

PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES ON ST HELENA

“Are you prepared?”



St Helena
Government

This booklet tells you more about some of the risks on St Helena, the arrangements currently in place, and how you can help yourself and your family before, during and after a Major Incidents.

Emergency Services and other key stakeholders form the Saint Helena Resilience Forum with governance oversight by the Saint Helena's Executive Council. The forum is working to make sure that the Island is as prepared as it can be in the event of a Major Incident and that you are ready too. By being informed and prepared, you can significantly reduce the risk to your life and property.

The Resilience Forum is responsible for producing the Island's Risk Register and assessing each risk. We then prepare both general plans and specific plans to deal with all these eventualities. Whilst we cannot prevent Major Incidents happening, we can all plan ahead to minimise the impact.

Want to know more?

Contact the Emergency Planning Department:

Emergency Planning Manager

simonwade@helanta.co.sh

Deputy Emergency Planning Manager

anelobey@helanta.co.sh

Telephone number: 25052

Alternatively visit the Emergency Planning section of the SHG Website:

<https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/portfolios/safety-security-and-home-affairs/emergency-planning/>

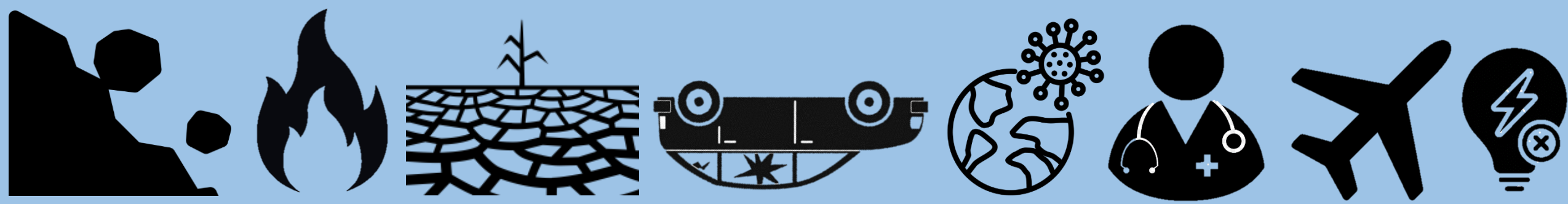


Types of Emergencies

True catastrophes are rare on St Helena, but the Island has already experienced a number of incidents that could have potentially developed into a Major Incident and would have resulted in significant impact on those involved and on the community as a whole

Some examples of possible emergencies on St Helena include:

- Rock falls
- Fires
- Road Traffic Collision involving large number of people
- Drought
- Island wide electrical generation failure
- Pandemics



What Can You Do?

Families and Households can and do cope with emergencies by preparing in advance and working together as a team. Once you know the type of emergencies that can occur in your district on St Helena, we would recommend that you start preparing yourself and your family by putting the following arrangements in place:

Meeting point: Agree where you would meet up should you be separated from each other

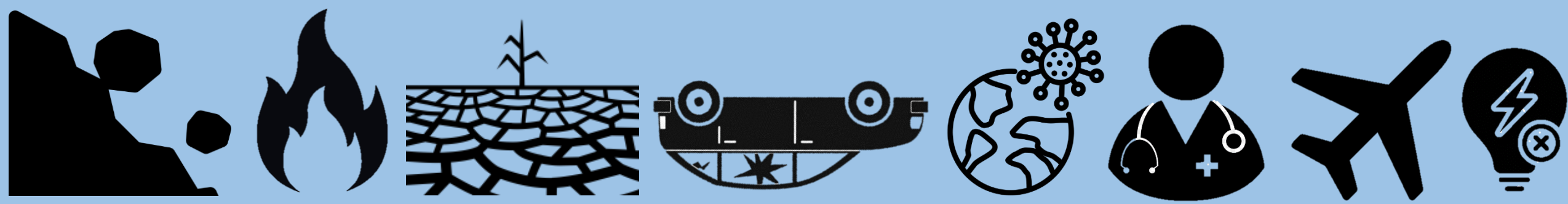
Stay in touch: Agree how you and your family members will stay in touch in the event of an emergency. Remember, your family members may not be at home when the emergency happens

Hot tip – Programme your mobile phone with relevant contact details

Evacuation: Should you need to evacuate your home or district we recommend that you make alternative arrangements to stay with a relative or friend in advance

Know your home: Where do you turn off the gas, electricity or water?

