

# Emergency Preparedness at our Northbridge Campus

Weather-related disasters and emergencies are unavoidable—snowstorms, earthquakes, tornadoes, flooding and other inclement weather incidents. These types of situations tend to cause power outages and, even in communities as large and well-staffed as ours, Residents may feel the uneasiness that can come along with flickering lights.

With the weather-related storms of the past few years, our Residents have been able to remain calm and comfortable, not only because of the preparedness at SALMON Health and Retirement, but also because of their own knowledge of how things are handled on our campus.



Hello,

We would like you to know that as a healthcare community that serves many people around the clock, we are prepared for many types of emergency or weather-related disaster that comes our way. Not long ago, healthcare communities relied on 911 responses of local emergency personnel to manage and assist during an event, but, in this current day, communities like ours must be able to operate for at least 96 hours without outside support or help. Please know that our well-trained staff understands the commitment that comes with protecting and maintaining your well-being during any on-campus emergency. And, as our emergency policies and procedures further develop along with the changing healthcare landscape, so does our staff's understanding of such topics, so that they may better serve you, no matter the circumstance.

As a community that is in compliance with The Joint Commission, Department of Public Health and Homeland Security guidelines, we are able to respond to a number of emergency disasters. As you may remember, in recent years we experienced weather-related emergencies; and most recently the small fire which resulted in flooding in the nursing home. Our team was able to implement our policies and procedures accordingly; as a result, we confidently continued to operate our community with as minimal disruptions to our residents as possible.

Beaumont at Northbridge is an active member of the Massachusetts Long Term Care Mutual Aid Plan for Evacuation (MassMAP) and Resources/Assets; registered with the HANN (Health and Homeland Alert Network); and attends educational programs to train staff and managers on campus emergencies. As a member of these organizations, we are able to show our support to Residents and clients on a daily basis.

Their safety and comfort are our main priorities, and Residents and families should feel confident we have the proper mechanisms in place to manage almost any type of emergency.

Beaumont often practices and learns from both "mock" and "live" events several times each year. Live, or real life situations, are also opportunities from which our staff grows and learns. After the most recent fire/flood event, we discussed as a team what went well and what we might change to fine tune our process. Mock events help us prepare for the "real thing" and, as a campus, we feel absolutely confident that our planning for emergency situations has been practiced thoroughly.

Please know that our generator is fueled by diesel and lasts three days before needing to be refueled. There is a seven-day back-up food and paper supply in the event of a loss of utilities; and a supply of emergency water available if needed.

Our communication tools—two-way radios and back-up cell phones, for example—are relied upon if power is lost. An emergency tree of phone numbers and addresses is updated regularly for reaching a Resident's responsible person. So that we can always have your most current information, we ask that you let us know if your family's information changes.

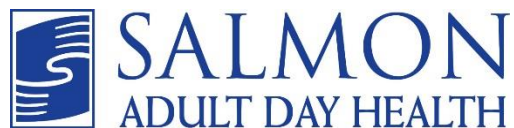
We strive to give the best of services to our Residents in the safest and most effective manner we can, and will attempt to keep the responsible parties of Residents up-to-date on critical information. Please see the reverse of this sheet for other suggestions. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carol Kapolka". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Carol Kapolka, Executive Director  
Beaumont at Northbridge  
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To make communication during a potential emergency situation as efficient as possible, we ask that you or your family:

- Inform all family members who the point-person is for the entire family.
- Confirm that all contact information is up-to-date and correct.
- Share communicated updates with the rest of your family.
- Complete a "phone tree" of names, phone numbers and addresses to be used by the point-person.



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