



Wyandotte County, Kansas Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan

RSF 6 Natural and Cultural Resources

Coordinating Agency: Wyandotte County Historical Society and Museum

Primary Agencies: Unified Government Community Development
Unified Government Emergency Management
Unified Government Neighborhood Resource Center
Building Inspections
License Administration
Unified Government Planning & Urban Design
Unified Government Public Works
Unified Government Strategic Communications

Support Agencies: City of Bonner Springs
City of Edwardsville
Strawberry Hill Museum and Center
National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame
Clendening Medical Museum
Grinter House
Vernon Center (Underground Railroad Museum)
Kansas City Kansas Community College
Kansas City Kansas Public Library
Kansas Historical Society

Recovery Support Function (RSF) 6 – Natural and Cultural Resources (NCR) facilitates the preservation, conservation, rehabilitation, and restoration of natural and cultural resources consistent with post-disaster community priorities. This RSF should be compliant with applicable environmental and historical preservation laws and executive orders. RSF members work together to leverage existing NCR capabilities, build additional NCR capabilities, and identify potential funding and other resources to help address at-risk and affected NCR with long-term solutions. This goal is achieved by creating a systematic process that engages the whole community in the development of executable, operational, and community-based approaches to meet defined recovery objectives.

Aligning with the federal NCR RSF, RSF 6 facilitates the extension of expertise from local departments, agencies, and partners with the intention of:

- Incorporating considerations related to the management and protection of NCR, community sustainability, and compliance with environmental planning and historic preservation requirements into Long-Term Recovery efforts.
- Enhancing the jurisdiction's ability to address the post-disaster Long-Term Recovery needs of natural and cultural resources and historic properties.
- Coordinating jurisdictional programs that support disaster recovery, technical assistance, and data sharing.



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- Identifying and conducting post-disaster NCR assessments and studies.
- Identifying NCR subject matter experts to serve on the damage assessment teams.

| Natural and Cultural Resources RSF Goals | Short-Term | Intermediate | Long-Term |
|--|------------|--------------|-----------|
| Evaluate infrastructure needs and capabilities. | ● | ● | |
| Establish a shared infrastructure recovery strategy. | ● | ● | ● |
| Restore mobility and critical services. | | ● | ● |
| Rebuild physical facilities that support essential services, including healthcare, social services, and education systems. | | ● | ● |
| Provide technical and financial resources to infrastructure partners that address legal, policy, and programmatic issues. | | ● | ● |

Figure 1: Natural and Cultural Resources Goals by Recovery Phase

DEFINITIONS

- **Cultural Resources:** Any building, site, district, structure, or object that has artistic, educational, historic, legal, scientific, architectural, archeological, cultural, or social significance. These resources may include a community’s heritage and way of life, historic properties, and historic/cultural resources such as documents, art, and audiovisual materials. They may comprise aspects of a cultural system that are valued by or significantly representative of a culture or that contain significant information about a culture. A cultural resource may be a tangible entity or a cultural practice. Tangible cultural resources are characterized as, but not limited to, structures, archeological resources, cultural landscapes, museum collections, archival documents and photographs, sacred sites, and ethnographic resources. Also included are cultural items as defined in the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act [25 U.S.C. 3001].
- **Historic Properties:** A district, site, building, structure or object significant in American history, architecture, engineering, archeology or culture at the national, state, or local level [16 U.S.C. 470]. Historic properties will be included in cultural resources throughout this RSF.
- **Natural Resources:** Includes physical resources such as water, air, soils, topographic features, geologic features, and paleontological resources; physical processes such as weather, precipitation, runoff, erosion, deposition, tidal action, and wildfire; biological resources such as native plants, animals, and communities; biological processes such as natural succession and evolution; and associated attributes such as natural sounds, solitude, clear night skies, and scenic vistas.



