

MERCER ISLAND EMERGENCY WELL OPERATION / WATER DISTRIBUTION

Why a City Well?

The City of Mercer Island extensively studied, with the help of emergency water planning experts, what would be the most cost effective and reliable system to provide water to the community. The results of the study found a well to be the smartest choice. Other options, like taking water from the lake, encountered legal and environmental issues as well as a higher cost and safety concerns. Facilities to treat lake water for emergency purposes are much more sophisticated to operate SAFELY and maintain, than a well. It's important to keep in mind that the well is just one element of the City's efforts to prepare the Island for an emergency. Other plans include making use of the potable water already in the reservoir, working with Seattle Public Utilities to establish the capacity to create a temporary piping system across the East Channel as well as having an agreement with a private company that can provide us with resources in the event all else fails.

Overview of City Plan

- We are asking citizens and businesses to be prepared to shelter in place for 7 days (House Kit, Car Kit, Work Kit)
Got to www.mercergov.org/emergencyprep
- Take safety precautions during a disaster.
Drop/ Cover/ Hold
- Take care of yourself, family, home and Pets.
Dress for safety: Heavy soled shoes, leather gloves, hard hat, flashlight.
If you smell gas shut off gas.
Turn off electrical at circuit box
Shut off water at main house valve or at main valve at street
Call out of state contact to check on family members if phone systems are disrupted locally.
Tune into KIRO and HS radio station (KIRO 710AM, 88.9 FM) with battery operated radio for info.
Check on neighbors to see if OK
If able, volunteer at the city hall court room to assist those in need.
- Currently One shelter site, the community center at Mercer View 8236 SE 24th
- Faith community may assist with additional shelters – signs will be posted at intersections for further information.
- Medical Clinics may be used for potential triage sites.

Volunteer Organization

Volunteer Leads

Registration
Medical
Utility / Water Distribution
Search & Rescue
Sheltering
Mental Health
Child Care
Senior Care
Animal Shelter
Damage Assessment

Communications
Resources
Transportation
Business Community
Faith Community
Neighborhoods

Well Activation and Operation Procedures

After it is determined that water lines into the city have been compromised, the Incident Commander will have the discretion to activate the Emergency Well.

Once the call to activate the well has been issued the well operation leads will be contacted who will in turn contact their well operation team.

Volunteers will assemble at the well, be given a vest and an assignment.

Signs will be posted / Roads Blocked / Ped and Vehicle stations set up – see attached

Well Operation will be during day light hours only and determined at the time of the activation.

There are 4 assignments within the Well Operation Team.

Well Operation Team – City staff or Well Operation Leads that have been trained in operation procedures - instructions located within well building.

Dispensing Team for Vehicles and Public

Once well building is open gather supplies needed to set up dispensing stations.

Pipes, tables, water bags, grocery sacks, hose, folding chairs, info. cards, chlorine tablets.

Dispensing station covers will need to be unlocked, pipes threaded and water turned on once well is operational.

6 quart bags will be filled and placed into grocery bags with information card and chlorine tablet. The well water is NOT Potable and should be treated.

Water treatment recommendations for the public are:

One gallon of water per person a day: 2 quarts for drinking, 2 quarts for sanitization.
16 drops of unscented liquid chlorine bleach per gallon of cool water. Let stand for 30 minutes if it smells like chlorine you can drink it, if it does not smell like chlorine add 16 more drops of unscented liquid chlorine bleach per gallon, let stand for another 30 minutes. If it still doesn't smell like chlorine discard water.

Traffic Control Team

Within well building are the vests and barricades

Put on vest and place barricades in predetermined locations to block roads and direct people
See attached Map.

Bulk Loading Team will consist of 8 teams, 2 people per team. Teams to distribute water to areas on Island determined by EOC.

Each team will need a 1 ton truck to haul the 250 – 325 gallon water tote.

Fill totes at reservoir north of well.

A Radio will be provided for each team if phone communication is down.

8 totes.

Distribution areas will be determined at the time of incident.

To open well building and access supplies within:

Punch in 4 digit code at well door. (codes provided at time of activation)

Turn Toggle switch off

Punch in 4 digit code into alarm pad left of toggle switch.

Turn on lights

Quick Start for Traffic Control Team

Instructions for distribution and manning of Traffic Control Stations, refer to EWS Operations Manual for detailed instructions for each step of the process.

This is just a draft for review and discussion (or tossed if it steps on toes)

See Map on back for Barricade Station Locations:

I. Traffic barricades:

Traffic barricades (with preprinted signs, and) will (should be) located in X corner of Pump House. There will be barricades for the following street corners (and a team assigned to each corner).

In general, traffic flow will be from South to North on 88th Avenue SE, starting at SE 47th.

Barricades with teams will be posted at:

88th SE and SE 47th

89th SE and SE 47th (to keep cars from going north on up 89th SE)

88th SE & SE 45th (both sides of the street).

86th SE and SE 45th (to keep cars from cutting in at SE 45th).

88th SE and SE 44th (West side to keep cars from cutting in from the West).

89th SE and SE 44th (to keep cars from cutting in from the East).

88th SE and SE 42nd (to keep cars from cutting in from the east or west) and to direct cars flowing out either way on SE 42nd.

86th SE and SE 42nd to keep cars from cutting in from the east, and direct cars flowing out north on 86th to SE 40th.

If possible a team at 86th SE and SE 40th to direct cars wishing water to go south on Island Crest Way to SE 47th to begin in Cue.

It is also reasonable to think that there might be a need for teams near Island Crest Way and SE 47th to keep cars coming in both directions in line.

It might be advisable each Barricade Team to have a stack of pre-prepared 1/2 sheet "instruction pages" to explain to the drivers the traffic flow, and what to expect when they reach the distribution points. E.g.

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