SAFE HAVENS FOR ARMY PERSONNEL

In the event of an emergency, Army regional and installation emergency management organizations have plans and procedures to direct evacuation. When time permits, the preferred protective strategy for nonessential and nonemergency personnel is evacuation to a civilian shelter, remote safe haven or designated place outside the danger area. In emergencies with only a short to moderate warning time, installation authorities may direct people to one or more designated safe havens, which may be on the installation or another DOD installation or facility.

Prepare Strong

The Army encourages all personnel to maintain a basic level of preparedness for all potential hazards.

You are encouraged to get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan and be informed about what might happen.

It is your responsibility to understand the mass warning system at your installation and, when notified, be prepared for the following:
- Evacuation
- Moving to civilian shelter
- **Moving to designated safe haven**
- Temporarily sheltering-in-place

Safe Havens

A local safe haven is a facility on the installation that provides temporary protection during large-scale incidents, such as earthquakes and tsunamis. Safe havens may be identified in emergency management plans but are not usually publicly identified until immediately before or during an actual emergency when movement to civilian shelters may not be possible.

A **remote safe haven** is a facility on a geographically distant DOD installation or facility that provides short- to medium-term lodging of displaced personnel during large-scale incidents, such as hurricanes and extended wildfires. Remote safe havens may be identified in emergency management plans and are usually publicly identified but not activated until evacuation has been ordered.

Local safe havens usually consist of shared-use facilities, such as auditoriums, gyms, schools and similar structures. Remote safe havens often consist of civilian or military lodging/ housing facilities, including bachelor quarters and hotels. Safe haven managers will assist in the processing and support of Army personnel and family members as well as circumstances permit. Plans are coordinated with military and civilian authorities and may include provision for food, water, medicines and security.

Safe Havens (Continued)

If you are directed to move to a local or remote safe haven, there are a few things you should know:

- Local safe havens usually have limited access to water, food, medicines and basic sanitary facilities, so it is important that you take an **emergency supply kit** with you.
- Alcoholic beverages, weapons and smoking are prohibited in all local safe havens and most remote safe havens.
- Pets are usually not permitted. Pet owners should make alternative plans.
- Local safe havens usually involve staying with many people in a close proximity, so it is important to cooperate with safe haven managers and others assisting them.

How to Prepare

Authorities may direct post-event evacuation or movement to long-term shelters, remote safe havens or a designated place away from the danger area. No matter which type or size of mass care facility you move to—

- It is vital to **get in advance and take along an emergency supply kit** that can sustain your family for at least three days.
- A **family emergency plan**, including an emergency communication procedure, will prepare you to cope with possible separation of family members.
- Once you are in a safe place, **report to your command** if you are military or government civilian personnel or a member of the selective reserves.

Where to Find Additional Information

- Safe havens vary by installation. Contact the installation Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS) or Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) office for current information.
- Ready Army—**www.ready.army.mil**

It's up to you. Prepare strong. Get an emergency supply kit with enough supplies for at least three days, make an emergency plan with your family and be informed about what might happen.