



COOK NUCLEAR PLANT

2017 EMERGENCY INFORMATION CALENDAR FOR BERRIEN COUNTY

READ THIS NOW AND THEN DISPLAY IT FOR EASY ACCESS.

AEP INDIANA
MICHIGAN
POWER

A unit of American Electric Power

READ THIS NOW AND THEN DISPLAY IT FOR EASY ACCESS



DEAR BERRIEN COUNTY RESIDENT:

If there is a serious emergency in Berrien County, this calendar tells you exactly what to do. That's why it is so important for you to:

Read this emergency information now. Then display it where you can access it quickly. This calendar is published especially for people who live, work or go to school within 10 miles of the Cook Nuclear Plant in Bridgman. It is also for use by boaters, campers and all visitors to the area.

The best way to be safe in an emergency is to know what to do and how to help others. In this calendar you will learn what to do if there is a nuclear accident, chemical spill or an emergency weather condition such as a tornado or another dangerous condition.

Please share this information. Make sure your family knows what to do if an emergency occurs. Talk over the information with people at your work. Discuss it with your neighbors and friends. Find out if anyone in your neighborhood or workplace will need functional help in an emergency. Inform your neighbors or co-workers if you will need functional help. If you know people who are blind or have difficulty reading, please read this information to them. Make sure they understand it. We want everyone in our communities to be prepared to handle emergencies calmly and safely.

Sincerely,

Indiana Michigan Power
Berrien County Emergency Management Office
Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division

CALL IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS

Please call or write either of the offices below if you:

- Have questions or comments about the calendar.
- Need more information about emergency preparedness.
- Need more copies of the calendar.
- Would like to schedule a guest speaker to discuss the Berrien County Emergency Plan with your organization, company or service club.

COOK ENERGY INFORMATION CENTER

800-548-2555
One Cook Place
Bridgman, MI 49106

DIVISION OF BERRIEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE BERRIEN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

269-983-7111, Ext. 4915
2100 E. Empire Ave.
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

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Delivering the NUCLEAR PROMISE

YOUR CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTION



Joel Gebbie, Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer D. C. Cook Nuclear Plant

Within a month of Joel Gebbie taking the helm at Cook Nuclear Plant on January 1, 2016, the nuclear power industry released its bold, three-year initiative, "Delivering the Nuclear Promise: Advancing Safety, Reliability and Economic Performance." It addresses the nuclear industry's most pressing challenge, how to keep nuclear power a viable, affordable electricity source for you.

As an industry, Cook and other U.S. nuclear plants are delivering on their promises to run safely and

reliably. But changing market conditions are making it tougher to be cost competitive with other carbon-free producers as well as with carbon-producing natural gas. In the story below, Joel reflects on how you can help Cook Plant continue to be one of the major employers, tax bases and clean air energy sources for your community over the next few decades.

HOW CAN YOU HELP SAVE NUCLEAR POWER AND KEEP YOUR ELECTRIC BILL LOWER?

by Joel Gebbie

Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer, D. C. Cook Nuclear Plant

OUR NATION has set aggressive clean air and carbon reduction goals for the year 2020. This requires using more carbon-free energy sources. Today you hear about solar and wind energy being part of the clean energy solution. To stimulate growth in these areas, the government gives tax

credits so they can sell their energy for less. But here's what isn't being reported by the media.

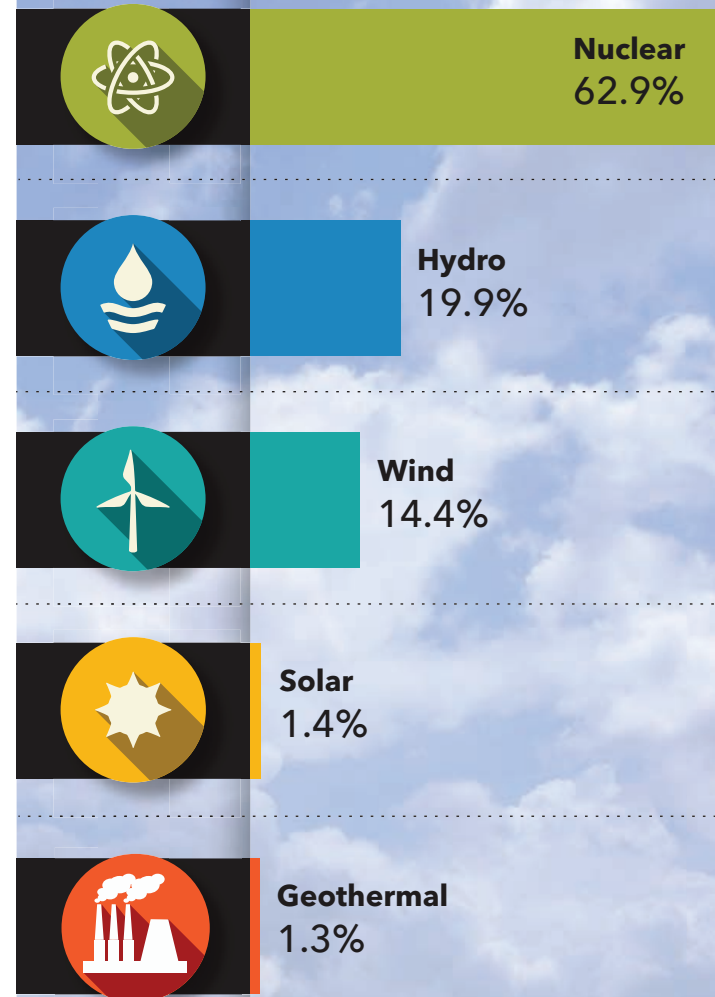
The U.S. cannot meet its carbon reduction goals without nuclear power. Nuclear power accounts for more than 60% of the carbon-free

electricity generation in the U.S. Solar and wind energy cannot match our production levels.

Nuclear power is the only carbon-free form of electricity production that runs all the time regardless of weather or time-of-day. That not only makes nuclear generated electricity dependable, it also makes it the only carbon-free source of energy that supports reliable operation of our electric grid. The grid does not function without the constant source of voltage support that large power plants, such as ours, supply. Today, we supply enough electricity for 1.5 million average homes.

We need our government to acknowledge that nuclear deserves a place in our nation's clean energy mix and to support our efforts to reduce reactor operating costs. You can help this effort by staying informed about nuclear power's value at www.nei.org. Invite us to speak to your organizations by contacting us at 800-548-2555. And write letters to your elected leaders advocating for nuclear power's role in clean energy and urge your family, friends and neighbors to do the same. We'll do our part by being your safe, reliable, cost-efficient electricity provider. ●

EMMISSION-FREE ENERGY CONTRIBUTION



This graph compares how much of our nation's total emission-free power generation is supplied by each of these electricity sources.

Source: NEI.org/Why-Nuclear-Energy/Clean-Air-Energy/Clean-Air-Benefits

Delivering the NUCLEAR PROMISE

SHARE WHAT YOU KNOW

Many companies and businesses in Berrien County face the same challenge Cook Nuclear Plant does. They must replace more and more retiring employees with a younger workforce. This “younging” of businesses may help their bottom lines by lowering wages and benefits, but their older workers take something with them that isn’t easy to replace – knowledge and experience.

Cook Plant is determined to keep that knowledge from walking out the door. Working on the front lines to retain experienced employees’ knowledge by passing it along to younger workers so the plant continues to operate safely, reliably and cost-efficiently is Human Resource Manager Kathy Wozniak. Here are her thoughts on how Cook is preparing for its future.

Q: Why is it so important for Cook Plant to retain employee knowledge?

Kathy Wozniak: Cook is a highly complex operation. To deliver on our nuclear promises of safety, security, reliability and cost efficiency, we can’t start at square one with any of our employees. Before they retire, we need to mine the decades of knowledge and best practices our long-term employees have and transfer it to our younger employees.

Q: How is Cook transferring and retaining that knowledge?

KW: We have a systematic approach called our Knowledge Transfer and Retention Plan. Right now we have 156 employees participating in the plan so we’ll be ready to fill 78 positions in the next few years.

Q: Who participates in the plan?

KW: At Cook we believe strongly in a homegrown workforce. The plan prioritizes preparing current employees for retirement openings. But we also look for employees from nuclear plants that have recently closed, the military and local college programs.



Kathy Wozniak, human resource manager, discusses benefit package options. Cook Plant’s excellent plans are credited with helping to attract and retain top talent.

“At Cook we believe strongly in a homegrown workforce.”

—KATHY WOZNIAK,
HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER

ent areas before settling on a career direction. For leadership positions, we also work with an industrial leadership group that gives our top candidates a tremendous opportunity to spend 18 months seeing other nuclear plants and benchmarking their best practices. Our electricians and other trades personnel work with a mentor in their department.

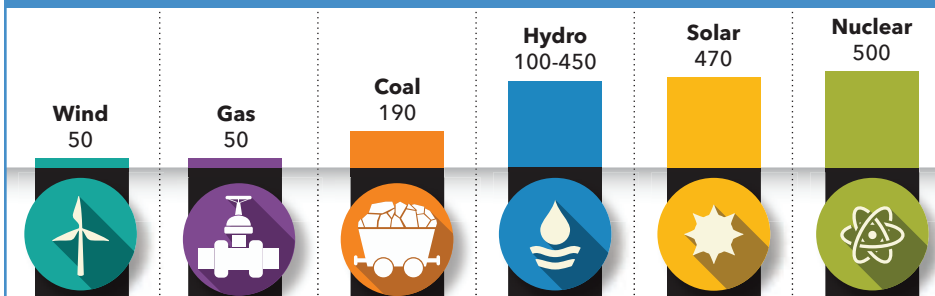
Q: What makes you the proudest about this program and the people participating in it?

KW: It’s very rewarding to process promotions. Because of the investment we make in their careers, these employees want to stay at Cook. They may leave their managers, but they take the next step up with a deeper respect and appreciation for the help they’ve been given. That motivates them to mentor others in the future. It makes for a great work climate. ●

Q: How do you identify employees within the organization for new positions?

KW: We ask our managers to identify high-potential employees and to talk with them about new opportunities. For leadership and engineering positions, we have rotational programs that give employees a chance to train in differ-

JOBS CREATED PER 1,000 MEGAWATTS OF GENERATING CAPACITY



Source: NEI.org/Why-Nuclear-Energy/Economic-Growth-Job-Creation

SECURITY PROMISE

Protecting Cook’s Future

Former Marine Joe Carter trains Cook Plant’s security force in the most advanced techniques to protect the facilities 24/7. Just as important is knowing how to make the right choices.

