

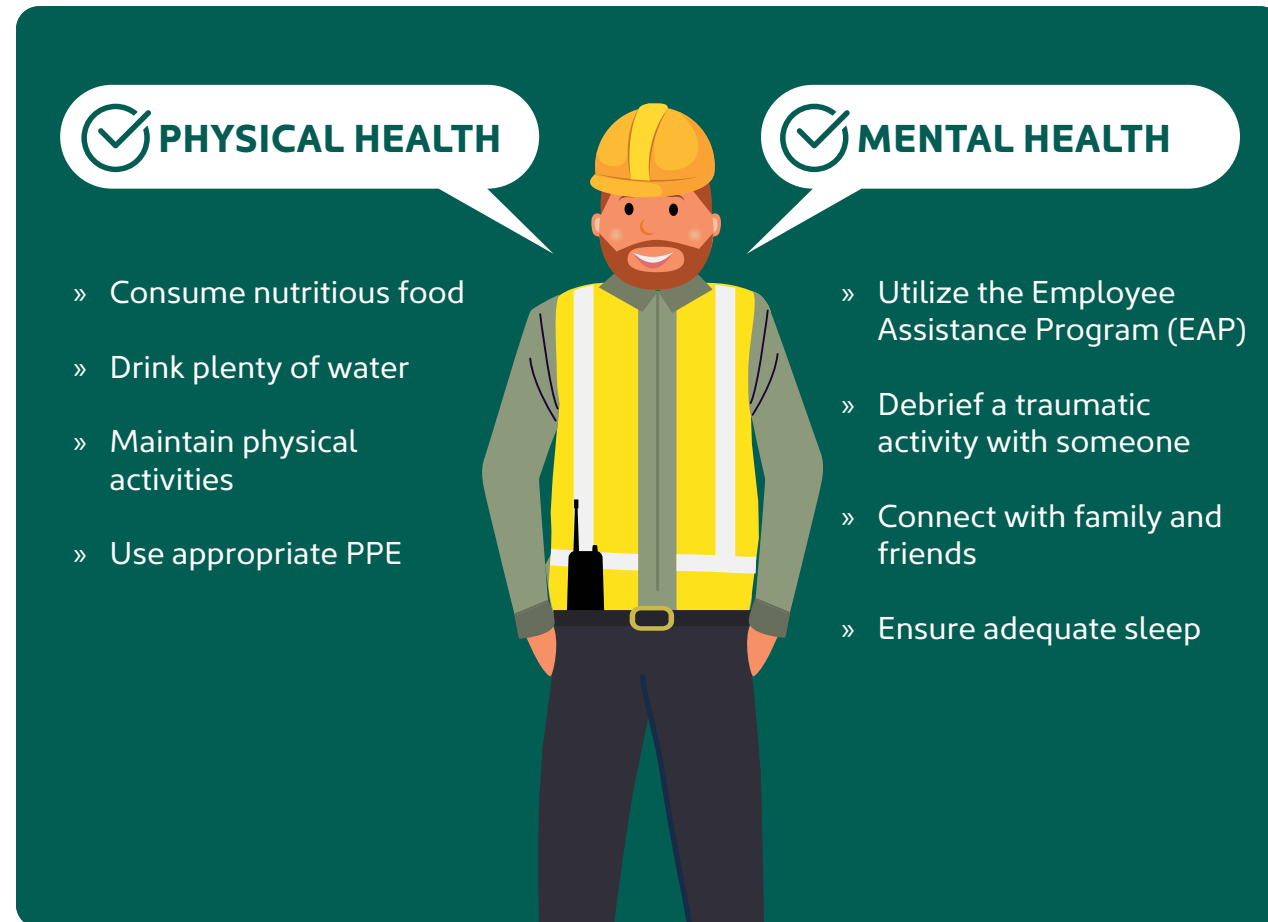
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY OF RESPONDERS

All responders play a part in protecting the health and safety of personnel assigned to emergency response activities. The Incident Commander assigns a Safety Officer who assumes the responsibility of ensuring the health and safety of responders. The Safety Officer has the authority to immediately stop an operation to correct safety or health hazards.

