

EMERGENCY Management

Helping You To Help Yourselves
Newsletter of the Emergency Planning Service

September 2010

extreme events

Devon's response to severe weather



Floods, hail, ice snow - extreme weather events could become more frequent and we in Devon need to be prepared and ready to respond.

Devon County Council in partnership with the Met office, is hosting a knowledge-sharing conference on Tuesday 28 September at the Met Office from 9.30 - 4.00pm.

Following the last two years' severe winters, councils, transport officials and the emergency services know that it is vital for us all to work together and share information in order to keep Devon moving and to help communities to help themselves.

The free conference will look at what we have learnt, planning resilience, care for the community and self-help advice. It is open to all Devon County Council

professional partners (e.g. Emergency services, Highways Agency, NHS, Environment Agency) District Councils, Parish and Town Councils, schools, transport operators, the NFU and local media.

Spaces are limited to 200 people and it is expected to be a popular event.

To book a place at this event fill in the online form at :

[www.devon.gov.uk/
extremeeventsconference](http://www.devon.gov.uk/extremeeventsconference)

Or call My Devon **0845 155 1004**



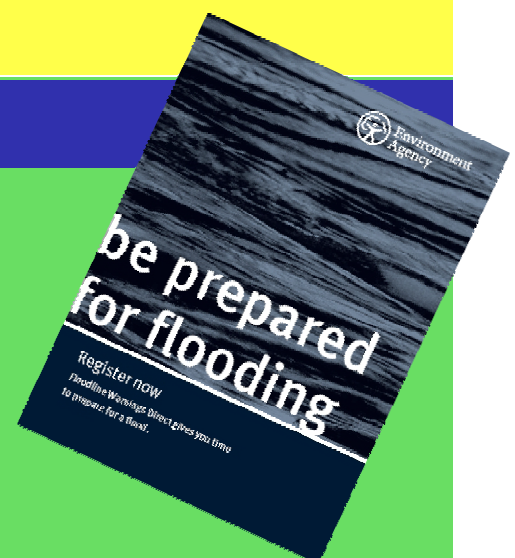
Floodline Warnings Direct - Register Now!

The Environment Agency offers a free flood warning service in areas at risk of flooding from rivers and the sea. Floodline Warnings Direct gives you an advance warning in your area by telephone, mobile, fax, pager, text or e-mail. Not all areas at risk of flooding are covered by the service. To find out if flood warnings are available in your area, call Floodline on 0845 988 1188.

All you need to register is a telephone number to which flood warnings can be sent at any time of day or night. You can also register other contacts such as an email address or fax number ☆

Be prepared for flooding.

Call **0845 988 1188** or visit
www.environment-agency.gov.uk/floodline



Who Can I Contact for Assistance After an Incident



It is never too early or too late to get help in the days or months following an incident. Often the hardest thing is recognising that help is needed.

Counselling is available both privately and through the National Health Service (NHS). Most people who have experienced a traumatic event find that their symptoms get better over time. If symptoms do not improve after 4-6 weeks and continue to be of concern a GP should be consulted.

If the incident has resulted in the need for additional financial support or any other local support, the Local Authority Adult & Community Services (ACS) or Children and Young Peoples' Service (CYPS) can provide advice. If the incident occurred away from home the local authority should be informed on return.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport has responsibility within the Government for coordinating support to UK victims of major disasters.

020 7211 6200

www.culture.gov.uk/what_we_do/Humanitarian_assistance/

Other useful contacts include:

Devon County Council
0845 155 1020
www.devon.gov.uk

NHS Direct
0845 4647

ASSIST Trauma Support care
01788 560 800
www.traumacare.org.uk

British Red Cross
0844 412 2804
www.redcross.org.uk

Cruse Bereavement Care
0844 477 9400
www.crusebereavementcare.org.uk

Citizens Advice Bureau
0207 270 1500
www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Be Prepared

Prepare an Emergency Pack at Home

- A wind-up or battery powered radio (*with frequencies marked*)
- A wind-up or battery torch
- Spare batteries
- First aid kit
- A copy of home emergency plan and contact list
- Bottled water/canned drinks

Make an evacuation checklist of items to pack quickly if you are suddenly advised to leave your home

- Your emergency pack
- Home and car keys
- Warm clothing
- Toiletries, sanitary supplies, essential medication and personal items eg glasses
- Baby food, nappies
- Wallet, purse and bank cards
- Mobile phone and charger
- Pet carrier, collar and lead



Keep an emergency pack in the car

- Bottled water
- First aid kit
- Torch and batteries
- Cigarette plug lead charger for mobile phone
- Sweets. Long life snacks
- Blanket, warm clothing and wool hat
- Waterproof coat
- Wellington boots
- Spare socks
- Gloves

Community Safety Badge Project



More than 25,000 Scouts from Cornwall, Devon, and Essex will become the first in the UK to have the opportunity to learn what to do in a community emergency situation.