▶ FULL STORY ON PAGE 22

RELIABILITY PROMISE

Building the Best

Ed Young began working in construction at the Cook Plant in 1981. He retired in 2010, but was asked to come back 14 months later. Here’s why he’s still building the best.

▶ FULL STORY ON PAGE 22



Assistant Maintenance Director John Wygant (left) passes along some of his 35 years of valve maintenance knowledge to a young coworker.

PASSING IT ON

THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF VALVES at the Cook Plant and no one knows how to maintain, anticipate and recognize failures, and fix them better than Assistant Maintenance Director John Wygant. He's been on site, starting as a contractor in 1978 and then as an AEP employee since 1979. John's expertise is valves, though material handling, lifting and rigging and facilities maintenance all have had his oversight. "Over the years, I've come to understand what it takes to repair just about every aspect of this plant." Now he's looking to retire in a few years and is passing his torch through the Knowledge Transfer and Retention Plan. "I see my two replacements, both with 10-years of experience, every day. When I retire, I'll have transferred at least 80 percent of my knowledge to them. My successors are leaders. They have young families. They're committed to plant safety and to living here. That'll make it easier for me to leave." ●

MOVING UP

MEGAN CHOUINARD JOINED COOK PLANT seven years ago as an electrical engineer. A Western Michigan University graduate, she moved from the east side of the state to work at Cook. Within five years she was a supervisor and recently was promoted to system engineering manager, a position that has her designing maintenance strategies to prevent all equipment failures. Her career trajectory is credited to the Knowledge Transfer and Retention Plan (KT&R) that identified her leadership potential early on. Working closely with her manager, she annually lays out new goals, training and experience opportunities that will augment her digital controls and electrical systems know-how. "One of the goals of Delivering the Nuclear Promise is to retain Cook's reliability and economic viability. With the KT&R Plan we don't have to go outside the plant for the knowledge we need to run it. We get stronger and better by continuously learning from each other." ●



System Engineering Manager Megan Chouinard's leadership skills were identified and strengthened early in her career as part of Cook's KT&R Plan.

MAKING YOUR LIFE BRIGHTER EVERY DAY



COOK PLANT STATS:

- ▶ Cook Units 1 & 2 produce 2,100 megawatts of electricity annually – enough to power 1.5 million homes
- ▶ Cook employs 1,198 men and women with a \$100 million payroll
- ▶ Cook pays \$32 million in state and local property taxes each year

EXCELLENT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

- ▶ Executive/Manager
- ▶ Engineer
- ▶ Technical writer
- ▶ Fire protection
- ▶ Operations
- ▶ Maintenance
- ▶ Security
- ▶ Environmental
- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Radiation protection
- ▶ Welder
- ▶ Office workers
- ▶ Training

LESS DEPENDENCE ON FOSSIL FUELS:

- The power produced by 1 uranium fuel pellet =
- ▶ 1 ton of coal
 - ▶ 17,000 cubic feet of natural gas
 - ▶ 149 gallons of oil

JANUARY

YELLOW CREEK IN JANUARY | STEVENSVILLE

Laurie Schmittke, St. Joseph, MI



DECEMBER

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

JANUARY

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

1 NEW YEAR'S DAY
KWANZAA ENDS 2 Silver Beach Carousel's 7th
Birthday Bash, Jan. 2, St. Joseph 3 4 5 6 7 Siren Test 1 p.m.

8 9 10 11 12 13 14 Family Day, Krasl Art Center,
St. Joseph

15 16 MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR. DAY 17 18 19 Hunter Ice Festival,
Jan. 19-21, Niles 20 21 Miss Spirit of Blossomtime
Pageant, St. Joseph

22 23 24 25 26 27 Winter Thrill on the Hill,
Jan. 27-28, Buchanan
5th Annual Chili Tour,
St. Joseph 28 CHINESE NEW YEAR
2nd Annual Winter Beer Fest,
St. Joseph

29 30 31

SAFETY TIP: DO YOU NEED EXTRA COPIES OF THE EMERGENCY INFORMATION CALENDAR FOR YOUR WORK OR HOME? EMAIL COOKINFO@AEP.COM.

FEBRUARY

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT



FEBRUARY

THE MITTEN | ST. JOSEPH

Jason McIver, St. Joseph, MI

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

SAFETY TIP: READ THE INSIDE FRONT COVER AND PAGES 16-22 FOR IMPORTANT EMERGENCY INFORMATION. THEN DISPLAY THIS CALENDAR WHERE YOU CAN ACCESS IT FAST.

1

2 **GROUNDHOG DAY**
 Waikiki Weekend, Silver Beach Carousel, Feb. 2-5, St. Joseph
 Silver Beach Carousel Family Fun Night, every Thu. through May 25, St. Joseph

3 13th Annual Magical Ice Fest, Feb. 3-5, St. Joseph

4 **Siren Test 1 p.m.**
 Blossomtime Fashion Show, Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor
 NBBA's Bev's Second Season Gala, New Buffalo

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 Family Day, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph

12 13 14 VALENTINE'S DAY **15 16 17** Home, Garden & Leisure Show, Feb. 17-19, LMC Mendel Center, Benton Harbor **18** Community Trivia Night Challenge, Buchanan Senior Center

19 20 PRESIDENTS' DAY **21 22 23 24 25**

26 27 28 MARDI GRAS



Seeking photographs of all four seasons in beautiful Berrien County. Details on back cover.

MARCH

MAKING MUSIC AT THE ACORN | THREE OAKS

Steve Campbell, St. Joseph, MI



FEBRUARY

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

MARCH

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

SAFETY TIP: WILL YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED TRANSPORTATION HELP IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY? COMPLETE AND MAIL TODAY THE POSTCARD ON PAGES 16 AND 17.

1 ASH WEDNESDAY
LENT BEGINS

2 Silver Beach Carousel Family Fun Night, every Thu. through May 25, St. Joseph
LEGO Builders' Bash, Silver Beach Carousel, St. Joseph

3 EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY
Big City LEGO Build, Mar. 3-5, Silver Beach Carousel, St. Joseph

4 Siren Test 1 p.m.

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10 Girlfriends Getaway, Mar. 10-12, St. Joseph
Coastline Children's Film Festival Mar. 10-19, St. Joseph

11 St. Patrick's Evening Lighted Parade, downtown Coloma
Elementary Student Art Exhibition, Mar. 11-25, Box Factory for the Arts, St. Joseph
Family Day, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph

12 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS
Mr. Blossomtime & Queens Pageant, LMC Mendel Center, Benton Harbor

13 Miss Blossomtime Pageant, LMC Mendel Center, Benton Harbor

14

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17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY
Spring Art Hop, Benton Harbor Arts District

18

19

20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING VERNAL EQUINOX

21

22 11th Annual Chili Walk, downtown Buchanan

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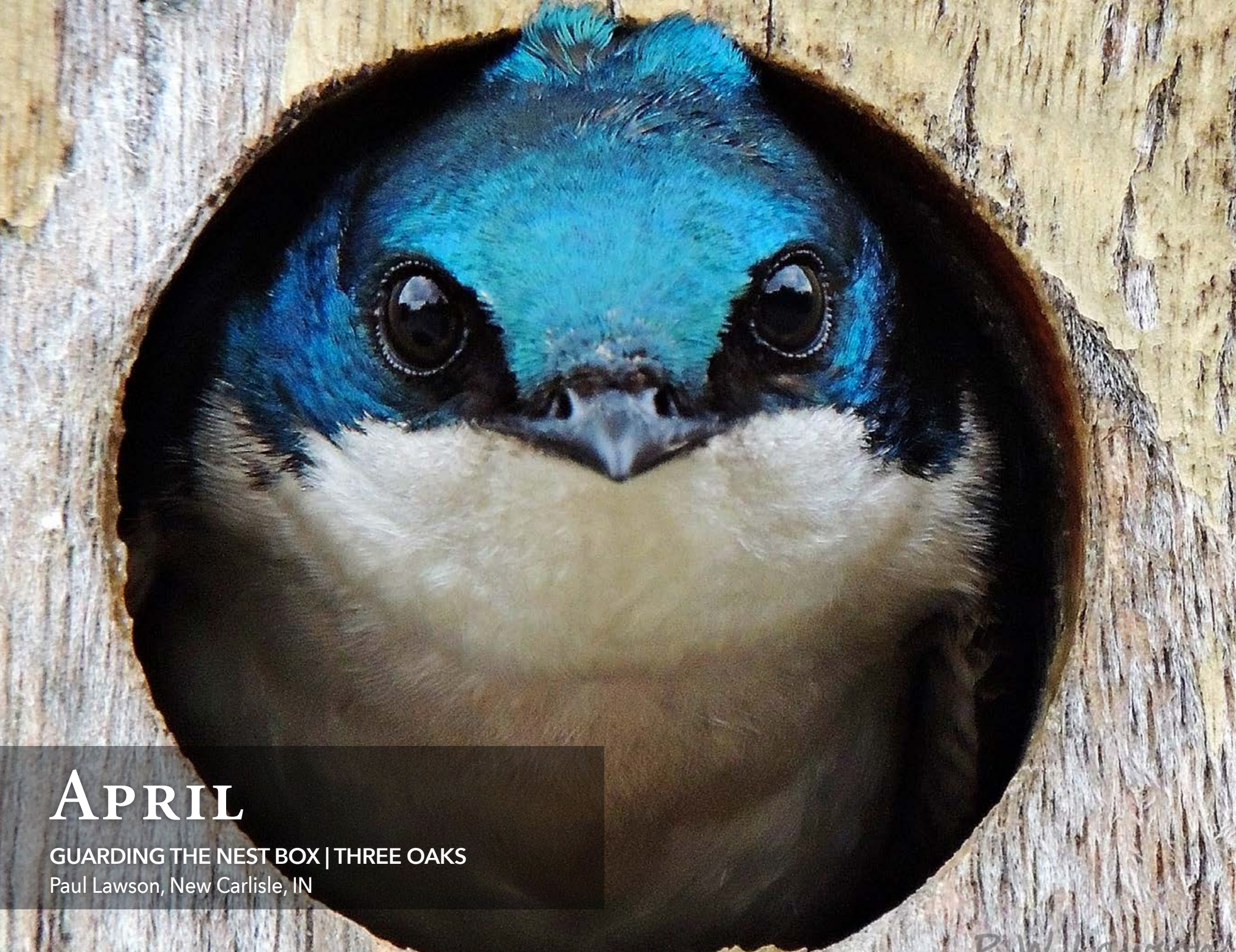
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APRIL

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT



APRIL

GUARDING THE NEST BOX | THREE OAKS

Paul Lawson, New Carlisle, IN

Paul Lawson

APRIL

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

SAFETY TIP: WE WILL TEST THE EMERGENCY SIRENS FOR 3 MINUTES ON APRIL 1. FOR MORE INFORMATION, READ PAGE 16.



