



Protective Action Area Map Templates

Protective Action Area Map Templates User Guide

What are Protective Action Area Map Templates?

- Protective Action Area Map Templates offer a starting point for state, local and tribal governments to provide protective action guidance quickly to a population in a specific geographical area.
- Each template provides—
 - Space to insert a map that highlights the area where an action is needed.
 - Space to insert a state or local agency logo and contact information.
 - Tested and pre-approved messages that convey quickly and clearly the action needed. Users can select and adapt the messages that apply.
- These templates were created by a group that included members from the FEMA- and EPA-led Nuclear/Radiological Communications Working Group and the Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center Working Group. The templates have been reviewed and approved by the federal Advisory Team for Environment, Food and Health.

Who should use the templates?

- These templates are for state, local and tribal governments to use during a radiological or nuclear emergency in which evacuation, sheltering, food or drinking water guidance is needed.
- As during any incident, all public messaging should be created by a public information officer in coordination with scientists and emergency managers. The messaging should be approved by the incident command/unified command prior to public release.

How do I edit the templates?

- To edit in Word
 1. Right-click on the template you want to edit.
 2. Select “Slide Object” from the list.
 3. Select “Edit” from the dropdown menu.
 4. The document will open in Word for you to edit.
- To edit in PowerPoint
 1. Right-click on the template you want to edit.
 2. Select “Slide Object” from the list.
 3. Select “Open” from the dropdown menu.
 4. The document will open in PowerPoint for you to edit.

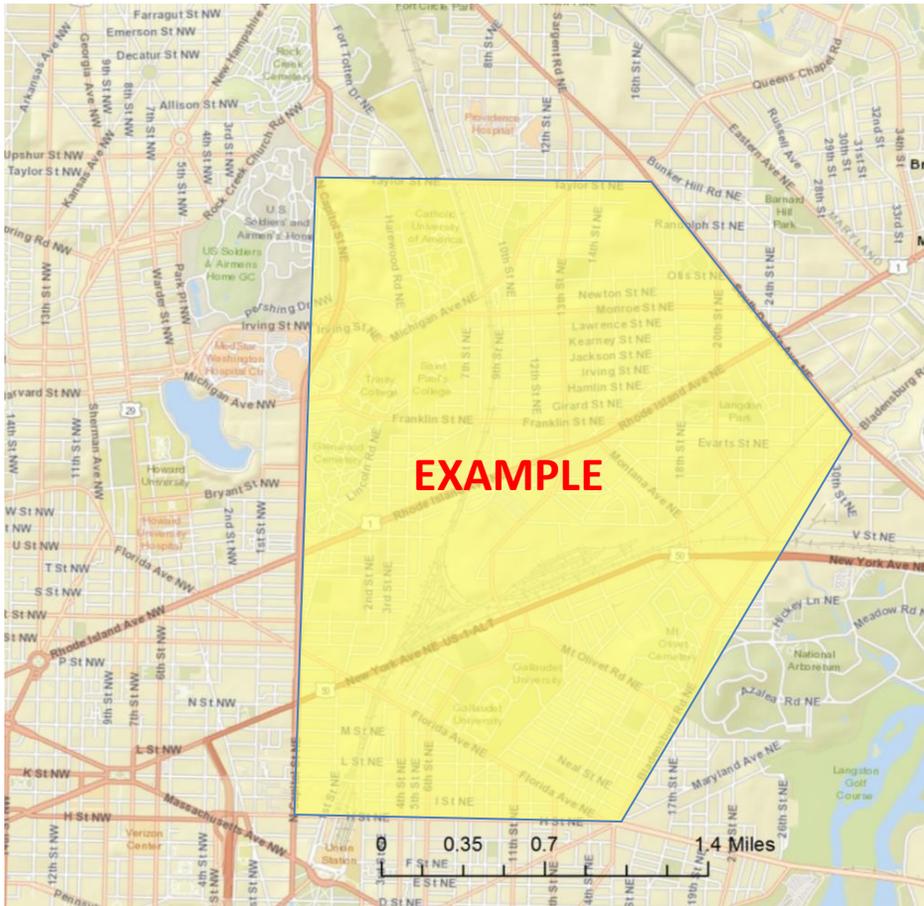
What additional factors should be considered before using these templates?