Along with support from ShelterBox, Cornwall Council's Emergency Management Service has developed a pilot Community Safety Badge for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers.

The aim of the exciting new badge, (which was created by Emergency Management Officer and 1st Mylor Scout Group Leader, Tony Garvin) is to help Scouts develop a greater understanding of what to do in an emergency

situation and how they can help other members of their community.

James Webb who attended the meeting as ShelterBox's representative said: 'It's fantastic to be able to support this exciting new programme which will see Scouts learning new skills and engaging with ShelterBox's invaluable disaster relief work.'

There are fifteen activities in total and to gain the Badge, Scouts will have to successfully complete a number of key activities, including creating a personal grab bag full of all the essential items needed to survive straight after a disaster.

This could be anything from weather related emergencies such as floods, storms, snow or heat waves; or industrial emergencies such as loss of power, heating or water, chemical or nuclear leaks.

If you think this would be a good idea for Devon and can help, get in touch with your District Emergency Planning Officer ☆

Halwill Emergency Plan Launch

The launch of the Halwill Parish Community Emergency Plan (CEP) was held at The Winsford Centre in Dreybury Lane, Halwill Junction on Saturday, July 24 and is the culmination of much hard work over the past two-and-a-half years by a small and highly dedicated group of individuals.

In 2008, Torridge District and Devon County Councillor, Barry Parsons was keen to establish a formal means of supporting residents of rural communities in the event of any state of emergency which might not receive the immediate support of emergency services.

Such events might include severe weather, forest fire, loss of power, and flu pandemic. Halwill Parish Council undertook to form a working group, chaired by Rev Peter Hayes, which has been tireless in devising a plan to look after residents in the event of an emergency.

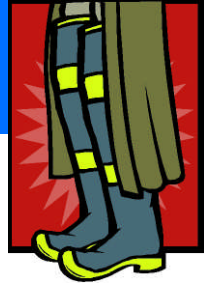
The CEP offers immediate contact to support in difficult times, which is especially important for vulnerable groups. It also offers immediate assistance to the emergency services in terms of the location of resources (human and non-human!) and venues best

placed to deal with emergency shelter in the first instance.

The CEP launch was attended by representatives from the emergency services, local businesses and officials from local councils, including Devon County Council. All of whom were delighted to see a document which can be used as an example of best practice within Devon ☆



Pictured are, Eric Smith, PCSO Beverly Harvey, Jenny Hardman, Lynn Barton and Rev Peter Hayes at the launch of the Halwill Junction Community Emergency Plan.



Ex Watermark is being planned to run in March 2011 and will be one of the biggest exercises ever to take place nationally!

Defra is counting down to Ex Watermark that will last for four days and will simulate flooding from a number of sources, including rivers, the coast, surface water, rapid response catchments, groundwater and reservoirs.

Watermark will not only test multi-agency response to adverse weather conditions of selected category one and two responders, but through demonstrations, flood fairs and live tests will increase flood resilience and preparedness of individuals and communities across the UK.

The exercise will be split into national, regional and local play to allow a publicly engaging range of flooding scenarios to be tested. Central (national) players will be involved in 'core' play, interacting with

central government and COBR. Several methods have been used to form a strong scenario.

The Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly LRF Flood Plan will be exercised in scenarios based on surface water and rapid response catchments on the first day with involvement of several Communities in Devon.




More information is available on the website:

www.exercisewatermark.co.uk

First Point of Contact

Did you know your City, District or Borough Emergency Planning Officer is your first point of contact for assistance? You will find them listed below for reference. Remember they are all there to help you!

Also, the Devon County Council website has lots of useful information for both individuals and communities:

-  www.devon.gov.uk
-  Safety and Emergencies
-  Emergencies








Town & Parish Emergency Planning Workshops

Emergencies and/or natural disasters affect communities in different ways. A more resilient community is likely to recover more rapidly from such an event. Devon County Council has partnered with the Environment Agency and District Councils to deliver a series of workshops around the County. These workshops will provide initial guidance and information to help communities develop their own Emergency Plan.

The outline schedule for the Emergency Planning workshops currently being rolled out across the county is now in place. These

multi-agency events have received very positive feedback from all those attending the pilot sessions in East and West Devon earlier in the year. Invitations will be sent to Parishes in advance, so keep an eye on the post!

- East Devon** 1 Jul 09
- West Devon** 15 & 16 Sept 09
- Torrige** 2 & 4 Mar 10
- North Devon** 8 Mar 10
- Mid Devon** 24 May 10
- South Hams** 23 Sept 10
- Teignbridge** 30 Sept 10
- Exeter** Nov 10

	East Devon	North Devon/ Mid Devon	Teignbridge	South Hams/ West Devon	Torrige	
						
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