Enter our 2017 Emergency Information Calendar Photo Contest beginning in May at cookcalendarphotos.com.

1 Siren Test 1 p.m. for 3 minutes

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

Watervliet Independence Celebration, Apr. 1-2, downtown Watervliet

Spring Break "The Wizard of Oz," Apr. 1-9, Silver Beach Carousel, St. Joseph

2 **3** **4** **5** **6** Silver Beach Carousel Family Fun Night, every Thu. through May 25, St. Joseph **7** **8** Family Day, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph

9 PALM SUNDAY Middle & High School Student Art Exhibition, Apr. 9-29, Box Factory for the Arts, St. Joseph **10** PASSOVER BEGINS **11** **12** Reduce Reuse Recycle Day, Berrien County Parks Dept., Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor **13** **14** GOOD FRIDAY **15** Easter Eggstravaganza, Silver Beach Carousel, St. Joseph
New Buffalo Easter Egg Hunt, American Legion, New Buffalo

16 EASTER SUNDAY Easter Brunch, Fernwood Botanical Garden, Niles **17** TAX DAY **18** PASSOVER ENDS **19** **20** Community Awards Banquet & Celebration, Buchanan **21** **22** EARTH DAY Blossomtime Coronation Ball, LMC Mendel Center, Benton Harbor

23 **24** **25** **26** ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY **27** TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK DAY **28** ARBOR DAY Art Attack, Apr. 28-30, Harbor Country **29** Annual Spring Open House, Chapin Mansion, Niles

30 House of David Vintage Baseball Game, Benton Harbor
Blessing of the Blossoms, Benton Harbor

MAY

BAUER TERRACE IN THE SPRING | NILES

Jordan Wahlstrom, Buchanan, MI



MAY

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

	1 Shoe Box Float Parade, St. Joseph Dinner with the Queens, Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor	2 Mayor's Banquet, Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor Railway Garden and Nature Adventure Garden opens, Fernwood Botanical Garden, Niles	3	4 Silver Beach Carousel Family Fun Night, every Thu. through May 25, St. Joseph Blossomtime Youth Parade, St. Joseph	5 CINCO DE MAYO	6 Siren Test 1 p.m. Run for the Buds 5K Run/ Walk & 10K Run, St. Joseph & Benton Harbor Blossomtime Grand Floral Parade, St. Joseph & Benton Harbor
7 Antiques on the Bluff, St. Joseph	8	9	10	11	12 National Public Gardens Day, Fernwood Botanical Garden, Niles	13 Parade of Homes, May 13-14 & May 20-21, Berrien County Family Day, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph
14 MOTHER'S DAY Mother's Day Brunch, Fernwood Botanical Garden, Niles	15	16	17	18	19	20 ARMED FORCES DAY BBQ, Blues & Bluegrass: A Taste of Michigan, St. Joseph Home Chemical & Electronics Recycling, Southeast Berrien County Landfill, Niles Spring Garden Festival, Fernwood Botanical Garden, Niles
21	22	23	24	25	26 Memorial Day Parade, St. Joseph	27 RAMADAN BEGINS Farmer's Market, every Sat. through Oct. 14, St. Joseph
28 Weko Beach Summer Concert, Bridgman	29 MEMORIAL DAY	30	31	SAFETY TIP: BE PREPARED. MAKE AN EMERGENCY KIT. SEE PAGES 17 AND 22 FOR IDEAS.		

JUNE

CANOES AT CLEAR LAKE | BUCHANAN

Brennan Miller, Niles, MI



JUNE

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

SAFETY TIP: GET AN EMERGENCY INFORMATION CARD FOR YOUR BOAT OR CAMPER. CALL 800-548-2555.



Submit your best shot by Sep. 6. See contest details on back cover.

1 14th Annual Family Fun Fair & Music Festival, Jun. 1-4, Niles Riverfront Park
New Buffalo Farmers Market, every Thu., Jun. 1-Sep. 7, Merchant St., New Buffalo

2

3 **Siren Test 1 p.m.**
Lake Bluff Artisan Faire, St. Joseph
Farmer's Market, every Sat. through Oct. 14, St. Joseph

4 Antiques on the Bluff, St. Joseph

5

6 D-DAY

7 New Buffalo Classic Car Cruise, downtown New Buffalo

8

9 65th Three Oaks Flag Day Festival, Jun. 9-11, downtown Three Oaks

10 Family Day, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph

11 Weko Beach Summer Concert, Bridgman
65th Annual Flag Day Parade, Three Oaks

12

13

14 FLAG DAY

15

16 Summer Art Hop, Benton Harbor Arts District

17 Lake Michigan Shore Wine Festival, Weko Beach, Bridgman
Music in the Park, Three Oaks
Home Chemical & Electronics Recycling, New Buffalo Township Fire Station
Garden Party, Fernwood Botanical Garden, Niles

18 FATHER'S DAY

19 Founders' Week, Silver Beach Carousel, Jun. 19-25, St. Joseph

20

21 FIRST DAY OF SUMMER
SUMMER SOLSTICE

22 Village-Wide Yard Sales, Jun. 22-25, Berrien Springs & Eau Claire

23 Friday Night Concert Series begins, continues every Fri. through Sep. 1, St. Joseph

24 Relay For Life of Berrien County, St. Joseph High School

25 RAMADAN ENDS
Weko Beach Summer Concert, Bridgman
NTAA Coming Home, Coming Together Concert, Benton Harbor
Music in the Park, Baroda

26

27

28 Brown Bag Concert Series, every Wed. through Aug. 23, St. Joseph

29

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JULY

THE SEARCH FOR BEACH GLASS | SAWYER

Julie Oblak, Buchanan, MI

JULY

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

SAFETY TIP: IN SOME EMERGENCIES IT MAY BE SAFER TO STAY INSIDE RATHER THAN EVACUATE. FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.



Enter our 2017 Emergency Information Calendar Photo Contest at cookcalendarphotos.com.

1 Siren Test 1 p.m.
Farmer's Market, every Sat. through Oct. 14, St. Joseph
Independence Celebration, Jul. 1-4, New Buffalo
Movies at New Buffalo Public Beach at dusk

2 Antiques on the Bluff, St. Joseph
Big Smiles 5K Run, Lions Park, New Buffalo

3 Fireworks, Baroda Legion Field
Music, Food & Fireworks, New Buffalo

4 INDEPENDENCE DAY

5 Brown Bag Concert Series, every Wed. through Aug. 23, St. Joseph
New Buffalo Classic Car Cruise, downtown New Buffalo

6 Celebrate Bridgman, Jul. 6-9, Bridgman
New Buffalo Farmers Market, every Thu. through Sep. 7, Merchant St., New Buffalo

7 Krasl Art Fair Block Party, St. Joseph
Friday Night Concert Series, every Fri. through Sep. 1, St. Joseph

8 Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff, Jul. 8-9, St. Joseph
Family Day, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph

9 Weko Beach Summer Concert, Bridgman

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14 Mike Yore Memorial Car Show, St. Joseph

15 Relay For Life of Niles-Buchanan, Niles High School

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20 Christmas in July, Silver Beach Carousel, Jul. 20-23, St. Joseph

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23 Weko Beach Summer Concert, Bridgman
Music in the Park, Baroda

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25 National Carousel Day Celebration, Silver Beach Carousel, St. Joseph

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AUGUST

BEAUTIFUL WHITE BARN | BERRIEN SPRINGS

Molly Pate, Berrien Springs, MI



AUGUST

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY



Submit your best shot by Sep. 6. See contest details on back cover.

1

2 Brown Bag Concert Series, every Wed. through Aug. 23, St. Joseph
New Buffalo Classic Car Cruise, downtown New Buffalo

3 Sidewalk Sales, Aug. 3-6, St. Joseph
New Buffalo Farmers Market, every Thu. through Sep. 7, Merchant St., New Buffalo

4 Chalk the Block, Aug. 4-6, St. Joseph
Summer Thrill on the Hill, Aug. 4-5, downtown Buchanan
Glad-Peach Festival, Aug. 4-6, Coloma
Friday Night Concert Series, every Fri. through Sep. 1, St. Joseph

5 **Siren Test 1 p.m.**
Farmer's Market, every Sat. through Oct. 14, St. Joseph
Party on the Pavers, downtown Baroda

6 Antiques on the Bluff, St. Joseph
Weko Beach Summer Concert, Bridgman

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11 Ship and Shore Festival, Aug. 11-13, New Buffalo
Michigan's Longest Garage Sale, Aug. 11-13, US 12 Heritage Trail, from New Buffalo to Detroit

12 Family Day, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph

13

14 Berrien County Youth Fair, Aug. 14-19, Berrien Springs

15

16 Home Chemical & Electronics Recycling, Love Creek County Park, Berrien Center

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20 Weko Beach Summer Concert, Bridgman

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27 Music in the Park, Baroda

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30 New Buffalo Classic Car Cruise, downtown New Buffalo

31

SAFETY TIP: IF YOU RAISE LIVESTOCK, YOUR FIRST PRIORITY IS TO PROTECT DAIRY COWS. READ HOW ON PAGE 19.



SEPTEMBER

HAZY MORNING SUNFLOWERS | EAU CLAIRE

Scott Rose, Dowagiac, MI

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

SAFETY TIP: IF YOU ARE TOLD TO SEEK SHELTER OR STAY INDOORS, DO NOT PICK UP YOUR CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL OR DAY CARE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD IT IS SAFE TO DO SO BY AUTHORITIES.



Submit your best shot by Sep. 6. See contest details on back cover.