- Adapting messages
 - The messages on these templates provide only a starting point.
 - In many cases, the messages are provided in a multiple-choice format and not all should be used at the same time. Use only the messages that best fit the current emergency.
 - Users are free to change, delete or add messages as needed for a specific situation.
 - Messages must address transit-dependent populations, as well as persons with disabilities and access/functional needs that may require additional assistance and guidance.
- Pre-scripted messages
 - More comprehensive radiological response messages about evacuation, sheltering, food and drinking water guidance can be found in the following documents:
 - *Improvised Nuclear Device Response and Recovery: Communicating in the Immediate Aftermath* (June 2013) www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/33036?id=7659.
 - *Communicating During and After a Nuclear Power Plant Incident* (June 2013) www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/33011?id=7651.
 - Guidance on creating and disseminating messages for the public about nuclear/radiological emergencies can be found in the following documents:
 - *Criteria for Preparation and Evaluation of Radiological Emergency Response Plans and Preparedness in Support of Nuclear Power Plants: Guidance for Protective Action Strategies* (NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Revision 1, Supplement 3, November 2011) pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1130/ML113010596.pdf.
 - *Planning Guidance for Response to a Nuclear Detonation, Second Edition* (June 2010) www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1821-25045-3023/planning_guidance_for_response_to_a_nuclear_detonation_2nd_edition_final.pdf.
- Tracking decisions
 - After a protective action decision is announced to the public, the way in which the decision was made will come under scrutiny.
 - It is important to document how protective action decisions were made and the information upon which those decisions were based.

Insert state
or local
agency logo

For Use by State, Local or Tribal Response Organizations ONLY

Evacuation Area for [Insert Incident] As of [Time/Date]



Evacuate [Insert location] immediately.

Radiation Hazard Message (choose one)

- 1) The radiation levels in this area are extremely dangerous.
- 2) This is to avoid unnecessary radiation exposure that may affect your long-term health.
- 3) These actions are precautionary and will be in place until additional information becomes available.

Evacuation Messages (select all that apply)

- 1) Leave the area immediately.
- 2) Gather family members if they are nearby and leave the area.
- 3) Meet family members at shelters outside of the evacuation zone. Schools, hospitals and nursing homes are evacuating to designated shelter areas.
- 4) Bring pets, medications, a change of clothes, and cash and credit cards.
- 5) Your safety depends on an orderly evacuation. Follow the instructions of emergency personnel.

Shelters are located at [Insert locations]

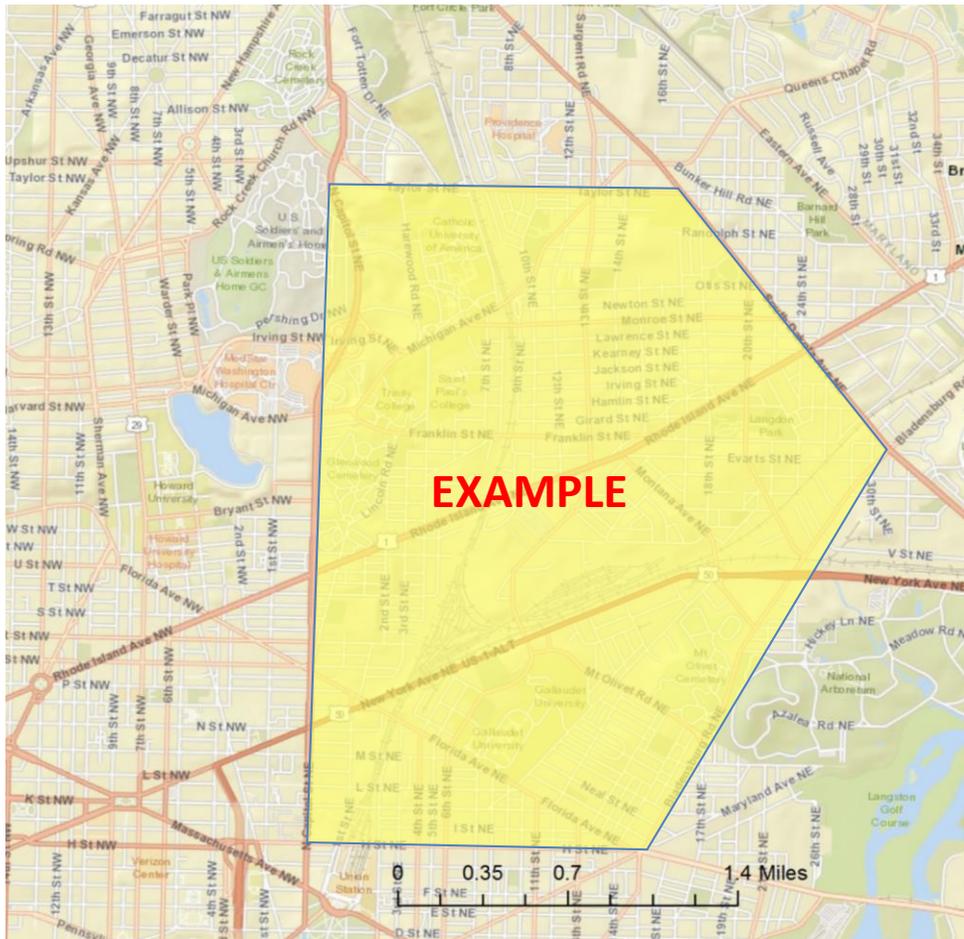
**Guidance issued by [Insert state or local agency]
For updates and additional information: [Insert website]**

