

VILLAGE OF WINNECONNE

The Community of Opportunity

Village of Winneconne Weather Emergency Management Plan

(Aligned with Winnebago County Emergency Preparedness Framework)

1. PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES

Purpose:

Provide a coordinated framework to **prepare for, respond to, and recover from weather-related emergencies** (flooding, severe storms, tornadoes, winter storms, extreme heat/cold).

Core Objectives:

- Protect **life safety first**
- Reduce **damage to private and public property**
- Maintain **continuity of government and essential services**
- Enable **rapid recovery and restoration**
- Ensure **clear communication with residents and partners**

This plan aligns with the county's approach emphasizing **prevention, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation** through coordinated public/private resources .

2. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION (LOCALIZED TO WINNECONNE)

Primary weather threats:

- **Flooding (Wolf River / Lake Winnebago influence)**
- **Severe thunderstorms (wind, hail, lightning)**
- **Tornadoes**
- **Winter storms / blizzards**
- **Extreme heat & cold**

Secondary impacts:

- Power outages
- Road closures
- Infrastructure failure (water/sewer)
- Agricultural and shoreline damage

3. INCIDENT COMMAND & GOVERNANCE

3.1 Incident Command Structure (ICS)

The Village will operate under the **Incident Command System (ICS)** coordinated with:

- Winnebago County Emergency Management (WCEM)
- Sheriff's Office & ESDA
- Fire/EMS mutual aid

WCEM acts as the **lead coordinating agency** for disaster response and resource integration .

3.2 Key Roles

- **Village President / Administrator** – Policy direction, emergency declaration
- **Emergency Management Coordinator (local or shared)** – Operational lead (Administrator)
- **Police/Fire Chiefs** – Field operations
- **Public Works Director** – Infrastructure and utilities
- **Clerk & Treasurer** – Documentation, finance, FEMA tracking

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4. COMMUNICATION PLAN

4.1 Public Alerting Systems

Residents should be directed to:

- Winnebago County **Alert System (text/email alerts)**
- Outdoor warning sirens
- NOAA Weather Radio
- Local radio/TV

4.2 Municipal Communication Channels

- Village website (live updates)
- Social media (Facebook primary)
- Reverse 911 / CodeRED (if implemented)
- Coordination with county Public Health & Emergency Management feeds

4.3 Internal Communication

- Radio interoperability with county responders
- Redundant systems (cell + radio + email)
- Backup communication if networks fail

4.4 Communication Protocol

- Single **Public Information Officer (PIO)** -Administrator
- Unified messaging with county
- Update frequency: every 2–4 hours during active incidents

5. PREPAREDNESS & MITIGATION

5.1 Resident Preparedness

Encourage:

- Emergency kits (water, food, meds, batteries)
- Family emergency plans
- Property flood-proofing and insurance

5.2 Municipal Mitigation

- Maintain stormwater systems and culverts
- Tree trimming and debris management
- Backup power for:
 - Village Hall
 - Lift stations
 - Critical infrastructure
- GIS mapping of:
 - Flood-prone areas
 - Critical facilities
 - Vulnerable populations

5.3 Training & Exercises

- Annual tabletop exercises with county
- Severe weather drills (spring)
- Coordination with schools and major employers

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6. RESPONSE OPERATIONS

6.1 Activation Levels

- **Level 3 – Monitoring:** Forecasted severe weather
- **Level 2 – Partial Activation:** Localized impacts
- **Level 1 – Full Activation:** Major event

6.2 Weather-Specific Response

A. Flooding

- Pre-stage sandbags
- Close flood-prone roads
- Monitor river gauges
- Coordinate evacuations in low-lying areas

B. Tornado / Severe Storm

- Activate sirens
- Open shelters immediately
- Dispatch emergency services post-impact
- Rapid damage assessment teams

C. Winter Storm

- Pre-treat roads
- Activate snow emergency routes
- Coordinate warming centers

D. Extreme Heat/Cold

- Open cooling/warming centers
- Check vulnerable populations (elderly, disabled)

7. EVACUATION PLAN

7.1 Evacuation Triggers

- Flood crest projections
- Structural damage risk
- Hazardous conditions (downed lines, gas leaks)

7.2 Evacuation Zones

- Identify:
 - Riverfront areas
 - Mobile home parks
 - Low-lying subdivisions

7.3 Evacuation Routes

- Primary: Major highways (e.g., Hwy 116, Hwy 45 corridors)
- Secondary: Local collector roads
- Maintain signage and pre-mapped routes

7.4 Transportation Assistance

- Coordinate with:
 - School buses
 - County transit
 - EMS transport

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7.5 Shelter Locations

Pre-designate:

- Schools
- Community centers
- Churches (agreements in place)

8. SHELTERING & MASS CARE

- Coordinate with Red Cross & County
- Provide:
 - Food, water, medical care
 - ADA accessibility
- Pet sheltering plan (separate but nearby)

9. CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

9.1 Municipal Assets

- Water/wastewater systems
- Public works garages
- Emergency services buildings

9.2 Protection Measures

- Backup generators
- Flood barriers
- Priority snow clearing routes
- Fuel supply continuity

10. DAMAGE ASSESSMENT & RECOVERY

10.1 Initial Damage Assessment

- Conduct within 12–24 hours
- Document:
 - Roads
 - Utilities
 - Public buildings
 - Private property

10.2 Recovery Priorities

1. Life safety
2. Critical infrastructure
3. Transportation routes
4. Public services

10.3 Financial Recovery

- Track costs for FEMA/state reimbursement
- Utilize Wisconsin Emergency Management support programs

11. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT (COG)

- Alternate meeting locations
- Remote operations capability
- Delegation of authority hierarchy
- Backup records (cloud + offsite)

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12. COORDINATION WITH COUNTY & STATE

The Village will integrate with:

- **Winnebago County Emergency Management (WCEM)**
- **Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM)**

These agencies provide:

- Resource coordination
- Planning and training support
- Disaster recovery assistance

13. PUBLIC EDUCATION & OUTREACH

- Annual preparedness campaigns
- Severe Weather Awareness Week participation
- Distribution of preparedness guides

Preparedness improves recovery and reduces impacts when disasters occur

14. PLAN MAINTENANCE

- Annual review and update
- Post-incident after-action reports
- Continuous improvement cycle

15. OPTIONAL APPENDICES

- Contact directory (county/state/local)
- Evacuation maps
- Critical facilities list
- Resource inventory
- Mutual aid agreements



Logan Fuller
Village Administrator