

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

LANDING PAGE

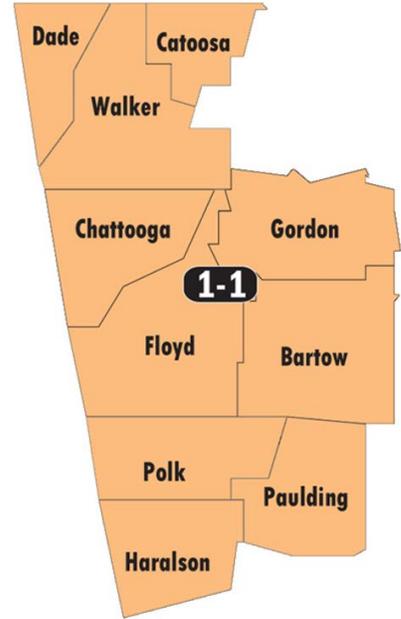
The Northwest Georgia Public Health District Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response strives to create partnerships that give us greater opportunities for education and engagement outreach, designed to strengthen community resiliency while promoting preparedness as a way of life.

Emergency Preparedness is one of several public health programs that promote and protect the health and safety of Georgians. It prepares individuals, agencies, and communities for all types of emergencies (from severe weather to disease outbreak) and provides support for their response efforts.

We are the Emergency Preparedness and Response team for District 1-1, which includes Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Floyd, Gordon, Haralson, Paulding, Polk and Walker.

Our team consists of Rewa Pressley, EP Coordinator; Joshua McKinley, EP Specialist; Risè Wood, Medical Countermeasures Coordinator; Logan Boss, Risk Communicator; Elizabeth “Dawn” May, Healthcare Coalition Facilitator; and Cristina DeRevere, Training and Exercise Coordinator.

In our District, Emergency Preparedness is made up of these specific areas:



TRAINING AND EXERCISE



PLANNING AND LOGISTICS



RISK COMMUNICATION



MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES



HEALTHCARE COALITION



OPIOIDS

TRAINING AND EXERCISE

Training is an essential part of Public Health Emergency Preparedness. By providing ongoing training, we can maintain a prepared public health workforce and community.

Public health staff participate in various preparedness trainings, including those provided by Federal Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security that ensure compliance with the National Incident Management System.

To promote preparedness as a way of life, we offer a variety of trainings to raise awareness and promote resiliency among the communities that we serve:

- Emergency Preparedness 101: Personal Preparedness
- Severe Weather
- Public Health and the Healthcare Coalition
- Public Health Risk Communication
- Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) and Points of Distribution (PODs)
- Mental Health and Wellness
- CPR/AED/Basic First Aid
- Stop The Bleed
- Assist in Active Shooter, Bomb, and Environmental Hazard Exercises
- and many more!

For more information about training opportunities, contact the Emergency Preparedness Department at 706-295-6789.

PLANNING AND LOGISTICS

Be Prepared

Emergency preparedness and community resilience start at an individual level. There are a few practical things that you can do to protect your family in the event of a disaster. Here in Northwest Georgia, we are most likely to be affected by hazardous weather. During a tornado, flood, or any other emergency, you could lose access to county services or assistance for many days. It is important to stay alert and to have an emergency kit and family plan in place.



MAKE A PLAN

Every household should have an established emergency plan that is reviewed and practiced regularly. Here are some resources that can help you write your plan:

<https://www.ready.gov/plan>

<https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/make-a-plan.html>

BUILD A KIT

Make sure that your emergency kit is stocked with the items essential for your family's survival after an emergency. Once you have the basic items, consider any unique family needs, such as supplies for children, seniors, those with disabilities or medical issues, and pets. Put your supplies in containers that are easy to carry.



What do we need in our family preparedness kit?



- ✓ One gallon of water per person for each day
- ✓ Non-perishable foods for at least three days
- ✓ First Aid Kit and any medication for family members
- ✓ Clothing, including shoes
- ✓ Toiletries
- ✓ Blankets and pillows
- ✓ Flashlights and batteries
- ✓ Phone and electronics chargers
- ✓ Copies of important documents (insurances, medical records, etc.)
- ✓ Cash and spare keys
- ✓ Pet care items (food, water, leash, immunization records, etc.)



For more preparedness tips, visit ready.gov

water (1 gallon per person per day for several days)
food (at least a 3-day supply of non-perishables)
battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA weather radio with tone alert
flashlight
first aid kit
extra batteries
whistle (to signal for help)
dust mask (to help filter contaminated air)
plastic sheeting and duct tape
moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties (for personal sanitation)
wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)
manual can opener (for food)
maps
cell phone with chargers
cash or traveler's checks
important family documents saved electronically or in a waterproof container (copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records)
sleeping bag or blanket for each person
weather-appropriate change of clothes and sturdy shoes

BE INFORMED

Stay aware and up-to-date on information that can keep your family safe. You can stay informed by watching or listening to your local news and by subscribing to your county's emergency alert system.

