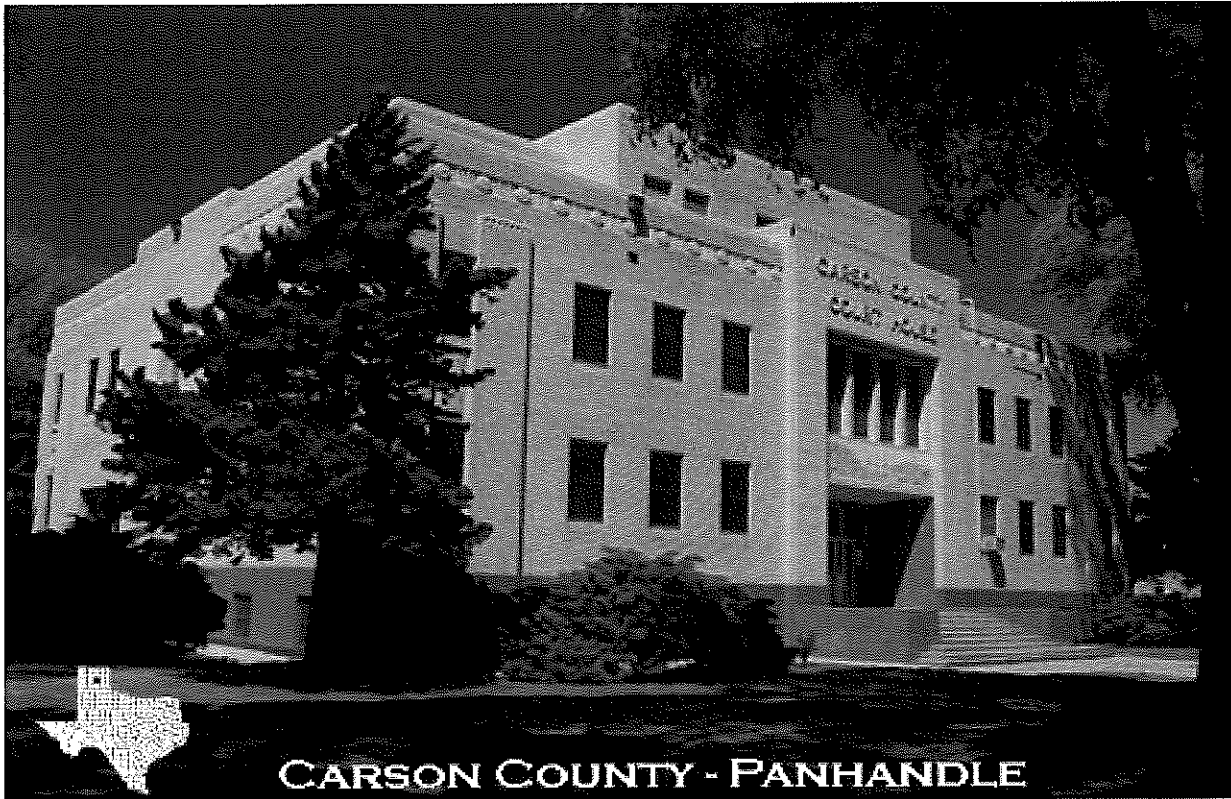


# CARSON COUNTY EMERGENCY PLAN FOR PANTEX



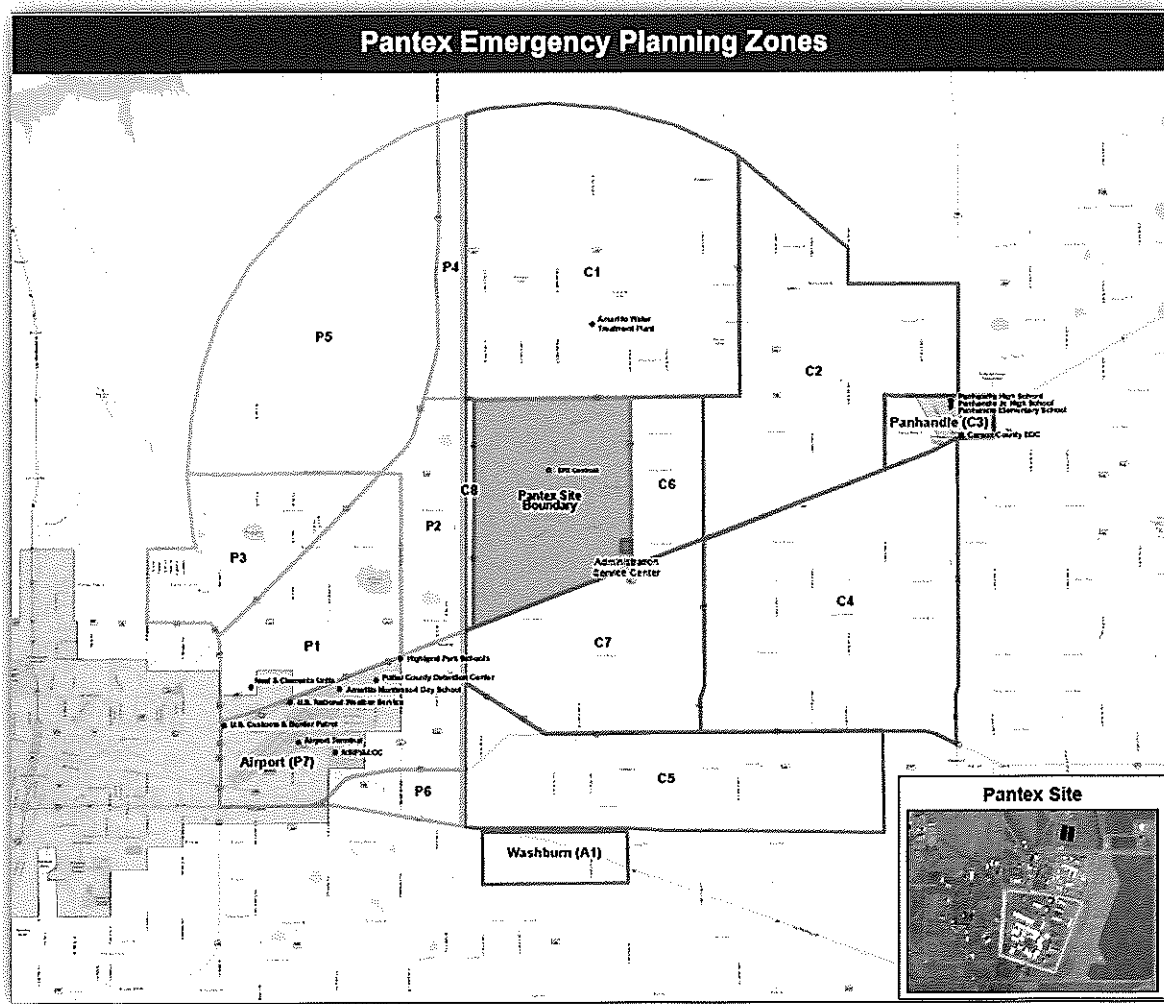
Carson County Office of Emergency Management developed this guide for residents living and working within the Pantex area. This information listed below has been taken off the Pantex website, FEMA website and with Carson County Emergency Plan Annex W.

If you need more information on the Pantex EPZ the website to check it out is: <https://pantex.energy.gov>. FEMA website is: <https://www.fema.gov/>.

Carson County Emergency Management has provided this emergency information in this pamphlet for an incident at Pantex Plant. It is unlikely we will experience a major emergency. However, in any type of incident, your safety could depend on how ready you are.

This plan will include tips and items that everyone should have in their “toolbox” for emergencies. Carson County Emergency plans serves the county, cities of Groom, Panhandle, Skellytown and White Deer. We include the four phases of emergency (Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery) in preparing emergency plans.