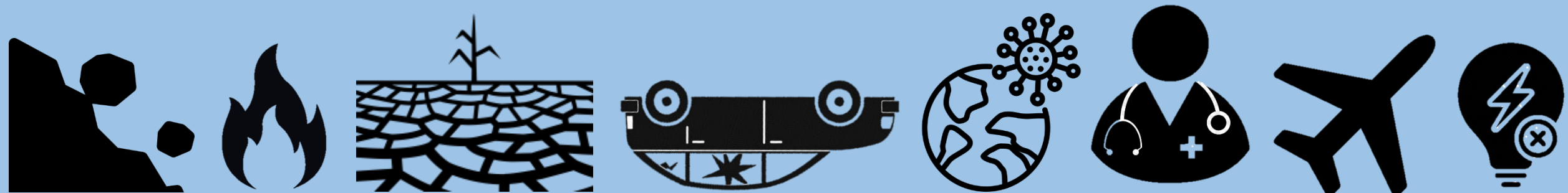
Pets: If you have a pet, agree who will take care of it during an emergency to ensure it is safe and well looked after



At Home – Prepare an Emergency Bag and Keep it Handy

Knowing where the basics are can help you prepare for almost any Emergency:

- ✓ A windup or battery radio and torch with spare batteries
- ✓ Food and water
- ✓ Phone charger and battery bank
- ✓ First aid kit
- ✓ Medication
- ✓ Toiletries and sanitary supplies
- ✓ Special food or equipment for infants, the elderly and people with disabilities
- ✓ Seasonal clothing
- ✓ Sleeping bags and blankets
- ✓ Books, playing cards or games
- ✓ Extra car and house keys
- ✓ Copies of important family documents

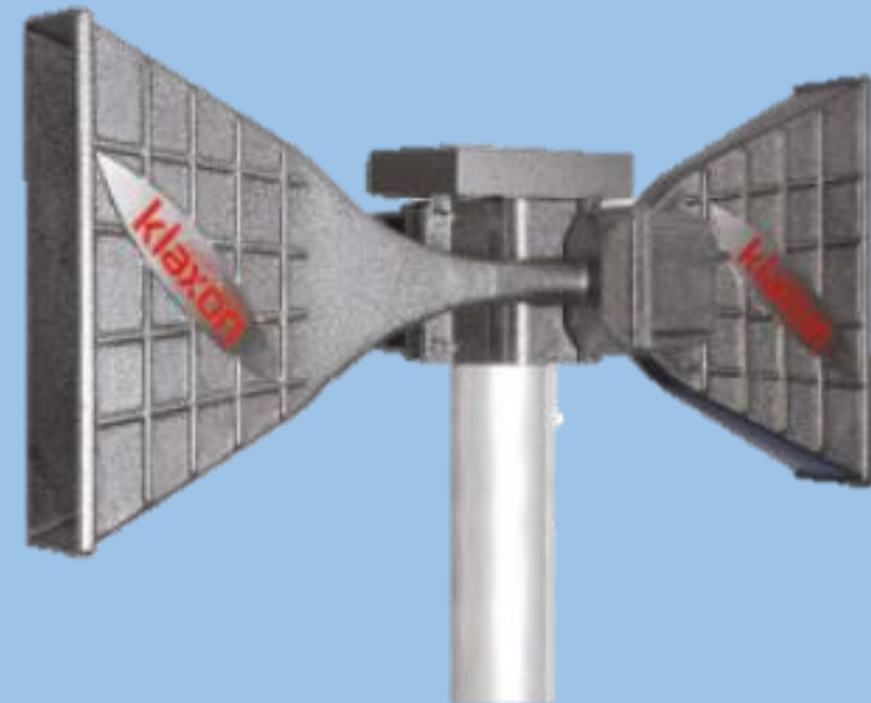


Public Warning System

The Public Warning System, also known as a Klaxon, offers an alternative option to warn the public in a certain area of a potential danger such as, but not limited to, a rockfall, fire or explosion.

Saint Helena has 3 public warning systems. One of the three systems are located in Jamestown near Seals Corner, and two are located in Ruperts, one at the Sea Rescue Base and one behind the Power Station.

The public warning system will be tested on the first Tuesday of each month, for 11 seconds between 12:00 and 12:30, using the RMS Dinner Bell sound



What does it mean when you hear anything other than the RMS Dinner Bell in Jamestown?

If in Jamestown and you hear a “Wailing” tone that means that an event like a fire, rockfall or explosion has the potential to occur or has already occurred.

We encourage all residents, visitors and workers in Jamestown to;

GO IN

STAY IN

TUNE IN

Unless you are told otherwise by the Emergency Services

GO IN

- Go in, close your doors and windows if it's safe to do so unless advised otherwise by the Emergency Services
- Do not collect your children from school or day-care as all schools have evacuation plans
- Secure your pets



STAY IN

- Stay indoors until you know more about the situation
- Stay calm and don't panic
- Ensure that your Emergency Bag is packed
- Keep your phone lines clear



TUNE IN

- Tune in to your local radio station to find out more about what is happening and for advice on what to do



What does it mean when you hear anything other than the RMS Dinner Bell in Ruperts?