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CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

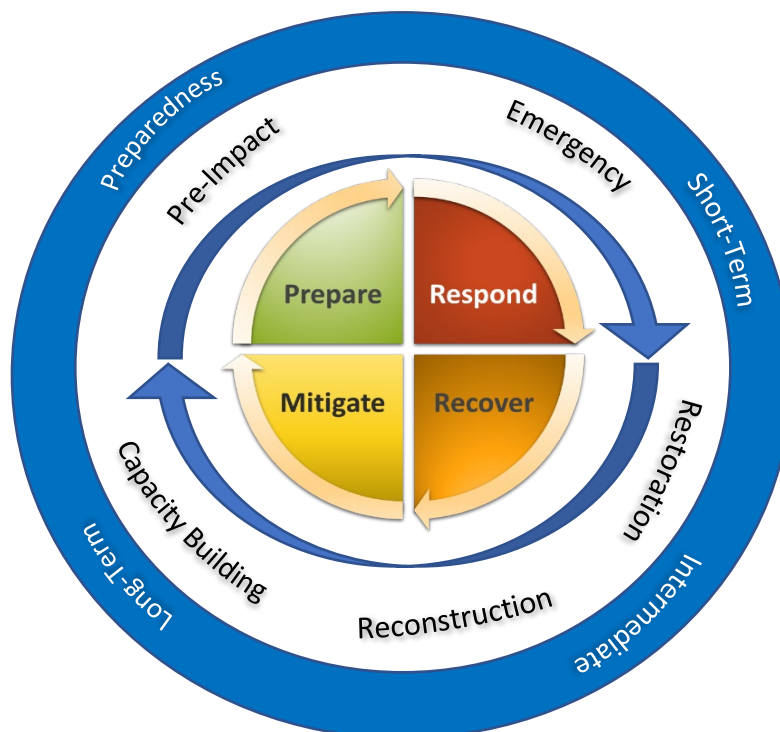
A. General

If an incident evolves into such a magnitude that recovery activities exceed the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) capabilities or require external resources from agencies not represented in the EOC (if activated), this RSF may be activated. This engagement is facilitated (virtually or on-site) with the assistance of personnel from RSF 6 primary agencies and supporting organizations as well as other coordinating agencies.

The established four phases of recovery as described in the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF).

- **Phase 1: Preparedness (Pre-Disaster)** includes actions taken before an incident or event requiring RSF support.
- **Phase 2: Short-Term Recovery** includes actions taken within days to weeks following an incident.
- **Phase 3: Intermediate Recovery** includes actions taken within weeks to months following an incident.
- **Phase 4: Long-Term Recovery** includes actions taken within months to years following an incident.

