on each floor of the building: (1) portable, battery-operated radio and extra batteries; (2) several flashlights and extra batteries; and (3) first aid kit and manual.

Bomb Threats

- If you receive a bomb threat, get as much information from the caller as possible. Keep the caller on the line and record everything that is said. Notify the police and the building management.
- After you have been notified of a bomb threat, do not touch or cover any suspicious packages. Clear the area around the suspicious package and immediately notify the police. In evacuating a building, avoid standing in front of windows or other potentially hazardous areas.

Keeping Updated On An Emergency

Getting information during an emergency situation is vital, especially when evacuation may be required or you are asked to stay at home. Radio and television stations provide the quickest means to obtain information. Have battery-operated radio tuned to a local all-news or talk radio show.

Emergency Radio Stations

WMAL	630 AM	WASH	97.1 FM
WTOP	1500 AM	WTOP	107.7 FM
WRC	1260 AM	WAMU	88.5 FM
WTNT	570 AM	WBIG	100.3 FM
		WMZQ	98.7 FM

Pet Information

For information on emergency preparedness for pets, call the Montgomery County Animal Services Division at 240-773-5925, option 7, or the Montgomery County Humane Society at 240-773-5900 or visit their website at **www.mchumane.org/naturaldisasters**. Or you may call the Human Society of the United States at 202-452-1100.

Check On Relatives and Neighbors

During emergency events, it is important to know where family members are or should be. Check to see how your relatives and neighbors are coping especially the frail elderly and persons with disabilities. If possible, consider helping them plan or locate resources for assistance.

For More Information

There is plenty of good information available on the Intenet regarding emergency preparedness. A search will elicit information on what governments and businesses are doing as well as helpful suggestions for your individual and family needs.

Montgomery County, Maryland offers a variety of information and links at its website, **www.montgomerycountymd.gov.**

Important Numbers

District Community Service Officers

1st District	240-773-6070
2nd District	240-773-6700
3rd District	240-773-6800
4th District	240-773-5500
5th District	240-773-6200
6th District	240-773-5700
Central Auto Theft	240-773-6370
Police Emergency	911
Non-Emergency	301-279-8000

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
100 Edison Park Drive
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police

Montgomery County, Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

HOMELAND DEFENSE

"Citizens should be confident that Montgomery County Government is doing all it can do to prevent terrorism. We are working together with other governments in this region and with the federal government to be prepared for the new realities of living in the Washington Metropolitan area."

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

J. Thomas Manger
Chief of Police

As our nation responds to the threats of terrorism, we are challenged to unite for common protection, and also take steps as a matter of preparedness and vigilance.

American law enforcement agencies have always had a role in Homeland Defense, whether it was during world wars, the cold war, or even preparing and responding to community-side disasters.

Terrorism, by definition, is a criminal act, and policing by its nature has always combated crime. Our community can be assured that this Department has plans in place to address all threats and attacks.

What Can You Do To Assist Your Family?

Prepare to deal with a terrorist incident by adapting many of the same techniques used to prepare for any emergency – whether it's a bioterrorism event or a major winter storm.

- **Be alert and aware of the surrounding area.** The very nature of terrorism suggests that there may be little or no warning.
- **Take precautions when traveling.** Be aware of conspicuous or unusual behavior.
- **Learn where emergency exits are located.** Think ahead about how to evacuate a building, subway, or congested public area in a hurry. Learn where staircases are located.
- **Notice your immediate surroundings.** Be aware of heavy objects that could move, fall, or break.
- **Be vigilant to suspicious activities.**
- **Prepare your home as you would for other emergencies.** Have on hand a supply of extra bottled water, canned food, and batteries.

What Is A Suspicious Piece of Mail?

- It's unexpected from someone you don't know.
- It's addressed to someone not living at your address.
- It has no return address.
- It's lopsided in appearance.
- It has a strong odor emitting from the package.
- It has a ticking sound.
- It's sealed with excessive amounts of tape.
- It's marked with restrictive endorsements such as "Personal" or "Confidential".
- It has protruding wires or aluminum foil.

What Should I Do With A Suspicious Letter or Package?

DO NOT OPEN IT - CALL 911!

- DO NOT handle a letter or package that you suspect is contaminated.
- DO NOT shake, bump, sniff, or empty the contents.
- Put the package or envelope down on a stable surface. DO NOT cover it.
- Alert others in the area. Leave the area, close any doors.
- If possible, shut off the ventilation system. WASH hands and face with soap and water.
- If at work, notify a supervisor.
- If at home, contact the local law enforcement agency.
- If possible, create a list of persons who were in the room when the suspicious package was discovered. Give this list to both the local public-health authorities and law enforcement agencies.

Chemical Agents

Chemical agents are poisonous gases, liquids or solids that have toxic effects on people, animals or plants.

Were a chemical attack to occur, authorities would instruct citizens to either seek shelter where they are and seal the premises or evacuate immediately. Exposure to chemical agents can be fatal.

Biological Agents

Biological agents are organisms of toxins that have illness-producing effects on people, livestock, and crops.

Because biological agents cannot necessarily be detected, it may take time to incubate and cause a disease. If governmental officials become aware of a biological attack through an informant or warning by terrorists, they would most likely instruct citizens to either seek shelter where they are and seal the premises, or evacuate immediately.

Be Prepared For A Building Explosion

The use of explosives by terrorists can result in collapsed buildings and fires. People who live or work in a multi-level building can do the following:

- Review emergency-evacuation procedures.
- Know where fire exits are located. Move a safe distance from the structure.
- Keep fire extinguishers in working order.
- Know where they are located and how to use them.
- Learn first aid. Contact the American Red Cross for additional information.
- Keep the following items in a designated place