



**County of
Cumberland**
Emergency
Management
Agency
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Directory

Mutual Aid Team Deployed ...	1
Maine Forest Assist	2
How to Help Survivors	2
NOAA Winter Weather	3
NOAA NWS Weather Terms .	4
Meetings	4
What is SKYWARN@	5
FEMA Distant learning	5
Training—Basic PIO (G290) ..	6
Training Opportunities	6
2013 Exercise Schedule	6
NWS Wind Chill Chart.....	6
Important Links	7
Comm Test	7
CEEMA 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 V, Issue XII

December 2012

Mutual Aid Team Deploys to New York

November 2, 2012, MEMA

A volunteer multi-disciplinary team of emergency operations specialists left Maine today (11/02/12) headed to the Emergency Operations Center in Brooklyn, New York. The team will provide much-needed relief to those serving survivors of Hurricane Sandy.

The group will report to the New York City Emergency Operations Center. The team includes personnel from the Maine Air and Army National Guard, the Departments of Public Safety and Transportation, and the Maine Emergency Management Agency as well as a local Fire Chief and private sector energy expert. Team members specialize in several different emergency support functions.

Governor Paul R. LePage approved New York's Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) request for the team. Team members were notified Thursday night the mission was a "go" with orders to report Friday morning, prepared to deploy for up to two weeks and work in less-than-ideal conditions.

"Maine is fortunate to have not had suffered the damage our neighboring states have. We have the ability to help our fellow Americans in a time of need and we will do just that," said Governor LePage. "Our teams are well-equipped to help and will provide much needed support during this recovery. I wish them safe travels as they head to New York."

EMAC is a mutual aid agreement among states that enables them to share

resources during disasters such as Hurricane Sandy. Under the National Response Framework, officials organize and provide assistance according to the emergency support functions required.

MEMA Director Robert McAleer briefed the team as they assembled Friday morning. "Be prepared to relieve people in a deteriorating situation who have been working 20-hour days with no end in sight. This calls for lots of patience as you integrate into a stressful and confusing environment."

Bruce Fitzgerald, deputy director of MEMA and team leader for the deployment, explained that the Emergency Operations Center they will be going to is much larger than Maine's. New York's has room for more than 130 agency representatives, as compared to Maine's, which has a normal capacity of 30.

Fitzgerald said, "I am excited to go. I know that the experience our diverse team brings will assist the citizens of New York in recovering as quickly as possible."

Team members include:

Department of Public Safety, Maine State Police:

- Lt. Shawn Currie
- Lt. Bill Harwood

Department of Transportation:

- Brian Burne
- Donald Hutchins

(Continued on Page 2)

Emergency Management

Emergency management is the managerial function charged with creating the framework within which communities reduce vulnerability to hazards and cope with disasters.

Mutual Aid Team Deploys

Story continued from Page 1

Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management:

- Bruce Fitzgerald, MEMA
- Steven Mallory, MEMA
- 2Lt Michael Stansfield, Maine National Guard (Army)
- Ltc Brenda Jordan, Maine National Guard (Army)
- SFC John Knobloch, Maine National Guard (Army)
- Maj Jack Decker, Maine National Guard (Air)
- SSGT Nicole Mathews, Maine National Guard (Air)

Partners:

- Darrel Fournier, Fire Chief, Town of Freeport
- Joseph Sukaskas, volunteer, energy expert

Contact:

MEMA
624-4400

Maine Forest Rangers to Assist with Superstorm Recovery Efforts

Maine Forest Rangers Incident Management Team heads to New York

Released: October 31, 2012

AUGUSTA – Governor Paul R. LePage announced today (10/31/12) that he has authorized the deployment of the Maine Forest Ranger Incident Management Team (MEIMT) to New York City to assist in disaster recovery following Hurricane Sandy.

"Maine was fortunate in being spared the worst effects of Hurricane Sandy," said Governor LePage. "We feel privileged that we can send this skilled and experienced team to assist in New York's recovery." The request for assistance came through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), a mutual aid agreement which facilitates member states sending personnel and equipment to help disaster relief efforts in other states.

"We welcome the opportunity to help our neighbors in their time of need," said Walter Whitcomb, commissioner of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, which oversees the Maine Forest Rangers. "We are willing to do whatever we can to help in this situation."

The Incident Management Team left Maine this morning, headed to New York City to manage a Logistical Staging Area in support of the New York City Emergency Operations Center. The team includes 7 Rangers, 1 Washington County Deputy Sheriff and 1 Washington County Communications Specialist. The initial deployment period is 14 days, plus 2 travel days.

