

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION # 4 - FIREFIGHTING

ESF-4 Coordinator

- Campbell County Fire Chiefs Association
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Local Support Agencies

- Local Fire Departments
- Campbell County Emergency Management
- County and City Police Departments
- Search and Rescue Teams
- Campbell County Transportation Department
- Local Public Works Departments
- Regional HazMat Teams

(See ESF-4 Section of the ERIL for a detailed list of individual resources.)

Local Resources

- County Road Department
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State and Federal Resources

- Kentucky Division of Emergency Management (KYEM)
- State Fire Commission
- State Fire Marshal
- State Forestry Service
- State Emergency Response Team (ERT)
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Forest Service
- Civil Air Patrol

Note: This list is not exhaustive. Agencies engaged in firefighting operations may vary depending on the scope and impact of the incident. This ESF will expand or contract as needed.

Purpose

To identify the roles and responsibilities of Emergency Support Function (ESF) #4 – Firefighting, and to coordinate countywide firefighting efforts across Campbell County. ESF-4 ensures an effective,

cooperative response for the suppression of wildland, rural, and urban fires. These operations may be required during, or as a result of, natural or human-caused disasters.

Situation and Assumptions

- Fire protection and rescue are daily responsibilities of local fire departments and rescue squads, but demands increase significantly during multi-hazard emergencies such as hazardous materials incidents, floods, major power outages, or loss of critical infrastructure.
 - Fires may occur anywhere in Campbell County, urban or rural, and can be secondary effects of other incidents.
 - Fire emergencies may require resources from adjacent jurisdictions, the state, or federal agencies through mutual aid agreements.
 - Any disaster can necessitate fire service mobilization to protect life and property, even when fire is not the primary hazard.
 - Terrorist acts or violence may immobilize local fire service resources or directly target fire personnel and assets.
 - Civil disturbances may involve explosives or incendiary devices, requiring fire service intervention.
 - Local personnel and resources are generally sufficient, but mutual aid may be necessary.
 - Fire departments must be prepared to assist each other through shared manpower, equipment, and expertise.
 - Fire service personnel may support rescue operations and mass-casualty triage.
 - Drought conditions and arson increase vulnerability to wildland and forest fires.
 - A catastrophic earthquake could trigger numerous urban and rural fires, potentially overwhelming local capacity.
 - Fire services may be tasked with operations beyond firefighting, including support to emergency services during major disasters.
 - Outside assistance may not be immediately available; state or federal resources could take hours to arrive.
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Mission

To protect life and property, minimize fire damage, and assist in rescue operations during incidents requiring fire service response.

Direction and Control

- The **ESF-4 Coordinator** manages firefighting activities within the County EOC, including detection, suppression, and coordination of resources.
 - Each fire chief retains command within their own jurisdiction.
 - Requests for mutual aid or special tasks (e.g., public warning, decontamination) are coordinated through the ESF-4 Coordinator and, when activated, the County EOC.
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Concept of Operations

The ESF-4 Coordinator directs and supports firefighting operations by mobilizing resources across wildland, rural, and urban fire agencies. Operations follow established ICS/NIMS protocols, with incident assessment and resource needs determined primarily by the Incident Commander (IC).

Phases of Management

Preparedness

- Review and update procedures related to ESF-4.
- Conduct fire prevention and public safety education.
- Maintain updated personnel, equipment, and resource inventories.
- Develop Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) for fire services.
- Maintain administrative and financial documentation procedures.
- Develop and maintain Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs) for surge capacity.

Response

- Activate ESF-4 upon request from the Chief Elected Official, EM Director, Fire Chiefs Association, or the State EOC.
- When the EOC is activated, coordinate fire suppression and rescue operations and provide situational updates.
- Coordinate logistics for mobilization of firefighting resources.
- Manage requests for mutual aid assistance and direct resources to staging areas.

Recovery

- Support recovery operations, including hazard removal.
- Assist with mitigation of secondary fire hazards.
- Conduct After Action Reviews (AARs) and update plans, procedures, and guidelines with lessons learned.

Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

The ESF-4 Coordinator identifies and coordinates local, state, and federal resources for fire suppression, rescue, and life safety operations.

General Responsibilities

- Operational control remains with local fire chiefs; however, large-scale incidents may require 24-hour staffing and centralized coordination.
- The County EOC prioritizes requests and deploys available firefighting resources.

- Agencies with firefighting capabilities will assist one another as capacity allows.

Key Responsibilities

Primary – ESF-4 Coordinator

- Maintain ESF-4 SOPs.
- Support development of mutual aid agreements.
- Coordinate and support local fire-related training.
- Recommend staging areas for incoming resources.
- Liaise between fire chiefs, IC, and the EOC.
- Inform firefighting personnel of hazards associated with technological or hazmat incidents.
- Request and coordinate radiological or hazmat decontamination support as needed.
- Advise EOC leadership on fire and hazmat hazards.
- Coordinate public warning and notification as related to fire emergencies.
- Support fire department rescue operations.
- Assist with inquiries regarding injured or missing individuals.
- Maintain logs, records, and reports of ESF-4 activities.

Supporting Agencies

- Provide trained representatives, resources, and information to ESF-4.
- Ensure personnel are trained and exercised on relevant procedures.

Specific Agency Duties

- **Local Fire Departments:** Provide first-line fire suppression and response.
- **Emergency Management:** Provide EOC coordination, briefings, needs assessments, and state-level liaison.
- **Law Enforcement (ESF-13):** Provide crowd control, site security, traffic management, and ingress/egress support.
- **TANK Transit:** Provide transportation for personnel and evacuation of affected populations.
- **Search and Rescue (ESF-9):** Augment fire service operations and support specialized rescue.
- **American Red Cross/Community Agencies (ESF-6):** Provide field support (food, water, shelter) to responders and displaced populations.
- **Campbell County Coroner (ESF-8):** Provide casualty management services.
- **Public Works (ESF-3):** Provide equipment and personnel to clear roads and support fire operations.

References

- KRS 39A–G
- National Response Framework (NRF)
- National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- KYEM State EOC Standard Operating Procedures

- ESF-4 Standard Operating Procedures