Bartow <https://member.everbridge.net/453003085611364/login>

Catoosa <https://member.everbridge.net/1772417038942736/login>

Chattooga <https://summervillega.org/hyper-reach/>

Dade <https://www.dadecounty-ga.gov/223/Emergency-Notifications>

Floyd <https://www.floydcountyga.gov/emergency-management>

Gordon https://signup.hyper-reach.com/hyper_reach/sign_up_page_2/?id=82822

Haralson Haralson County does not currently have a mass alert system. Please refer to your local news alert systems.

Paulding <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/5FDB87C96D49>

Polk <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BFB7CC4C6C0A>

Walker <https://walkercountyga.gov/alerts/>

RISK COMMUNICATIONS

RSS FEEDS:

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthwestHealthDistrict/>

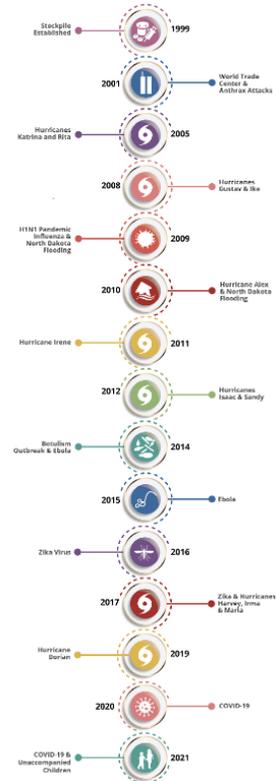
MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES

The Strategic National Stockpile

The Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) was established by former President Bill Clinton in 1999. Each continental US citizen is located within 12 hours of a stockpile. The cache contains an inventory of supplies and pharmaceuticals can be used during any natural or manmade disaster or infectious disease outbreak.

The first activation of the SNS was during the 9/11 and anthrax attacks. The most common activation need over the years has been for natural disasters, such as hurricanes. However, the SNS has also been activated to manage pandemic response, including H1N1, Ebola, Zika, and COVID viruses.

Although separate, the SNS base operations plan is a part of our District Emergency Operations Plan. The SNS plan coordinates the request, receipt, organization, deployment and distribution of emergency supplies from the federal government, through the state, for local public health district distribution.



REGIONAL HEALTHCARE PREPAREDNESS COALITIONS

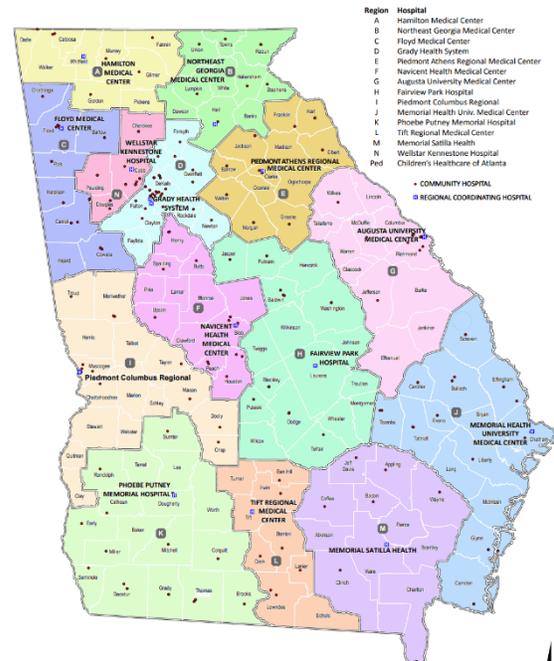
What is a Healthcare Coalition?

Healthcare Coalitions are a part of a nationwide preparedness effort for healthcare facilities and organizations to plan together to create a more prepared and resilient medical system. Because it has been recognized that county, community, and organizational plans alone may not be sufficient to take care of health care needs during and after a disaster, an integrated, regional approach has been implemented to improve the overall continuity of healthcare organizations.

Georgia has 14 coalitions located throughout the state. Each coalition has a Regional Coordinating Hospital (RCH) that serves in conjunction with District Public Health personnel to lead each region. District 1-1 falls into three different coalitions: A, C and N. [Region A](#) includes Catoosa, Dade, Gordon and Walker counties; [Region C](#) includes Bartow, Chattooga, Floyd, Haralson and Polk counties; and [Region N](#) includes Paulding county.



Healthcare Coalitions



Who makes up the coalition?

