Emergency Preparedness
Merit Badge

This is an Eagle Required Merit Badge

Produced by: Scoutworks
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What You Need to Complete this Merit Badge

Merit Badge Required

- Blue Card (from your Scoutmaster)

Troop Required

- Emergency Preparedness Pamphlet (from the troop library – Click Here)
- Emergency Preparedness Workbook (Click on the Workbook)

Click on the link for instructions on how to fill it out
The Merit Badge Pamphlet & Workbook

IMPORTANT NOTES!

1. This presentation does not replace the Merit Badge Pamphlet.

   **Read the Merit Badge Pamphlet**

   All of the answers can be found in the Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge Pamphlet.

2. The Merit Badge workbook can help you complete your requirements but you still should

   **Read the Merit Badge Pamphlet**

   Use the WORKBOOK to record your answers. Use extra paper if needed.

   The work space provided for each requirement in the workbook should be used to **make notes for discussing each item with your counselor, use additional paper for providing full and complete answers.**

3. You **must** do each requirement to earn the Merit Badge.

   **READ the Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge Pamphlet.**
Emergency Preparedness

What is an emergency? Usually, it is something unforeseen, unexpected something that requires immediate action. It can be related to weather, such as a hurricane, a tornado, a snowstorm, or a flood. An emergency can be an accident, such as an explosion, a fire, or a car accident.

As a Scout, you should try to learn the actions that can be helpful and needed before an emergency - what preparedness is all about - as well as during and after an emergency.

Emergency Preparedness is recognizing what emergencies are likely to occur and preparing in a way that will lessen or even prevent the negative effects.

Prepared for a Good Turn By Joseph Csatari
The first requirement for this merit badge is to earn the First Aid merit badge, because first aid is emergency preparedness in action.

You need to be able to recognize what is wrong with a person and then react to the emergency with the correct treatment until medical help arrives.

You should know first aid so well that you would be able to react to any situation immediately.

What would you do in these situations? Read about the four scenario's below in the E Prep Merit Badge book starting on page 17 (PDF page 19).

- You are eating pizza with some friends.
- You are camping out with your patrol.
- You are horsing around with friends indoors on a rainy day.
- While skateboarding with a friend, his board hits a crack and he is thrown from it.

Now look at the situations again, and ask yourself how you might have helped to prevent them - another important part of emergency preparedness.

These emergencies call for immediate action. If you have already earned the First Aid merit badge, review those skills so you will be prepared to use them in an emergency.
Complete Requirement # 1

Earn the First Aid Merit Badge

Once completed arrange a meeting with your counselor
Prepare, Respond, Recover, Mitigate and Prevent

In many ways, the world you live in today is much safer than the world in which your parents and grandparents grew up. For instance, medical advances today give us better protection from some diseases that were devastating in the past, such as smallpox. Weather forecasting technology allows for more accurate predictions and better planning for inclement weather. Many institutions help us to be safer and deal with emergencies, too.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration helps ensure safe and healthful workplaces for employees in the United States. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has the mission of helping citizens plan for and respond to disasters and emergencies of all kinds. The American Red Cross works around the world to help people in need.

But it is not enough to rely on medicine, technology, institutions, or the actions of others to keep us prepared and safe. Look carefully at your home and your community, and educate yourself about potential dangers. As you work on requirements for the Emergency Preparedness merit badge, pay close attention to four things: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation and prevention.

Read Pages 21 to 26 (PDF page 23 to 28) in the Emergency Preparedness Pamphlet
The Four Aspects of Emergency Preparedness

Emergency personnel, such as Red Cross and FEMA workers, use many of the same terms when talking about emergency management. That is just one reason it is a good idea to become familiar with such terms: if you find yourself working with emergency personnel, you will understand what your actions are helping to accomplish.

1. **Preparedness.** When you take actions to prepare for emergencies, you recognize the possible threats from natural and other disasters. Making a plan and practicing it, assembling an emergency or disaster supplies kit, and installing warning devices are all actions you can take to prepare for an emergency.

2. **Response.** In this phase of emergency management, you may be called upon to help with shelter, first aid, and other activities. On a personal level, your response to an emergency can take many forms, such as evacuating an area. Your response can help reduce the occurrence of secondary damage.

3. **Recovery.** After a disaster or other emergency, the goal is to try to get things back to “normal.” In addition to rebuilding and repairing property, there is also work to be done to try to bring physical and emotional health back to a stable condition.

4. **Mitigation and Prevention.** The word “mitigate” means “to lessen in force or intensity,” and “to make less severe.” Prevention goes hand-in-hand with mitigation, as do response and recovery. It also can make the difference between inconvenience and tragedy. Mitigation often involves managing risk – becoming aware of, and responding to, risks and hazards. Mitigation efforts can even help prevent an emergency from happening.

