



County of Cumberland

Emergency Management Agency

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Directory

| | |
|---|---|
| Hazard Mapping DOI | 1 |
| Top 5 Predicted Global Health Threats of 2014 | 1 |
| Communications with Vulnerable Populations | 2 |
| Mainers Encouraged to Purchase Flood Insurance | 2 |
| Training G108: Community Mass Care and Emergency Assistance | 3 |
| Cumberland County EOP | 3 |
| 6th Annual Preparedness Conference | 4 |
| Maine Prepares Tips | 4 |
| FEMA Independent Study | 4 |
| 2014 Exercise Schedule..... | 4 |
| Meetings..... | 5 |
| Wildfire Community Preparedness Day | 5 |
| Enforcement Active Shooter Emergency Response Training (PER275) | 5 |
| Lessons Learned from Active Shooter Incident..... | 6 |
| Aging Infrastructure and the Emergency Services | 6 |
| Training Opportunities..... | 6 |
| New Website for School Emergency Planning..... | 6 |
| Important Links | 7 |
| CCEMA Staff | 7 |

Public Safety, Emergency Management and allied organizations are invited to submit articles, events, training opportunities and news. David B. Feeney, feeney@cumberlandcounty.org

News From Down Under

Volume VI, Issue IV

April 2014

Hazard Mapping from Department of the Interior

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) maintains a geospatial hazard mapping site to provide federal, state and local officials as well as the public an overview of current natural hazards in the United States. The Interior Geospatial Emergency Management System (IGEMS) is the replacement for the Natural Hazards Support System (NHSS).

The map lists wildfires; earthquakes; wind, gale, flood, red flag, and other weather warnings; hurricanes; and volcanoes. Using the "Layers" menu, you can also choose to view tide monitoring stations, current weather radar, and wind direction and strength. Users can view the map with a choice of topographic, street map, or satellite imagery backgrounds.

Each marked event on the map is clickable, and the map will zoom to the location. It also gives you detailed information about the event. For example, clicking on a specific wildfire will take you to the National Interagency Fire Center's page, while clicking on a flooding event will take you to the National Weather Service's alert for the event.

While the map is primarily for hazards and warnings within the United States, it does show certain international incidents such as earthquakes and volcanoes. IGEMS is supported by the DOI Office of Emergency Management. (Source: DOI Office of Emergency Management)

Top 5 Predicted Global Health Threats of 2014

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced the top five global health threats for 2014 as:

1. The emergence and spread of new microbes;
2. The globalization of travel and food supply;
3. The rise of drug-resistant pathogens;
4. The acceleration of biological science capabilities and the risk that these capabilities may cause the inadvertent or intentional release of pathogens;
5. Continued concern about terrorism acquisition, development, and use of biological agents.

The increase in world travel makes the spread of pathogens, new infectious diseases, and even bio-terrorism more threatening and relevant. A past example of this is Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which spread to 4 continents in 2003. Currently, global health officials are watching Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and H5N1 influenza.

Catching a new strain of a virus early is key to keeping it contained and developing a proper course of action. World organizations and national agencies rely on the medical surveillance, detection, reporting, and response of local agencies and public health offices to strengthen the global health outlook. (Source: CDC Global Health Security)

**Maine Partners in
Emergency Preparedness
Conference**

**MAINE
PREPARES**
April 22-23, 2014

Communications with Vulnerable Populations

By CCEMA Staff: Margaret Cushing

Communications with vulnerable populations, in time of crisis, is vitally important to the safety of our most fragile residents. Vulnerable populations are those with hearing or visual impairment, illiteracy, non-English speaking, social, cultural or geographic isolation, cognition impairment, mental illness, etc.

Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency, Maine CDC, and Cumberland District Public Health Offices are working together on a Community Communications Network. The network would consist of social service providers who can assist in reaching those who may experience barriers in receiving public health and emergency management messages easily and rapidly.

Typically, emergency information is delivered to the public via radio, television, websites, social media, etc. Many existing websites have PDF files attached, which provide further information on Emergency Preparedness, but are not formatted so that blind or visually impaired persons, using a screen reader, can access the information. This information may also be written in technical language that a struggling reader may have trouble understanding.

