

Types of Public Education

There are many instances where residences, businesses, campgrounds, and recreation areas are located immediately downstream of dams. These areas would very likely experience the impacts from a sudden dam failure before an emergency could be verified. We recommend dam owners and local Emergency Management Agencies coordinate to provide public education to these areas. The following are some examples of public education used at FERC projects:

Residences/Businesses

Note: Public education should be provided annually.

- letters
- calendars with emergency information in front
- articles in community newsletters
- coordination through neighborhood volunteer liaisons
- public meetings (these are most effective following an incident that effects the community – such as the installation of a new siren or after a flood)
- Reverse 911 phone calls (automated information calls to residences and businesses that would receive Reverse 911 calls during an emergency)

Campgrounds/Recreation Areas

- signs showing evacuation routes and safe areas
- brochures/posters at check-in areas
- information on campground websites

Public education should primarily target the residents/businesses that could be affected by a dam failure instead of the entire public for security reasons.