

TOWN OF BETHEL, CONNECTICUT EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
ANNEX 1E – EVACUATION
2014

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS For Evacuation/Relocation of Reynolds Ridge Elderly Housing complex.

A. GENERAL

1. The responsibility for ordering evacuation rests with Bethel's First Selectman, or Emergency Management Director. In addition, the Fire Chief or senior fire officer on scene (IC) has statutory authority to order an evacuation.
2. The method and type of evacuation of Residents will vary depending on the type of event.

Fire Dept, Police Dept, and EOC staff will coordinate the evacuation of residents from Reynolds Ridge based on needs and associated dangers.
3. Residents should always have a "personal evacuation" plan that includes having a relative or friend that they can contact and relocate to on a temporary basis. The resident will be more comfortable staying with a friend or family member than in a Municipal Shelter.
4. The primary method of transport during an evacuation will be personal vehicles supplemented by town or private vans and buses. Under certain circumstances town emergency vehicles (police cruisers, public works trucks, etc.) may be used.
5. The Housing Director shall have a copy of this emergency plan and shall have personal and emergency contact info available for all residents.

B. FIRE

In the event of a fire in the complex, the building & units attached directly to the fire unit shall evacuate immediately to a safe location where residents can be accounted for. Based on the size of the fire, the Fire Dept may order the evacuation of additional buildings. At no time shall residents from unaffected areas congregate close to the fire so as not to congest routes and hamper firefighting operations.

For short term evacuation of one building, the Community rooms shall be used as a temporary holding area for affected residents. The Fire Dept will contact the Red Cross who can then assist displaced residents with housing, clothing, etc.

Units 1 to 41 to use the community room located at 25 Reynolds Ridge.
Units 42 to 82 to use the community room located at 58 Reynolds Ridge.

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C. POWER OUTAGES

A long term power outage (more than 18 hours) may require the evacuation and relocation of residents. This will be based on weather conditions (extreme cold, heat) and consultation with CL&P officials. Reynolds Ridge is on the priority power restoration list with CL&P. Residents can be contacted via a town wide "Everbridge" phone notification with specific information. IF the decision is made to relocate residents, the residents are encouraged to first use their "personal evacuation" plan (go to a friend or family home). If the residents need to relocate to the Shelter, they will be encouraged to use their own transportation to the Bethel Municipal Center Shelter. If residents do not have their own transportation, the Town of Bethel can provide such in the form of Police Cars, Fire Command vehicles, or local buses.

D. PRE-EVENT EVACUATION

For anticipated events, storms, etc, there may be a need to relocate residents prior to an event for their safety. This decision will be based on many factors and the decision will be made by Town Officials. Residents will be notified via a phone message with instructions on time & location to evacuate. The same procedure will be followed such as using "personal evacuation" plan, own transportation, etc.

E. IMMEDIATE EVACUATION

In the event of an unplanned, immediate evacuation of Reynolds Ridge the following steps shall be taken: Notification will be made via a phone message and Police or Fire personnel will go door to door with info on evacuation instructions. The Bethel Emergency Operations Plan will go into effect and all methods available will be utilized to remove the residents from the complex to a safe area. This includes personal vehicles, FD/PD vehicles, local busses. The safe area may not be the Municipal Center, this will be based on the nature of the event and best location to evacuate to.