

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

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Abstract

A disaster is an unforeseen event causing great loss, upset or unpleasantness. When a disaster comes it should be properly managed. Disaster Management Specialist must plan responses to emergencies and disasters to minimize risk to people and property. They have to do certain duties. School disaster management has certain functions. Objectives of Disaster Management programme are to ensure awareness on the nature and type of disasters, designing a disaster management plan, rescue operations, evacuations drills and the like. There are certain tips for getting prepared for disaster

Key words:- Disaster , Disaster Management.

Introduction

A disaster is a sudden disruption, occurring over a relatively short time, of the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental loss and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources.

Disasters are highly disruptive events that cause suffering, deprivation, hardship, injury and even death, as a result of direct injury, disease, the interruption of commerce and business, and the partial or total destruction of critical infrastructure such as homes, hospitals, and other buildings, roads, bridges, power lines and the like. Disasters can be caused by naturally occurring events, such as earthquakes, hurricanes, flooding or tornadoes, or they can be due to man-made events.

Disaster Management refers to how we can protect or preserve maximum number of lives and property during a natural disaster. Disaster management plans are multi-layered and are aimed to address such issues as floods, hurricanes, fires, and even mass failure of utilities or the rapid spread of disease.

Duties of a Disaster Management Specialist

Emergency management directors plan responses to emergencies and disasters to minimize risk to people and property.

Their plans must comply with local, state, and federal regulations, as well as established best practices. They usually need to meet with law enforcement officials, local businesses, and residents to solicit recommendations and feedback on draft emergency response plans.

They assess available resources and organizations such as fire departments, policy departments, and emergency medical services.

They may need to request budget increases or additional resources.

Once plans are in place, disaster management specialists organize training for first responders, ensure that appropriate personnel are familiar with the plans, and make them available to the public.

They may also visit schools, hospitals, and other public spaces to educate employees and the public about the plans.

School Disaster Management

School Disaster Management is the process of assessment and planning, physical protection and response capacity development designed to protect students and staff from physical harm, minimize disruption and ensure the continuity of education for all children and develop or maintain a culture of safety.

Emergency management is the organization and management of the resources and responsibilities for dealing with all humanitarian aspects of emergencies (preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery). The aim is to reduce the harmful effects of all hazards, including disasters.

Some objectives of Disaster Management Programme

- Ensure awareness on the nature and type of disasters
- Designing a disaster management plan
- Rescue operations
- Evacuations drills
- Accident prevention and safety measures
- Environmental law rules and audits
- Occupational health and occupational diseases
- Fire Fighting tutorial and demonstration
- Handling medical emergencies

Tips for getting prepared for disaster

- Prepare to be self-sufficient for at least three days by putting together an emergency kit, including: non-perishable food, water, a flashlight, a portable battery operated radio or television, batteries, medicines, anti-bacterial hand wipes or gel, first aid kit, money, seasonal clothing, and sanitation supplies.
- Choose an out-of-state friend or relative that family members can call to report their whereabouts and conditions.
- Learn first aid and CPR from local Red Cross Chapter or other community organizations.
- Learn how to shut off gas, water and electricity in case the lines are damaged.
- Make sure insurance coverage is up-to-date and reflects present property values. Check on flood insurance.
- Compile an inventory of home contents. Take pictures and/or video. Store in a safe place.
- Check chimneys, roofs, walls and foundation for stability. Make sure that the house is bolted to its foundation.
- Secure water heater and major appliances, as well as tall, heavy furniture, hanging plants, picture frames and mirrors (especially those over beds).
- Make arrangements for pets.
- Organize neighbourhood to be self-sufficient after disaster.

Conclusion

Disaster is an unforeseen event. Everyone has to be prepared. A general awareness must be given to the people. Children must be taught to overcome disaster. The aim of education is to give all citizens the necessary skills and values to improve their quality of life. Educational institutions can contribute towards the generation of knowledge in the area of disasters, develop expertise in specific types of disaster and impart training in different fields.

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