PDF and screen readers are not “user-friendly” and PDF documents are not always designed to be compatible with screen readers; these issues, caused by lack of planning for accessibility, mirror Internet accessibility issues that occur when a Web designer fails to follow the accessibility guidelines of the World Wide Web Consortium’s Web Accessibility Initiative. Adobe has developed a number of tools and resources to make it easier for authors to create accessible PDF documents; these are available at

<http://www.adobe.com/accessibility>

--From “Accessing PDF Documents with Assistive Technology: A Screen Reader User’s Guide from Adobe Accessibility”

Emergency Communications, to vulnerable populations should be written at not more than a sixth grade reading level. **Microsoft Word** has an easy tool that will tell you the grade level of your document.

In **Microsoft Word**:

- Use **Spelling and Grammar** check
- Click **Options** (*bottom of box*)

- Check off **Readability Statistics**
- Click **OK**
- Click **Resume**
- *It will give you the readability grade level*

CCEMA is hosting a meeting on April 15th at the Portland Water District Nixon Training Center to encourage a number of social service agencies to participate in developing a communication network with their clients. For information contact Margaret Cushing, CCEMA, (207) 892-6785 cushing@cumberlandcounty.org

Mainers Encouraged to Purchase Flood Insurance

March 5, 2014

AUGUSTA, MAINE – If your home or business is located near a water body, the Maine Floodplain Management Program encourages you to purchase flood insurance to protect your investment. Standard home- and business-owners’ insurance policies do not cover flood-related damages.

Since 1968, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has been offering flood insurance, which can be purchased through local property and casualty insurance agents. Rates are set and do not differ from company to company or agent to agent. These rates depend on many factors, which include the date and type of construction of the building, along with the building’s level of flood risk.

March and April are historically when flooding occurs in Maine, but heavy rains can cause flooding any time of the year. It is estimated that up to 75% of homes and businesses in floodplains in Maine are not covered by flood insurance. The average annual premium in Maine is \$1029.00. As long as your community participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, you can buy flood insurance no matter where you live. There is a 30-day waiting period before any new policy goes into effect. Consider buying flood insurance now, so you won’t be without flood coverage when you need it most.

For more information, please visit the official site of the NFIP: <http://www.floodsmart.gov>. Additional information is available by calling the Maine Floodplain Management Program at (207) 287-8063.

For more information, contact: Sue Baker at (207) 287-8063



Community Mass Care and Emergency Assistance Training Announcement G108

The Community Mass Care and Emergency Assistance course (FEMA Course G108) will be offered May 28th and 29th, 2014 at Jeff's Catering in Brewer.

Course Description

This course is designed to provide training for local communities to prepare for and manage this function effectively. The goal is to prepare community agencies, organizations, and businesses to work together to provide Mass Care and Emergency Assistance services to those affected by disaster.

The purpose of this course is to develop foundational knowledge of Mass Care and Emergency Assistance services in the community. It is not a "how to" for sheltering. Participants will use this information to build Community Emergency Action Items and to identify gaps in the community's program.

At the conclusion of the course, the participants will be able to:

1. Define the four primary Mass Care and Emergency Assistance services as discussed in this course.
2. Describe how to determine their community's Mass Care and Emergency Assistance service resource requirements.
3. Identify providers that exist in their community or can be called upon from a nearby community to meet the requirements for Mass Care and Emergency Assistance.
4. Name planning and operational actions that can affect how services will be provided.
5. List Action Items to utilize resources and providers to meet Mass Care and Emergency Assistance requirements in their community.

This course is intended for community agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO), and private sector organizations that will collaborate to provide the Mass Care and Emergency Assistance.

Course Location and Logistics:

The course will be held at Jeff's Catering, 15 Littlefield Way in Brewer, Maine. Classes will run from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. Lunch and breaks will be provided.

Lodging is available upon qualification please contact MEMA training for prior approval. All other expenses are the responsibility of the student. MEMA is an equal opportunity

educational provider.

Registration

All applications should be submitted by email/fax via FEMA training application form 119-25-1 found at:

<http://www.maine.gov/mema/training>

The form may be e-mailed or Faxed to the MEMA Training Office (contact information below).

Please contact Michael Grant with any additional questions.

Michael Grant, MEMA
207-624-4400 / FAX 207-287-3178
michael.f.grant@maine.gov

Cumberland County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

By CEEMA Staff: Diane Eastwood

Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency (CEEMA) would like to thank all municipalities, county government, first responders, and related agencies for their updated contact information, inventories, and for some of you, your municipality Emergency Operations Plan. Almost all of Cumberland County's Resource Lists, Special Teams Manual, and Significant Events are up-to-date FY 2014. As you know, this information is always changing and needs updating on a continual basis.

