

Lackawanna Fire Department

Medical File Program

In a medical emergency, every second counts! Picture this- your loved one is having a medical emergency and the fire department is on the way. When we arrive, this person is incoherent or even unconscious. Does he have an existing medical condition? Is he on any medications? Is he allergic to anything? In the midst of a life threatening emergency, these questions become critical.

The **Medical File** enables the fire department to obtain a quick medical history when the patient is unable to offer one. This file, containing important health information, is kept in a plastic bag on the outside of your refrigerator with a magnet.

How It Works:

1. Download the **Medical File** from the department website- <http://www.lackawannany.gov/departments/fire-department/>
2. Fill out the one page form and fold in half along the long edge with the writing on the outside. Fold the remaining in thirds and place it into a sandwich sized sealable plastic bag.
3. Write in a permanent black or red marker on the outside of the plastic bag- **MEDICAL FILE**
4. Seal the bag and place it on your refrigerator with a magnet.
5. Make sure if there is a change in your medical condition that you download another Medical File, update it and shred the old one.

Fire Department personnel are trained to look on the refrigerator for this file and will use this information to better treat your symptoms. It's that simple, so get on board and complete a **Medical File** today.