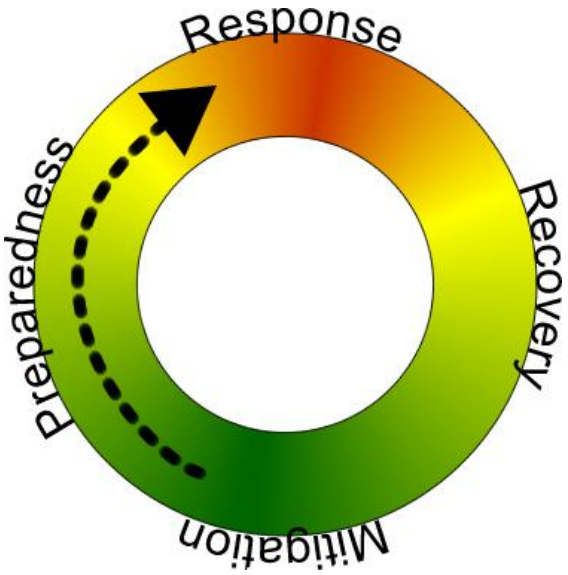
Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge

2a. Discuss the aspects of emergency preparedness:



The 4 phases of Emergency Management:

Mitigate: Mitigation includes any activities that prevents an emergency, reduces the chance of an emergency happening or lessens the damaging effects of emergencies. Mitigation involved some of the following activities:

- Building Codes
- Code Compliance
- Flood Plain management

Prepare: Preparation includes a variety of measures aimed at insuring the community is prepared to react to any hazard that threatens the community. Preparedness involves some of the following activities:

- Planning
  - Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
  - Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)
- Exercises
  - Tabletop Exercises
  - Drills
- Training
- Public Education
  - www.KnoWhat2do.com

Response: Response is an action taken immediately before, during and just after a disaster or major emergency. The goal of the responder is to save lives, minimize property damage and enhance the beginning of recovery from the incident. Recovery is accomplished through some of the following methods:

- Warnings
  - Emergency Alert System (EAS)
    - 820 AM is primary
  - Outdoor Warning Sirens
    - 22 sirens in Richardson
    - Tested on the first Wednesday of the month at noon, weather permitting
  - Reverse 911
- Evacuation
- Sheltering

Recover: Recovery is the activity that returns infrastructural systems to minimum operating standards and guides long-term efforts designed to return life to normal or improved levels after a disaster. It is achieved through the following ways:

- Damage Assessment
- Debris Removal
- Decontamination
- Crisis Counseling

6b. Identify the government or community agencies that morally handle and prepare for the emergency services listed under 6a and explain how a group of scouts could volunteer to help in the event of these types of emergencies.

Crowd and traffic control:
Richardson Police Department and Richardson Traffic Department
Messenger service and communications:
Richardson Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES)
Collection and distribution services:
Dallas County Volunteer Organizations active in Disaster (VOAD)
Group feeding, shelter, and sanitation:
American Red Cross, Richardson Parks Department and the Salvation Army

6c. Who is the EMC and learn what this person does to mitigate, prepare, respond, and recover from emergency situations in your community.

Richardson Office of Emergency Management has three (3) people working towards emergency preparedness in Richardson.

1. The Emergency Management Coordinator is Mistie Gardner. She can be reached at mistie.gardner@cor.gov or 972-744-0901.
2. The Preparedness and Mitigation Coordinator is Alisha Gimbel. She can be reached at alisha.gimbel@cor.gov or 972-744-0902.
3. The Response and Recovery Coordinator is Scott Greeson. He can be reached at scott.greeson@cor.gov or 972-744-0903.

The Office of Emergency Management's mission is to ensure that the capability exists to respond, manage, and recover from major emergencies and/or disasters. This is accomplished in part by the development of the City's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), Recovery Plan and the Continuity of Operation Plan (COOP). The Office of Emergency Management serves as the designated office for monitoring state and federal standards and practices and as the technical advisor to the Mayor and staff on related issues governing the national emergency management/domestic preparedness system.