CEEMA is responsible for the development and maintenance of the Cumberland County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and all of your updated information is needed to add to the plan. The Plan is now in the process of being revised; and will be completed during FY 2015 when it will be submitted to the County Manager and Commissioners for their review and signatures.

The County EOP is written in accordance with existing federal and state statutes. When the plan revision is complete it will be exercised and updated annually.

As stated in the Letter of Promulgation, in the Cumberland County EOP

"The purpose of the County of Cumberland's Emergency Operations Plan is to focus on preplanning and allow for a graduated or tailored response to a disaster emergency that requires coordination among departments, agencies, and jurisdiction, and provides a framework for the County to use in performing emergency functions/actions before, during, and after a natural, technological, or hostile incident."

Sixth Annual Maine Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference

Online Registration is now open for attendees and presenters!

- Tuesday and Wednesday, April 22 and 23, 2014
- Augusta Civic Center, Augusta, Maine
- Agenda details coming soon; the Conference will feature more than 50 individual workshops and meetings offered over the two days.

Online Registration

<https://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1357117>

The wide-ranging workshop topics will offer learning and networking opportunities for emergency managers, first responders, hazardous materials specialists, school officials, business leaders and many more. An agenda will be posted soon and will continue to be refined as the Conference draws closer.

Plenary speakers will include an expert on school safety and security and a panel to talk about response to last year's train derailment in Lac Mégantic, Québec. A theme of the Conference each year is to focus on lessons learned in recent events, either here in Maine or elsewhere. That theme will be highlighted this year as well.

Online registration for participants and exhibitors is now available. There is no charge for attending the conference. There is a small fee for exhibitors, but no charge for not-for-profit and government exhibitors.

The Conference is a partnership among the State Emergency Response Commission, The Maine Emergency Management Agency and the Maine Association of Local Emergency Managers.

Don't miss this two-day learning experience with statewide, national and international preparedness partners.

Contact:

Conference Planning Team
800-452-8735 (in-state) / 207-624-4400
maineprepares@maine.gov

Maine Prepares Tips

Back to Basics Think About What You Have and What You Need

If right now, the power went out, or you had to leave your home, do you have what you need to weather the storm? Are those essentials gathered in one place or scattered all over the house? Have you even thought about what you need? Thinking about it is the first step

FEMA Independent Study

Distant Learning

The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) offers self-paced courses designed for people who have emergency management responsibilities and the general public. All are offered free-of-charge to those who qualify for enrollment. To get a complete listing of courses, go to:

<http://training.fema.gov/IS>

2014 Exercise Schedule

April 26, 2014

Maine and New Hampshire Cross Border Full Scale Exercise

Contact: Tom Reinauer – SMPDC
 treinauer@smpdc.org (207) 324-2952 ext. 18

May 15, 2014

Portland International Jet Port—Tabletop Exercise

Contact: Deputy Chief Robert Stewart, Portland Fire

May 17, 2014

Cumberland County Regional Sheltering Full Scale Exercise

Location: Scarborough, ME—Scarborough High School
 Contact: David B. Feeney, CCEMA (207) 892-6785
 feeney@cumberlandcounty.org

June 15-17, 2014

Army National Guard 488th Military Police Exercise

Location: PWD Standish, NextERA Energy Yarmouth, MEANG South Portland (3 venues)
 Contact: David B. Feeney—CCEMA (207) 892-6785
 feeney@cumberlandcounty.org

October 25, 2014

Pan Am—York County Full Scale Exercise

Location: Wells, Maine
 Contact: David Francoeur, Deputy Director
 York County EMA (207) 324-1578
 deputyema@co.york.me.us

Meetings

Cumberland County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Meeting

Date: April 4, 2014, 12:30 p.m.
 Location: South Portland—Marriott Sable Oaks
 Contact: Mike Shutts, CCEMA (207) 892-6785

State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

Date: April 8, 2014
 Location: Augusta, Maine—MEMA
 Contact: Faith E. Mayer (207) 624-4441
 faith.e.mayer@maine.gov

Cumberland County Local EMA Directors Meeting

Date: April 9, 2014, 8:30 a.m.
 Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine

