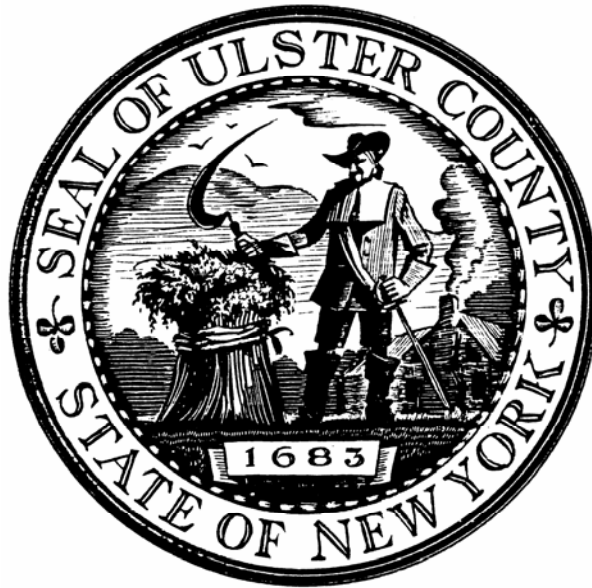


ULSTER COUNTY
MASS SHELTERING ANNEX



**An Annex to the
Ulster County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan**

November 2005

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Ulster County Emergency Management has a longstanding relationship with the American Red Cross of Ulster County (hereafter referred to as the Red Cross) to provide emergency in-place sheltering when the need arises. First developed in 1987, the In-Place Sheltering Annex serves as a framework to identify and organize the utilization of our in-place shelter facilities. This document serves as an update to that annex.

The greatest hazards in our County are hazardous materials related spills, fires and flooding¹. All of these hazards can result in a wide range of needs for in-place sheltering. Historically, Ulster County residents rarely make use of shelters. Instead they depend on family and friends. However, the demographics of our community are changing and the availability of family and friends to serve in a sheltering capacity may be changing accordingly. The largest utilization of shelter facilities was in January of 1996, during severe flooding. Those using the shelters were primarily stranded travelers.

There is a need for sheltering facilities to be in place, and for implementation processes to be well developed and uniform. Non-coordinated efforts in other areas have further complicated emergency situations and interfered with addressing utility outages, traffic issues and other emergency services needs.

- B. The opening of shelters is the responsibility of the Red Cross, in collaboration with local authorities.
- C. The Emergency Management Office directs the opening and closing of shelters. This order may have been given several hours before the public will be ordered to begin evacuation. Red Cross officials will be provided guidance as early as possible. This decision is passed to the Public Information Office in the Ulster County Legislature for public dissemination.
- D. Shelters may open for an event affecting the entire County, or open as Host Shelters for evacuees from other counties, or within specific areas of our County under threat while the shelter locations are not.

¹ See Appendix 1 (Hazard Analysis) of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan 2004, Hazard Analysis 2004

II. SHELTERS

- A. Primary Red Cross Shelters: There are 10 shelters with a total compliant capacity of 1,175 persons (please see attached matrix). These shelters consist of selected civic spaces that meet minimum criteria for shelter, safety, feeding and structural safety.
 - 1. The Red Cross has Memorandums of Understanding for the use of these facilities.
 - 2. The Red Cross has a limited stockpile of available resources such as cots and blankets, for distribution to the shelter sites in case of need. It is anticipated that by the end of 2005, 350 cots and 500 blankets will be available in a mobile storage unit.
- B. Shelters should be selected for appropriate capacity to address sheltering needs.
- C. For small emergencies resulting in limited sheltering needs, the Red Cross may assist in placing the victims in commercial facilities.
 - 1. Care must be taken to ensure local hotels and motels have been utilized to the maximum extent prior to opening a primary shelter as a host shelter to meet limited sheltering needs.
- D. Sheltering facilities run by the Red Cross do not address sheltering needs of institutions such as Benedictine, Ellenville or Kingston Hospitals, the Ulster County Infirmary, or any other long term care facility. These institutions have developed sheltering and evacuation plans specific to the needs of their residents and clients.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. We do not currently have a process for meeting the mass sheltering needs of many special needs populations in our communities. These populations include households with pets, persons with disabilities, persons requiring medical assistance, persons with hearing impairments, and the elderly. As such, facilities and the processes for identifying shelters that can

*Ulster County Emergency Management
Mass Sheltering Annex*

address these special needs should be addressed. Appropriate processes for use of the facilities needs to be planned and established prior to the need for such facilities.

