Prior to any order for evacuation, the Memorial Fire Company and/or the Mayor or his/her designee will contact the Sussex County EOC to discuss and coordinate the intentions of evacuation before any such evacuation takes place and communicate that information to town residents through the town website, email system and social media outlets, including DENS.

SHELTERING

This function provides for the use of local facilities for the purpose of sheltering people who need to be evacuated due to disaster, and to provide for their congregate care and basic human needs.

MAJOR TASK	RESPONSIBILITY
Designate a shelter	Sussex County Department of Emergency Operations
Coordinate sheltering and request additional shelters to be open if	Sussex County Department of Emergency Operations

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needed	
Notify appropriate NGOs (American Red Cross) to open and operate shelters when the disaster does not necessitate the activation of the Sussex County EOC.	Sussex County Emergency Operations Center
Open, staff and manage shelters.	NGOs such as American Red Cross
Evacuation of Persons with Access, Functional and Medical Needs	Individuals should contact the Sussex County Emergency Operation Center, who will work with DelDOT to schedule transportation in each individual case.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Providing prompt, authoritative and easily understandable emergency information to the public during natural, technological and civil emergencies is an essential responsibility of local government.

The following telephone numbers and other information are provided for your convenience to obtain up-dated status report of impending emergency situations; to report situations:

Mayor Harry Ward: (302) 422-0894
 Vice Mayor, Ken Lewis, (302) 491-4156
 Memorial Fire Department, (302) 422-8888

REMEMBER: The most current storm-related information will be available on NOAA Weather radio and commercial radio and television. Do not tie up telephone lines by calling local officials or the National Weather Service, if not necessary. information can be obtained from the two above resources. Listen carefully to broadcasters serving the immediate area.

NOAA Weather Radio Frequencies

- 162.550 MHz, Slaughter Beach
- 162.474 MHz, Salisbury

Emergency Alert System (EAS) Radio Stations

- WZBH-FM 93.5
- WSSR-FM 90.0
- *WGMD-FM 92.7
- *WKIX-FM 106.0
- WRLF-FM 101.7
- WECY-FM 98.3
- WECY-AM 1280

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- *WWTR-FM 95.9
- WXPZ-FM 101.3

* local radio stations serving our area

REMEMBER: The coordinates of a hurricane given by the weather service is the location of the eye. The average storm is 250 miles in diameter; thus, the danger zone extends some 100 miles on either side of the coordinates.

FACTS: What to expect following a direct hit of a hurricane:

- possible polluted water
- limited communications
- no electricity
- possible sewer back up
- structures damaged
- severe beach erosion to the shoreline
- flooding
- lack of access to roads for responders trying to access the area

APPENDIX A
HAZARD SPECIFIC INFORMATION

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APPENDIX A

HAZARD SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Preparation: In any disaster there is preparation - knowing what to do before, during and after a disaster occurs will weigh heavily toward the protection of life and property.

NATURAL HAZARDS

FLOODS/FLASH FLOODS/HIGH-TIDE - PREPAREDNESS

I. PURPOSE:

To establish effective disaster preparedness and response capability for flooding within the Town of Slaughter Beach that will supplement the information, capabilities and responsibilities already outlined in this Emergency Operations Plan.

Warning and Forecasts: Flood and high-tide warnings and forecasts of impending floods and high-tides are available to the public through local radio and television broadcast. Warning will include the expected severity of flooding or high tides and time frames of expected high tides. Careful preparation and prompt response will reduce personal injury and property loss.

Known Flooded Areas: Both public roads accessing Slaughter Beach are regularly prone to flooding and inaccessibility.

FLASH FLOODING: The National Weather Service office will issue two types of flash flood/ high-tide advisories, Flash Flood Watches and Flash Flood Warnings.

FLASH FLOOD WATCH: heavy rains or high tides are occurring or expected to occur may cause flash flooding in certain areas, and citizens should be alert to the possibility of a flood emergency that will require immediate action.

FLASH FLOOD WARNING: flash flooding is occurring or imminent on certain streams or other designated areas, and immediate action should be taken by those threatened.

