

Northampton County Emergency Operations Plan

2.9 Plan Maintenance and Training and Exercise

Plan Maintenance

The Code of Virginia, [§44-146.19E](#), requires each jurisdiction to prepare and keep current a local EOP. Every four years the jurisdiction will conduct a comprehensive review and revision of its EOP to ensure that it remains current. The revised plan will be formally adopted by the jurisdiction's governing body.

At a minimum, the plan should be reviewed and revised after major events in which the plan was activated, and after exercises.

Training and Exercise

Local officials should hold a series of training sessions and exercises that test the ability of County stakeholders to respond to an incident in Northampton County. A fully developed training and exercise program features a series of progressively complex nonoperational and operational exercises. The Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) is a methodology developed by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to assist local jurisdictions. HSEEP is a capabilities- and performance-based exercise program that provides standardized guidance and terminology for exercise design, development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning. HSEEP recommends the following process:

- Orientation
- Seminar
- Drill
- Tabletop exercise
- Functional exercise
- Full-scale exercise

Additionally, after each exercise the County should implement a corrective action program to ensure that stakeholders are addressing issues in their response.