This emergency information is provided to help residents and visitors in Carson County and within the 10 Mile Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) around Pantex Plant.



**Information listed below can be found on the Pantex History page at:**  
<https://pantex.energy.gov/about>.

### **1942: Pantex Helps Win World War II**

The desperate need for munitions to fight World War II led to the creation of the Pantex Ordnance Plant, built on 16,000 acres of land east of Amarillo, Texas. Operations began on September 17, 1942, only nine months after the commencement of construction. Pantex was the last of 14 ordnance plants constructed in Texas to support the war effort, producing nearly four million conventional bombs and artillery shells during three whirlwind years of heavy production.

The Pantex Ordnance Plant closed on August 16, 1945, just one day after the announcement of surrender by Japan. The land acquired to build Pantex was leased to Texas Technological College (now Texas Tech University) for \$1.

### **1951–1991: Pantex Rebuilt for Cold War Era**

The development of nuclear weapons that led to the end of the Second World War, also ushered in a new type of war – the Cold War. The Pantex Plant played a key role in the Cold War, assembling thousands of nuclear warheads that helped maintain the détente between the Soviets and the West. The federal government reclaimed the land and facilities that made up the Pantex Plant in 1951 and undertook a building campaign to create a cornerstone of the nuclear weapons complex. The Pantex mission continued to grow over the decades as other facilities closed and responsibilities for modification, surveillance, assembly and high explosives operations were moved to the site. Since 1975, Pantex has been the nation's primary assembly, disassembly, retrofit and modification center for nuclear weapons.

### **The Present and Future of Pantex**

The mission of the Pantex Plant promises to be an enduring one as dwindling worldwide stockpiles of nuclear weapons demand increased reliability to maintain the security of the United States through a credible nuclear deterrent. Pantex continues its key role of ensuring the safety, security and reliability of the nation's nuclear stockpile: excess weapons are dismantled, surveillance is conducted on the stockpile and aging weapons are maintained through Life Extension Programs.

The critical and unique nature of work done at Pantex ensures that the site will continue to secure America for decades to come.

## Steps for Emergency Preparedness

### Develop a plan:

Four steps to help you develop a plan includes:

Put together plan by these four questions and discuss with each family member.

- a.) How will I receive emergency alerts and warnings?
- b.) What is my shelter plan?
- c.) What is my evacuation plan?
- d.) What is my family/household communication plan?

Consider specific needs in your household.

Fill out a Family Emergency Plan. (this information can be found on FEMA website)

Practice your plan with family members.

Complete list of how to develop an emergency plan can be found at:  
<https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>

### Prepare a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:

Preparing an emergency supply list be sure to include all family members and their needs. REMEMBER YOUR PETS ALSO.

#### **Kits should include:**

Water-one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days for drinking and sanitation

Food at least a three day supply of non-perishable food

Battery powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert

Flashlight

First Aid Kit

Extra batteries

Whistle to signal for help

Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter –in- place

Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation

Wrench or pliers

Manual can opener for food

Local maps

Cell phone with chargers and a backup batter

Prescription medications

Nonprescription such as pain relievers, anti-diarrhea medication, antacids or laxatives.

Glasses and contact lenses solution

Pet food and extra water for your pet

Infant formula, bottles, diapers, wipes, diaper rash cream

A complete list of supplies for kit can be found: <https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>

## **Emergency Classification from Pantex:**

There are three classifications of emergencies at the Pantex Plant. Local emergency management officials and the news media may use these terms in discussing an emergency at the Pantex Plant.

### **1. ALERT:**

IT IS UNLIKELY YOU WILL HAVE TO DO ANYTHING. An alert is issued when there is a minor problem at the plant that should not affect areas outside the plant boundary. Federal, State, and local officials will be notified of the alert and provided with appropriate incident conditions and developments.

