

#### PERSONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COURSE

# **CLASS # 5 - TERRORISM, HAZMAT & MORE SUPPLIES**

- **I. INTRODUCTION:** Hello and welcome back to the Personal Emergency Preparedness course. I appreciate the time and effort you are spending to get yourself and your family prepared.
- **II. COURSE OBJECTIVE:** As you know, the intention of this class is not only to provide you the necessary information to face a disaster, but also for you to really get prepared by gathering the supplies you need. Thank you for the effort you are putting forth in becoming personally prepared and keep up the good work!
- **III. REMEMBERANCE MOMENT:** It still seems hard to believe that September 11, 2001 ever happened. That fateful day each and every one of us was glued to a TV set in complete disbelief of what had occurred earlier. At 8:46 a.m. Eastern time, our world changed irrevocably and forever when American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the World Trade Center North Tower, beginning the largest terrorist attack ever to happen on American soil. 2973 people lost their lives between the Trade Center and the ground below, the Pentagon and the four aircraft that were used as flying missiles. Another 24 people are still considered to be missing. The heroism of the New York City Firefighters and Police Officers, plus the Port Authority Police Officers cost the lives of 403 of these brave men and women. There are countless stories of heroic acts of others who helped co-workers, friends, and complete strangers. I am certain that there are innumerable untold stories of kindness, humanity and heroism that people never lived long enough to tell anyone about on that tragic day. Our country, our world, and our American feeling of security all changed forever on Nine Eleven. Please take a moment now to remember and honor the people who were lost on September 11, 2001.
- **IV. DISASTER OF THE MONTH:** Since terrorism and HAZMAT incidents can happen anywhere, these are two disasters that I will focus on this month.
  - A. TERRORISM:

A terrorist attack will happen without warning and can occur anywhere. Be aware of your surroundings, especially in crowded and populated places. Take note of where exits are located, including emergency and fire exits. Whenever you enter a building, pay attention to the various ways to exit the building – especially the staircases since elevators cannot be used if there is a fire or explosion. If you are in a building explosion, stay low to the floor, cover your mouth and nose with a wet cloth, touch closed doors to see if they are hot before you open them, then exit the building as quickly as possible. If you are walking near tall buildings, be aware of objects that could fall. Don't ever leave your luggage unattended at an

airport or accept packages from strangers. Carry a cell phone with you. Call 9-1-1 if you see something that appears to be a dangerous situation. Follow the advice of authorities in the event of an attack.

### B. CHEMICAL ATTACKS or HAZMAT ACCIDENTS:

In the event of a chemical attack or HAZMAT accident, stay indoors, close all windows and doors, turn off ventilation systems (heating and A/C and fireplace dampers and exhaust fan vents), and seal yourself into the room in your home with the fewest opening windows (bathrooms with exhaust fans are not a good choice). Seal gaps with wet towels, duct tape, and plastic sheeting. Make sure you bring pets in with you. Stay in the room until authorities tell you it is safe to come out. Do not leave a secure area to help victims unless you have the proper equipment to do so or authorities have indicated that it is safe. You will just become a victim yourself. If you have been exposed, remove outer clothing layer and seal in a plastic bag, if possible, shower with cool or warm water for at least 15 minutes. Seek medical attention and call 9-1-1 if you are having exposure symptoms.

## V. SUPPLIES FOR HOME 7 DAY KIT

This is our last big shopping list class, so take your time gathering these supplies! Our shopping homework for this month is to start gathering our supplies we need for our home 7 day kit. This kit will contain the items you need to deal with different situations. The Home Equipment List is in addition to your food, water and first aid supplies. Some of these items you have in your emergency Grab n' Go Backpack, so you don't need to duplicate them in your Home Equipment Kit. Take the next few months if necessary to gather these supplies, first get the items from a hardware store, then sanitation items, then tools, etc. Don't try to get all of this at once unless you are an incurable shopaholic. *Review contents of the Home Equipment 7-Day Kit Supply List page.* 

#### **V. SUMMARY**

Continue to gather your supplies, and work really hard on getting your Home Equipment Kit put together – but take your time! DON'T GIVE UP!! You are almost there, and you are well on your way to being prepared to deal with a disaster!!

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