

## What can Board of Health Members do to help?

1. Talk about emergency planning and support your local towns in spending resources to do emergency planning.
2. Appoint one of your BOH members as the special Emergency Response Liaison. Keep in touch with the planners by email.
3. Ask to see your town's Community Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). Help to fully integrate your BOH into the plan and keep it updated.
4. Prepare a Board of Health All Hazards plan, an Emergency Dispensing Site Plan, a Continuity of Operations Plan, and a Pandemic Flu Plan for your community.
5. Participate in regional planning efforts with your local hospital and Local/Regional Emergency Response Committee (LEPC/REPC).
6. Take trainings offered by various groups like the Medical Reserve Corps, the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEPC), the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), and the Berkshire County Boards of Health Association (BCBOHA). These trainings are often free and some can be done online. Not only are they becoming required by the state and federal government, they will give you a better understanding of who is in charge, how the system works and what your role is in an emergency situation. Trainings required by the state and federal government include:
  - a. Online NIMS (National Incident Management System) Training – IS 700  
[http://training.fema.gov/nims\\_training.shtm](http://training.fema.gov/nims_training.shtm)
  - b. Online ICS (Incident Command System) Training – ICS 100  
<http://training.fema.gov/EIMWeb/IS/crslst.asp>
  - c. ICS (Incident Command System) Training – ICS 200
7. Enlist your residents with special equipment or skills to help. You know your constituency and can best identify the people that can be counted on to deliver what is needed in an emergency situation. Keep an updated list of residents with medical training, including both active and retired doctors, nurses, veterinarians, and EMTs. Town and city census information is often useful in identifying these people.
8. Promote the Berkshire Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). Volunteers are an important component of any emergency response.
9. Take part in local emergency drills.