Cumberland County ARES

Date: April 15, 2014, 6:30 p.m.
 Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine
 Contact: Bryce Rumery, K1GAX

Cumberland County Animal Response Team (CART)

Date: April 23, 2014, 6:00 p.m.
 Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine
 Contact: Ron Jones, CCEMA

Mid-Coast ARES/CERT

Date: April 24, 2014
 Location: Topsham, Maine
 Mid-Coast Chapter ARC, Community Way
 Contact: John Goran, Maine SEC
 K1JJS@arrl.net (207) 865-0554

Wildfire Community Preparedness Day – May 3

The first National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, sponsored by the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) and State Farm, is scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd. State Farm is providing \$10,000 in grant funding to support neighborhood projects that will reduce community wildfire risk.

Twenty projects will be awarded \$500 each. Project organizers may enter the contest to receive money for project funding. The deadline is March 19th; specific information is required for entry, please make sure the entry form is complete.

NFPA also offers suggestions about the types of projects (PDF, 410 Kb) communities might consider, a variety of project resources, and a video about the program off the program's main site.

Over 2,200 primary structures burned due to wildfires in 2012, and the National Association of State Foresters reports 72,000+ U.S. communities are currently at risk. NFPA hopes this program will become an annual event, as there is a need for better community involvement in wildfire risk reduction. (Source: NFPA)

Enforcement Active Shooter Emergency Response (PER-275)

Terrorism involving active shooter attacks on population centers has become part of law enforcement officers' awareness; however, increased awareness of a problem does not ensure preparedness or appropriate response tactics. This course addresses technical aspects of planning and implementing a rapid law enforcement deployment to an active shooter incident through classroom presentations, hands-on performance-based field training, and scenario-based practical exercises.

The target audience for the **Direct Delivery** version of this course involves individuals who respond to or support the response to any type of active shooter incident including:

- State and local law enforcement
- Range instructors
- Firearms instructors
- School resource officers
- Emergency services instructors of first responders
- First-line supervisors of first responders

The target audience for the **Train-the-Trainer** version of this course is established trainers/instructors in academies, agencies or departments who are seeking to train participants by teaching the Indirect version of this course using course materials provided by NCBRT.

The Indirect version of this course is commonly delivered as part of in-service or academy training to support continuing education

Scheduling : Contact Louisiana State University, National Center for Biomedical Research and Training for FEMA Region 1—Garrett Zollinger (877-806-7405) gzellinger@ncbrt.lsu.edu

Preparedness

Visit [Maine Prepares](#). You'll find fact sheets, tips and news to help your family, school, business, community or service organization prepare for any emergency or disaster.

<http://www.maine.gov/mema/prepare>

Lessons Learned from Active Shooter Incident

Several officials and civil servants appeared before the Connecticut governor's Sandy Hook Advisory Commission to describe what could be done better in the future should another school shooting occur. Four points were mentioned as being items of concern or areas for improvement:

- With only three dispatchers staffing the local PSAP, they were quickly overwhelmed by the volume of calls;
- Parents and media converged on the scene, making it difficult for responders to do their jobs;
- Too many ambulances arrived with too little resource management;
- Donations poured in, but no mechanism was identified to handle the funds at first; questionable groups appeared, prompting a fraud watch from the state.

Newtown has had over a year to look back at their multi-agency response, identify these issues, and begin to address them. Other towns and cities should review their own response plans and determine how these problems may play out in their own jurisdictions, or conduct extensive and realistic drills to identify other gaps in plans and training. (Source: FireRescue1.com)

Aging Infrastructure And The Emergency Services

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) gave an overall grade of a D+ in the 2013 Report Card for America's Infrastructure and estimated \$3.6 trillion dollars would need to be invested by 2020 to bring the necessary improvements. While the degraded infrastructure is a safety and welfare hazard to the public, it also is a hazard to those who must respond when something goes wrong.

Major newsmakers like the gas explosion in Harlem last week, the bridge collapse in Washington last year, and Hurricane Sandy's impact to multiple sectors in New York and New Jersey in 2012 only show a small portion of the problem. Every day, there are smaller-scale water or gas main breaches, roads or bridges crumbling, and energy suppliers having to manage blackouts or brownouts.