Insert state
or local
agency logo

For Use by State, Local or Tribal Response Organizations ONLY

Get Inside Immediately

For [Insert Incident], As of [Time/Date]



If you are anywhere in the [location] area, get inside a building now.

Radiation Hazard Message (choose one)

- 1) The radiation levels in this area are extremely dangerous.
- 2) This is to avoid any unnecessary radiation exposure that may affect your long-term health.
- 3) These actions are precautionary and will be in place until additional information becomes available.

Go to the basement or center of your building immediately.

The walls of a building can block much of the harmful radiation. Cars will not protect you from radiation.

Stay inside until you are told to leave; you should expect to stay inside for at least [#] hours.

Those in schools, hospitals, nursing homes and daycare facilities are receiving care. When it is safe, you will receive instructions to join your loved ones.

Stay tuned for updates.

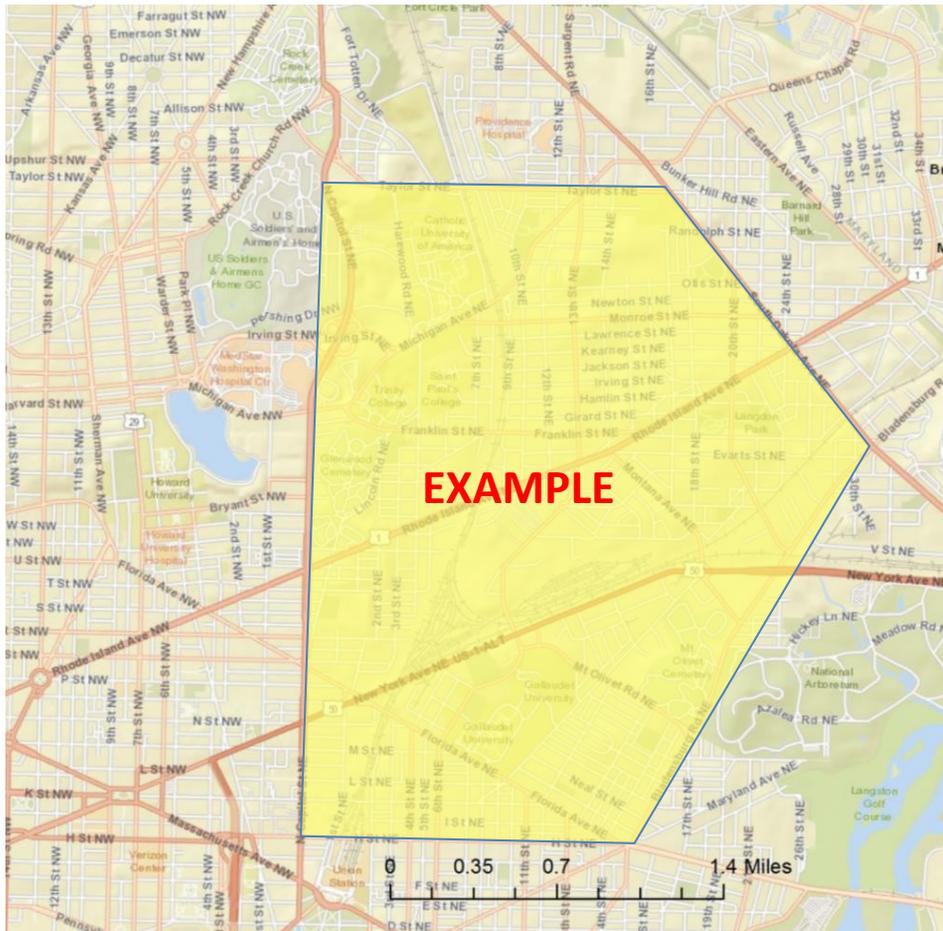
Guidance issued by [Insert state or local agency]
For updates and additional information: [Insert website]

Insert state
or local
agency logo

For Use by State, Local or Tribal Response Organizations ONLY

Food Safety Guidance For [Insert Incident]

As of [Time/Date]



Food Safety Message (select all that apply)

If you are in [Insert location]:

- 1) Do not pick or eat food from your garden until further notice.
- 2) Do not pick or eat food produced in this area until further notice.
- 3) Do not eat or distribute fish or shellfish caught in this area until further notice.
- 4) Do not drink fresh milk from animals in this area.
- 5) Eat and drink only SEALED foods and liquids.