1 Friday Night Concert, St. Joseph

2 **Siren Test 1 p.m.**
Lake Bluff Artisan Faire, St. Joseph
Farmer's Market, every Sat. through Oct. 14, St. Joseph

3 Antiques on the Bluff, St. Joseph
Weko Beach Summer Concert, Bridgman

4 LABOR DAY

5

6 New Buffalo Classic Car Cruise, downtown New Buffalo

7 Silver Beach Carousel Family Fun Night, every Thu. through Dec. 28, St. Joseph
New Buffalo Farmers Market, Merchant St., New Buffalo

8

9 Family Day, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph

10 GRANDPARENTS DAY

11

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15 Krasl Art Center's Members' Show, Sep. 15-Oct. 29, St. Joseph

16 Bark For Life of Berrien County, Kiwanis Park, St. Joseph

17

18

19 Exposing Greatness, Buchanan

20 ROSH HASHANAH BEGINS ISLAMIC NEW YEAR

21

22 FIRST DAY OF FALL AUTUMNAL EQUINOX ROSH HASHANAH ENDS
Fall Festival, Sep. 22-23, St. Joseph

23 Home Chemical & Electronics Recycling, Silver Beach County Park., St. Joseph
St. Joseph Wine Festival & Public Art Auction, St. Joseph
Smithsonian Magazine Museum Day Live, Fernwood Botanical Garden, Niles

24 Apple Cider Century Bike Ride, Three Oaks

25

26

27

28 Four Flags Apple Festival, Sep. 28-Oct. 1, Niles

29 YOM KIPPUR BEGINS

30 YOM KIPPUR ENDS
EnVision Party, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph

OCTOBER

SUNLIT SILOS | GALIEN TOWNSHIP
Shelley Timm-Thompson, Bridgman, MI



OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Antiques on the Bluff, St. Joseph	2	3	4	5 Silver Beach Carousel Family Fun Night, every Thu. through Dec. 28, St. Joseph	6	7 Siren Test 1 p.m. Farmer's Market, every Sat. through Oct. 14, St. Joseph Harvest Days Celebration, Sawyer Garden Center Chapel Hill Arts & Crafts Show, BCYF, Berrien Springs
8	9 COLUMBUS DAY	10	11	12	13	14 Family Day, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph Home Chemical & Electronics Recycling, SEBC Landfill Recycle Center, Niles
15	16 BOSS'S DAY	17	18	19	20 Fall Art Hop, Benton Harbor Arts District	21 SWEETEST DAY
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Halloween Happening, Fernwood Botanical Garden, Niles
29 Halloween Parade & Trick-or-Treat, downtown New Buffalo	30	31 HALLOWEEN Downtown Trick-or-Treat, St. Joseph				

SAFETY TIP: IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE EMERGENCY INFORMATION IN THIS CALENDAR, CALL 800-548-2555.

NOVEMBER

TURKEY THANKSGIVING | STEVENSVILLE

Donnalee Forraht, Berrien Springs, MI



OCTOBER

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

SAFETY TIP: MINIMIZE TELEPHONE OR INTERNET USE DURING A SERIOUS EMERGENCY. IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP LINES OPEN FOR EMERGENCY USE.

1

2 Silver Beach Carousel Family Fun Night, every Thu. through Dec. 28, St. Joseph

3

4 Siren Test 1 p.m.
Holiday Market, Fernwood Botanical Garden, Niles

5 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

6

7 ELECTION DAY

8

9

10

11 VETERANS DAY
Family Day, Krast Art Center, St. Joseph

12

13

14

15

16

17 23rd Annual Luminary Festival, St. Joseph

18

19

20

21

22

23 THANKSGIVING DAY

24 Live Reindeer, Silver Beach Carousel, St. Joseph

25 Holiday Lighting Celebration, downtown Buchanan
Small Business Saturday, Niles
Small Business Saturday, St. Joseph
New Buffalo Holiday Events, Nov. 25-27, downtown New Buffalo

26

27

28

29

30

DECEMBER

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT



DECEMBER

FORGOTTEN IN THE WOODS | BENTON HARBOR

Janet Keefer-Lagness, Bridgman, MI

DECEMBER

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

SAFETY TIP: IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR 2018 EMERGENCY INFORMATION CALENDAR BY DECEMBER 20, CALL 800-548-2555.

1 6th Annual Live Mannequins!, St. Joseph
Christmas Open House, Dec. 1-3, Sawyer Garden Center

2 **Siren Test 1 p.m.**
19th Annual Reindog Holiday Parade, St. Joseph
Santa's House opens, continues Thu-Sun, through Dec. 23, St. Joseph
Holiday Open House, Chapin House & Fort St. Joseph Museum, Niles

3 **ADVENT BEGINS**
Christmas in the Village, Baroda

4

5

6

7 **PEARL HARBOR DAY**
Kindle Your Christmas Spirit, Berrien Springs
Silver Beach Carousel Family Fun Night, every Thu. through Dec. 28, St. Joseph

8 Winter Art Hop, Benton Harbor Arts District

9 Breakfast with Santa, Fernwood Botanical Garden, Niles
Family Day, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph

10

11

12 **HANUKKAH BEGINS**

13

14

15

16 Breakfast with Santa, Fernwood Botanical Garden, Niles

17

18

19

20 **HANUKKAH ENDS**

21 **FIRST DAY OF WINTER WINTER SOLSTICE**
Live Reindeer, Silver Beach Carousel, St. Joseph

22

23

24 **CHRISTMAS EVE ADVENT ENDS**

25 **CHRISTMAS DAY**

26 **KWANZAA BEGINS**
Christmas At The Carousel, Silver Beach Carousel, Dec. 26-31, St. Joseph

27

28

29

30

31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO IF YOU HEAR SIRENS

In Berrien County, we use early-warning sirens to alert you of a serious emergency. They will sound if there is a nuclear accident, chemical spill, weather emergency or other possible dangerous condition in our county.

- ▶ **If the emergency siren sounds for three to five minutes, tune to the television and radio stations listed in this section.** All of the stations listed are part of the local Emergency Alert System (EAS). These stations will broadcast emergency information. Some of the stations may experience a delay in getting emergency information out due to computerized programming or limited broadcast scheduling. Check all of the listed stations until you find one that is broadcasting emergency information.
- ▶ **If you hear a siren for less than a minute or a siren repeated in less-than-a-minute intervals, it is probably calling a volunteer fire department.** However, tune to an area radio or television station listed to the right to be sure.
- ▶ **If you notice that a siren is damaged or not working, call 269-926-2638 immediately.** The Berrien County Emergency Management Office maintains the sirens. For your protection, report non-working sirens right away.

VACATIONERS AND VISITORS

If you hear sirens while vacationing or visiting in the area, seek shelter indoors or in your vehicle. Tune to one of the television or radio stations (listed at right). Follow all directions given by park officials, sheriff and police officers. **During a weather emergency, do not stay in your vehicle. It is not safe!**

BOATERS AND CAMPERS

If you hear emergency sirens while boating, do not wait for further warning. Tune to the marine channel 16 (156.8 MHz) or to an area radio station listed to the right for emergency information. Marine patrol boats will also warn boaters on Lake Michigan if there is a serious emergency. You will be told the location of safe waterways and docking areas.

If you hear sirens while camping, hiking, swimming or visiting in area parks, follow all emergency instructions from park officials. At Warren Dunes and Grand Mere state parks, officials will use the public address system or mobile alert units to let you know what you should do. At other local parks, immediately tune to an area radio station listed at right and follow instructions.



THE SIRENS ARE TESTED ON THE FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AT 1 P.M.

All monthly tests, except for April, consist of a short siren sound lasting less than a minute. On the first Saturday of April, we test all emergency sirens for three minutes at 1 p.m. as part of our comprehensive safety plan. At other times, you may hear sound-level tests also lasting less than a minute.

TUNE TO ONE OF THESE RADIO OR TV STATIONS FOR EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Radio			
AM	FM		
WNIL - 1290 WSJM - 1400	WAUS - 90.7	WEFM - 95.9	WQLQ - 99.9
	WSJM - 94.9	WYZ - 97.5	WCSY - 103.7
	WAOR - 95.7	WCXT - 98.3	WIRX - 107.1

Television		
WNDU - 16	WSBT - CBS 22	WBND - ABC 57
WNDU - 16.1	WSBT - 22.1	WBND - ABC 57.1
WNDU - 16.2	WSBT - FOX 22.2	

- ▶ All call letters are accurate at the time of printing. All stations are on the air 24 hours. Check your cable or satellite provider for your channel lineup.

FOLLOW ALL BROADCAST INSTRUCTIONS PROMPTLY. The radio or television newscaster will tell you what actions you should take, if any.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO IF YOU ARE TOLD TO SEEK SHELTER OR STAY INDOORS

For most emergencies, it is safer to stay indoors. The wind will blow any toxic or poisonous fumes and gases away in a short time. During a severe weather emergency, buildings offer the best protection, especially basements. While indoors, do the following:

- ▶ **Keep calm.** Panic is your worst enemy in any emergency.
- ▶ **Close all windows and doors, and bring pets inside.**
- ▶ **Turn off all air-intake systems** such as fans and air conditioners. Turn down furnace thermostat. Close fireplace dampers.
- ▶ **If your building has a basement, take a radio and go there.**
- ▶ **Do not go outside** to see what is happening until you are told it is safe to go out or are told to evacuate. If you must go outdoors briefly to warn someone during a nuclear emergency, cover your nose and mouth with a piece of cloth such as a towel or scarf.
- ▶ **Do not use the telephone or Internet** unless it is absolutely necessary. It's important to keep telephone lines open for emergency use.
- ▶ **Stay out of your car or vehicle in a weather emergency.** Seek shelter in the basement of a nearby building or in a ditch until the weather emergency passes.

IMPORTANT: Do not pick up children from schools or day care centers. School staff and child caregivers will keep children in school until it is safe to go out again.

FUNCTIONAL NEEDS: If you need special help in an emergency, fill out the card to the right and mail it right away.

People with functional needs in an emergency include those with vision or hearing impairments, physical or mental disabilities, or no means of transportation. To get help in an emergency, please fill out the Functional Needs card on the next page and mail it today. **IMPORTANT: Please fill out a new Functional Needs card each year.** The Berrien County Health Department will keep your functional needs information on file for one year. Please fill out a new card and mail it in as soon as you get your new calendar.

If you know people with functional needs, please volunteer to help them in an emergency. If they do not live nearby or you are not able to help them, please make sure they fill out and mail the Functional Needs card.

2017 FUNCTIONAL NEEDS CARD

Cut along the dashed line. 



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 10 BRIDGMAN MI

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

DIVISION OF BERRIEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
BERRIEN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
2100 E EMPIRE AVE
BENTON HARBOR MI 49022-9895



**IF YOU HAVE FUNCTIONAL NEEDS,
FILL OUT THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS CARD.**

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO IF YOU ARE TOLD TO EVACUATE

- ▶ **Listen to the radio or television (see page 16) for instructions.** They will give you evacuation routes and directions to open reception centers.
- ▶ **Go directly to a reception center and register.** Follow the broadcasted evacuation route instructions to the nearest open reception center. Please register when you arrive at the center so family and friends will know where you are. After you have registered you may go to stay with friends or family who live outside the danger area. Or, if you prefer, you will be assigned to a safe, nearby gathering place.
- ▶ **Stay calm.** You and others with you should have time to get ready to leave safely.
- ▶ **Take only essential items.** Pack as if you were going on a trip for only a few days. Use the list below as a guide.
- ▶ **Do not take firearms, alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs.**
- ▶ **If you have functional needs and have sent in a postcard,** you will receive necessary assistance. If you need help, listen to a local TV or radio station (see page 16) for the telephone number you can call.

