

2019/2020 Emergency
Preparedness Information

An important
message from the
Hancock County
Office of
Emergency
Management

Residents of Hancock County
Keep this information in a handy place for ready reference

RESPONSE REQUESTED

DO NOT DISCARD



An important message from
the Hancock County
**Office of
Emergency
Management**



October 2019

DEAR HANCOCK COUNTY RESIDENTS:

This brochure contains important information you will need if there is an emergency at the Beaver Valley Power Station. Although that is unlikely to occur you need to be prepared.

In a Beaver Valley Power Station emergency there might be danger from radiation. Too much radiation can be harmful to your health. If a serious accident occurs, you might need to leave the area. Response plans are explained in this brochure.

The Hancock County Commission and the Local Emergency Planning Committee provides this information because it is important to you and your family in the event of an emergency. We ask that you read it all and talk it over with members of your family. Information that is included is:

- What you should do if you hear the emergency sirens in your area.
- What you should do if you are asked to “shelter in place.”
- What you should do if you are asked to “evacuate.”

Remember the best way to stay safe in an emergency is to know what to do. Stay calm and help each other. This brochure is designed to help you.

Enclosed with this brochure are Access/Functional Needs Cards. These cards are very important in helping us successfully assist you should an emergency occur. One is for our farmers and the other is for those who would need additional help during an evacuation because of physical impairment or medical problems. You should fill out this card if it applies to you and return it to us every year. You won't receive a response to the card, but it will be kept on file and will be used to notify you if an evacuation is ever required.

We will mail the enclosed cards on an annual basis, and this information will be kept confidential. If you wish, complete and sign the card, turn the completed portion of the card to the inside, and tape the card shut. The card has pre-paid postage and will not require a stamp prior to mailing.

Please keep this brochure in a handy place for ready reference. Also, emergency information is available on your county emergency management website www.hancockcountywv.org. If you would like a separate copy of this information please contact our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Ober'.

Jeremy Ober
Director
Hancock County Office of Emergency Management

When Sirens Sound

If there is significant information that could affect your safety, or if protective actions are required to protect your health and safety, the standard “Alert Signal” will be sounded over the siren system that has been installed within an approximate 10-mile radius of Beaver Valley Power Station. This signal is a steady three-minute signal – not a wailing or warbling signal. If the Alert Signal is sounded in your community, tune your radio or TV to one of the County Emergency Alert Stations. A message will be broadcast advising you what action should be taken. Local police and firefighters may conduct neighborhood notification using mobile public address systems or door-to-door notification as a supplement to the siren system. Sirens are tested annually.

The Emergency Alert System is activated by key officials in our area and is used to provide emergency information and directions over local radio and TV stations as listed below.

WWVA radio (1170 AM) and WTRF TV (Channel 7) are the lead stations for the Northern Panhandle of West Virginia. The other stations repeat the messages. EAS Information is updated periodically. Stay tuned to your EAS station until the emergency is over.

EAS STATIONS FOR THE NORTHERN PANHANDLE OF WEST VIRGINIA

If you hear a siren, turn on a local radio or TV Emergency Alert System (EAS) station:

- AM 1170 – WWVA (lead EAS radio station)
- AM 1400 – WBBD
- AM 1430 – WEIR
- Channel 7 – WTRF (lead EAS television station)
- Channel 9 – WTOV
- FM 97.3 – WKWK
- FM 98.7 – WOVK
- FM 100.5 – WOMP
- FM 107.5 – WEGW

AUTOMATED MESSAGING SYSTEM

Residents could also get information via Swift911, the mass notification system utilized by Hancock County Office of Emergency Management, by house phone, cellphone, text message, fax, pager, and/or email, in addition to EAS.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE NOTIFIED OF AN EMERGENCY

- **Stay calm.** Turn on your radio or television to an Emergency Alert System station for information and directions.
- **Stay off the telephone.** The lines may be needed for official business. Your call could keep other people from getting emergency help.
- You may not be asked to do anything.
- EAS instructions will tell you the protective actions to be taken. The protective action could be Shelter-In-Place or Evacuate. Depending on the particular circumstances of the emergency, either protective action, or a combination, may be appropriate.