### **2. SITE AREA EMERGENCY:**

YOU MAY HAVE TO TAKE ACTION. A Site Area Emergency is declared when there is a more serious problem at the plant that may require protective actions for persons at the plant. Offsite emergency response personnel and equipment may be mobilized for immediate dispatch. Offsite authorities would be informed of plant response and incident developments. Turn on your radio to station KGNC-AM (710) or KGNC-FM (97.9) for more information. Local emergency management officials will tell you what actions to perform, if any, in response to the incident.

### **3. GENERAL EMERGENCY:**

SOME LOCAL RESIDENTS WILL LIKELY NEED TO TAKE ACTION. A General Emergency is declared when a very serious problem exists at the plant that may require protection of the public in affected areas. The warning sirens, the EAS, and other warning systems will be activated to provide residents with as much time as possible to initiate protective actions. Turn on your radio to station KGNC-AM (710) or KGNC-FM (97.9) for more information. The emergency management official will tell you what to actions to perform in response to the incident.

## **Notifications Systems**

### ***Warning Sirens:***

Carson County has two warning sirens located within the 10 mile EPZ. One siren is located at the Rest Area of I-40 and HWY 2373 the second siren is located in the Webb Bragg addition of Carson County. If you hear the sirens go inside and listen to NOAA Weather Radio or tune to local TV channels for more information.

Carson County has authorized Pantex to sound the sirens in a Pantex incident. Pantex has the ability to sound these sirens and Carson County Sheriff's Dispatch also has the ability to sound the sirens. Carson County Judge and Emergency Management Coordinator will contact the dispatch operators for them to sound the sirens in a Pantex incident.

### ***NO AA Weather Radios:***

The National Weather Service will broadcast special announcements via the NOAA weather radio system in the incident an emergency occurs at the Pantex Plant which requires shelter-in-place or evacuation. Through the AIP (Agreement in Principle) contract, Carson County has been able to purchase and distribute NOAA Weather Radios throughout the 10-mile EPZ surrounding Pantex. For more information on the NOAA radio program please call Carson County Office of Emergency Management.

### ***CodeRED:***

Carson County uses CodeRED for an Emergency Notification System. Carson County has been using this system for several years and the system allows us to make contact with our citizens during all kinds of incidents and disaster that could occur within the county and this includes a Pantex incident.



Residents can also register for weather warnings which includes tornados, flash floods, severe thunderstorms and winter storm warnings. Residents can register at the following websites:

Carson County: <http://www.co.carson.tx.us/>

City of Panhandle: <http://panhandletx.govoffice2.com/>

City of White Deer: <http://www.whitedeer.us/>

(City of Groom and Skellytown at this time do not have a website. You can sign up on anyone of the sites listed above.)

Residents can register for CodeRED alerts by texting “CarsonCountyTX” to 99411.

## **Recommended Actions**

### **Shelter in Place**

#### **If You Are Advised To Shelter-In-Place**

To protect yourself, you need to avoid physical contact with radioactive materials and avoid inhaling them:

Stay indoors in your home, work place, or a nearby building. Once inside, do not leave unless you are told it is safe to go out or you are advised by your emergency management officials or law enforcement personnel to evacuate.

- Close all windows, doors, and fireplace dampers. This reduces the outside air that enters your home or work place.
- Turn off any heating or cooling system that draws in air from the outside. If it becomes stuffy, use portable or ceiling fans to circulate the air inside.
- If you have been outside during the period just before you were warned to take shelter, take a shower or at least wash your face and hands with a washcloth using soap and tepid water. Change into clean clothes; put the clothing you were wearing and the washcloth into a plastic bag.
- Keep your radio on and tuned to one of the local EAS stations- KGNC-AM (710) or KGNC-FM (97.9). Listen for information and instructions.
- Begin to assemble items you may need in case you are advised to evacuate.
- If you must go outdoors, cover your nose and mouth with a damp cloth to avoid inhaling any radioactive materials that might be present.