FOR A NUCLEAR EMERGENCY, CALL 866-362-3105.

- ▶ **Have a plan for your pets.** Keep in mind that currently, reception centers will only accept pets if they are service animals. Make arrangements to stay with relatives, friends or at a pet-friendly hotel outside of the area. Remember to bring your emergency pet kit that includes food, water, medicines, leashes and tags. For more information, see ready.gov/caring-animals, PetTravelCenter.com and PetsWelcome.com.
- ▶ **Turn off small appliances, lights and water faucets.** However, leave your refrigerator and freezer on.
- ▶ **Turn off all air-intake systems** such as fans and air conditioning. Turn down furnace thermostat. Close fireplace dampers.
- ▶ **Close and lock all windows and doors.** The evacuated area will be secured and you will not be allowed to return until it is safe.
- ▶ **Check on neighbors.** Make sure they know how to evacuate and that they have transportation.

2017 FUNCTIONAL NEEDS INFORMATION

If you have functional needs, please fill in this card, fold, seal it with tape and mail today! You must send in a card each year to keep our files up-to-date.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

ZIP: _____

Phone: () _____

Contact Berrien County Emergency Management at 269-983-7111, Ext. 4915, if there are special directions to your home.

IF YOU ARE A PART-TIME RESIDENT, PLEASE CIRCLE THE MONTHS YOU STAY IN BERRIEN COUNTY:

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

FUNCTIONAL NEED (CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY):

Vision-Impaired Hearing/Speech-Impaired Wheelchair Walker/Cane Bedridden
Ventilator Oxygen Other: _____

..... *Fold here*

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Could a family member or friend provide you with transportation if you were asked to evacuate during an emergency? **Yes** ___ **No** ___

PET INFORMATION

Do you have pets that would require special attention if you were to evacuate your home? If so, indicate number of:

Cats: _____ Dogs: _____ Service Dogs: _____

Other (describe): _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Primary: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Alternate: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

----- *Cut along the dashed line.* 

IMPORTANT: Do not pick up your children from schools or child care centers. If necessary, they will be taken to shelters outside the danger zone. Listen for directions on TV or radio stations (see page 16) about where and when they can be picked up when it is safe. Do not worry if you or family members are in a hospital or other special-care facility, as they also have emergency procedures.

THINGS YOU WILL WANT TO BRING WITH YOU

- Basics:** cash, the Cook Plant Emergency Information Calendar, portable radio, flashlight, extra batteries, keys, tool kit, credit/debit cards, checkbook, wallet, purse
- Bedding:** blankets, pillows, sleeping bags
- Toiletries:** soap, towels, toothpaste and toothbrushes, razors, sanitary napkins or supplies
- Special items:** special-diet foods, baby formula and bottles, diapers, favorite toys or games
- Health supplies:** medicines, glasses, dentures, hearing aids, first aid kit, prescription information
- Identification:** driver's license, credit cards and important papers
- Pet supplies**

ONCE YOU ARE IN YOUR VEHICLE

- **Drive carefully.** There is no need to speed. Follow directions of all sheriff, police and traffic officers.
- **Close all windows and vents.** Shut off heating and air conditioning.
- **Listen to the radio (see page 16).** Follow emergency instructions on your car or portable radio. You will be told when it is safe to return.

RECEPTION CENTER LOCATIONS

The locations of the four reception centers are listed below. Listen to an area radio or TV station (see page 16) to learn which reception centers are open.

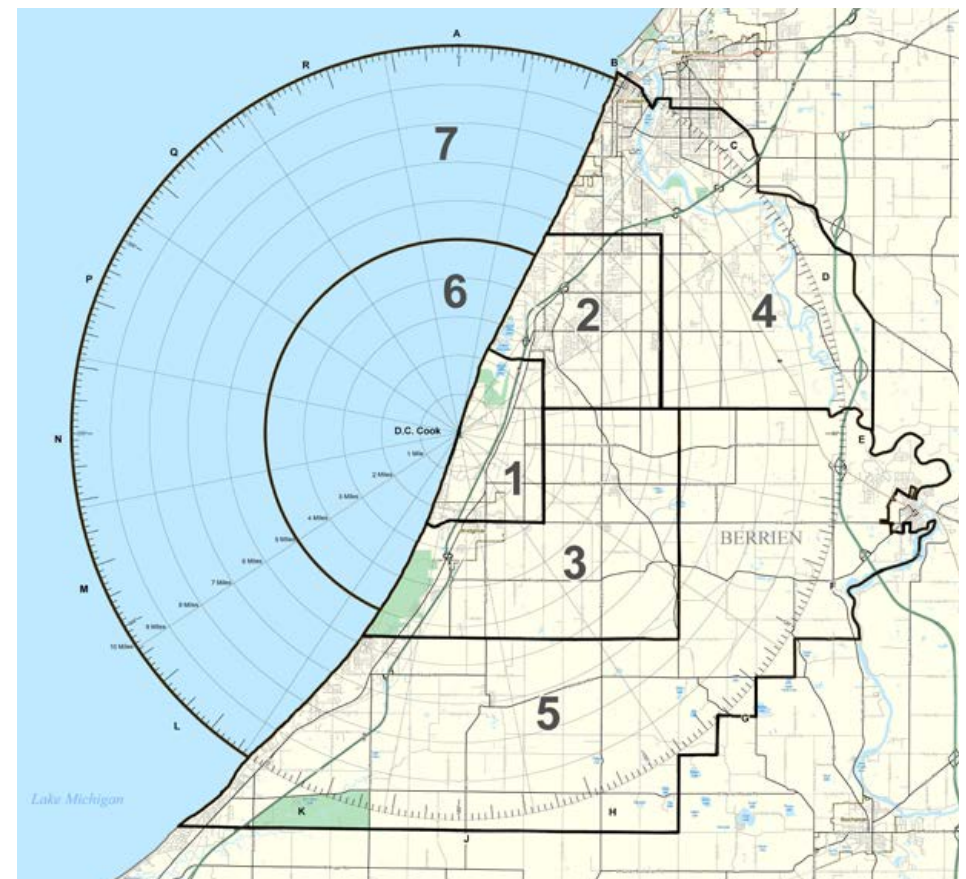
<p>COLOMA HIGH SCHOOL 300 W. St. Joseph Street, Coloma (Red Arrow Highway)</p>	<p>BRANDYWINE HIGH SCHOOL 1700 Bell Road, Niles (South of Niles & East of M-51)</p>
<p>WATERVLIE HIGH SCHOOL 450 E. St. Joseph Street, Watervliet (Red Arrow Highway)</p>	<p>NEW BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL 1112 E. Clay Street, New Buffalo (South of US-12)</p>

COOK NUCLEAR PLANT EMERGENCY PLANNING ZONE

The circled area below is a 10-mile radius of the Cook Nuclear Plant in Bridgman. It is the Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ). The early-warning siren system for Berrien County is within the EPZ. When necessary, area TV and radio stations (see page 16) will alert people living inside the EPZ if there is an emergency.

The map shows the Protective Action Areas for the Cook Nuclear Plant. During an emergency, we will identify these areas by numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7. For example, the TV or radio station (may say, "Protective Action Area 1 must evacuate," or, "Protective Action Area 2 must take shelter." Know which of the seven Protective Action Areas you live, work or are boating in so you can respond promptly to instructions.

During an emergency, listen to area Cook TV or radio stations and follow the official evacuation instructions to the reception center you are to use.



NUCLEAR EMERGENCY TERMS

In the unlikely event that there is an emergency at the Cook Nuclear Plant, four terms will be used to describe each situation. Those four terms are explained below. They are listed in order of least serious (1) to most serious (4).

Because of the many safeguards and highly skilled people operating the Cook Nuclear Plant, it is very unlikely that a serious event will ever occur there. Chances of you having to seek shelter or evacuate because of a nuclear emergency are very remote. In most cases, evacuation is ordered as a safety measure before any danger can come to you or your family. Federal law, however, requires that the public be told what to do in case of a significant release of radioactive material from the Cook Nuclear Plant. Please keep this Emergency Information Calendar handy and become familiar with its contents.

Sometimes you will hear news about a drill or an exercise involving the Cook Nuclear Plant. That is because federal, state, county and plant officials are required by law to participate regularly in drills and exercises so they are prepared in case of an emergency.

Remember, you will hear early-warning sirens if shelter or evacuation is necessary. See page 16.

If the sirens sound, listen to an area TV or radio station for emergency information (see list on page 16) and follow instructions.

- 1. UNUSUAL EVENT:** a minor problem at the Cook Nuclear Plant that varies from normal or routine operations. No release of radioactive material is expected. Cook Plant officials will notify federal, state and county officials. You will not have to do anything.
- 2. ALERT:** an abnormal plant condition that could result in a small release of radioactive material inside the plant. This is still considered a minor event. Cook Plant officials will notify federal, state and county officials to stand by. It is not likely that you will have to do anything.
- 3. SITE AREA EMERGENCY:** a more serious situation that could result in a release of radioactive material around the plant site. All federal, state and county officials will be ready to help if needed. Protective measures may be required to ensure the safety of the public in a limited area near the plant site boundary. If so, the sirens may sound. Tune in immediately to an area TV or radio station (see page 16) to learn whether you will need to seek shelter or evacuate.

4. GENERAL EMERGENCY: the most serious situation possible at the Cook Nuclear Plant. It could result in the release of a large amount of radioactive material outside the plant boundary. All federal, state and county officials will provide help as needed. Protective measures may be required to ensure the safety of the public as far as 10 miles from the plant. The sirens will sound and you will be told by area TV and radio stations (see page 16) if shelter or evacuation is necessary.

TWO OTHER KEY TERMS: RADIATION AND CONTAMINATION

- ▶ **Radiation** refers to the particles and waves given off by radioactive material. It is a form of energy that occurs naturally and artificially. We are exposed to it every day. However, radiation could be harmful to your health and safety if the levels are high enough and the exposure lasts long enough.
- ▶ **Contamination** is when radioactive material is where it is not supposed to be. Food, water or air is considered contaminated if it contains more or different types of radioactive material than would be normally present. Our bodies, for example, contain very small amounts of the radioactive elements potassium-40, carbon-14 and tritium. We are not considered to be contaminated because these elements exist within us naturally. However, the presence of strontium-90 (a possible by-product of a nuclear power plant emergency) in food, air or water can indicate contamination.