Coalition members are meant to represent a wide range of health disciplines. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Hospitals
- EMS Providers
- Emergency Management
- Public Safety & First Responders
- Primary Care Providers
- Community Health Centers
- Public Health
- Long Term Care Providers
- Mental & Behavioral Health Providers
- Schools
- Specialty Service Providers
- Support Service Providers
- Home Health
- Federal Entities
- Non-Governmental Entities
- Special Interest Groups

What are the benefits?

The Georgia Healthcare Coalitions bring together healthcare organizations to support the local healthcare community and other response agencies to jointly plan for and respond to man-made or natural emergencies, by promoting intra-regional cooperation and sharing of resources. This partnership

also allows access to additional joint training and grant funding for more cohesive and detailed local emergency response plans and activity.

How do I get involved?

Catoosa, Dade, Gordon and Walker

- Region A
- Hamilton Medical Center

Bartow, Chattooga, Floyd, Haralson and Polk

- Region C
- Atrium Health Floyd

Paulding

- Region N
- WellStar Kennestone Hospital

For more information, call us at 706-295-6789.



OPIOIDS

In 2020, nearly 92,000 people died from drug overdoses, making it a leading cause of injury-related death in the United States. Of those deaths, nearly 75% involved a prescription or illicit opioid. Drug overdose deaths continue to increase in the United States.

Signs of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD):

- Inability to control opioid use
- Uncontrollable cravings
- Drowsiness
- Changes in sleep habits
- Weight loss
- Swings in mood
- Frequent flu-like symptoms
- Decreased libido
- Lack of hygiene
- Changes in exercise habits
- Isolation from family or friends
- Stealing from family, friends or businesses
- New financial difficulties

How to Get Help



[Georgia Crisis Access Line \(GCAL\)](#)

1-800-715-4225

FREE. INFORMATIVE. HELPFUL.

NORTHWEST GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH OPIOID PROGRAM MOBILE APP

FIND RESOURCES
It's easy to search for resources and help in your area. The app even gives you a map to accept the app nearest to you.

WANT TO DOWNLOAD THIS REALLY GREAT APP?

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

LATEST NEWS
Stay updated on the latest opiate and pandemic information and news. Offers notifications to email in so a few posts.

CHECKLISTS AND TIPS
Always be prepared. Check our user checklist to make sure you have everything you need. Review our FAQ and test your knowledge.

DPH
NHWGPUBLICHEALTH.ORG



GRATIS. INFORMATIVO. ÚTIL.

APLICACION MÓVIL DEL PROGRAMA DE OPIOIDES DPH NORTHWEST GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

BUSCAR RECURSOS
Es fácil buscar recursos y ayuda en su área. La aplicación incluso muestra una lista en el mapa de la ubicación a usted.

¿QUIERES DESCARGAR ESTA GRAN APLICACIÓN?

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

NOTICIAS RECIENTES
Encuentra la información y las noticias más recientes sobre opiáceos y pandemias. Permítete que las notificaciones nunca se pierdan en tu correo electrónico.

LISTAS Y SUGERENCIAS
Para siempre preparados. Revisa e imprime listas de verificación para asegurarse de que tiene todo lo que necesita. Revisa nuestra guía de preguntas frecuentes y prueba tu conocimiento.

DPH
NHWGPUBLICHEALTH.ORG



Signs of Opioid Overdose:

- Shallow breathing
- Falling asleep or loss of consciousness
- Small “pinpoint pupils”
- Choking or gurgling sounds
- Limp body
- Pale, blue or cold skin

For more information on opioid overdoses, visit the Georgia Dept. of Public Health at <https://dph.georgia.gov/EmergencyHelpforOpioidOverdoses>.

What to Do If You Suspect an Overdose:

1. Call 911 immediately
2. Administer naloxone, if available
3. Try to keep the person awake and breathing
4. Lay the person on their side to prevent choking
5. Stay with him or her until emergency assistance arrives

Naloxone

In nearly 40% of overdose deaths, someone else was present. Having naloxone available allows bystanders to help a fatal overdose and save lives.



Georgia 911 Medical Amnesty and Expanded Naloxone Access Law protects you

The [Georgia 911 Medical Amnesty and Expanded Naloxone Access Law](#) protects you when you call 911 for help at an alcohol or drug overdose scene.

This law states that the caller and the victim cannot be arrested, charged or prosecuted, when you call 911 for medical assistance at the scene of a suspected overdose, if law enforcement finds personal use amounts of drug paraphernalia.

Anyone in Georgia who knows a person at risk of opioid overdose can [legally obtain and administer naloxone](#) to a person believed to be suffering an opioid overdose. [Naloxone](#) is available at Georgia pharmacies without a prescription. (It will be behind the pharmacy counter).

For more information, visit www.georgiaoverdoseprevention.org.