The MEIMT is a nationally certified Incident Management Team led by Forest Rangers from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Maine Forest Service, Forest Protection Division. While Maine's Forest Rangers are specialists in the control and suppression of wildfires, they are also highly experienced in other "All Hazard" incident management, responding to incidents across the United States and Canada. The Washington County representatives round out the team.

Team members include Rangers Jeff Currier (team leader), Joseph Mints, Robby Gross, Kent Nelson, Courtney Hammond, Jon Blackstone and George Harris, Michael St. Louis (Washington County Sheriff's Department) and Joshua Rolfe (Washington County Regional Communications Center).

Under EMAC, the emergency forces of any state offering assistance to another state are afforded the same rights, duties and privileges as the emergency personnel of the requesting state (except for the power of arrest). EMAC also provides for clear, predictable and standardized operating procedures for member states. The requesting state is also responsible for reimbursing the assisting state for any expenses. Maine was an early adopter of EMAC, and has sent representatives to other states following Hurricanes Katrina and Irene. Other EMAC deployments are possible in the aftermath of Sandy as the affected states determine what their resource needs are. The Maine Emergency Management Agency coordinates EMAC deployments for the State.

How to Help Survivors of Hurricane Sandy

MEMA, November 2, 2012

The Corporation for National and Community Service is working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD), and other partners in a coordinated multi-agency response effort.

Visit <http://www.serve.gov/sandy> for comprehensive, coordinated information about how to help.



Winter Weather

NOAA

A Major Winter Storm is Moving Up the East Coast-How is it Monitored and Forecast?

Have you ever wondered how the National Weather Service can tell a major winter storm is brewing and will impact your area in the coming days or hours? How can meteorologists tell if a storm is intensifying and where it will bring the most snow? It's a highly sophisticated process. It all starts with observing the current situation. The National Weather Service operates a widespread network of observing systems such as geostationary satellites, Doppler radars, and automated surface observing systems that feed into the current state-of-the-art numerical computer models to provide a glimpse of what will happen next - ranging from hours to days. The models are then analyzed by NWS meteorologists who use their experience and expertise to write and disseminate forecasts.

Winter Weather Watches, Warnings and Advisories-What do they all Mean?

The National Weather Service uses specific winter weather terms to ensure that people know what to expect in the coming days and hours. A **Winter Storm Watch** means that severe winter conditions, such as heavy snow and/or ice, may affect your area, but its occurrence, location and timing are still uncertain. A winter storm watch is issued to provide 12 to 48 hours notice of the possibility of severe winter weather. A winter storm watch is intended to provide enough lead time so those who need to set plans in motion can do so. A watch is upgraded to a **Winter Storm Warning** when hazardous winter weather in the form of heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet is imminent or occurring. Winter Storm Warnings are usually issued 12 to 24 hours before the event is expected to begin. **Winter Weather Advisories** inform you that winter weather conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences that may be hazardous. If caution is exercised, advisory situations should not become life-threatening. A **Blizzard Warning** means that snow and strong winds will combine to produce a blinding snow (near zero visibility), deep drifts, and life-threatening wind chill. Be sure to listen carefully to the radio, television, and NOAA Weather Radio for the latest winter storm watches, warnings, and advisories. A complete listing of winter weather terms and definitions of watches, warnings, and advisories is available

Why is Predicting the Exact Amount of Snowfall So Challenging?

Snow forecasts continue to improve, but they remain a challenging task for meteorologists. Heavy snow often falls in small bands that are hard to discern on larger resolution

computer models. In addition, extremely small temperature differences define the boundary line between rain and snow.

Will the approaching storm bring heavy snowfall to your area?

Each winter, meteorologists at the Hydrometeorological Prediction Center, monitor weather data from across the nation for developing areas of heavy snow and freezing precipitation within weather systems. Their ability to provide additional information about developing situations enhances winter storm warnings and helps National Weather Service field offices, private industry and local governments improve preparedness. For instance, a prediction of eight inches of snow carries much greater consequences for a city's rush hour than four inches.

Are you Prepared for Winter Weather?

Winter weather too often catches people unprepared. Researchers say that 70 percent of the fatalities related to ice and snow occur in automobiles, and about 25 percent of all winter related fatalities are people that are caught off guard, out in the storm.

Getting the Latest Winter Weather Information

There is no better way to keep ahead of a winter storm than with NOAA Weather Radio (NWR), a small receiver device that can be purchased at many electronic stores. As the "Voice of the National Weather Service," it provides continuous broadcasts of the latest weather information from local National Weather Service offices. The NWR network has more than 425 stations, covering all 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and U.S. Pacific Territories. Weather radios come in many sizes, with a variety of functions and costs. The NWR network has been further advanced by the implementation of Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) technology. The SAME allows the user to receive warnings only for their specific location. SAME receivers are a live-saving tool, providing audible alert tones for any weather warnings. A NOAA Weather Radio is a useful and potentially life-saving gift idea this holiday season.