STATE OF MICHIGAN POTASSIUM IODIDE DISTRIBUTION

Radioactive iodine (radioiodine) is one of the products that could be released in the unlikely event of a serious nuclear power plant accident. Potassium iodide (KI) is a non-radioactive form of iodine that may be taken to reduce the amount of radioactive iodine absorbed by the body's thyroid gland. KI offers protection only to the thyroid gland and its use would be to supplement evacuation and in-place sheltering. Evacuation and in-place sheltering are the primary means of protection in a radiological emergency.

State and county officials will use the Emergency Alert System (EAS) to notify the public of the need to evacuate, to seek shelter in place, or to take KI. KI is available to persons within 10 miles of Cook Nuclear Plant through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). **Detailed instructions on the MDHHS distribution of KI can be found on page 21 of this calendar or www.michigan.gov/KI.** It is necessary to pick up your KI prior to an emergency situation at the plant. Complete your voucher and pick up your KI at a participating pharmacy at your earliest convenience. **You will NOT be able to get KI from the pharmacy during a nuclear plant emergency.**

People who are allergic to iodine should not use KI. In the event of an allergic reaction, contact a doctor.

FACTS ABOUT RADIATION

RADIATION IS A NATURAL FACT OF LIFE

Radiation is a form of energy like light or sunshine. There is radiation all around us. We are exposed to small amounts of radioactive materials every moment of our lives.

HOW WE MEASURE RADIATION

You cannot see, taste, hear or smell ionizing radiation. But we can measure it with special instruments. We use a unit called a millirem (mRem) to measure ionizing radiation.

On average, a person living in the U.S. receives about 620 mRem per year from all radiation sources. A person living within 10 miles of the Cook Nuclear Plant receives about 485 mRem because we live at a low elevation that is not near any radioactive rock formations. About 310 mRem of the total we receive comes from man-made sources, primarily medical testing. Only a tiny fraction of one percent of the man-made radiation would come from the Cook Plant.

NATURAL BACKGROUND RADIATION IS IN THE AIR WE BREATHE

The sun covers our planet with cosmic radiation. Some rocks and minerals give off small amounts of radiation. One source you may be familiar with is radon gas. Many building materials contain radiation. In fact, radioactive particles are in the air we breathe, the food we eat and the water we drink. Even our bodies are slightly radioactive. These sources of radiation are called natural background radiation.

Natural background radiation sources (measured in mRem per year)		
Air: 200	Cosmic rays: 30	Earth & rocks: 46
Food & water: 40	Building materials: 7	

WE MAKE AND USE RADIOACTIVE SOURCES EVERY DAY

Besides naturally occurring radiation, there is also artificial (man-made) radiation. Radioactive materials are used in medical and dental X-rays. They are used to help diagnose and treat diseases such as cancer. Science and industry use radioactive materials for research and to do such things as X-ray welds. Other sources of radioactive materials are color TVs, smoke detectors, some luminous-dial watches and clocks. Very small amounts of radiation come from generating electricity with nuclear power.

Artificial radiation sources (measured in mRem per year)	
Chest X-ray: 10	Coast-to-coast airline flight: 2.5
Viewing color TV 1 hour/day: 1	Living by the Cook Plant: < 1

TYPES OF RADIATION

Radiation includes such things as light, heat and radio waves. However, when we speak of radiation we usually mean "ionizing" radiation. This radiation can produce high-energy, charged particles called "ions" in the materials it strikes.

THE MAIN TYPES OF IONIZING RADIATION ARE:

- Alpha particles, which can be stopped by a sheet of paper.
- Beta particles, which can be stopped by a thin sheet of metal.
- Gamma rays, which can be stopped almost completely by three feet of concrete.
- Neutron particles, which can be stopped by water, concrete and metal.

EFFECTS OF RADIATION

Just as too much exposure to the sun can cause painful sunburn, too much exposure to certain levels and types of radiation can have harmful effects. You would, however, have to be exposed to radiation doses over 20,000 mRem within a day to produce effects measurable by a trained doctor. Very large doses of 50,000 to 100,000 mRem are required before you would feel any ill effects.

The amount of exposure from radiation depends on:

- Length of time you are exposed.
- How far you are from the source of radiation.
- Which part of your body is exposed.
- How much material you inhale or take into your body.

Your health or physical condition can affect your reaction to radiation exposure. For example, you should be aware that **unborn babies and very young children are more likely to be harmed by radiation exposure.**

The less radiation you are exposed to, the less chance you have of receiving any harmful effects. That is why it is so important to have an emergency plan in place near a nuclear power plant. We need to treat radiation with both caution and common sense.

Cook Nuclear Plant workers regularly check radiation levels both inside and outside the plant. In the unlikely event of a serious nuclear accident at the plant, state and federal health experts would be called in to take radiation readings beyond the plant site boundary. These readings would determine what steps, if any, you, your family and co-workers would need to take to protect yourselves.

NOTICE TO FARMERS, FOOD PROCESSORS AND DISTRIBUTORS

HOW WILL YOU BE NOTIFIED IN A NUCLEAR EMERGENCY?

The State of Michigan will evaluate the seriousness of a nuclear accident. It will order actions to protect the public and the food supply.

- ▶ **If you live within 10 miles of the Cook Nuclear Plant**, your first warning may be the sounding of emergency sirens. If you hear a siren for three to five minutes, tune to a radio or TV station listed on page 16 for emergency information.
- ▶ **If you live farther than 10 miles from the plant**, you will be notified by area radio and TV stations (see page 16). The news report will let you know if you need to take protective action, or a Cooperative Extension Service official will contact you. Please follow the emergency instructions right away.
- ▶ **If you have questions about a real or potential emergency**, please contact the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development at 800-292-3939. After hours, call 517-373-0440.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU ARE TOLD TO SEEK SHELTER?

During a nuclear emergency, it is very important to limit your outdoor activities as much as possible. Please stay indoors and follow the instructions provided in radio and TV messages (see page 16).

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU ARE ORDERED TO EVACUATE YOUR FARM?

If you live within 10 miles of the Cook Nuclear Plant, you may be told to evacuate. You may be permitted, with directions from the state, to reenter the evacuated area temporarily to tend to the needs of your farm. You will receive instructions on what routes to use, safety precautions and decontamination procedures.

Your Cooperative Extension Service agent can provide animal health and feeding guidelines.

HOW CAN A NUCLEAR EMERGENCY CONTAMINATE FOOD?

During a nuclear emergency, dust-sized, radioactive materials can fall onto fruits, vegetables or grains. This food could enter the food supply and be eaten by the public. For example: Cows could eat grass covered with radioactive iodine-131. Traces of the iodine could be passed through to the milk and then to people who drink it. Iodine-131 has the potential to concentrate in the human thyroid gland where it could cause thyroid cancer.



PROTECTING THE FOOD SUPPLY DURING A NUCLEAR EMERGENCY

Following a nuclear emergency, the public could be exposed to radioactive material in several ways. At first, particles and gases released into the air could be ingested or inhaled directly. Additional exposure could result from eating or drinking food or milk contaminated by traces of radioactive material. Farmers, food processors and distributors will be required to take steps to protect the food supply. Every step will be taken to minimize or avoid contamination. Please read this page and the next to learn how to protect the food supply in the event of a nuclear emergency.

SAMPLES WILL BE COLLECTED TO DETERMINE PROTECTIVE ACTION

In the event of an accidental release of radioactive material, State of Michigan emergency workers will determine what protective steps you will need to take. Emergency workers will collect samples of air, water and soil to see whether there is radioactive contamination, where it is located and the amount. Samples of milk, forage, crops and processed foods also may be taken. Field data and other factors will be used by the state to determine the best course of action to protect the public and the food supply.

Samples may be taken from as far away as 50 miles from the plant site. State of Michigan emergency workers will give farmers, food processors and distributors outside of the 10-mile radius of the Cook Nuclear Plant specific instructions on how to collect and test samples.

SAMPLES ARE BEING TAKEN NOW TO GIVE US A BASELINE

Radioactive materials occur naturally in the environment. So Indiana Michigan Power and State of Michigan emergency workers continually take samples of the air, water, milk, vegetation and animal life near the Cook Nuclear Plant. This gives them a "natural" baseline for comparison in the event of a nuclear emergency.

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR WATER SUPPLY IN A NUCLEAR EMERGENCY

Store as much water as you can for your livestock. Cover open wells, tanks and other storage containers. Close off the intakes from contaminated ponds, streams or cisterns. In general, water from wells and water heaters should be safe to use.

Radioactive contaminants deposited on the ground usually will travel very slowly into the soil. If contaminants fall onto the surface of lakes and rivers, the radioactive materials may get into the ground water supplies. It takes just a few hours for streams and lakes to carry the contaminants many miles.

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR LIVESTOCK OR POULTRY IN A NUCLEAR EMERGENCY

The first priority is to protect dairy animals because radioactive materials can quickly enter the food chain through milk and other dairy products. If sheltering is required, shelter your dairy animals first.

Shelter livestock in covered barns or sheds unless the weather is extremely hot or other factors make sheltering impossible. Provide your animals with stored feed such as hay, silage and bagged grain. Whenever possible, draw water for your animals from a well. Avoid using water from ponds, rivers and creeks. This will help to minimize the amount of radioactive material ingested by your animals.

Poultry are more resistant to radioactive contamination than other farm animals. Keep them in your enclosed facility and continue to give them stored feed and well water. If your poultry are normally kept outdoors, bring them inside if possible. Eggshells provide natural protection from contamination. Generally, eggs will be safe to eat after the shells are washed to remove surface contamination.

DO NOT DESTROY YOUR ANIMALS

Destroy your animals only if you get orders from state or federal authorities. Do not slaughter any animals except for immediate food needs. Generally, animals that are exposed to radioactive contaminants and radioactive rainwater will survive. Many will be marketable and safe for humans to eat. However, do not allow animals to graze in open fields unless the State of Michigan, your Cooperative Extension Service agent or another government official gives you permission.



WHAT YOU SHOULD DO IF FEED IS RADIOACTIVELY CONTAMINATED

Only in extreme emergencies may you feed your livestock contaminated grain or hay. If you must use the contaminated feed, you may be able to reduce the level of contamination. For example, if the feed is stored outside, the contamination may be greater at or near the surface of the feed pile. You may be able to reduce the contamination level significantly by removing the top portion.

Do not dispose of contaminated feed or hay unless spoilage has made it inedible. Generally, contaminated products may be salvageable after adequate time passes and they are properly processed. Please keep contaminated feed supplies separate from other feed so the contamination does not spread. Your Cooperative Extension Service agent can provide you with specific information.