Notification of an Emergency

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I'M TOLD TO SHELTER-IN-PLACE?

- Go indoors and stay there. Shelter pets.
- Listen to your local Emergency Alert System radio or television station for emergency information.
- Close all doors, windows and vents. Turn off all fans, air conditioners and any other source of outside air.
- You might need to warn a friend or family member. If so, limit time spent outdoors. While outdoors, cover your mouth and nose with a damp cloth or towel. When returning indoors, leave outer clothing outside. Wash your face and hands with mild soap and lukewarm water.
- If necessary, children in schools in the affected area will be sheltered there. Parents should not try to pick up school children unless advised to do so.
- Use the telephone only if necessary.
- Do not pick produce or fruit. Food, produce and packaged food already in your home are safe to eat.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I'M TOLD TO EVACUATE THE AREA?

- Listen for instructions on a local Emergency Alert System station.
- Prepare your home for a three-day absence; turn off all small appliances, faucets and lights. Turn down the furnace, if it is on. Be sure all air conditioners and fans are off. Lock windows and doors. Check with your private preschool and daycare providers for information on their respective emergency plans.
- Gather people in your home. Do not try and pick up children or relatives in schools, hospitals or nursing homes. These facilities have their own emergency procedures. Check with your private preschool and daycare providers for information on their respective emergency plans.
- Pack necessities (i.e., needed medications, baby food and formula, credit cards, checkbook, cash, important papers, two changes of clothes per person, an extra pair of shoes per person, two blankets or a sleeping bag per person, toiletries, eyeglasses or contacts, battery-powered radios, batteries, flashlight, first aid kit).
- **If you have livestock.** Leave your livestock on the farm. Put them in a barn or other shelter, and leave them with stored feed and protected water. Arrangements for access to feed and water for your livestock will be coordinated by your county emergency management agency or department of emergency services. Federal and state agencies will do follow-up surveys on farm products to check for contamination. Farmers and Food Processors/Distributors, for more information visit www.dhsem.wv.gov or call 304-564-4040
- Leave if evacuation is advised for your area. Use one car per family. Close all car windows and vents. Listen to Emergency Alert System stations and proceed to a place more than 10 miles away from BVPS. You may want to go to a reception center listed in this brochure.
- Law enforcement officials will control traffic and maintain security in evacuated areas.
- If you do not drive, get a ride from a friend or neighbor, or go to a pick-up point and a ride will be provided for you.

Emergency Information continued on next page.

Emergency Information (continued)

WHAT IF I DO NOT HAVE TRANSPORTATION TO EVACUATE?

Residents that do not have transportation or a means to evacuate if an evacuation order has been issued should report to their closest Transportation Pick-up Point. Pick-up points are listed in this mailer under TRANSPORTATION PICK-UP POINTS.

WHAT ABOUT PETS AND SERVICE ANIMALS?

Pets. You may not take your pets with you to a care center. Plan now for your pet's care in any emergency. It is recommended that you make prior arrangements with friends, relatives, or pet boarding facilities. If you need more information, call your county emergency management agency or department of emergency services.

Service Animals. You may take your Service Animal with you to a care center. It is recommended that you pack supplies in advance to care for your Service Animal. If you need more information, call your county emergency management agency or department of emergency services.

WHAT IS POTASSIUM IODIDE (KI)?

The use of Potassium Iodide (KI) is an additional protective action. State and local officials will announce when the public should take KI in Emergency Alert System (EAS) messages.

KI is a non-prescriptive medication that blocks the entry of radioactive Iodine into the Thyroid gland. This is done by saturating the Thyroid gland with KI. Taking Potassium Iodide (KI) doesn't protect a person from direct exposure to radiation.