1. The Red Cross is currently in discussions with various groups such as UC RSVP, to address this issue. The most significant obstacle to rectify is the lack of accessible facilities.
- B. Supplies for use in the shelters are limited in availability. The Red Cross has a limited stockpile of cots and blankets and anticipates an increased supply by the end of 2005. The need for additional toiletry and shelter supplies has yet to be addressed. Once identified and collected, caches of such kits should be “pre-positioned” at each shelter site.
- C. Communities and their component families must be aware of potential hazards and prepare a plan of action in case of the need for sheltering other than their own homes. As such, it is recommended that the public education component of ARC’s Family Disaster Plan be a primary action for promotion. Promoting preparedness and planning for everyone will result facilitating most advantageous possible outcomes should a sheltering need develop.

Ulster County Emergency Management
Mass Sheltering Annex

Shelter facilities	Contact Person	beds	bathrooms	Showers	Kitchen	Backup Power	Supplies	Notes
<u>Woodstock Rescue Squad</u> Rte. 212, Woodstock (845) 679.2422	Frank Engle (845) 679.7378 (w) (845) 679.5643 (h) (845) 389.8465 (c)	75	1 male 1 female 1 combo HC	1	375 meals/day	Yes	Blankets, cots, foam pads, emergency food	
<u>Cahill School</u> 110 Main Street, Saugerties (845) 246.1542	Joseph Fondino (845)246.9721(h) (845)247.6800 (w)	200	4 ADA	none	600 meals/day	Yes		Whole bldg is ADA accessible
<u>Pine Hill Fire Co.</u> Main St., Pine Hill (845)254.5244	Lowell Smith (845).254.5431 (h)	50	2 male 2 female	2	300 meals/day	Yes	A few cots & blankets	
<u>Saugerties Jr./Sr. High School</u> 310 Washington Avenue Extension, Saugerties (845)246.1185	Bob Lewis (845)247.6522 (w) (845)246.3158 (h) (800)444.1621 (p) – pin is 4140	200	6 large bathrooms	3 in senior HS	600 meals/day	No		Food on site
<u>Spring Lake Fire Dept.</u> Lucas Ave. Extension, Kingston (845)338.2173	John Cranston (845)331.3911	50	1 male 1 female	1	600 meals/day	Yes		

*Ulster County Emergency Management
Mass Sheltering Annex*

<u>Connelly Fire Dept.</u> 1 st Street, Connelly	(845)338.2194	50	1 male 1 female		200 meals/day	Yes		
<u>VFW</u> 708 E. Chester St. Bypass Extension (845)338.2676	Francis Peterson (845)334- 8720(h) (845)338- 7820(w)	100			600 meals/day			
<u>Clintondale Fire Dept.</u> Rte. 55, Clintondale (845)883.6124	Chief Riley (845)568.2502 (w) (845)883.7953 (h) (845)742.2412 (c)	50	1 male 1 female		200 meals/day	Yes	10 cots & blankets	
<u>New Paltz Middle School</u> Main St., New Paltz (845)256.4200	Ron Suits (845)256.4092 (w) (845)256.4090 (w) (845)256.4093 (w) (845)255.2661 (h) (845)224.5457 (c)	200	19	1 male 1 female	600 meals/day			New Paltz EOC will open shelters through NP Citizen Corps
<u>Highland Middle School</u> 71 Main St, Highland (845)691.6804	Jo Burruby, principal (845)691.1080 (w) (845)235.0741 (c)	200	5 male 5 female	2 male 2 female	600 meals/day	Yes	Soup, milk, juice	

*Ulster County Emergency Management
Mass Sheltering Annex*