In many of these cases, first responders are called on to manage the incident scene, evacuate residents, search for missing people, extinguish fires, treat victims, and more. Even though the Emergency Services Sector is not rated in the 2013 Report Card, it is greatly affected by failures within the other sectors.

Over the next few months, we will be looking at how incidents from other infrastructure sectors affected the Emergency Services Sector, what communities and departments can do to manage these hazards, and how first responders can better plan to respond do such incidents.

(Source: ASCE)

Training Opportunities

Skills for Psychological Recovery (SPR) Training

Date: April 3, 2014—9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Location: Waterville, ME, Fireside Inn
Contact: Tammy McLaughlin, (207) 626-3615
AdCare Educational Institute tmclaughlin@adcareme.org

Skills for Psychological Recovery (SPR) Training

Date: April 4, 2014—9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Location: Houlton, ME, Houlton Regional Hospital
Contact: Tammy McLaughlin, (207) 626-3615
AdCare Educational Institute tmclaughlin@adcareme.org

First VOAD Sponsored Disaster Relief Training

Date: April 11-12, 2014.
Location: North Berwick, ME
Contact: Tim Brown
(207) 232-3389 tedbiamond@hotmail.com

6th Annual Maine Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference

Date: April 22-23, 2014, 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Location: Augusta, Maine—Augusta Civic Center
Contact: Conference Planning Team
MEMA: 800-452-8735 (207) 624-4400
maineprepares@maine.gov

Incident Command System ICS 300

Date: April 30, 2014—May 1, 2014
Location: South Portland
Contact: James Wilson, South Portland Fire Department
email: jwilson@southportland.org (207) 799-3314, x 7386

Disaster Behavioral Health: A Critical Response

Date: May 5-6, 2014, 8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Location: Saco, Maine—Ramada Inn
Contact: Debbie Beaulieu, AdCare Educational
Register: Registration form available for downloading at:
Website: www.smrrc.org

Mitigation for Emergency Managers (G393)

Date: May 13-15, 2014, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Location: Augusta, Maine—CMCC/MEMA Classroom
Contact: Joanne or Mike—MEMA (207) 287-3178 fax
Register: Submit FEMA 119-25-1 Form to MEMA

Community Mass Care & Emergency Assistance (G108)

Date: May 28-29, 2014, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Location: Brewer, Maine—Jeff's Catering (see Page 3)
Contact: Mike Grant—MEMA (207) 287-3178 fax
Register: Submit FEMA 119-25-1 Form to MEMA

If you dial 9-1-1 accidentally

DO NOT HANG UP

Please stay on the line and speak with the emergency communications officer.

Important Links

Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency
Home: www.cumberlandcounty.org/EMA

Cumberland County Local Emergency Planning Committee
Home: www.cumberlandcounty.org/EMA/lepc.htm

Maine Emergency Management Agency
Home: www.maine.gov/mema
Library: www.maine.gov/mema/mema_library.shtml

Maine Information and Analysis Center (MIAC)
Phone: (207) 624-7280
Email: miac@nespin.riss.net

Boston FBI
Phone: (617) 742-5533
Home: <http://boston.fbi.gov>



Maine Prepares
Home: www.maine.gov/mema/prepare

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Home: www.fema.gov
Training: <http://training.fema.gov>
Grants: www.fema.gov/government/grant/index.shtm
Assistance: www.DisasterAssistance.gov

Domestic Preparedness Support
U. S. Department of Homeland Security www.dhs.gov
NIMS Resource Center <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims>
Lessons Learned Information Sharing System www.llis.gov
Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) <http://hseep.dhs.gov>

Center Disease Control
Maine CDC: <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh>
U. S. CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov>
FLU.gov <http://www.pandemicflu.gov>

Southern Maine Regional Resource Center (SMRRC)
Home: www.smrrc.org

Ready America: www.ready.gov

National Weather Service—Gray, Maine
Home Page: www.erh.noaa.gov/gyx

Central Maine Power—Power Outages
www.cmpco.com/outages

Maine ARES <http://www.maineares.org>

2-1-1 Maine www.211maine.org

5-1-1 Maine (Maine DOT Travel Information)
Home: www.511maine.gov

American Red Cross of Southern Maine
Home: www.maineredcross.org

PROP
Home: www.wherepeoplecomefirst.org

Southern Maine EMS
Home: www.smems.org

Volunteer Maine
Home: www.volunteermaine.org

Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG)
Home: www.gpcog.org

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