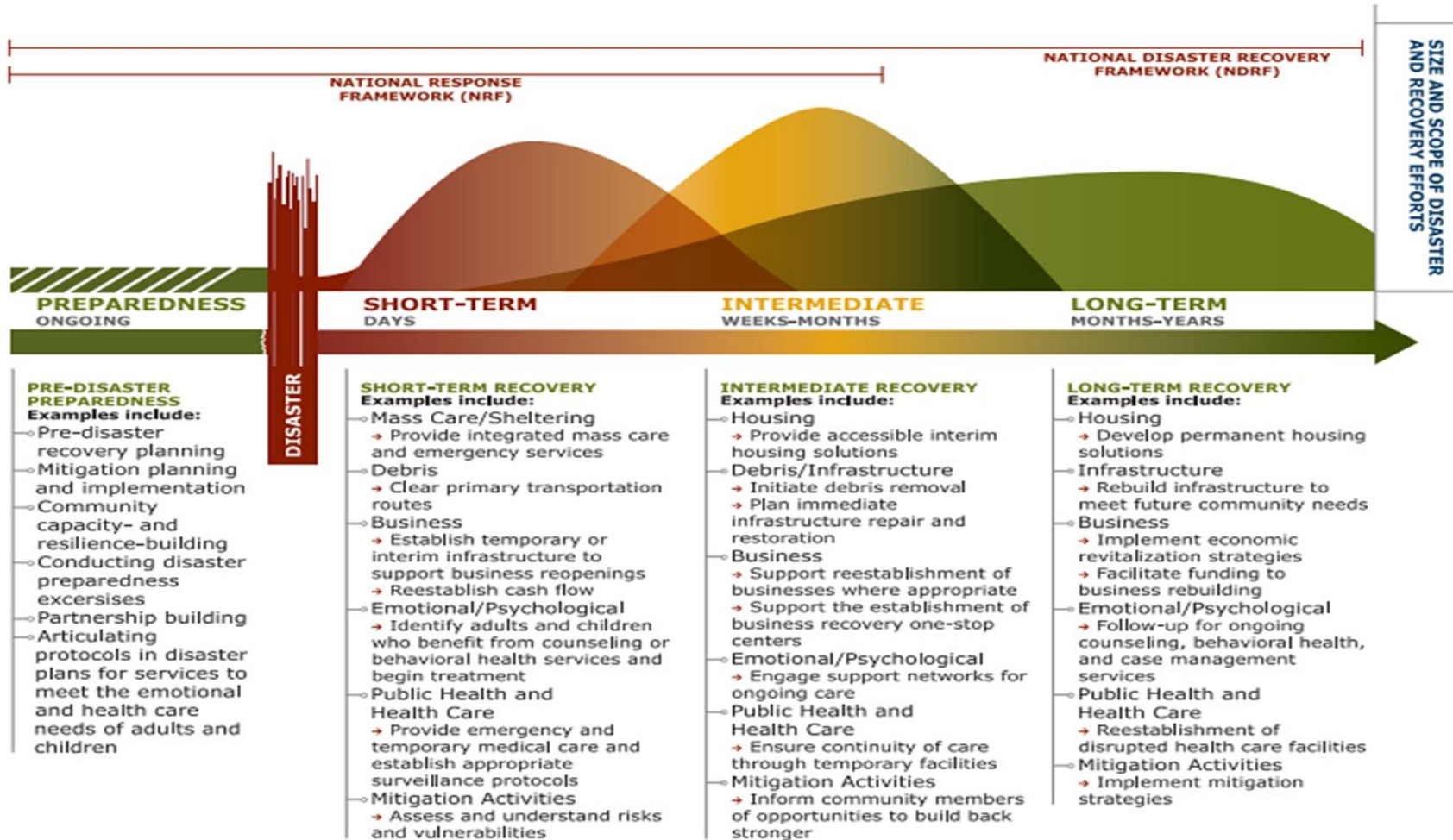
After the decision has been made to activate RSF 6, the jurisdiction's Recovery Coordinator/Local Disaster Recovery Manager is the primary point of contact for the implementation.





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RECOVERY CONTINUUM – DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES BY PHASE





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IMPLEMENTATION THRESHOLDS

Not all incidents will require RSF 6 to be activated. The following thresholds are general guidelines that may indicate the need to activate this RSF and other RSFs:

- At the direction of Recovery Manager (or designee)
- The EOC may or may not be activated.
- Damage assessments are required.
- Field survey and inspections teams are activated.
- A significant number of residents within the county are affected.
- A significant number of critical government agencies are affected.
- Many civic organizations are impacted.
- Many natural and cultural resources are impacted.
- Elected officials have made a proclamation of a local emergency, state of emergency, or federally declared disaster.
- Critical lifelines and essential infrastructures are damaged and unavailable to portions of the community.

OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

RSF 6 stakeholders work together to accomplish the following objectives:

- Coordinate and communicate regarding preservation professionals, resources, materials, and services.
- Assist with locating secure and climatically stable storage facilities for items of historical and cultural significance that must be evacuated from their current or existing storage facilities.
- Secure essential personnel, materials, equipment, and services required to stabilize, conserve, and secure items of historical and cultural significance.
- Secure natural, cultural, and historically significant sites against further deterioration through natural or human-caused threats.
- Engage cultural and historic preservation leadership's membership and participation in local recovery planning efforts.
- Emphasize the need to incorporate natural and cultural elements into local plans to ensure that the needs of the natural and cultural sectors as well as their impact within the region are recognized.
- Convene conference calls to discuss the status of recovery efforts and enable representatives of cultural institutions and historic properties to connect with emergency management directors.



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- Provide technical assistance, including performing damage assessments by trained NCR Response and Recovery Team members.
- Provide damage assessments for cultural and historic resources to local officials for inclusion in damage assessment calculations.
- Monitor conditions at the emergency/disaster areas.

An established RSF that is operational during response activities will facilitate the transition out of response and Short-Term Recovery activities into an organized reconstruction and redevelopment (Intermediate and Long-Term Recovery) phase. RSF 6 is organized to facilitate this transition to achieve the desired end state for the County.

During the early recovery phase, the Disaster Recovery Manager and RSF 6 members will work closely with the EOC functional components and other RSFs to share information about impacts, assistance provided, and working relationships at all levels. As the response and Short-Term Recovery missions decrease, RSF 6 members will absorb the residual Short-Term Recovery activities related to natural and cultural resources and transition to the disaster recovery coordination structure. NCR implementation activities are listed below.



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PHASE 1: PREPAREDNESS (PRE-DISASTER)

Phase 1 is ongoing. This phase ends when an incident occurs that requires recovery operations. This phase includes activities that take place prior to an incident that would necessitate recovery operations. This phase consists of the following major tasks:

- Identify relevant local, state, and federal programs and incentives that have a role in supporting the preservation, protection, conservation, rehabilitation, recovery, and restoration of NCR during recovery.
- Develop a pre-disaster NCR RSF action/sustainment plan to identify and communicate priority actions.
- Identify environmental projects and programs that will protect natural resources and open space, while simultaneously reducing damage from natural disasters.
- Identify and prioritize gaps.
- Work with private nonprofits and other non-governmental organizations to leverage opportunities for planning for natural and cultural resource issues.
- Track disaster-related recovery costs through the specific reporting systems.

PHASE 2: SHORT-TERM RECOVERY

Phase 2 begins when an incident occurs. This phase ends when the Short-Term Recovery objectives are met. The Short-Term Recovery phase is part of response operations and includes activities immediately following the incident to save lives, protect property and the environment, and mitigate the threat. This phase consists of the following major tasks:

- Facilitate the application and implementation of NCR recovery projects, including grant-related mitigation efforts or Small Business Administration loans.
- Work to leverage local, state, and federal resources and available programs to meet community recovery needs.
- Identify opportunities to leverage natural and cultural resource protection with hazard mitigation strategies.
- Address government policy and agency program issues, gaps, and inconsistencies related to natural and cultural resource issues.
- Conduct salvage operations for records deemed essential for the continuity of government. This includes identifying the appropriate contractors for salvage operations in coordination with the jurisdiction's Recovery Manager.
- Monitor debris management activities to ensure that debris operations are not causing further environmental damage or breaking any environmental regulations in coordination with impacted jurisdiction.
- Continue to track disaster-related recovery costs through the specific reporting systems.



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PHASE 3: INTERMEDIATE

Phase 3 begins sometime during Short-Term Recovery and can be defined in terms of weeks to months. This phase ends when the Intermediate Recovery objectives are met. This phase consists of the following major tasks:

- Coordinate with the appropriate jurisdictional and State environmental officials to ensure the desired final goals and objectives comply with environmental regulations and codes.
- Utilize information gathered during the impact analysis to strengthen grant applications for Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program projects.
- Develop/update the long-term sustainability plan for Long-Term Recovery.
- Continue to track disaster-related recovery costs through the specific reporting systems.