If in Rupert and you hear anything other than the RMS Dinner Bell that means that an event like a fire, rockfall or explosion has the potential to occur or has already occurred.

If in upper Ruperts and you hear the emergency tone called “Peeow” from behind the Power House all residents, visitors and workers in the area are encouraged to evacuate down to the Sea Rescue Building car park.

If in Lower Ruperts near the beach and you hear the emergency tone called “Afnor” from outside of the Sea Rescue Base, residents, visitors and workers in the area are encouraged to evacuate to St Michael’s Church.

Unless you are told otherwise by the Emergency Services

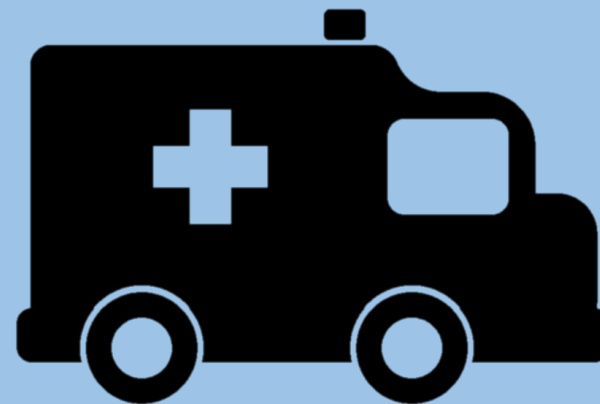
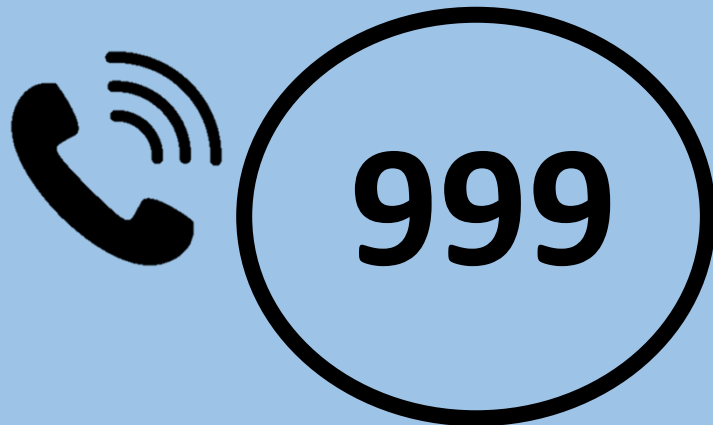


Follow the link below to listen to the RMS Dinner Bell, Peeow and Afnor;
<https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/portfolios/safety-security-and-home-affairs/emergency-planning/>

If you find yourself in the middle of an emergency, your common sense and instinct will usually tell you what to do.

It is important to:

- Check for injuries – remember to help yourself before attempting to help others
- Make sure 999 has been called if people are injured or if there is threat to life
- If you are first aid trained treat the injured person as per your training
- Keep safe
- Follow the advice of the Emergency Services
- Remain calm and reassure others



FIRST AID

In the event of an evacuation

In some, very unlikely, situations, you may be asked to evacuate your home by the Emergency Services. If this happens, leave quickly and calmly and if possible follow these guidelines:

- Follow the instructions issued by the Emergency Services
- You may be asked to go to a temporary rest center like a community center
- Take your Emergency Bag with you
- If going to family or a friend's house inform a Fire or Police Officer
- Collect family members, if safe to do so, or go to your agreed meeting place
- Turn off the electricity, gas and water, unplug appliances, lock doors and windows
- Consider your pets, if possible bring them along

At Work or School

Employers have a responsibility for the safety and security of their staff. All businesses should have arrangements in place to deal with the impact of a Major Incident or Disaster. Make sure you understand what you need to do in an emergency at work.

All schools have plans to cope with emergencies such as fire and rockfall and teachers and support staff do all they can to look after pupils in their charge.

If your children are at school, you will naturally want to collect them as soon as possible in the event of a Major Incident, however it may not be safe to do so.

Please tune in to SAMS Radio 1 or Saint FM Community Radio station for frequent updates.

Important Contact Numbers

This page contains a list of important contact numbers you may need if an Emergency occurs

Police Service – **999**

Fire Service – **999**

Hospital/Ambulance – **999**

Sea Rescue Service – **999**

Connect Saint Helena Limited (water and electricity) Emergencies – **22255**

SURE 24/7 Faults – **121**

SHG Press Office – **22368**

South Atlantic Media Services – **22727**

St FM – **22488/22660**

When making an emergency phone call please explain to the Control Centre Operator:

- **Wat has happened?**
- **What is the address of the emergency?**
- **What is the telephone number you are calling from?**
- **What the patients name is?**
- **What your name is?**
- **DON'T HANG UP, stay on the line unless told otherwise by the Control Centre Operator**