## **SHELTER LIVESTOCK**

Ranchers and farmers may be advised to shelter livestock as a precautionary measure. If you are advised to shelter livestock, get stock into a building, if possible. If you can't do this, place them in a small pen to restrict open grazing. Provide stored feed, and water them from groundwater supplies, such as wells, instead of open ponds.

## ***Evacuate***

### **What to Take With You**

You may have to be away from home for a few days. If possible, take along the following items:

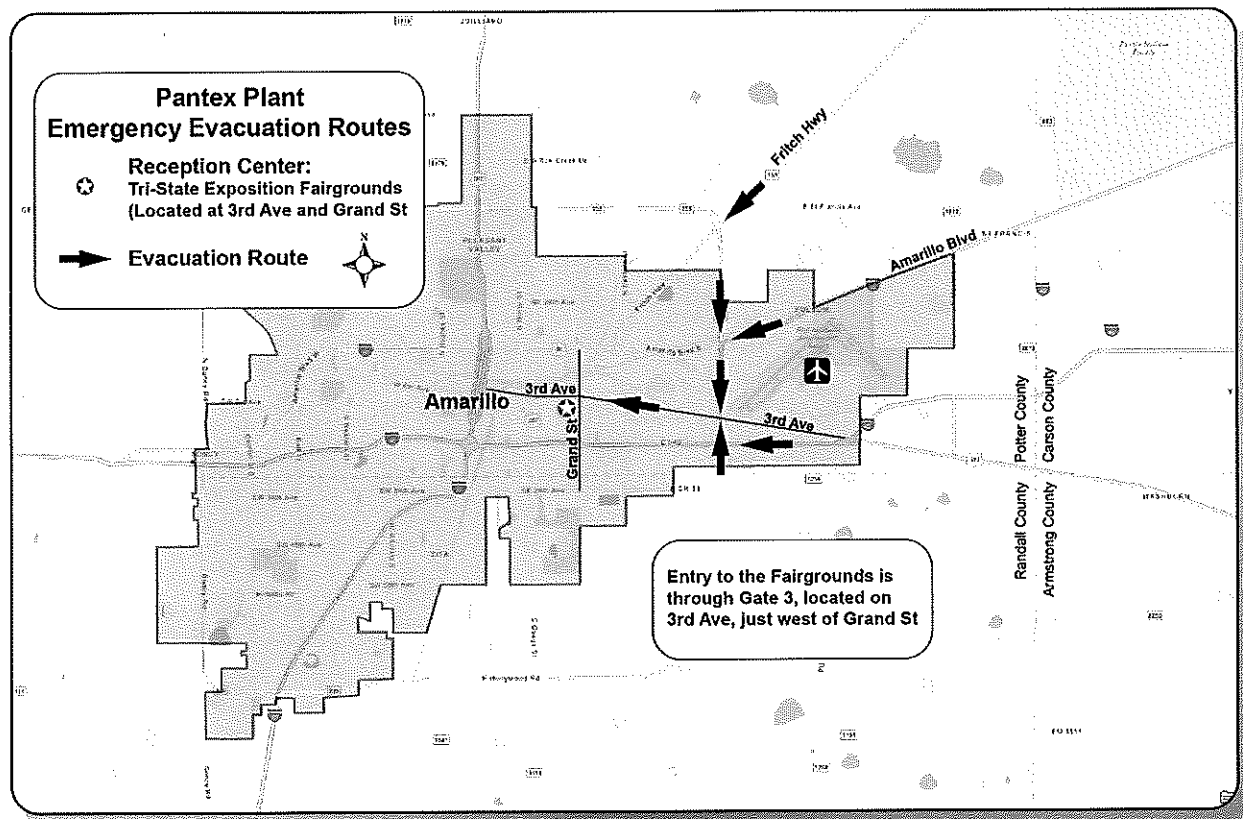
- Extra clothing and shoes
- Spare pair of eyeglasses and important medicines
- Sleeping bag (or two blankets) and a pillow for each person
- Proper identification • Checkbook, credit cards, and cash
- Portable radio and flashlight (with extra batteries)
- Special supplies for infants and elderly family members
- A list of family physicians and other important numbers
- Your address book or a list of phone numbers for relatives and friends.