PHASE 4: LONG-TERM RECOVERY

Phase 4 begins when the jurisdiction has determined its recovery end state. This phase consists of the following major tasks:

- Rebuild and restore NCR when possible and implement the long-term sustainability plan.
- Coordinate with rehabilitation and conservation operations to ensure loss of historical and culturally significant resources is minimized.
- Continuously monitor project progress to ensure consistency with natural and cultural resource preservation standards.
- Plan demobilizing or reassigning resources.
- Compile and reconcile costs and coordinate for reimbursement.
- Continue to track disaster-related recovery costs through the specific reporting systems.



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ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Every member of a recovery operations organization is responsible for documenting and reporting possible mitigation actions. UG departments may need to take responsibility for certain functions throughout the recovery process. All assigned UG departments should:

- Maintain standard operating plans and functional checklists.
- Train personnel and alternates.
- Maintain communications and coordination with appropriate EOC(s).

This table provides a detailed list of roles and responsibilities.

Stakeholders

Functions

Historical Society and Museum

- Support RSF national and local level operations with subject matter expertise and staffing support, as appropriate
- Assist with locating secure and climatically stable storage facilities for items of historical and cultural significance that must be evacuated from their current or existing storage facility
- Secure essential personnel, materials, equipment, and services required to stabilize, conserve, and secure items of historical and cultural significance
- Secure natural, cultural, and historically significant sites against further deterioration through natural or human-caused threats
- Participate in local recovery planning efforts
- Provide technical assistance, including performing damage assessments by trained personnel

Community Development

- Supports RSF national and local level operations with subject matter expertise and staffing support, as appropriate
- Assist with locations of all historical homes and sites within the county

Emergency Management

- Reports situation and damage to Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM)
- Coordinates and maintains files of all assessment reports
- Coordinates and maintains all records during the recovery phases



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Stakeholders

Functions

- Coordinates the development of after-action reports
- Coordinates available Public Assistance (PA) and mitigation programs.

Neighborhood Resource Center

- Identify problems and seek solutions by bringing together neighborhood leaders and local government representatives
- Report damages to any historical site within the neighborhood(s)
- Assist with damage assessments

Parks and Recreation

- Supports RSF national and local level operations with subject matter expertise and staffing support, as appropriate
- Conduct damage assessments, document damage (photos), compile lists of affected assets, and immediately begin erosion control

Planning & Urban Design

- Supports RSF national and local level operations with subject matter expertise and staffing support, as appropriate
- Consult with RSF 5 members during rebuilding to assure compliance with the Area Master Plan

Public Library(s)

- Supports RSF national and local level operations with subject matter expertise and staffing support, as appropriate
- Protect and preserve cultural and historical resources stored within the library system

Public Works

- Supports RSF national and local level operations with subject matter expertise and staffing support, as appropriate
- Conduct debris removal



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Stakeholders

Strategic Communications

Functions

- Communicates with the public and the media by answering questions and provide information regarding recovery issues
- Analyzes trends in information to help inform the recovery team of potential service needs or excess resources
- Monitor media for mis- or dis-information, and provide timely and effective corrections



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COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION

Following the completion of the initial NCR impact assessment, RSF 6 stakeholders will continue to engage with local-level, and potentially national-level, RSF agencies and applicable state agencies to coordinate the immediate actions requiring RSF engagement. Many entities will be active participants in RSF 6 following an incident. The entities that will need to be involved post-disaster fluctuates to obtain the appropriate expertise or capabilities of other entities beyond direct jurisdictional control that are known to support, or can support, recovery efforts rather than continual participation in the RSF. The RSF 6 coordinating agencies will seek the expertise of supporting stakeholders and other partners as appropriate.

RSF COORDINATION

Many entities will be active participants in RSF 6 following a disaster. RSF 6 partners' technical expertise can be used to help foster a systematic approach to recovery that recognizes the interdependencies and complex relationships of NCR to the well-being of the community.