For most individuals, taking KI is safe; however, adverse reactions are possible if persons have existing Thyroid conditions, are allergic to Iodine products. Consult your physician if you have concerns about the safety of KI for yourself or your children.

KI should be taken during an emergency ONLY if recommended by governmental officials. KI is most effective if taken within 3 to 4 hours of exposure.

Residents living within the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) radius, who have not already done so, may obtain more information about KI by contacting the Hancock County Office of Emergency Management, POB 884, New Cumberland, WV 26047; Phone: (304)564-4040.

NOTES

Relocating and Receiving School Locations

2019/2020 School Year

Although it is very unlikely that a nuclear power plant accident will occur that will cause severe health effects to the general public, a 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) is required around all nuclear facilities to assure that prompt and effective actions can be taken to protect the public in the event of an accident. Portions of northern Hancock County are within the EPZ for the Beaver Valley Power Station.

EVACUATION ROUTES SPECIFIC TO BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION EMERGENCIES

- Lawrenceville, Chester, Newell and areas served by State Rt. 2: Take Rt. 2 south
- Areas served by County Route 208/Racetrack Road/Allison Road: Take Route 208 west, then Rt. 2 south
- New Manchester and areas served by State Rt. 8/Veterans Blvd, Rt. 7/Hardins Run Road and Rt. 9/Wylie Ridge Road: Take State Rt. 2 south

Children will be cared for at receiving schools until parents come for them. Do not pick-up your child from the school they attend. They will be taken to another school away from the emergency. Complete information is available from your local school district.

RELOCATING SCHOOL	RECEIVING SCHOOL
ALLEN T. ALLISON ELEMENTARY	Weir High/Weir Middle School
OAK GLEN MIDDLE SCHOOL	Weir High/Weir Middle School
NEW MANCHESTER ELEMENTARY	Weir High/Weir Middle School
OAK GLEN HIGH SCHOOL	Weir High/Weir Middle School
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL	Weir High/Weir Middle School

TRANSPORTATION PICK-UP POINTS

HANCOCK COUNTY

1. Lawrenceville Fire Department
2. Chester Fire Department
3. Newell Fire Department
4. New Manchester Fire Department

RECEPTION / CARE CENTERS

A Reception Center is a location where you first go to register and receive general information including; assistance in contacting others and directions to a care center.

Residents that need temporary housing can then go to a Care Center. The Care Center is managed by the American Red Cross and may be in the same location as the Reception Center.

HANCOCK COUNTY RECEPTION CENTERS

- Weir High/Weir Middle School Complex

Emergency Information

A public information hotline will be open during an emergency. This line is only active when the agency Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated. It will have current information. To use it, call this number:

HANCOCK COUNTY (304) 564-4052

ACCESS FUNCTIONAL NEEDS CARDS

Enclosed with this brochure is an Access/Functional Needs Card. This card is very important in helping us successfully assist you should an emergency occur. The Access/Functional Needs Card is for anyone who would need additional help during an evacuation because of physical impairment or medical problems. If this card applies to you, please fill it out and return it to us. This information will be kept on file at your County Emergency Management Agency/Department of Emergency Services center. We request that residents submit a new card every year.

This information will be kept confidential. If you will require additional assistance in an emergency, please complete and sign the card, turn the completed portion of the card to the inside, and tape the card shut. The card has pre-paid postage and does not require a stamp prior to mailing.

ALL-HAZARD PREPARADENESS

The Hancock County Office of Emergency Management encourages residents to take an all-hazards approach to emergency preparedness and offers the following information:

One of the most effective ways to prepare your family for a disaster is to create a family emergency plan. Meet with your family to discuss how to prepare for different types of emergencies, such as fire, severe weather, floods, or other common hazards in your community. Your plan will help family members understand what to do during emergencies.