Read Pages 21 to 26 (PDF page 23 to 28) in the Emergency Preparedness Pamphlet
Do the following:

2a. Discuss with your counselor the aspects of emergency preparedness:

1. Prevention
2. Protection
3. Mitigation
4. Response
5. Recovery

Include in your discussion the kinds of questions that are important to ask yourself as you consider each of these. See pages 24 to 26 (PDF pages 26 to 28) in the Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge Pamphlet.
**2b.** Using a chart, graph, spreadsheet, or another method approved by your counselor, demonstrate your understanding of each aspect of emergency preparedness listed in requirement 2a (prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery) for 10 emergency situations from the list below. You must use the first five situations in boldface, plus any other five of your choice. Discuss your findings with your counselor.

**THESE 5 below and 5 more**

1. Home kitchen fire
2. Home basement / storage room / garage fire
3. Explosion in the home
4. Automobile accident
5. Food-borne disease (food poisoning)

See Types of Emergencies starting on page 31 (PDF page 33) in the Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge Pamphlet

Once 2a and 2b are completed arrange a meeting with your counselor
Emergency Packs and Kits

Emergency kits provide you with items that will make your life easier in the event of an emergency. Also, by assembling and maintaining these kits, you are thinking ahead about how to deal with possible emergencies before they develop.

Personal Emergency Service Pack
Be prepared for a mobilization call with a personal emergency service pack. You will be ready for many emergencies if you use the checklist on page 27 (PDF page 29) of the Emergency Preparedness pamphlet.

Family Emergency Kit
If you have received a warning that requires you and your family to evacuate your home, you may have little time to throw together a few items or dash to a well-stocked emergency shelter. It would be better to have a box or suitcase of emergency supplies and water on hand to meet your family’s needs for a few days or, better, for a week. These items come in handy in an emergency even if you do not have to evacuate. Some families keep their supplies in a basement shelter area or in a storm cellar, if they have one. See checklist on page 29 (PDF page 31) of the Emergency Preparedness pamphlet.
2c. Meet with and teach your family how to get or build a kit, make a plan, and be informed for the situations on the chart you created for requirement 2b. Complete a family plan. Then meet with your counselor and report on your family meeting, discuss their responses, and share your family plan.

Once completed arrange a meeting with your counselor
Types of Emergencies

There are many types of emergencies and many ways they can occur. Becoming familiar with emergencies and their circumstances can help you prepare, respond, recover, and mitigate and prevent. Knowledge of hazards and dangers can help prevent emergencies, too.

Emergency in the Home
Most people think of their homes as a safe haven. While our homes are safe places, accidents can happen in or near them. With good prevention techniques, many accidents can be avoided. Learn to recognize possible hazards in your environment or unsafe behaviors. However, in the case of a true emergency, your response to the emergency situation can help to prevent injuries or even to save lives.

Fire or Explosion
“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure” - so goes the old saying. And recognizing potentially hazardous situations that might lead to fire or explosion is the first step on the road to prevention.

Gas Leak
Gases can kill. The fumes from natural gas or propane leaks can cause explosions. Stoves that are left on but not lighted are especially hazardous. If anyone creates a spark in a fume-filled room, an explosion could happen. Gases, and related fumes such as carbon monoxide, can cause a person to stop breathing, followed by unconsciousness and death. Sources of dangerous fumes include bad connections for furnaces, ovens, stoves, clothes dryers, water heaters, and other gas appliances. Garages, basements, and kitchens are a home’s danger spots.

Read about Types of Emergencies starting on page 31 (PDF page 33) of the Emergency Preparedness pamphlet.
3. Show how you could safely save a person from the following:

3a. Touching a live household electric wire

3b. A structure filled with carbon monoxide

3c. Clothes on fire

3d. Drowning using non-swimming rescues (including accidents on ice)

See page 73 (PDF page 75) in the Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge Pamphlet

Once completed arrange a meeting with your counselor
Complete Requirement # 4

4. Show three ways of attracting and communicating with rescue planes/aircraft.

See page 47 (PDF page 49) in the Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge Pamphlet

Once completed arrange a meeting with your counselor
5. With another person, show a good way to move an injured person out of a remote and/or rugged area, conserving the energy of rescuers while ensuring the well-being and protection of the injured person.

See page 80 (PDF page 82) in the Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge Pamphlet

Once completed arrange a meeting with your counselor
National Incident Management System

FEMA developed the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

NIMS guides all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations (NGO), and the private sector to work together to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from incidents. NIMS provides stakeholders across the whole community with the shared vocabulary, systems, and processes to successfully deliver the capabilities described in the National Preparedness System.

