



NOAA Weather Radio Giveaway

Full Mitigation Best Practice Story

Butler County, Kansas

Butler County, KS - Butler County's Hazard Mitigation plan identified tornadoes as its highest rated hazard. Close behind were flooding and hazardous materials. Also identified in the plan was the need to effectively and efficiently communicate with special populations before a crisis strikes.



Butler County's Mitigation Team designed an entry form for a weather radio giveaway for the elderly, disabled, and lower income families with children under the age of 10. The county partnered with Interstate Battery to provide the 9-volt battery backups and with the Department on Aging, Health Department, Red Cross, SRS, cities, senior citizen clubs and schools to distribute the entry forms. The "contest" ran for 2 months. At the end of that time, there were 109 entries. All of these entries received a weather radio. In addition, radios will be providing to every senior center, school, nursing home, and day care center not covered by weather radio for a total of 210 radios.

210 families, individuals and gathering places for special populations will now have first-hand information on disaster and emergency issues. These radios will enable these groups to take the necessary actions to protect their lives and/or property in a much timelier fashion.

Standard Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover flood damage. The National Flood Insurance Program makes Federally backed flood insurance available to homeowners, renters, and business owners in participating communities.

Activity/Project Location

Geographical Area: **Single County (County-wide)**

FEMA Region: **Region VII**

State: **Kansas**

County: **Butler County**

Key Activity/Project Information

Sector: **Public**

Hazard Type: **Tornado; Flooding**

Activity/Project Type: **Education/Outreach/Public Awareness**

Activity/Project Start Date: **08/2001**

Activity/Project End Date: **Ongoing**

Funding Source: **Other FEMA funds/ US Department of Homeland Security**

Funding Recipient: **Local Government**

Funding Recipient Name: **Butler County Project Impact**

Activity/Project Economic Analysis

Cost: **\$10,000.00 (Estimated)**

Activity/Project Disaster Information

Mitigation Resulted From Federal
Disaster? **Unknown**

Value Tested By Disaster? **Unknown**

Repetitive Loss Property? **Unknown**

Reference URLs

Reference URL 1: <http://www.tornadoproject.com/>

Reference URL 2: <http://www.floodsmart.gov/>

Main Points

- Butler County's Mitigation Team designed an entry form for a weather radio giveaway for the elderly, disabled, and lower income families with children under the age of 10.
- The "contest" ran for 2 months. At the end of that time, there were 109 entries. All of these entries received a weather radio. In addition, radios were provided to every senior center, school, nursing home, and day care center not covered by weather radio for a total of 210 radios.
- 210 families, individuals and gathering places for special populations will now have first-hand information on disaster and emergency issues.