Your home is your refuge. It is important to store the things you need in advance of any emergency or crisis situation. You may need to survive on your own during a winter storm, shelter in place during a chemical emergency, or provide your own care if first responders are needed elsewhere.

Keeping enough water and food on hand for your family is part of the equation. Adding light, heat and comfort items can reduce stress and anxiety during an incident.

One of the most important ways you can prepare your home and family is to create an emergency kit. If you need to evacuate your home, having some essential supplies on hand will make you and your family more comfortable. Once a disaster hits, you won't have time to shop or search for supplies. Discuss what to do and what to take with you if you have to leave your home. Practice what you have discussed.

Further information can be found at www.ready.wv.gov.

Emergency Classifications

There are Four Emergency Classification Levels at Nuclear Plants.

1. UNUSUAL EVENT

The least serious, this refers to a small problem that poses no danger to the public, such as a decrease in plant safety or potential security event. No radiation leak is expected; you do not have to do anything. Federal, state, and county officials will be told right away.

2. ALERT

During this minor problem, the plant could experience decreases in safety or a security event. Preparations are made to handle potentially more serious emergencies. Small amounts of radiation could leak inside the plant, but there is no danger to the public and you should not have to do anything. Federal, state, and county officials will be told right away and will begin emergency preparedness actions.

3. SITE AREA EMERGENCY

This is a more serious problem, such as plant equipment needed for safe operations is affected or a security event occurs. Radiation releases are not expected to exceed federal limits beyond the plant boundaries. If you hear the sirens, listen to a radio or TV station that broadcasts Emergency Alert System messages and carefully follow instructions. Federal, state, and county officials will be told right away and will act to ensure public safety.

4. GENERAL EMERGENCY

This is the most serious problem. Events are in process or have happened that may involve possible problems with plant equipment or security. These events may affect safe plant operations. Radiation could be released outside plant boundaries. Federal, state, and county officials will work with plant officials. You may have to protect yourself as described in this brochure. When the sirens sound, listen to one of the Emergency Alert System radio or TV stations for instructions and carefully follow them. If necessary, people in some areas will be advised to seek shelter or evacuate.

Nuclear Energy FAQs

HOW IS NUCLEAR ENERGY MADE?

A nuclear energy plant is much like a power plant that burns coal or oil. The difference is the source of heat. At the Beaver Valley Power Station, heat comes from uranium instead of coal or oil. Uranium atoms are split to produce heat. The heat is used to turn water into steam. The steam runs a turbine generator to make electricity. When uranium atoms are split, radiation is produced. Normally, a nuclear power plant releases very small amounts of radiation as a gas. At most, this will add only one or two millirem to the normal dose received by people who live near the plant. This radiation is less than the limit set by the law. No radiation is released from cooling towers.

WHAT IS RADIATION?

Radiation has been part of our natural environment since the Earth was formed. The planet is bathed in cosmic radiation from outer space, and radioactive materials naturally present in the soil, rocks, air and seawater also emit this type of energy. From the very beginnings of human civilization, radiation has been part of everyday life.

SOURCES OF RADIATION

We are exposed to small amounts of radiation every day. It is in the air we breathe, the food we eat, even inside our own bodies. It is normal to be exposed to small amounts of radiation, but to be safe, you should limit the amount. Radiation doses to people are measured in millirem. The average American receives over 300 millirem of radiation per year from nature – medical procedures, such as CT scans, add about the same amount of radiation dose.

HOW IS RADIATION CONTROLLED?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission are the principal federal agencies responsible for establishing radiation protection regulations. EPA establishes standards to protect the general environment. The NRC prescribes and enforces limits on the amount of radiation that workers and members of the public can receive from commercial use of radioactive materials.

Radiation safety is based on time, distance and shielding. The less time spent near a source, the less radiation received. The greater the distance from a source, the less radiation received. Shielding also plays a vital role. For example, dentists place a lead blanket on patients receiving X-rays. Used nuclear power plant fuel is stored underwater or in steel-lined concrete containers to protect people from penetrating radiation such as gamma rays.

