

Considerations when Designating Alternate Sites

Items to be Considered when Choosing a Site	Alternate Care Facility	Mass Vaccination Clinic	Temporary Morgue
Location			
Proximity to hospital	Yes	Maybe	Maybe
Easy to find / recognize by the public	Yes	Yes	No
Facility			
Handicapped access (stretchers / wheelchairs)	Yes	Yes	Yes (ramps for stretchers)
Ample parking	Yes	Yes	No
Restroom facilities	Yes	Yes	Not necessarily
Running water (hand hygiene / drinking water)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Electricity	Yes, with lots of working outlets and back-up power supply	Yes	Yes
Temperature control (heat, A/C)	Yes	Yes	Temperature maintained at 4 -8°C
Adequate ventilation	Yes	Yes	Yes
Food preparation and / or storage area	Yes	No	No
Medical supply storage area (including vaccine)	Yes	Yes	No
Security	Yes	Yes - highest	Yes (minimal)

Some examples of sites that could be considered include armory buildings, school gymnasiums, stadiums and coliseums.

It is important to have sites designated in advance, and to have additional sites listed as back-ups in case the original site is not available or the capacity of the primary sites is exceeded. Local health departments should coordinate with their local emergency management when identifying sites. The NC Office of Emergency Medical Services in the Division of Facility Services can also be a resource for establishing alternate care facilities and deployment of the State Medical Assistance Teams.