

Communicating in an Emergency

There are a number of ways for you to receive communication from the Town of New London in an emergency event:

1. Always dial **911** for an actual emergency.
2. Call **603-526-9444** to hear regularly-updated recorded messages from the Emergency Management Committee. Outgoing messages will include road closure or repair updates, shelter information, power outage updates, and any other appropriate information.



3. Sign up to receive a phone call from the Town via the Code Red Emergency Notification System, which allows the Town to call out to all citizens or a portion of the Town in an emergency. Go to www.nl-nh.com and follow the CodeRED link on the right-hand side of the website to enter your home and telephone information (you may enter cell phones and other secondary phones as well). If you are unable to use the website, please contact the Town Offices and we will enter the information for you.
4. If you have power and internet access, go to www.nl-nh.com. We will keep the website updated with news.
5. Visit one of the following locations to pick up pre-printed flyers: Town Offices, Tracy Library, Information Booth, Chapin Center (Council on Aging), Hannaford, local banks.
6. Call the statewide information hotline at **2-1-1**.
7. *Please do not call the Police or Fire Departments unless you have a true emergency.*

Safe Generator Installation

- Before you buy a generator, talk to a qualified electrician to make sure it's the right size for your needs.
- Always have a qualified electrician install the generator, which must be connected to your home's wiring through a special transfer switch that will switch between standby and utility power. This will ensure that the house wires are isolated from the utility wires. Improper installation can result in house fires or feeding electricity back into the lines, endangering the lives of repair crews.
- PSNH should be made aware of your generator. If you have not already done so, register your generator with PSNH so it can note the generator location and confirm that a safe transfer switch is being used. PSNH may also be able to help with any questions you might have – call (603) 634-2312.
- Generators must be vented outside and must never be refueled while operating.
- Generators must be located at least 10 feet from a building and must never be used inside a home or even inside an open garage.
- Just like your automobile, a portable generator uses an internal combustion engine that emits deadly carbon monoxide. For this reason, if you purchase a generator, you should also purchase and install carbon monoxide detectors.
- Be sure to place the generator where exhaust fumes will not enter the house. Only operate it outdoors in a well-ventilated, dry area, away from air intakes to the home and protected from direct exposure to rain, preferably under a canopy, open shed or carport.

375 Main Street
New London, NH 03257
Phone: 603-526-4821
Fax: 603-526-9444
townadmin@nl-nh.com



2010 Emergency Planning Guide

Dial 911 in an emergency.
**Call 526-9444 for
emergency information.**

Town of New London Emergency Management Committee

Peter Berthiaume, Director
Jessie Levine, Deputy Director & Town Administrator
Donald Bent, PhD, Health Officer
Chad Denning, Recreation Director
Richard Lee, Public Works Director
Jay Lyon, Fire Chief
David Seastrand, Police Chief
Don West, Larry Elliott & Lisa Lull, KRSD
Pam Drewniak & Kent Wheeler, New London Hospital
Jeanie Plant, Caring Animal Partners
Nancy Friese, Kearsarge Council on Aging
Don Rankins, Woodcrest Village

**Working Together
for Emergency Preparedness**

Prepare a kit of emergency supplies

Be prepared to use what you have on hand to make it on your own for at least three days (to be even more prepared, plan for 7-10 days). Think first about fresh water and food, and the possibility that you may not have access to a drugstore for a few days.

Recommended supplies to include in a basic kit:

- Water:** One gallon per person per day for drinking & sanitation.
- Food:** At least a three-day supply of non-perishable food.
- Battery-powered radio & extra batteries**
- Flashlight & extra batteries**
- Wired telephone** (not cordless)
- First Aid Kit**
- Fire Extinguisher**
- Whistle** to signal for help
- Filter mask or cotton t-shirt** to filter the air
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties** for sanitation
- Wrench or pliers** to turn off utilities
- Manual can opener** for canned food
- Unique family needs:** daily prescription medications, infant formula, diapers, important family documents
- Pet needs:** Food, water & medications

Consider also having a second, smaller kit that you could take with you if you leave home.

Make a plan

Plan in advance what you will do in an emergency.

- Develop a family communications plan:** Your family may not be together when an emergency hits, so plan how you will contact one another and review what you will do in different situations. Consider a plan in which each family member calls the same friend or relative in the event of an emergency.
- Stay or go:** Depending on your circumstances and the nature of the event, the first important decision is whether to stay put or get away. Plan for both possibilities and heed official instructions as they become available. If you leave, choose several destinations in different directions so you have options. Also, notify your neighbors, and leave your outside light on, which will indicate to the Police Department that no one is home.
- Consider your service animal or pets:** Keep in mind that what's best for you is typically what's best for your animals. If you must evacuate, take your animals with you, if possible. If you are going to a public shelter, keep in mind that by law only service animals may come to the shelter. In certain emergencies, the Town will provide a separate animal shelter, or you should consider placing your pet with friends or private kennels.
- Fire Safety:** Install and maintain smoke detectors. Plan two ways out of every room in case of fire. Check for items that could fall and block an escape path.
- People with Special Needs:** Notify the Town Administrator if you or someone in your household has special needs and will need assistance in an emergency. The Town keeps a list of people with special needs, such as oxygen tanks, home health care, etc. Call 526-4821 ext. 13 or e-mail townadmin@nl-nh.com.

Be Informed & Be Careful.

Know Shelter Locations:

- **"First Open" Daytime Warming Center:** Chapter Center/Kearsarge Council on Aging, 37 Pleasant Street, New London.
- **Emergency Shelter/Meals:** New London Elementary School or Colby-Sawyer College's Ware Center.
- **Animal Shelter:** Whipple Memorial Town Hall basement

Treat all downed power lines as live. DO NOT go near downed or dangling wires or trees. People walking in areas without power should use extra care due to the possibility of electric lines covered by snow or water.

Obey and do not move road closed signs and cones, which are there for your safety.

DO NOT USE alternative sources for heat (such as your gas cook stove or unvented space heaters).

DO NOT leave candles unattended.

Use woodstoves safely: Make sure that all combustible material is at least 36" inches away from the woodstove, and DO NOT store wood ashes indoors.

FOOD SAFETY: When power is restored, you will have to make hard decisions about food that was refrigerated or frozen. Do not take unnecessary risks. Food that has gotten warm needs to be discarded in almost all cases. For more information about keeping food safe during an emergency, go to the UNH Cooperative Extension website at <http://extension.unh.edu/>.

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