COORDINATION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES

RSF partners, through coordination with other agencies, organizations, and levels of government, can facilitate assistance to help achieve a successful recovery. In addition to these organizations, other partners must also be engaged to support a whole-community effort to recover. These include non-governmental organizations, the non-profit sector, the private sector, and individuals. Such an array of stakeholders can potentially provide technical expertise, donated supplies or labor, and, in some cases, funding support for recovery projects. The combined efforts of all levels of government, organizations and groups, and individuals can help foster whole-community contributions to recovery and help ensure that a combination of perspectives and resources is drawn upon to enable a holistic recovery.

RSF 6 COORDINATION WITH OTHER RSF'S

RSF 6 must make sure recovery activities are coordinated with those of the other RSFs. While the ultimate coordination of activities is the responsibility of the Disaster Recovery Manager, adequate coordination between RSFs is necessary. There are a multitude of interrelated and interdependent issues that require extensive interRSF coordination. RSF 6 Coordinator can provide input such as cultural and historical building designations and subject matter expertise for other RSF efforts. In other situations, RSF 6 can benefit from the work of the other RSFs, thereby leveraging their outputs.



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| Natural and Cultural Resources RSF Coordination | | |
|---|--|---|
| Recovery Support Function | Potential Support to NRC RSF | Potential Support from NRC RSF |
| Community Planning and Capacity Building | Address natural or cultural resource impacts in a community through strategic planning, leveraging Community Planning and Capacity Building RSF resources as well as tribal, state, or local capacity. | <p>Shares best practices and assists in the development of programmatic approaches to address NCR issues.</p> <p>Facilitates the identification of NCR subject matter experts.</p> <p>Acts as the liaison for RSF 6 recovery issues and develops an action plan to avoid duplication of efforts.</p> |
| Health and Social Services | Address impacted public health and social service programs that rely on NCR impacted by the disaster. | Provides NCR technical assistance and subject matter expertise for the rehabilitation of historical districts and houses. |
| Economic | Address the rehabilitation of commercial properties within historic districts, cultural properties and institutions, and parks and protected areas used for recreation and integrate NCR activities into economic growth through tourism or other initiatives. | <p>Provides technical and subject matter expertise in assessing the impacts on NCR during recovery activities.</p> <p>Provides technical assistance and/or subject matter expertise for obtaining potential financial assistance, potentially from other entities, for eligible disaster recovery projects or programs.</p> |



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| Natural and Cultural Resources RSF Coordination | | |
|---|--|---|
| Recovery Support Function | Potential Support to NRC RSF | Potential Support from NRC RSF |
| Infrastructure Systems | Address the rehabilitation of natural resources that may also act as part of a community's infrastructure (e.g., floodplains, natural dikes, roads acting as dams, water sources). In addition to natural resources, human-caused resources such as wastewater treatment plants may also be addressed. | Provides NCR technical assistance and subject matter expertise for assessing impacts on infrastructure following a disaster and during recovery activities. |
| Housing | Address the rehabilitation of residential buildings within historic districts and to integrate historic components into the rebuilding of historic homes. | Provides technical assistance and/or subject matter expertise for the rehabilitation of historical districts and houses. |



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RESOURCES

[Emergency Preparedness – Nebraska Museums Association](#)

[Emergencies - Oklahoma Museums Association \(okmuseums.org\)](#)

[Mountain-Plains Museums Association - Emergency and Disaster Preparedness \(mpma.net\)](#)

[Natural and Cultural Resources - FEMA](#)

[Neighborhoods - KC Rising - Pillars](#)

[Preserve - SHPO - Kansas Historical Society \(kshs.org\)](#)

[Recovery Plan San Diego County Operational Area \(09/19\)](#)

[Recovery Federal Interagency Operational Plan, August 2016](#)

[Springfield - Greene County Long Term Recovery Plan](#)