NIMS is:

• A comprehensive, nationwide, systematic approach to incident management, including the command and coordination of incidents, resource management, and information management.

• A set of concepts and principles for all threats, hazards, and events across all mission areas (Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, Recovery)

• Scalable, flexible, and adaptable; used for all incidents, from day-to-day to large-scale

• Standard resource management procedures that enable coordination among different jurisdictions or organizations

• Essential principles for communications and information management
The Incident Command System

In the event of a disaster, leadership for emergency management is assumed and maintained by local government officials. However, due to differences between the structures of the many state, federal, and other response agencies involved in response and recovery efforts, a standardized system for communication, command, and control is required.

The Incident Command System (ICS) is a standardized hierarchical structure that allows for a cooperative response by multiple agencies, both within and outside of government, to organize and coordinate response activities without compromising the decision-making authority of local command. ICS ensures that the most pressing needs are met, and that precious resources are used without duplication or waste.
Complete Requirement # 6

Do the following:

6a. Describe the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS).

6b. Identify the local government or community agencies that normally handle and prepare for emergency services similar to those of the NIMS or ICS. Explain to your counselor ONE of the following:

1. How the NIMS/ICS can assist a Boy Scout troop when responding in a disaster
2. How a group of Scouts could volunteer to help in the event of these types of emergencies.

6c. Find out who is your community’s emergency management director and learn what this person does to prevent, protect, mitigate, respond to, and recover from emergency situations in your community. Discuss this information with your counselor, utilizing the information you learned from requirement 2b.

Once completed arrange a meeting with your counselor
Emergency Mobilization Plans and Preparation

Is our troop prepared with a mobilization plan if our community asks us to help during an emergency? In any disaster, our first responsibility is to our family and home. But if a tornado has hit a neighboring town, or a nearby community is threatened with a flood or other emergency situation, our troop might be called upon to help.

Getting Involved: Emergency Service Projects

To meet the emergency service project requirement for the Emergency Preparedness merit badge, you must take an active role. Merely being at an emergency is not enough. The part you play must be one that you have been trained for (or trained yourself for). You may participate in an emergency service project during a real emergency, but normally you will have to perform a practice drill with your troop or a local community service organization.

As part of this merit badge you will help our troop plan and conduct an activity that involves an emergency service project.

The Community Emergency Response Team, administered through FEMA, is a training program that prepares people to help themselves, their families, and their neighbors in the event of a disaster in their community. Members learn about disaster preparedness, receive training in basic disaster response skills, and participate in community outreach activities.
Complete Requirement # 7

Do the following:

7a. Take part in an emergency service project, either a real one or a practice drill, with a Scouting unit or a community agency.

7b. Prepare a written plan for mobilizing your troop when needed to do emergency service. If there is already a plan, explain it. Tell your part in making it work.

See your counselor to arrange this.
Community Emergency Service

Lending a Helping Hand

There are many important ways that Scouts can lend their assistance after an emergency. Below are four of the major services Scouts have provided in the past. All of these skills take planning and practice.

• Crowd and Traffic Control
• Messenger Service and Communications
• Collection and Distribution Services
• Mass Feeding, Shelter, and Sanitation

Read about these Types of Services starting on page 83 (PDF page 85) of the Emergency Preparedness pamphlet.
Complete Requirement # 8

Do the following:

8a. Tell the things a group of Scouts should be prepared to do, the training they need, and the safety precautions they should take for the following emergency services:

1. Crowd and traffic control
   a. Be prepared to do, b. Training they need, c. Safety Precautions

2. Messenger service and communication
   a. Be prepared to do, b. Training they need, c. Safety Precautions

3. Collection and distribution services
   a. Be prepared to do, b. Training they need, c. Safety Precautions

4. Group feeding, shelter, and sanitation
   a. Be prepared to do, b. Training they need, c. Safety Precautions

8b. Prepare a personal emergency service pack for a mobilization call.

BRING THIS WITH YOU WHEN YOU MEET WITH THE COUNSELOR.

Prepare a family emergency kit (suitcase or waterproof box) for use by your family in case an emergency evacuation is needed. Explain the needs and uses of the contents.

DO NOT BRING THIS WITH YOU WHEN YOU MEET WITH THE COUNSELOR.

Once completed arrange a meeting with your counselor
Do ONE of the following:

9a. Using a safety checklist, inspect your home for potential hazards. 
(Use the Sample Home Safety Checklist on Pages 12 to 14 of the workbook.) 
Explain the hazards you find and how they can be corrected.

9b. Review or develop a plan of escape for your family in case of fire in your home.

9c. Develop an accident prevention program for five family activities outside the home (such as taking a picnic or seeing a movie) that includes an analysis of possible hazards, a proposed plan to correct those hazards, and the reasons for the corrections you propose.