Although scientists have found no adverse health effects from doses lower than 10,000 millirem, radiation experts recommend keeping doses from man-made sources as low as reasonably achievable.

Hancock County Alerts Information

SWIFT911™ EMERGENCY ALERTS

In an effort to provide more reliable and effective communications with citizens, Hancock County has implemented Swiftreach Networks, Inc. as our emergency notification provider.

SWIFT911 is a system designed to make phone calls to specific people or areas in the event of an emergency. Hancock County Emergency Management will use this system to notify citizens by phone, text message and email of emergency information. The system can make thousands of calls in a minute to convey vital information. These messages may include information on nuclear power plant accidents, floods, fires, water emergencies, road closures, missing persons, evacuation orders, and weather emergencies.

The Swiftreach Network Data has been provided by a third party data provider and only includes listed phone numbers in Hancock County. It is important for residents and business owners to provide contact information such as unlisted, unpublished or cell phone numbers. Accurate numbers in the database help to ensure emergency information will be passed on to everyone in a timely manner. Your information will not be provided to any outside agencies or companies.

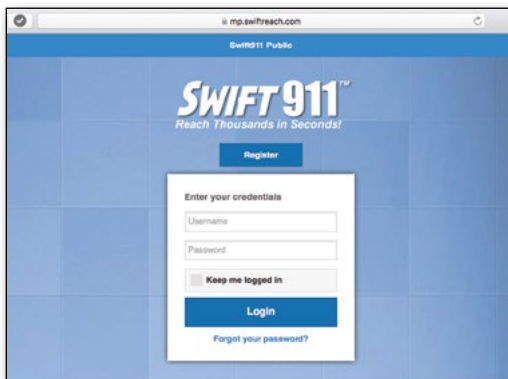
TO SIGNUP FOR SWIFT911 EMERGENCY ALERTS

In an effort to provide more reliable and effective communications with citizens, Hancock County has implemented Swiftreach Networks, Inc. as our emergency notification provider.

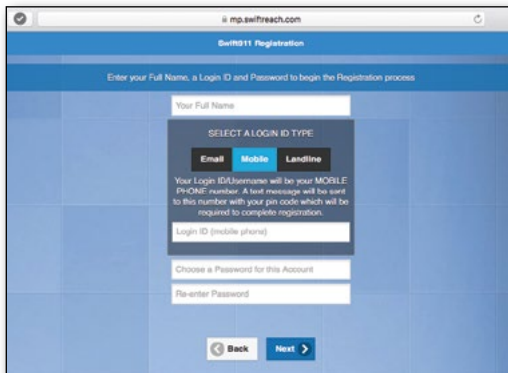
Text: **SWIFT911** to **99538** on your mobile device **OR**

Go to: **Swift.hanvw.org** and click on the **“Register SWIFT911”** link

A new page will open prompting the user to **“Register”**

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the Swift911 Public page. The page has a blue header with the Swift911 logo and the tagline "Reach Thousands in Seconds!". Below the logo is a "Register" button. The main content area contains a white box with the heading "Enter your credentials". Inside this box are input fields for "Username" and "Password", a "Keep me logged in" checkbox, a "Login" button, and a link for "Forgot your password?".

A new page will open prompting the user to enter their information

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the Swift911 Registration page. The page has a blue header with the Swift911 logo and the tagline "Reach Thousands in Seconds!". Below the logo is a "Registration" button. The main content area contains a white box with the heading "Enter your Full Name, a Login ID and Password to begin the Registration process". Inside this box are input fields for "Your Full Name", "Your Login ID (Username)", "Choose a Password for this Account", and "Re-enter Password". Below these fields are "Back" and "Next" buttons. A "Submit Registration" button is located at the bottom of the page.

Once completed select **“Submit Registration”**