HURRICANE - PREPAREDNESS

I. PURPOSE:

To establish effective hurricane disaster preparedness and response capability for the Town of Slaughter Beach that will supplement the information, capabilities and responsibilities already outlined in this Emergency Operations Plan.

Situation:

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Slaughter Beach is bordered on the east by the Delaware Bay, therefore, special consideration should be given to the commercial and recreational bay traffic which may be impacted by an emergency or disaster.

The Atlantic Hurricane Season runs from June 1 through November 30 each year, but the possibility of a storm hitting Delaware increases by late August through the end of November.

Assumptions:

In the event of natural disaster with warning, the Sussex County Emergency Operations Center will monitor the impending situation until such time that preparations need to begin. Slaughter Beach Town officials as well as the Memorial Fire Company, as well, will monitor the situation and will be in constant contact with the Sussex EOC staff.

Town of Slaughter Beach officials will inform the Sussex County EOC of all preparedness activities that will be undertaken. As a hurricane approaches, the Town of Slaughter Beach will rely on the recommendations of the Memorial Fire Company, and the Sussex County EOC, who will be relying heavily on the predictions, forecast and recommendations of the National Weather Service, as well as the National Hurricane Center. Also taken into consideration is the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Hurricane Evacuation Study, completed in 2008

As previously stated in this plan, any decision to evacuate may ultimately affect the entire State. Before any decision to evacuate is reached, such intentions will be discussed and coordinated with the Sussex County EOC.

HURRICANE CLASSIFICATIONS

A. Hurricanes are a classification of tropical cyclones that is defined by the National Weather Service, as non-frontal, low pressure large scale systems, that develops over tropical or subtropical waters and have definite organized circulation. Hurricanes are classified using the Saffir/Simpson scale, which categorizes hurricanes based upon their intensity, and relates this intensity to damage potential.

SAFFIR/SIMPSON SCALE

CATEGORY 1. WINDS OF 74 TO 95 MILES PER HOUR: Damage primarily to shrubbery, trees, foliage and unanchored mobile homes. No real wind damage to other structures. Some damage to poorly constructed signs. Storm surge possibly 4 to 5 feet above normal. Low lying coastal roads inundated, minor pier damage, some small craft in exposed anchorage torn from moorings.

CATEGORY 2. WINDS OF 96 TO 110 MILES PER HOURS: Considerable damage to shrubbery, trees and foliage; some trees blown down. Major damage to exposed mobile homes. Extensive damage to poorly constructed signs. Some

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HAZARD SPECIFIC INFORMATION

damage to roofing materials of buildings; some window and door damage. No major wind damage to buildings. Storm surge possibly 6 to 8 feet above normal. Coastal roads and low lying escape routes inland cut by rising water 2 to 4 hours before the arrival of the hurricane center. Considerable damage to piers. Marinas flooded. Small craft in unprotected anchorages torn from moorings. Evacuation of some shoreline residences and low-lying areas required.

CATEGORY 3. WINDS OF 111 TO 130 MILES PER HOUR: Foliage torn from trees; large trees blown down. Practically all poorly constructed signs blown down. Some damage to roofing materials of buildings; some window and door damage. Some structural damage to small buildings. Mobile homes destroyed. Storm surge possibly 9 to 12 feet above normal. Serious flooding at coast and many smaller structures near coast damaged by battering waves and floating debris. Low lying escape routes inland cut by rising water 3 to 5 hours before the arrival of the hurricane center.

CATEGORY 4. WINDS OF 131 TO 155 MILES PER HOUR: Shrubs and trees blown down; all signs down. Extensive damage to roofing materials, windows and doors. Complete failure of roofs on many small residences. Complete destruction of mobile homes. Major damage to lower floors of structures near shore due to flooding and battering by waves and floating debris. Low-lying escape routes inland cut by rising water 3 to 5 hours before the arrival of the hurricane center. Major beach erosion.

CATEGORY 5. WINDS GREATER THAN 155 MILES PER HOUR: Shrubs and trees blown down; considerable damage to roofs of buildings; all signs down. Very severe and extensive damage to windows and doors. Complete failure of roofs on many residences and industrial buildings. Extensive shattering of glass in windows and doors. Some complete building failures. Small buildings overturned or blown away. Complete destruction of mobile homes. Storm surge possibly greater than 18 feet above sea level. Low lying escape routes inland cut by rising water 3 to 5 hours before the arrival of the hurricane center.

