

## TRAVELING SAFETY

### Are You Ready?

Is a series of handouts designed to assist you and your family to plan ahead for emergencies.



For more information on Traveling Safety—Check out these helpful resources:



[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)



Washington County  
Emergency Services/  
Emergency Management  
33 W. Washington St.  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
240-313-2930



[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)



[www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov)



[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

# Are You Ready?

WASHINGTON COUNTY  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MAY 2005

## Thoughts on Terrorism



A terrorist's primary objective is to create fear. With accurate information and basic emergency preparedness, you can fight back. Keep in mind that accidents can sometimes appear to be terrorist events and vice versa. Your response should be similar in either case.

### Precautions to take while traveling



- \* Use the same common sense when traveling overseas that you would at home. Be especially cautious in or avoid areas where you are more likely to be victimized. These include crowded subways, train stations, elevators, market places, festivals, and marginal areas of cities. Do not use short cuts, alleys, or poorly lighted streets. Don't travel alone at night.
- \* Avoid public demonstrations and other civil disturbances.
- \* Keep a low profile and avoid loud conversations or arguments. Do not discuss travel plans or other personal matters with strangers.
- \* Try to seem purposeful when you move about, even if you are lost. When possible, ask directions only from individuals in authority.
- \* Consider registering with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate, and continue to monitor the Department of State's Web site ([www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov)) for information about the country or region in which you are traveling.



### KNOW THE FACTS AND BE RESPONSIBLE:

- Know the facts of a situation and think critically. Confirm reports using a variety of reliable sources of information, such as the government or media.
- Do not spread rumors.
- Do not accept packages from strangers and do not leave luggage or bags unattended in public areas such as the subway.

