



Community Resilience Policy

It is the intent of the Sachem Public Library to maintain a safe and healthy work environment for staff and patrons and to provide for the protection of library property and assets. In order to achieve this, Sachem Public Library has developed and fully supports a workplace safety program and a disaster response plan in which staff members are expected to be active participants. These guidelines were established to help staff manage potential safety and security emergencies.

- Our **Disaster Response Plan** is a tool created to help our organization carefully and quickly navigate natural or man-made disasters that may affect the Sachem Public Library's facilities, grounds, holdings, staff and library users. It is meant to assist in recovering collections from events ranging from a minor emergency to a major disaster. In an emergency it is important to keep in mind that human safety is always the highest priority.
- A **Disaster Planning Team** consisting of the Library Director, Assistant Director, Head Custodian, Network System Specialists, Coordinator of Finance and the Facilities Manager is responsible for devising and maintaining the disaster plan which consist of three main sections; response, recovery and rehabilitation.
- The library also recognizes its **role in the community** in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from natural disasters and other crises by providing information, acting as a community resource hub, offering shelter, and cooperating with local government emergency services as much as we are able to.
- The library has committed to being a **cooling center and warming center for Suffolk County** providing free, air-conditioned spaces for vulnerable populations and the general public to escape extreme temperatures during heat waves and a place to stay warm during dangerously cold weather.
- We will host **educational workshops** and provide resources for both staff and the public to improve community preparedness and resilience to various issues, including climate change.