TOWN PRE-STORM PREPAREDNESS:

Securing of Town Owned Properties and Equipment:

A survey of all town properties and equipment will be conducted.

All trash receptacles on the beaches and on the streets will be removed and secured.

Activities during the Height of Flooding/High-Tides:

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During the prevailing storm conditions, the Mayor will monitor the status of the conditions, keeping members of the community abreast of the prevailing conditions, and at the same time render assistance to the public's needs.

TOWN RECOVERY ACTIVITIES:

As soon as the storm conditions improve sufficiently, an immediate survey of the affected areas will take place to assess any damage and to assist, as possible to clear all roadways of debris.

As soon as possible, any Town services that may have been suspended during the height of the storm will be reinstated.

THUNDERSTORMS AND LIGHTNING - PREPAREDNESS

PURPOSE: To provide guidelines of preparation that will minimize the threat of the loss of life and the destruction of property.

NOTE: Some thunderstorms can be seen approaching, while others hit without warning. It is important to learn and recognize the danger signs to plan ahead.

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCHES AND WARNINGS: The National Weather Service will issue severe thunderstorm watches and warnings as follows:

Severe Thunderstorm Watch is issued when the weather conditions are such that a severe thunderstorm (with damaging winds 58 miles per hour or more, or hail three-fourths of an inch in diameter or greater) is likely to develop. This is the time to locate a safe place in your home and tell family members to watch the sky and listen to the radio or television for more information.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning is issued when a severe thunderstorm has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. At this point, the danger is very serious and everyone should go to a safe place, turn on a battery-operated radio or television, and wait for the "all clear" by the authorities.

TOWN PRE-STORM PREPAREDNESS AND RECOVERY ACTIVITIES: Required preparedness and recovery activities will be implemented as outlined in Annexes H-2 (Floods/Flash Floods/High Tide Preparedness) and H-3 (Hurricane Preparedness) of this Emergency Operations Plan.

TORNADO PREPAREDNESS

APPENDIX A

HAZARD SPECIFIC INFORMATION

I. PURPOSE: To provide guidelines of preparation that will minimize the threat of the loss of life and the destruction of property.

In any disaster there is PREPARATION- whether you're at work, at home or in a public place. Knowing what to do before, during and after a disaster occurs can make all the difference.

Tornadoes usually occur in the spring and summer and are formed by severe thunderstorms. Considered nature's most violent, erratic storms, they consist of whirling winds of up to three hundred (300) miles per hour. They can sweep through an area, causing serious damage and destruction, and then change and strike again.

TORNADO WATCHES AND WARNINGS:

Tornado Watch: is given when weather conditions are considered favorable for creating a tornado - for example, during a severe thunderstorm. If a tornado watch is issued, listen to the radio and keep an eye on the weather conditions. Be ready to take shelter if a tornado is sighted.

Tornado Warning: is issued when a tornado funnel has been sighted or picked up by radar. Take shelter immediately. Remember that tornadoes can form and move quickly, therefore, there may not be time to issue a warning. If severe thunderstorms occur, be alert to the fact that a thunderstorm could trigger a tornado, and be prepared.

TOWN PRE-STORM PREPAREDNESS AND RECOVERY ACTIVITIES: Required preparedness and recovery activities will be implemented as outlined in Annexes H-2 (Floods/Flash Floods/High Tide Preparedness) and H-3 (Hurricane Preparedness) of this Emergency Operations Plan.

RADIOLOGICAL MONITORING AND DETECTION

1. PURPOSE:

To effectively detect and provide protection for the Town of Slaughter Beach from the effects of a nuclear attack as well as a peacetime accident involving radioactive materials.

Any and all indications of a possible radiological incident will be reported immediately to the Sussex County Emergency Operations Center (911)

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GLOSSARY / DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

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APPENDIX B

GLOSSARY / DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

The following is a glossary of terms, acronyms, abbreviations and definitions that are used in this plan and are unique to emergency management and disaster response operations.

