

# Lansing RAGBRAI XLIX Participant Crisis Management Plan

The following document is provided as an overview of safety and emergency preparedness planned for participants of RAGBRAI XLIX while in Lansing. Should an emergency arise during RAGBRAI XLIX; the following guidance should be followed during your time in the community. This document provides an overview of the emergency services, notifications, and potential hazards. Additional weather and safety documents are on the Lansing RAGBRAI website under Safety providing more information and actions to take.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES.** Lansing has the following emergency services or support available.

**Law Enforcement.** Lansing has its own Police Department and in non-emergency situations can be contacted by calling (563) 568-4521 for assistance or in emergencies, dial 911. The Allamakee County Sheriff's Office also provides support as needed to Lansing in addition to other local law enforcement agencies.

**Fire.** Lansing has a volunteer Fire Department which if needed would be dispatched by dialing 911.

**Medical.** Lansing has a volunteer Ambulance Service which if needed would be dispatched by dialing 911. Allamakee County has one hospital, Veterans Memorial Hospital, located in Waukon and can be contacted at (563) 568-3411. Other hospitals within the area used for medical emergencies are located in La Crosse, Wisconsin and include the Mayo Clinic Health System - Franciscan Healthcare at (608) 785-0940 and Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center at (608) 782-7300. Air ambulance services are also available.

**HAZARDS.** The following two hazards below are the primary concerns while in Lansing and while they do not cover every potential risk, emergency planning and training has been carried out on a wide array of emergencies that may arise. Emergency shelters have been designated for the below hazards and please follow the guidance of local emergency responders and/or Lansing RAGBRAI staff if these should happen.

**Severe Weather.** This includes tornados, severe thunderstorms, lightning, and flooding. Outside a tornado, of special importance is the new damage threat tags assigned to certain Severe Thunderstorm Warnings. These two new tags are a **considerable** damage threat which has at least 1 ¾ inch diameter (golf ball-sized) hail and/or 70 mph thunderstorm winds and the other is for a **destructive** damage threat with at least 2 ¾ inch diameter (baseball-sized) hail and/or 80 mph thunderstorm winds. Warnings with the **destructive** tag will automatically activate an alert on smartphones within the warned area and should be considered extremely dangerous. Both tags along with a tornado will also result in the Lansing Outdoor Warning Siren being activated and the need to shelter. Weather and Alert Iowa notifications are sent for Tornado, Flooding, and Severe Thunderstorm Watches and Warnings.

Lansing does have a small flooding threat though at this time of year it will be flash flooding along a creek that moves through the southern side of the community and not the Mississippi River. Heavy rains are required for this risk and would be monitored closely should it become a concern. The National Weather Service in La Crosse, Wisconsin is the forecast office having responsibility for all weather-related matters.

**Hazardous Material.** Lansing has an active railroad running along the river through the community in addition to vehicles transporting various commodities on city streets and roadways along with several fixed structures in the general area. A spill or leak could result in shelter-in-place activities or an evacuation. A notification would be done either by Alert Iowa, by witnessing the event or by in-person notification.

**EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS.** There will be several ways emergency information will be provided to participants if an emergency response is required to include:

**Outdoor Warning Siren.** Lansing uses an outdoor warning siren to assist in notifying the community to take shelter. During an emergency, the siren would be activated for a tornado, damaging wind gusts of 70 mph or

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higher, and/or hail larger than 1 ½ inches and should be sounded for three (3) minutes to alert all residents and visitors to seek shelter. PLEASE MOVE TO DESIGNATED EMERGENCY SHELTERS IMMEDIATELY and occupants will remain in the shelters until emergency personnel or Lansing RAGBRAI officials declare it is safe to leave the shelters. Also, the siren is activated at noon daily, is sounded for a major fire or car accident requiring the Fire Department and an emergency on the river. The siren will not be sounded for a hazardous material spill. Please base the siren activation on the day's weather and any weather notifications.

**Alert Iowa Emergency Messaging System.** All participants are recommended to sign up for the **Smart911 App** on their smartphones to allow community and weather alerts during their time in Lansing and along the RAGBRAI route itself when crossing the state. Please see the brochure on the website and this is the same system residents within Allamakee County use. This is for weather and non-weather-related emergencies.

**Personal Notification.** Campers specifically located at the Red Barn will not be able to hear the siren located within Lansing and will be notified by either campground personnel, Lansing RAGBRAI staff, or emergency responders to seek shelter or take appropriate action. A bullhorn with a siren will be used to assist in this function. This would be for weather and non-weather-related emergencies and this notification process will also be used for all other campsites, shelters, and the festival area as needed.

**EMERGENCY SHELTERS.** To provide an area of refuge related to severe weather, a hazardous material spill, or other emergency several shelters have been set up in Lansing. These sites will be marked with EMERGENCY SHELTER signs in addition to signage providing direction to the shelters at various locations. The three shelter sites are the High School/Middle School, Old Middle School, and Lansing Library. These locations are marked on the Lansing RAGBRAI maps and will be on the EMERGENCY INFORMATION Boards. Currently the High School/Middle School and Old Middle School are also serving as indoor campsites. Since these shelters will already be open for indoor camping, participants at any time could elect to move to one of these sites if they so choose.

Under the following circumstances participants will be directed to the shelters.

**Severe Weather.** This includes Tornado Warnings, Severe Thunderstorm Warnings especially having the damage threat tag of **considerable** or **destructive**, Flood or Flash Flood Warnings. Shelters would also be made available if there is a possibility of a warning for one of the above weather events based on weather conditions in the surrounding area. Shelters will also be opened for lightning. Finally, in the event upcoming weather is determined by Lansing RAGBRAI Staff to be of extreme danger, all outdoor campers may be moved to one of the in-door camping locations from both outdoor campgrounds.

**Non-Weather Events.** In the event a non-weather-related emergency should occur, such as a hazardous material spill, participants are recommended to move to the safest closest shelter unless otherwise advised by emergency responders or Lansing RAGBRAI staff and await further direction.

**GENERAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDANCE.** In the event of an emergency, local emergency responders will be dispatched to the location as quickly as possible and provide guidance to participants and actions they need to take and the locations they would need to go to for safety. Participants witnessing a potential hazardous material spill or train derailment need to move as quickly away from the scene and proceed to one of the emergency shelters which will keep them out and away from the site and should keep upwind from the event.

**SAFETY INFORMATION BOARDS.** A Safety Information Board will be staged at each of the shelters, camping sites and at the primary festival area and include information regarding the weather forecast, emergency shelter locations, and emergency procedures. These information boards will be labeled: EMERGENCY INFORMATION and will be updated as needed.