

## **Section 6. Man-made And Natural Disasters**

A natural or man-made disaster can occur at any time or place with or without warning. The disaster may be coordinated with the local disaster response plans or organizations or it may be isolated to the Integrated Research Facility site. The response required will vary depending on the magnitude of the situation and the types of emergency response required. The personnel within this site will be expected to respond to the emergency situation and ensure that they prevent further injury to fellow employees, preserve life and not endanger themselves or other by their actions.

### **Actions to be taken**

- On-scene personnel will complete whatever initial emergency actions are called for. This can include such procedures as: evacuating the area, reporting the fire, only fighting the fire if and only if it can be put out or to aid someone in evacuation, providing First Aid/CPR, and informing management of the situation.
- If the situation is such that homes and family could also be affected, personnel will be released as soon as possible to check on the welfare and location of family or pets.
- Remaining personnel will operate as directed by the RML Security Control Desk in the Visitor's Center.
- The Incident Coordinator and/or Crisis Management Team will continue to control and coordinate actions until the building is returned to normal operations.
- Once the IRF requirements have been met, a policy of maximum assistance to others in the community will be followed.

### **Hazardous Weather Closing**

The most common hazards resulting in facility early closures are when either a large volume of snow falls in a short period of time, or formation of ice on roads and overpasses results in hazardous roads and driving conditions.

#### **Actions to be taken include:**

- Should a winter storm warning be issued, the RML Administration will issue any associated notices:
  - Should the roads be iced up or a storm warning is in effect, an early departure notice will be issued so that the employees can leave work early in order to travel home safely.
  - Should the roads ice up over night or not be cleared for travel, the RML Administration will grant administrative leave and announce the temporary closure of the Rocky Mountain Laboratories Campus.
- Should a winter storm warning be issued overnight, the Associate Director will be responsible to insure that staff are notified in advance of proceeding to

work:

- This announcement may be done over a public system such as the radio or television; or
- message posted on hotline (369-9675) (See Appendix 4)
- Employees may be called by authorized personnel

## **Other hazardous conditions that may occur (example: lightning storms)**

### **Actions to be taken:**

Should any employee be caught outside during a period of lightning (electrical discharge), the following actions should be taken:

- If possible, seek shelter inside a building.
- If no building is available, seek a low area such as a ditch. Do not lie flat on the ground and do not stand under tall trees or utility poles.
- Keep away from open water, metal, farm machinery, etc.
- If a group is caught in the open, spread out and keep several yards between individuals.

Should an emergency situation occur as a result of an electrical storm, the Associate Director will be responsible to insure that staff is notified. Employees may be called or paged by authorized personnel.

After an incident Facilities Management will determine the condition of the facilities prior to employees entering the building and prior to the initiation of research activities. All reports will be provided to the Associate Director.