COG – Continuity of Government. COG refers to the preservation, maintenance or reconstitution of the government’s ability to maintain and persevere its lawful leadership and authority under the threat or after the occurrence of an enemy attack, terrorist attack or catastrophic natural disaster.

DEMA – The Delaware Emergency Management Agency. DEMA is the lead state agency for coordination of comprehensive emergency preparedness, training, response, recovery and mitigation services in order to save lives, protect Delaware's economic base and reduce the impact of emergencies. DEMA is a division within the Department of Safety and Homeland Security (DSHS) and is authorized by Delaware Code, Title 20, Chapter 31§3101-3130.

DENS – The Delaware Emergency Notification System. DENS is the primary method of public alert and warning when prompt action such as evacuation or sheltering is required. It is a statewide Reverse 911 system that uses GIS data to identify and provide emergency notification and information to citizens of the entire state or to residents of a specified geographic area.

DEOP – The Delaware Emergency Operations Plan. The DEOP provides policies and procedures necessary to protect the lives and properties of Delaware’s citizens immediately before, during and after emergencies. It provides functional responsibilities and procedures for coordinating State-wide resources and logistical operations; and includes hazard specific Annexes that cover potential man-made and natural disasters.

Disaster - Any occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from a Natural, Technological, and/or National Security incident, including but not limited to earthquake, explosion, fire, flood, high water, hostile military actions, hurricanes, landslide, mudslide, storms, tidal wave, tornadoes, wind driven water or other disasters.

EAS – Emergency Alert System. EAS is a network of broadcast stations and interconnecting facilities that have been authorized by the Federal Communications Commission to operate in a controlled manner during a state of public disaster or other natural emergency, as provided by the Emergency Broadcasting System Plan.

EPI - Emergency Public Information. Refers to the process of providing prompt, authoritative and understandable information to the public during natural, technological and civil disturbance emergencies.

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FEMA – The Federal Emergency Management Agency. FEMA's mission is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates proactive mitigation activities, trains first responders, and manages the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration. On March 1, 2003, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

GIS - Geographic Information System. GIS is a computer technology that uses a geographic information system as an analytic framework for managing and integrating data; solving a problem; or understanding a past, present, or future situation. Using the Town's GIS data along with collected field data, it will be used to analyze and report information on the nature, severity and extent of the disaster.

HAZMAT - Hazardous Materials. Any substance or material in a quantity or form which may be harmful or injurious to humans, domestic animals, wildlife, economic crops, or property when released into the environment. The four traditional classes are: chemical, biological, radiological, explosive.

ICS – Incident Command System. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures and communications operating within a common organizational structure and is designed to aid in domestic incident management.

SBEOP – Slaughter Beach Emergency Operations Plan. The Town's plan that ensures it is prepared to respond to and recover from emergency events and disasters. It establishes authorization and coordination procedures to protect lives and properties within the Town.

Mitigation - Mitigation refers to the process involving the prevention or reduction of the probability of a disaster occurring as well as efforts to minimize the undesirable effects of unavoidable hazards.

National Security Emergency - Events include nuclear, conventional, chemical, biological warfare, civil disorder, terrorism and/or energy shortages.

Natural Events - Include floods, hurricane/tropical storm, erosion, drought, tornado, wildfire, earthquake subsidence, dam failure, severe storms and winter storm/freeze.

NIMS - The National Incident Management System. NIMS is a National Plan that provides for a consistent nationwide approach for all Federal, State, tribal and local governments to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for,

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respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity.

NOAA – The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. NOAA is a scientific agency of the United States Department of Commerce focused on the conditions of the oceans and the atmosphere. NOAA was formed in 1970 after President Richard Nixon proposed creating a new department to serve a national need "...for better protection of life and property from natural hazards...for a better understanding of the total environment...[and] for exploration and development leading to the intelligent use of our marine resources..."

NRP – National Response Plan (previously the FRP/Federal Response Plan). The National Response Plan, or NRP, specifies how the resources of the Federal Government will work in concert with State, local, and tribal governments and the private sector to respond to Incidents of National Significance. The NRP is predicated on the National Incident Management System, or NIMS. Together the NRP and the NIMS provide a nationwide template for working together to prevent or respond to threats and incidents regardless of cause, size, or complexity.