### **What Else To Do**

- Turn off your lights. Leave your refrigerator and freezer on.
- If you plan to take your pets, bring a leash or carrier for them. Otherwise, leave animals with access to food and water.
- Lock windows and doors. Leave your home or work center as you would if you were going on a short trip.
- Do not worry about your home while you are away. Roadblocks will be established to keep people out of areas that have been evacuated.
- Put a sign stating "We have evacuated" in the front window of your home where emergency workers can easily see it. (There is a printed sign in the back page of the Pantex calendar that is provided annually to all residents and businesses within the 10-mile EPZ.

## Where to Go

EAS broadcasts will advise you to go directly to the Reception Center located at the Tri-State Fairgrounds at Grand Avenue and East 3rd Avenue in Amarillo. If there are changes to the suggested evacuation routes, the changes will be announced in EAS broadcasts.



## Reception Center

The Reception Center is at the Tri-State Fairground at Grand Avenue and East 3rd Avenue in Amarillo.

While Traveling to the Reception Center keep your car's vents and windows closed and the heater/air conditioner off while driving. If you must use your car's air conditioner, set it so that it does not pull in outside air-- check your owner's manual.

### *Upon Arrival*

When you arrive at the Reception Center, you and your car will be checked for possible contamination, and you will be asked to fill out a registration form.

### *Prohibited Items*

Firearms and alcohol are not allowed in the Reception Center.

### *Pets*

Pets should be kept on a leash or in a carrier or cage. They may not be allowed inside the Reception Center itself.

### *After Processing*

After being checked and registered, you may be directed to a hotel or motel, to a public shelter, or to the home of a friend or relative who lives outside the area affected by the emergency.

The Reception Center will maintain a locator file of all persons who have been registered to aid relatives and friends in locating people who have evacuated their homes.

## **Schools**

### *CARSON COUNTY:*

- There are no schools in the Carson or Armstrong County portions of the Pantex Emergency Planning Zone; all schools are outside the Emergency Planning Zone.
- Schools will not return students to homes in emergency response sectors where local officials have recommended that residents shelter-in-place or evacuate the area. Those students will remain at their schools under adult supervision until parents can pick them up.
- Parents who live in sectors where sheltering-in-place is recommended should remain in their homes until local officials announce it is safe to leave and pick up children at their schools.
- Parents who live in sectors where evacuation is recommended should go to the reception center first to be checked for possible contamination and registered. The Reception Center will give you directions for a safe travel route to pick up your children at school.

## Ingestion Pathway information

DOE will implement “Ingestion” protective actions until FRMAC arrives with more specialized expertise on food and water pathways for exposure.

These will include:

### **WATER:**

**Bigger Concern:** Dehydration and heat injury are potentially more dangerous than any hazardous material plume that Pantex could produce.

**Avoid:** Drinking from sources that might have been exposed to the plume.

**Do:** Hydrate to avoid heat or dehydration injury.

**Do:** Drink as necessary from bottle sources or drink tap or well water from clean containers indoors.

**Avoid:** Drinking from surface water sources until they can be monitored.

**Avoid:** Drinking while outdoors.

### **EATING:**

**Bigger Concern:** Eat as necessary to precedent other health concerns like effects of diabetes.

**Avoid:** Eating outdoors.

**As Necessary:** Eat packaged foods that have not been exposed to potentially contaminated dust.

### **FOOD INDUSTRY:**

**Avoid:** Harvesting crops or slaughtering animals within 50 miles of Pantex until State officials determine the best course of action.

**Do:** Place animals on stored feed materials rather than allowing them to graze within 50-miles of Pantex until State officials determine the best course of action.