WHO PAYS FOR LOST OR DESTROYED FARM PRODUCTS?

Farmers, food processors and distributors could face serious financial losses following a nuclear emergency. Under federal law, you will be reimbursed for any of these losses. The Price-Anderson Act, enacted by Congress in 1957, requires the operators of nuclear power plants and certain other nuclear facilities to purchase nuclear liability insurance policies for the protection of the public. As a result, no-fault insurance pools are in place to pay claims promptly without lengthy court hearings. Claimants need only prove that the injury or property damage resulted from the nuclear emergency. Commercial insurance policies exclude coverage for nuclear emergencies because the Price-Anderson Act makes coverage unnecessary.

NOTICE TO FARMERS, FOOD PROCESSORS AND DISTRIBUTORS, continued

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO WITH FOOD AND PRODUCTS CONTAMINATED IN A NUCLEAR EMERGENCY

CROPS IN THE FIELD

Let your standing crops grow to maturity. The level of radiation exposure they will receive should not affect their growth. Most contaminants will be washed off in the rain. Or, over time, the crops will return to safe levels as they grow. If special harvesting procedures are required, your Cooperative Extension Service agent will give you instructions.

ROOTS AND TUBERS

Potatoes, carrots and plants that mature under the ground generally are safe to eat. Make sure to thoroughly wash and peel these products to remove soil particles and contaminants.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES IN THE FIELD

Unprotected plants may have particles of radioactive contamination on their surfaces. Before eating them, wash thoroughly. Then brush, scrub or peel the outer layers. Some leafy vegetables may be eaten after you remove the outer layers.

If your crops do not need to be harvested immediately, leave them in the field or on the trees. They should be able to be harvested once your area is declared safe again.

You may lose some ripe fruits and vegetables to spoilage. Contamination levels in your area may be too high for field workers to harvest your crop in a timely manner. You will be reimbursed for crop losses.

HONEY AND APIARY PRODUCTS

Following a nuclear emergency, State of Michigan emergency workers will need to take samples and analyze honey and beehives in the Protective Action Areas. Contact your Cooperative Extension Service agent for guidance.

FARM PRODUCTS

If radioactive particles or material are present in large amounts, you may be advised not to use, eat or sell garden produce or animal products until samples are taken and analyzed. State of Michigan emergency workers will conduct the sample tests and analysis. Please follow their orders to protect the public's and your safety.

MILK

Milk contaminated at low levels of iodine-131 may be converted to powdered milk or cheese. Then it will be stored until the iodine's radioactivity diminishes to safe levels. It may also be used in animal feed.

WILDLIFE AND PLANTS

After a nuclear emergency, wild game such as deer, rabbit, squirrel, pheasant and partridge may eat food and water contaminated with radioactive particles. State of Michigan emergency workers may advise you not to eat wild game until it has been sampled and assessed to be safe. Wild edible plants, such as native herbs, mushrooms, dandelion greens, spearmint, peppermint or wintergreen may have particles of contamination on their surfaces, too. Before eating, be sure to wash, brush, scrub or peel to minimize contamination.



HOW SOON WILL THE RADIOACTIVITY REACH SAFE LEVELS?

The speed that radioactivity diminishes depends on several things. Inert gases released from a nuclear power plant lose their radioactivity within minutes. Wind or heavy rain tend to remove radioactive material from plants very quickly. In some cases, however, a hard rain after a nuclear emergency may splash contaminated soil onto plant surfaces. This will increase the amount of radioactive material on low-standing plants.



WHAT STEPS CAN BE TAKEN TO RESTORE CONTAMINATED SOILS?

There are several steps that can be taken to restore soils contaminated in a nuclear emergency. One is not to use the soil for a period of time. In a worst-case situation, heavily contaminated soil may need to be removed and sent to an approved radioactive waste disposal facility. Such drastic action may not be possible for large fields, but may be used for small plots or areas such as walkways near buildings where people come in close contact with it.

In less severe situations, fiber crops may be planted instead of fruits and vegetables. Deep plowing may be used to keep the radioactive contaminants below the root zone until the radioactivity decays to safe

levels over time. Liming may also be used to limit the absorption of specific radioactive elements by crops.

Farmers will receive guidance from the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service on how to restore valuable soils to productive use.

WHAT SHOULD FOOD PROCESSORS AND DISTRIBUTORS DO IN A NUCLEAR EMERGENCY?

After a nuclear emergency, government officials may restrict the movement of contaminated food products or withhold them from the marketplace. These products should not be released until they are considered safe for consumption or a decision is made to dispose of them. State of Michigan emergency workers will instruct you on how to safely handle and dispose of contaminated food products.

The environmental damage caused by a nuclear reaction may be short-lived. Steps can be taken to make a full recovery.

For more information, contact:

MSU-BERRIEN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

269-944-4126
1737 Hillandale Road
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
<http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/Berrien>

If you have questions about a real or potential emergency, you may also contact the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development:

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

800-292-3939
www.michigan.gov/mdard

IMPORTANT: Do not destroy any animals, crops, milk or feed supplies unless directed by authorities to do so.



If you live within 10 miles of the Cook Nuclear Plant, it is recommended that you keep potassium iodide (KI) tablets on hand for everyone in your home or business. To get your KI tablets at no cost to you, complete the voucher below and take it to one of the listed pharmacies. If you already have KI you do not need to get more this year unless it has expired. Check the expiration date on the box. If you already have KI at home and it has expired, then go to the pharmacy and obtain a fresh supply of KI. Expired KI can be put in the trash. It is not considered hazardous waste.

Do you have your potassium iodide (KI) tablets?

Get your free supply at area pharmacies

Potassium iodide (KI) is available at no cost to people who live or work within 10 miles of the Cook Nuclear Plant. In the unlikely event of a serious accident at the Cook Plant, taking KI will help protect your thyroid from injuries caused by exposure to radioactive iodine.

To get your KI tablets, please read the information in this calendar, complete the voucher and take it to one of the participating pharmacies listed below. Please get your tablets now so you are ready if you are ever asked to take them. **You will NOT be able to get KI from the pharmacy during a nuclear plant emergency.**

What is KI?

KI (the chemical name for the drug “potassium iodide”) is a non-prescription iodine pill. Iodine is an element that is found in nature and is also an important part of your diet. Because iodine is so important for your health, it is added to table salt. However, the iodine in the KI pill is much stronger than the iodine in table salt. Table salt cannot be used as a replacement for KI.

How does KI work?

In the unlikely event of a serious accident at a nuclear power plant, one form of radiation, radioactive iodine, could be released into the air. Like regular iodine, radioactive iodine can be stored in your thyroid gland. This can cause thyroid cancer or other thyroid problems over time. Children are most at risk of thyroid injury from exposure to radioactive iodine. KI protects your thyroid by filling it up with a safe form of iodine so that it can't take in radioactive iodine. It is important for you to know that KI *does not* protect your whole body from radioactive material. KI protects only your thyroid gland.

How can I get KI?

Complete the voucher and take it to one of the participating pharmacies (see below). The pharmacy will provide you with the amount of KI that you need. Place the KI in a safe, dry location and keep it in its foil packet. You should keep it on hand as part of your emergency supply kit (to learn what to keep in your kit, see page 22 in this calendar). Be sure to get your KI now. You will not be able to get it from the pharmacy during a nuclear power plant emergency.

When should I take KI?

Take KI only if a “General Emergency” has been declared at the Cook Nuclear Plant. If the emergency sirens sound for three minutes or more, tune to your local radio or television station (see list on page 16 in this calendar). Follow the instructions given by emergency officials. You may be instructed to shelter-in-place or evacuate. You should take KI only if the radio or

Use the information in this chart to take the correct amount for one dose.

AGE	WEIGHT	DOSE
18+ years	Any weight	Two (2) 65 mg tablets <i>(includes pregnant or breastfeeding women)</i>
12-18 years	150 lbs. or more	Two (2) 65 mg tablets
12-18 years	Less than 150 lbs.	One (1) 65 mg tablet
3-12 years	Any weight	One (1) 65 mg tablet
1 month-3 years	Any weight	Half (1/2) 65 mg tablet, crushed into a liquid. <i>(Instructions for crushing and mixing will be provided by the pharmacy.)</i>
Birth-1 month	Any weight	Quarter (1/4) 65 mg tablet crushed into a liquid. <i>(Instructions for crushing and mixing will be provided by the pharmacy.)</i>

TV announcements say that the power plant has declared a “General Emergency,” the most serious type of plant emergency.

If you are told to evacuate and don't have your KI readily available, don't waste time searching for it. Evacuating or sheltering-in-place is the best way to protect you from harm due to radiation.

How much KI should I take?

One dose protects the thyroid for 24 hours. You should be safely evacuated within the 24-hour time period. See the chart above for dose guidelines.

What side effects could I have from taking KI?

Side effects are unlikely when KI is used at the recommended dose and for a short time. Minor side effects can include an upset stomach, skin rash or a metallic taste. An allergic reaction can have more serious symptoms like fever, joint pain, swelling of the face or body or trouble breathing. Severe shortness of breath requires **immediate medical attention!**

Who should NOT take KI?

You should not take KI if:

- You are allergic to iodine. A shellfish allergy may not mean that you are allergic to iodine. Talk to your physician or allergist if you have a shellfish allergy.
- You have dermatitis herpetiformis (DH) or hypocomplementemic urticarial vasculitis syndrome (HUVS), very rare skin conditions.

Check with your doctor if you already have thyroid disease or are unsure whether or not to take KI.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) runs the KI program. For more information, contact:

PHONE: 517-335-8350
(8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

EMAIL: mdhhs-ki@michigan.gov
ONLINE: www.michigan.gov/KI

How does this program apply to businesses?

Businesses can obtain KI for their employees, clients or patients. Businesses with more than 400 employees/clients/patients should call or email the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to arrange for delivery of KI. If a business chooses to participate in the program, it is responsible for having a dispensing plan that complies with these instructions. If your business chooses not to participate, you can provide a copy of this voucher to your employees so that they can obtain their personal supply of KI.

Read this information before signing the voucher.

Signing the form means that you agree to and understand the following:

I UNDERSTAND THAT:

- KI is an over-the-counter, non-prescription drug.
- KI is to be taken only when a General Emergency has been declared at the Cook Nuclear Plant.
- KI is NOT a substitute for evacuation or sheltering-in-place. I will follow the instructions of emergency officials.
- KI only protects the thyroid gland from radioactive iodine. It does not protect the rest of the body. In a nuclear power plant emergency, there could be health risks from other forms of radiation.

