

## Kosciusko County Emergency Management Agency (EMA)

EMA has three basic priorities to comply with the directives from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security:

1. Assess the potential risks and hazards in the county, including natural and man-made.
2. Devise a plan and strategic goals to prepare the responders and public of Kosciusko County to take action in the event anything does happen.
3. Ensure that resources are in place to make the plan work.

### Difference between Watch and Warning

A **WATCH** is issued when a particular hazard is possible—conditions are more favorable. A watch is a recommendation for increased awareness; to be alert for changing weather, listen for further information, and think about what to do if the danger materializes.

A **WARNING** is issued when a particular hazard is either imminent or has been reported. A warning indicates the immediate need to take action to protect life and property.



## Kosciusko County Emergency Management Agency

100 W. Center St.  
Warsaw, IN 46580

[www.kcgov.com](http://www.kcgov.com)  
[erock@kcgov.com](mailto:erock@kcgov.com)  
574-371-2602



## Kosciusko County



After September 11, 2001, America witnessed a wellspring of selflessness and heroism. People in every corner of the country asked, "What can I do?" and "How can I help?" Citizen Corps was created to help all Americans answer these questions through public education and outreach, training, and volunteer service.



The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a training program that prepares people to help themselves, their families and their neighbors in the event of a disaster in their community. Through CERT, citizens can learn about disaster preparedness and receive training in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. With this training, volunteers can provide critical support by giving immediate assistance to victims before emergency first responders arrive on scene. CERT volunteers also support the community year-round by participating in community preparedness outreach activities.

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/index.shtm>



1st CERT Class Trained in Kosciusko County



USAOnWatch is the face of the National Neighborhood Watch Program. Time-tested practices such as "eyes-and-ears" training and target-hardening techniques continue to be at the core of the program. As groups continue to grow, the roles of citizens have become more multifaceted and tailored to local needs. USAOnWatch empowers citizens to become active in homeland security efforts through community participation. USAOnWatch provides information, training, technical support and

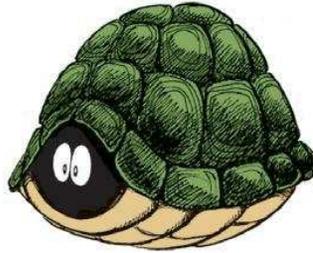
## Get Involved

CERT and USAOnWatch are team oriented programs, so talk to your neighbors and organize a group and contact your emergency management agency for training and information.

### Groups could consist of:

- Churches
- Neighborhoods
- Schools
- Service Organizations

## Shelter In Place



Shelter In Place is a safety procedure designed to help protect you during a serious airborne hazardous material emergency.

1. **Go inside. Stay inside.**
2. **Close windows & doors.**
3. **Turn off Heater / AC.**
4. **Listen to TV / Radio.**

## Disaster Supply Kit

There are six basics you should stock in you disaster supply kit:

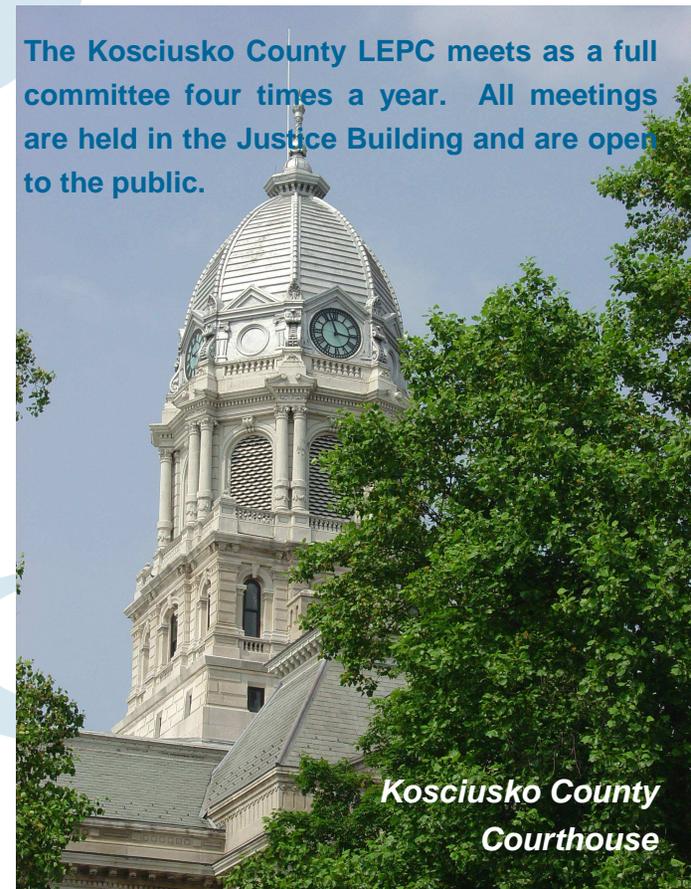
1. Water
2. Food
3. First Aid Supplies
4. Clothing / Bedding
5. Tools / Emergency Supplies
6. Special Items (meds, phone numbers, etc.)

Keep the items that you would most likely need during an evacuation in an easy-to carry container. Possible containers include a large covered trash container, a camping backpack, or a duffle bag.

## Kosciusko County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

The purpose of the LEPC is to provide the citizens and emergency responders with information about chemicals in the communities where they live and work. LEPC plans for worst case scenarios, intensive exercises that test communications, command and control, field operations, equipment, and other aspects of an emergency response plan. Emergency responders from industries, community organizations and government agencies work hand-in-hand to share information and training opportunities.

The Kosciusko County LEPC meets as a full committee four times a year. All meetings are held in the Justice Building and are open to the public.



*Kosciusko County  
Courthouse*