

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:  
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### **State Health Department Schedules Opportunity for the Public to Learn About and Comment on Emergency Preparedness Activities**

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health has scheduled a public meeting designed to educate the general public about emergency preparedness activities and provide an opportunity for public comment. The meeting will be held March 2, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. CST at 1720 Burlington Drive in Bismarck. Participants may also join via teleconference by dialing 1.855.361.4591. In addition, the public also can participate through video conference at participating local public health units throughout the state where video conference is available, or the meeting can be accessed online via live webcast.

“Extensive use of the public health and medical response systems have been successfully implemented in the last several years in response to civil disturbances, equipment malfunctions at medical facilities, medical facilities evacuations, fires, flooding, tornadoes and other weather emergencies,” said Tim Wiedrich, section chief of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Section of the North Dakota Department of Health. “This meeting will give people a chance to learn about the work that has been done and give us feedback.”

The meeting will start with a presentation highlighting the planning that has been done and will conclude with time for comments. To participate, contact your local public health unit or call the toll-free phone number. To access the webcast online, follow these instructions:

Step 1. Before the webcast, please check that your computer can play Windows Media streams. Mac users may download Windows Media Components for Quicktime from [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com).

Step 2. Type the following link into your browser: <http://www.ndhealth.gov/WebcastHigh.asx>. The feed typically starts within 15 minutes before the scheduled time. The webcast is for viewing only. If you wish to ask a question, please call the teleconference line.

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Please note that there is a delay between the webcast and teleconference feeds by several seconds. If you are watching the webcast and would like to call in with a question, please use your phone's audio instead of the computer to avoid confusion due to the sound delay.

For more information about this public meeting, contact Tim Wiedrich, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.2270.

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