- Although taking KI is usually safe, it can cause problems in people who have thyroid disease or are allergic to iodine. People who have dermatitis herpetiformis or hypocomplementemic urticaria vasculitis (HUVS), two very rare skin diseases, should not take KI without first talking to their doctor.

I AGREE THAT:

- I will follow all instructions on how to use potassium iodide (KI).
- I will hold the pharmacy harmless from all liability, claims, suits or actions related to the use, delivery, labeling and packaging of KI.

Additional agreements for businesses

- I own or represent the business/institution named on the voucher.
- This business/institution will provide information on dosing and medical contraindications to all employees/clients prior to distributing KI. (NOTE: You will find this information in each box of KI and on the MDHHS website at www.michigan.gov/KI.)

To qualify to receive KI tablets for your household or business, you must:

- Live or work within 10 miles of the Cook Nuclear Plant.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Present a government-issued photo ID.

PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES

YOU MAY PICK UP YOUR KI TABLETS AT THE FOLLOWING PHARMACIES:

- Meijer Pharmacy 1920 Pipestone Rd., Benton Harbor, MI
- Meijer Pharmacy 5019 Red Arrow Hwy., Stevensville, MI
- Meijer Pharmacy 5150 S. Franklin St., Michigan City, IN
- Meijer Pharmacy 1223 Phoenix St., South Haven, MI

Cut along the dashed line. 

2016-2017 POTASSIUM IODIDE (KI) VOUCHER

By signing this form, I agree that I have read the KI information provided and that I am obtaining KI for people who live or work within 10 miles of the Cook Nuclear Plant.

COMPLETE 1 OR 2:

1. Requesting KI for Household Use

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

ZIP: _____

County: _____

Phone: () _____

Number of people living at this address: _____

Ages of people living at this address: _____

2. Requesting KI for Business Use

Name of Business: _____

Contact Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

ZIP: _____

County: _____

Phone: () _____

Number of employees/patients/residents/clients at this address: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Pharmacy Use Only		
# OF BOXES DISPENSED:	LOT #:	DATE DISPENSED:
PHARMACY NAME:	PHARMACY #:	
CITY:		

Cut along the dashed line. 

Delivering the NUCLEAR PROMISE

KEEPING THE PROMISE to protect Cook's future

"OUR NATION NEEDS NUCLEAR PLANTS in its energy mix," says Joe Carter, security training supervisor here at Cook. "They are very safe, reliable sources of clean power." His job makes sure this national asset and the communities surrounding it are protected 24/7, 365 days a year.

Joe trains the plant's security force on average every six weeks in procedures and firearms. As part of Delivering the Nuclear Promise, his department works with area and state law enforcement and the industry to enlist the best security skills and equipment at the best cost.

"We have an amazing relationship with the Michigan State Police and Berrien County Sheriff Department, meeting monthly not only to discuss



Security Training Supervisor Joe Carter (left) guides Officer Chris Graham during onsite pistol qualification testing.

our site's security but emergency responses across the county. Nationally we work weekly with other nuclear plants and the U.S. government to stay current on the next best ways to perform our duties."

Joe is a former U.S. Marine and now serves in the Indiana National Guard, both strong foundations for his training

responsibilities. While he's proud Cook hires candidates with military experience, it's not his main criteria. "You need to be 21 years old to carry a firearm at the plant. But what Cook wants is someone with a clean background. This force is made up of outstanding citizens who are driven to do the right thing. Knowing that this force is trained to make right choices helps me sleep at night." ●

MAKING GOOD ON THE PROMISE to build the best

IS COOK PLANT ONE OF THE BEST built plants in the world? Ed Young, senior contract construction implementation manager, believes so. He'd know. Ed started working in construction at the plant in 1981 when he arrived on site to refurbish the ice beds in the containment building. Since then, he has been responsible for many safety-related structural modifications of the plant. He was Construction Manager during the restart



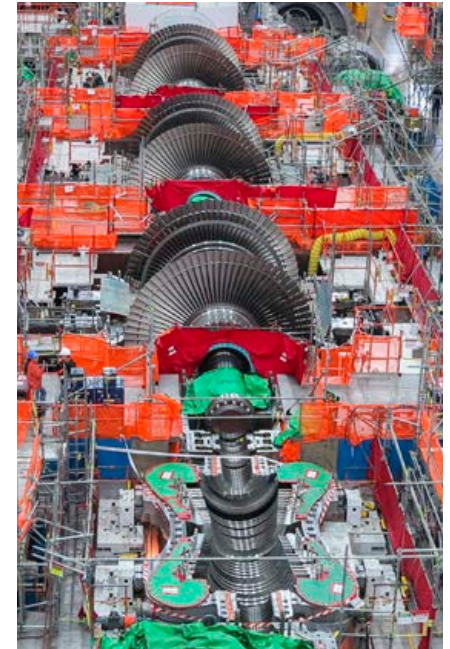
Senior Contract Construction Implementation Manager Ed Young, on his way to oversee progress on a new security access control building and emergency plan facility.

of both units and was Corporate Construction Manager when the plant rebuilt the Unit 1 turbine. Recently he's actively participated in the Engineering Projects Construction Group supporting Life Cycle Management projects.

"I can assure you, construction of all safety related components and structures are strictly regulated and documented at Cook."

Ed said. "The crews of craftspeople I work with, the pipefitters, boilermakers, electricians, focus on one thing: construct this plant so it always runs safely and reliably."

Ed, however, is unique among his coworkers. He took early retirement from AEP in 2010 . . . and boomeranged back to Cook in the fall of 2011. "One evening, my wife asked if I missed the day-to-day challenges of working at Cook. I did! Ironically, the plant called me the next day and said they needed me back." Over his career, Ed said he has moved his family six times to work construction at numerous plants in the AEP system. "Of all those places and projects, this has been my favorite place to live and work." ●



Cook Plant strives to lower its operating costs and pass the savings on to customers. An example: this new turbine will increase Cook's energy output and lower maintenance costs.

INVESTING IN GREATER COST EFFICIENCIES

During the fall of 2016 refueling outage, Cook Plant successfully replaced the entire, original turbine in Unit 2. This upgrade was the largest project in the plant's Life Cycle Management program. It required five years of planning and an investment of \$200 million to complete it. The three low pressure and high pressure rotors (shown) are projected to deliver a solid return on investment with increased energy output and maintenance cost savings over the next several decades. ●

START PREPARING NOW!

Emergency situations often catch people off guard. A good way to stay safe in an emergency is to know what to do ahead of time. Here are five steps you can take now to make sure you, your family and your co-workers are prepared to handle any emergency.

1. After you read this Emergency Information Calendar, please share it with your family or co-workers. Then display it where you can find it quickly when you need it.

2. Keep the following items together in a safe, easy-to-get-to place:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency cash | <input type="checkbox"/> Checkbook | <input type="checkbox"/> Pet supplies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Important papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Debit cards | <input type="checkbox"/> Credit cards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Portable radio | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal identification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra keys | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra batteries | <input type="checkbox"/> Potassium iodide (KI) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription medicines | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight | if obtained in advance |

3. Make a list of personal instructions that you, your family or co-workers will need to follow in an emergency. Keep a list of supplies you may need with the instructions. Include on your supply list the items in step 2 above and the evacuation supplies listed on page 17.

4. Keep your vehicle in good running order. Fill your gas tank whenever it gets below half. If you do not have a car or do not have someone to drive you in an emergency, fill out the Functional Needs card on pages 16 and 17. **Mail the card right away.** You do not need a stamp.

5. If you know people who have functional needs, make sure they mail in a Functional Needs card. They include people who are vision-impaired; hearing-impaired; speech-impaired; have physical disabilities such as using a wheelchair, walker or oxygen tank; or have mental disabilities. Please help them fill out the Functional Needs card and return it right away (see pages 16 and 17). We have members on our emergency team to help people with functional needs get to safety. Also, if you know someone who is blind or cannot read well, please read this Emergency Information Calendar to him or her. Then display it where family or friends can find it fast.

PREPARE YOUR FAMILY FOR ANY EMERGENCY EVENT:

Download the free Berrien County "Emergency Preparedness Guide" by clicking the link in the right column at www.bcsheriff.org.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION

List all the phone numbers and emergency information you or a member of your household or business may need in a personal emergency. Please include names and numbers for your:

Doctor: _____ Sheriff: _____

Hospital: _____ School: _____

Ambulance: _____ Child caregiver: _____

Dentist: _____ Neighbor: _____

Police: _____ Pharmacist: _____

Fire: _____ Work: _____

NAME OF PERSON OR SERVICE	TELEPHONE NUMBER
---------------------------	------------------

Berrien County Emergency Services	911
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Cook Nuclear Public Inquiry Line	866-362-3105
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Use the space below to also list any special health or medical information that an emergency team member may need to know about you, your family members or co-workers.

SPECIAL HEALTH NEEDS OR EMERGENCY INFORMATION:

MAILING LABEL AREA



NEW, IMPROVED WEBSITE GIVES YOU UP-TO-DATE ENERGY INFORMATION

Now there's a faster, easier way to stay informed about how your electric power is generated locally – check out our recently redesigned www.cookinfo.com.

- Watch short videos on what it's like to be a nuclear power plant operator; learn how Cook Plant protects the environment 24/7; why your community is prepared for any emergency; what exciting career opportunities are available; plus more.
- Access important emergency information, anytime, anywhere online.
- Review job openings.
- Sign up for school/special group tours of our renovated Cook Energy Center.

We redesigned this site to be responsive for optimal viewing and navigation on any of your digital devices. Let us know what you think of the improvements by emailing us at cookinfo@aep.com. ●

OUR 2017 GRAND PRIZE WINNER!

CONGRATULATIONS TO BRENNAN MILLER, our \$500 Grand Prize winner. After narrowing the selection from 888 photos down to 12 finalists, we asked our Facebook followers to pick their favorite. "Canoes at Clear Lake" received the most votes. See it on the June page.



TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT FOR THE 2018 EMERGENCY INFORMATION CALENDAR

It's not too early to start taking photos for next year's calendar. Remember, in order to be considered, your photos must be:

- ▶ Taken in Berrien County
- ▶ Shot in landscape orientation
- ▶ At least 2550 x 3300 at 300ppi (11" x 8.5" at 300dpi)
- ▶ Submitted in .jpg or .tif format

Complete contest guidelines for 2018 will be posted in May at www.cookcalendarphotos.com.



ON THE COVER: Late summer aerial view of the Cook Nuclear Plant and Lake Michigan shoreline.

All photographs © 2017 Cook Nuclear Plant. This calendar replaces all previous issues. Printed on 10% post-consumer recycled paper.