



Pennsylvania officials are actively monitoring the major flooding situations in the commonwealth, caused by the remnants of Tropical Storm Lee. Department of Health employees are at the state emergency operations center and will continue to staff it 24/7 for the duration of this storm system and its immediate aftermath.

The National Weather Service is calling this a life threatening, very dangerous and significant storm system for portions of Pennsylvania. Several counties in the eastern portion of the state have already experienced major flooding from this system, with additional flooding forecasted for the coming days. The rain from this system is not expected to taper off until sometime Friday.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health is encouraging everyone to monitor the rain/flooding forecasts for their areas – particularly in the central and eastern parts of the state – and ensure disaster plans are up-to-date.

What Actions Should You Take To Be Prepared?

Monitor potential flooding in your area:

- National Weather Service website – www.weather.gov
- Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) – www.pema.state.pa.us
- Trusted major news outlets

Plan for possible impacts to your facility(ies)

- Learn about the potential impact to your hospital(s) and identify facilities, personnel and other resources that may be affected due to this storm system:
 - Plan for potential impacts from flooding, power outages, limited access, patient and employee evacuations, etc.
 - Assign an emergency response manager with the lead role in gathering, consolidating and disseminating event information.
 - Continue to monitor this storm system until the threat is gone.
- Make sure information is updated for:
 - Emergency Plan
 - Internal contacts:
 - Emergency organization/function charts and contact lists.
 - External contacts:
 - Local and state (including the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency);
 - External suppliers;
 - Media;
 - Gas, water and electric utilities;

- Fuel supplier;
 - HVAC for generator/electrical; and
 - Contractors (for cleanup).
- Ensure you have enough emergency supplies. Also, make sure generators are ready and functioning properly.

Communication/Public Information

- Communicate information to your employees, patients/clients, and the public:
 - Practice effective communications
 - What are you doing to prepare?
 - How will your patients/clients be kept safe?
 - Provide specific guidance
 - Remind employees to prepare their family and home
 - Emergency Plan
 - Emergency Kit Checklist
 - www.ReadyPA.org contains flooding and other preparedness information as well as emergency preparedness planning templates

Additional Information/Quicklinks

- Fact Sheets/Frequently Asked Questions About Flood Recovery
 - [Food and Water Safety](#)
 - [Prevent and Treat Illnesses and Injuries after a Hurricane or Flood – like Carbon Monoxide Poisoning, Mold Growth, etc.](#)
 - [Sanitation and Hygiene](#)
 - [Reentering your Flooded Home](#)
 - [Cleanup of Flood Water](#)
 - [Precautions after a Flood](#)
 - [Worker Safety after a Flood](#)
- Quicklinks to other resources
 - Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 - Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)
www.pema.state.pa.us
 - Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
www.dot.state.pa.us
Travel conditions – www.511pa.com
 - Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
www.dep.state.pa.us
 - ReadyPA
Learn more about emergency preparedness in Pennsylvania, including information about floods.
www.ReadyPA.org

- American Red Cross
For Pennsylvania shelter information, [click here](#)

- Federal Agencies
 - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
www.cdc.gov
 - U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
www.fda.gov