If you are concerned about food safety, know that packaging around food—including a closed refrigerator or freezer—is a barrier, keeping radioactive material from contaminating the food inside.

If sealed packages are sitting out, clean them before opening by washing or wiping with a clean towel.

Clean utensils, plates, cookware, tables, countertops and hands before preparing food.

[Insert organization] will test food products (crops, fish, milk, meat, etc.) in this area and will notify you if it is safe to eat.

Guidance issued by [Insert state or local agency]
For updates and additional information: [Insert website]

For Use by State, Local or Tribal Response Organizations ONLY

Insert state
or local
agency logo

Drinking Water Guidance

For [Insert Incident], As of [Time/Date]

Drinking Water Messages (select all that apply)

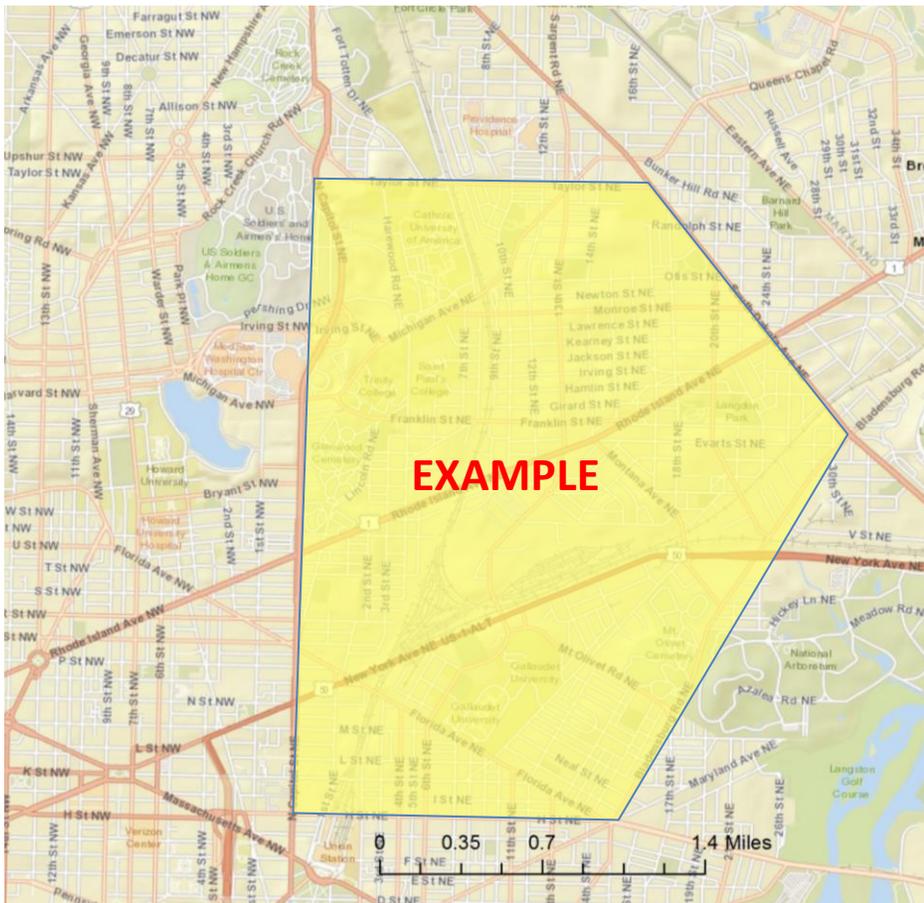
If you are in [Insert location]:

- 1) At this time, only bottled water is known to be free of contamination.
- 2) If you are thirsty and no other sealed drinks are available, you may drink tap water.
- 3) Fill empty containers with tap water for washing and drinking, in case of loss of water pressure.
- 4) Boil water before using. Boiling water does not get rid of radioactive material, but it will protect you from germs.

You can safely drink water, juices or other drinks that are in sealed packages or in your refrigerator or freezer.

If sealed packages are sitting out, clean them before opening by washing or wiping with a clean towel.

A sealed package will keep radioactive material from contaminating the liquid inside.



Guidance issued by [Insert state or local agency]
For updates and additional information: [Insert website]

