

CIVIL DISTURBANCE

DEFINITION - Civil disturbance hazards encompass a set of hazards emanating from a wide range of possible events that cause civil disorder, confusion, strife, and economic hardship. Civil disturbance hazards include the following:

- ▶ **Famine;** involving a widespread scarcity of food leading to malnutrition and increased mortality (Robson, 1981).
- ▶ **Economic Collapse, Recession;** Very slow or negative growth, for example (Economist, 2009).
- ▶ **Misinformation;** erroneous information spread unintentionally (Makkai, 1970).
- ▶ **Civil Disturbance, Public Unrest, Mass Hysteria, Riot;** group acts of violence against property and individuals, for example (18 U.S.C. § 232, 2008).
- ▶ **Strike, Labor Dispute;** controversies related to the terms and conditions of employment, for example (29 U.S.C. § 113, 2008).



MITIGATION ACTIONS FOR RESIDENTS

- ▶ **Personal Preparedness** – It is important to plan for disasters. Families may not be together or at home. Consider completing the following to be prepared.
 - **Family Emergency Communication Plan** (FEMA) serves as a comprehensive checklist for household disaster preparedness. [FEMA Family Emergency Communication Plan Checklist](#)
 - **Family Disaster Plan** (American Red Cross) – Communication networks and electricity could be disrupted. Planning in advance will help ensure that all the members of your household know how to reach each other and where to meet up in an emergency. [American Red Cross Family Disaster Plan Template](#)
 - **Emergency Kits** – It is always a good idea to have an emergency kit on hand. Consider basic items as well as special needs.
 Build a Kit (Ready.gov) [ready.gov Build-a-Kit](#)
 Survival Kit Supplies (American Red Cross) [American Red Cross Survival Kit Supplies Checklist](#)
- ▶ **Emergency Alerts and Warnings** – To receive emergency alerts and warnings, refer to the following websites, mobile apps, and other resources.
 - **American Red Cross Mobile Apps** (Apple App Store, Google Play, or text to “90999”
[Mobile Apps - The American Red Cross](#)

CIVIL DISTURBANCE

- **South Central Alert** – This service allows residents and businesses in an eight county area to be notified of an emergency situation and important alert messages in a variety of ways, including on their cell phones, home and work phones, by text messaging and e-mail.
[South Central Alert - Sign Up](#)
- Monitor police news feeds, weather, and news on social media or websites. Receiving periodic updates is vital.
- ▶ **Prepare a *Get Home Bag (GHB)* and keep it in your vehicle** – The essentials for your GHB normally recommended include food, water, change of clothes, comfortable footwear (you do not want to walk miles in heels), wind-up AM/FM radio, flashlight, small first aid kit, emergency whistle, paper map, list of emergency contacts, extra cell-phone charger, and prescription medication (at least 24 hours supply).
- ▶ **Other Suggestions Include:**
 - Have cash on hand and don't let your gas tank go below a quarter of a tank.



MITIGATION ACTIONS FOR MUNICIPALITIES

- ▶ **Adopt the York County Hazard Mitigation Plan** by resolution or develop and implement a municipal hazard mitigation plan. [York County Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
- ▶ **Prepare a Continuity of Operations Plan** to ensure that essential functions continue to be performed under a broad range of circumstances, protecting residents and minimizing business interruption. Consider what capital improvements are needed to adequately protect business or properties. [FEMA Continuity of Operations Brochure](#)
- ▶ **Prepare an Emergency Operations Plan** which describe who will do what, as well as when, with what resources, and by what authority – before, during, and immediately after an emergency. [FEMA Guide for All Hazards Emergency Operations Planning Guide](#)
- ▶ **Coordination** – Develop pre-disaster Memorandums of Agreements or Memorandum of Understanding with adjacent jurisdictions. Build partnerships (neighborhoods, emergency management/first responders, businesses, utility service providers, and local government agencies to strengthen response and recovery.

Related to Civil Disturbance, government and local law enforcement (LLE) should have access and a detailed understanding of critical facilities that may be targeted. Introducing an organization's key personnel to law enforcement is especially beneficial as it gives first responders a good idea what is critical or dangerous to the public. Law enforcement's integration into existing plans should occur well in advance of events. Traffic considerations are especially important, as this aids in keeping key routes open and safe.

CIVIL DISTURBANCE

Damage to equipment and the inability to resupply can be addressed through the **establishment of mutual aid agreements** to provide assistance if local resources are not available.

- ▶ **Public Education and Outreach** – Educate residents regarding risk and impact of hazards, how to prepare and protect themselves and their property. Facilitate funding for mitigation measures and technical assistance programs that address measures that citizens can take.
- ▶ **Threat Identification** – Maintain active awareness of possible protests and movements in municipality. Social media contractors may be especially helpful in providing an early warning system by datamining social media posts associated with civil unrest to identify times and locations of planned events and associated actions that are identified.
- ▶ **Promoting Signage** – Delineating property lines helps prevent confusion and provide clarity to both protestors and law enforcement at what point trespassing occurs.
- ▶ **Promoting Highly Visible Security** – Visible security measures can deter aggressors. Perimeter-focused monitoring, placement of security personnel, and increased illumination can make people reconsider the difficulty of entering or damaging a facility.
- ▶ **Promote Facility Hardening** – Perimeter security such as walls, fences and restricted areas should be well defined and in proper working order. Additionally, standoff distance between demonstrators and buildings and facilities should be created. Improvements to ground floor glass could mitigate building damage.