PRE-DEPLOYMENT PREPARATION

Because emergency situations arise quickly, personnel with emergency response duties should maintain a certain level of readiness.

- ✓ **Physical Health:** Responders must be in good physical condition to perform their assigned duties and obtain required medical clearance and respirator fit testing.
- ✓ **Mental Health:** Responders must be able to recognize the signs of mental health distress and know where to seek support and assistance.



PHYSICAL HEALTH

- » Consume nutritious food
- » Drink plenty of water
- » Maintain physical activities
- » Use appropriate PPE

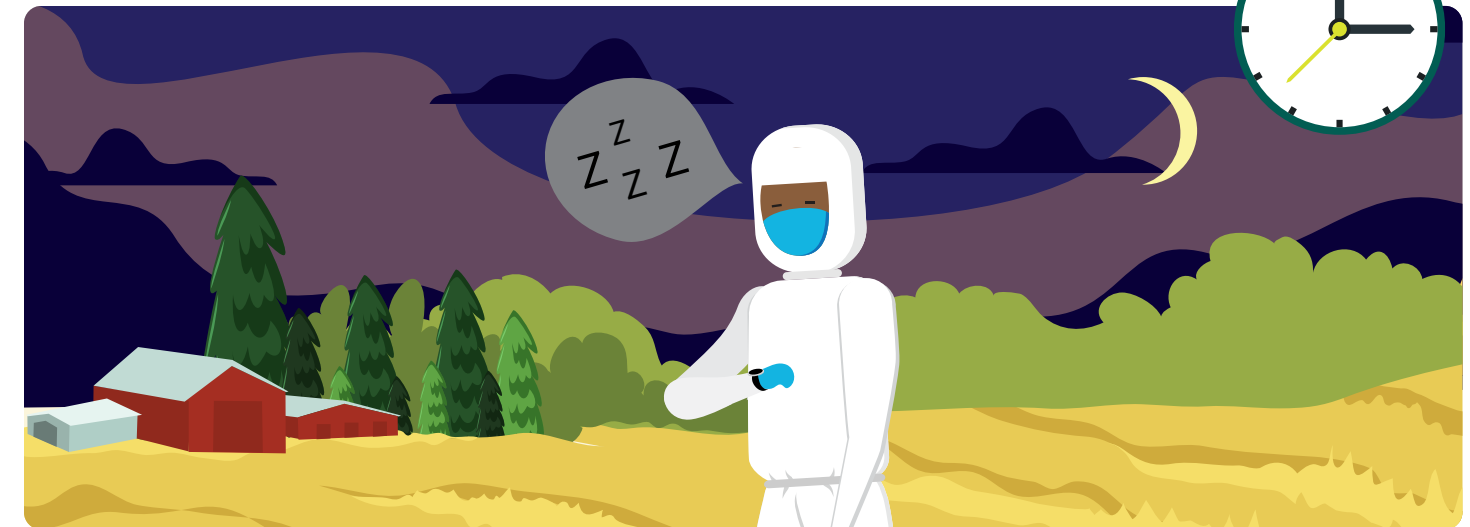
MENTAL HEALTH

- » Utilize the Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- » Debrief a traumatic activity with someone
- » Connect with family and friends
- » Ensure adequate sleep

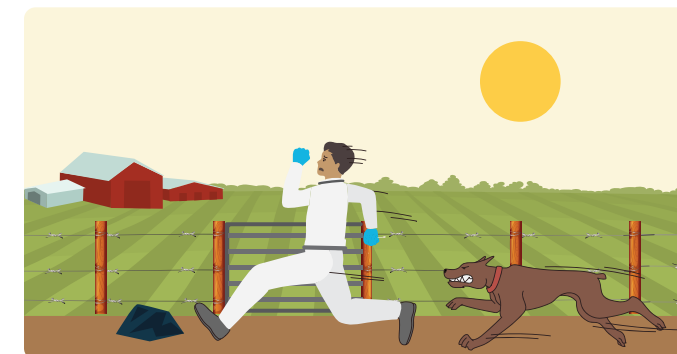
PERSONNEL HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING DEPLOYMENT