Operations by Time Frame – Refers to several phases of emergency preparedness, response and recovery within the Town that will be used to minimize the effects of a disaster, provide emergency response capabilities and facilitate recovery efforts. There are four phases:

- Mitigation and Preparedness (Green) – Routine mitigation and preparedness activities.
- Readiness (Yellow) – Readiness activities during the period when Tropical Storm Force Winds are forecast to arrive within 120 to 72 hours (5 days to 3 days).
- Increased Readiness (Orange) – Increased readiness activities during the period when Tropical Force Winds are forecast to arrive within 72 to 48 hours (3 days to 2 days).
- Response (Red) – Activities during the period when Tropical Storm Force Winds are forecast to arrive within 48 to 24 hours (2 days to 1 day).
- Recovery – With the departure of Tropical Storm Force Winds (or their effects), the Recovery Phase will begin and includes actions related to the emergency relief from the effects of the event.

Preparedness – Preparedness refers to the process of developing the capabilities required to respond effectively to an emergency should one occur.

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RACES – Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service. RACES is a public service that provides communications personnel to government agencies in time of extraordinary need. During periods of activation, RACES personnel are called upon to perform many tasks for the government agencies they serve. Although the exact nature of each activation may be different, the common thread is communications. The Town of Slaughter Beach RACES organization is comprised of a group of licensed amateur radio operators who will be called up to support the communications needs of the Incident Commander during activation of the Town’s emergency operations center in response to an emergency or disaster.

Recovery - The recovery process consists of both short term and long term efforts:

- Short Term – Restoration of vital services to the community, while providing for the basic needs of the public.
- Long Term – Operations that strive to restore the community to its normal or improved status.

Resources - Include materials (raw, basic, or finished), supplies, equipment, manpower, facilities, services, finished goods and products.

Response – The response process occurs after the onset of an emergency, or directly preceding the onset (given enough lead time). The response process serves to reduce damage and possible casualties; and to expedite the recovery process.

Saffir/Simpson Scale – Hurricanes are classified (Category 1 through Category 5) using a scale that categorized hurricanes based upon their intensity, and relates the intensity to damage potential. The category intensities are:

- Category 1 – Winds of 74 to 95 miles per hour
- Category 2 – Winds of 96 to 110 miles per hour
- Category 3 – Winds of 111 to 130 miles per hour
- Category 4 – Winds of 131 to 155 miles per hour
- Category 5 – Winds greater than 155 miles per hour

Summary Records – FEMA forms used to manage the administrative and financial (cost, time, claims, etc.) activities related to the incident and to ensure effective methods of time keeping and payroll operations. Proper maintenance of these types of information is essential also to the Town’s application for federal disaster assistance for eligible reimbursable expenses associated with the response to an emergency or disaster.

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Technological - Events include hazardous materials (stationary and transportation), nuclear power facility, transportation accidents, and power failure.

Terrorism - The use of force or violence against persons or property in violation of the criminal laws of the United States for purposes of intimidation, coercion or ransom. Terrorists often use threats to create fear among the public, to try to convince citizens that their government is powerless to prevent terrorism, and to get immediate publicity for their causes. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) categorizes terrorism in the United States as one of two types:

- Domestic Terrorism - Involves groups or individuals whose terrorist activities are directed at elements of our government or population without foreign direction.
- International Terrorism - Involves groups or individuals whose terrorist activities are foreign-based and/or directed by countries or groups outside the United States or whose activities transcend national boundaries.

TIA – Terrorist Incident Annex. Refers to Annex C: Terrorist Incident Annex of the Slaughter Beach Emergency Operations Plan. Annex C provides a consequence management plan for responding to and recovering from a terrorist-initiated incident, particularly one involving weapons of mass destruction.

WMD – Weapons of Mass Destruction. WMD includes explosives, incendiary, nuclear, biological and chemical weapons. As defined in 18 U.S.C., 2332s: “the term ‘weapon of mass destruction’ means - any destructive device as defined in section 921 of this title; any weapon that is designed or intended to cause death or serious bodily injury through the release, dissemination, or impact of toxic or poisonous chemicals, or their precursors; any weapon involving a disease organism; or any weapon that is designed to release radiation or radioactivity at a level dangerous to human life.”