During a deployment, incident team leads, section chiefs, and the Safety Officer are the best resources for health and safety information. Health and safety information is documented in incident and site-specific plans, standard operation procedures, and the Incident Action Plan (IAP). There are many situations that may impact responders' health and safety, including:

1. Extended and Unusual Work Periods



2. Physical and Environmental Hazards



3. Stress and Mental Health Awareness



HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY OF RESPONDERS

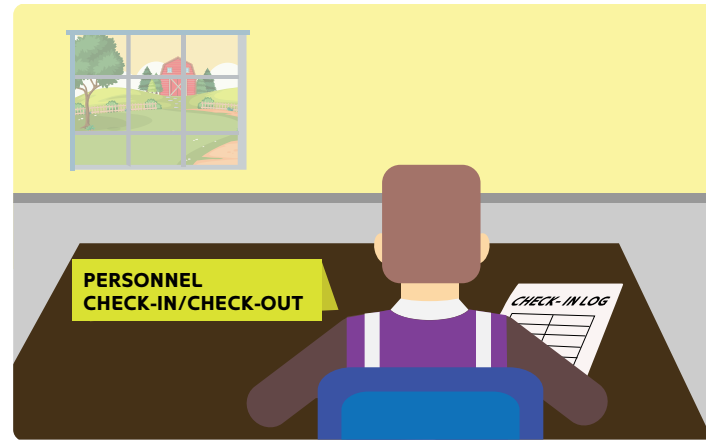
SITE SECURITY AND SAFETY

Maintaining security of the incident site is important for protecting the health and safety of both responders and the public. The Safety Officer works with the Incident Commander, Security Officers, and field personnel to determine responder security and safety requirements.

1. Establishing and Controlling Work Zones



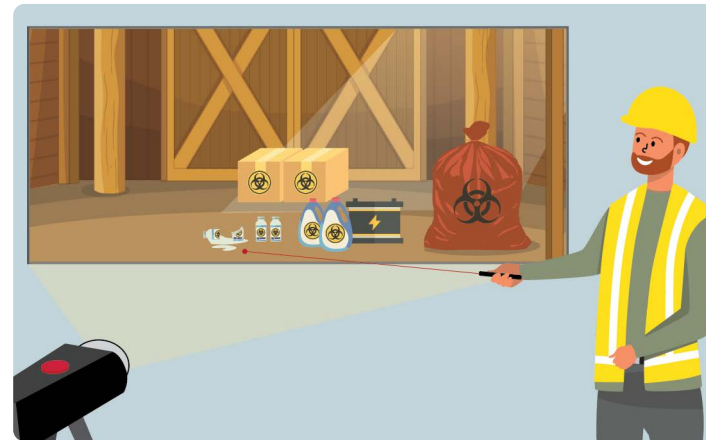
2. Accounting for Personnel



3. Utilizing the Buddy System



4. Providing Information to Mitigate the Risk of Hazardous Exposure



COMMUNICATION OF HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION

Health and safety issues are presented during the regular incident response briefings. Responders must attend briefings to ensure they have the latest information about the response.

✓ Mobilization Briefing

Responders will receive a mobilization briefing prior to deployment, which may include an assessment of weather, climate changes, terrain, local culture sensitivities, potential threats, and specific information regarding equipment and personal protective equipment to bring to the deployment.

✓ Communicating During the Response and Emergency Events

Operations briefings and field tailgate meetings cover health and safety topics for each operational period. Additional briefings may be held at other times as necessary to ensure that personnel are aware of the safety plan and that the plan is being followed.