What is Wind Chill?

One of the gravest dangers of winter weather is wind chill. The wind chill is based on the rate of heat loss from exposed skin by combined effects of wind and cold. As the wind increases, heat is carried away from the body at an accelerated rate, driving down the body temperature. Animals are also effected by wind chill. Check out the wind chill chart: www.nws.noaa.gov/om/windchill/index.shtml

NOAA's Snow and Ice Center

The National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) serves as the national information center that supports research in glaciers and freezing weather phenomenon. The NSIDC archives snow and ice data, and maintains information about everything from avalanches to icebergs. The NSIDC web site contains a fascinating list of Questions and Answers about snow that are sure to be of interest to anyone experiencing winter weather

NOAA'S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SAYS: KNOW YOUR WINTER WEATHER TERMS

NOAA's National Weather Service urges residents to keep abreast of local forecasts and warnings and familiarize themselves with key weather terminology.

Winter Storm Warning: Issued when hazardous winter weather in the form of heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet is imminent or occurring. Winter Storm Warnings are usually issued 12 to 24 hours before the event is expected to begin.

Winter Storm Watch: Alerts the public to the possibility of a blizzard, heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet. Winter Storm Watches are usually issued 12 to 48 hours before the beginning of a Winter Storm.

Winter Storm Outlook: Issued prior to a Winter Storm Watch. The Outlook is given when forecasters believe winter storm conditions are possible and are usually issued 3 to 5 days in advance of a winter storm.

Blizzard Warning: Issued for sustained or gusty winds of 35 mph or more, and falling or blowing snow creating visibilities at or below ¼ mile; these conditions should persist for at least three hours.

Lake Effect Snow Warning: Issued when heavy lake effect snow is imminent or occurring.

Lake Effect Snow Advisory: Issued when accumulation of lake effect snow will cause significant inconvenience.

Wind Chill Warning: Issued when wind chill temperatures are expected to be hazardous to life within several minutes of exposure.

Wind Chill Advisory: Issued when wind chill temperatures are expected to be a significant inconvenience to life with prolonged exposure, and, if caution is not exercised, could lead to hazardous exposure.

Winter Weather Advisories: Issued for accumulations of snow, freezing rain, freezing drizzle, and sleet which will cause significant inconveniences and, if caution is not exercised, could lead to life-threatening situations.

Dense Fog Advisory: Issued when fog will reduce visibility to ¼ mile or less over a widespread area.

Snow Flurries: Light snow falling for short durations. No accumulation or light dusting is all that is expected.

Snow Showers: Snow falling at varying intensities for brief periods of time. Some accumulation is possible.

Snow Squalls: Brief, intense snow showers accompanied by strong, gusty winds. Accumulation may be significant. Snow squalls are best known in the Great Lakes region.

Blowing Snow: Wind-driven snow that reduces visibility and causes significant drifting. Blowing snow may be snow that is falling and/or loose snow on the ground picked up by the wind.

Sleet: Rain drops that freeze into ice pellets before reaching the ground. Sleet usually bounces when hitting a surface and does not stick to objects. However, it can accumulate like snow and cause a hazard to motorists.

Freezing Rain: Rain that falls onto a surface with a temperature below freezing. This causes it to freeze to surfaces, such as trees, cars, and roads, forming a coating or glaze of ice. Even small accumulations of ice can cause a significant hazard.



Meetings

- **Notice:**
No December 2012 Local EMA Director's Meeting
Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine
- December 18, 2012, 6:30 p.m.
Cumberland County ARES
Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine
Contact: Ron Brown, WA1RB
- January 8, 2013, 9:00 a.m.
State Emergency Response Commission Meeting
Location: Augusta, Maine
- January 9, 2013, 8:30 a.m.
Local EMA Director's Meeting
Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine
- January 9, 2013, 10:00 a.m..
Cumberland County IMAT Meeting
Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine
- January 9, 2013, 3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine
Contact: Mike Shutts, (207) 829-6785
shutts@cumberlandcounty.org

***FCC Narrowbanding
Deadline January 1, 2013***

What is SKYWARN®

*SKYWARN Recognition Day:
December 12, 2012*

The effects of severe weather are felt every year by many Americans. To obtain critical weather information, NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS), part of the U.S. Department of Commerce, established SKYWARN® with partner organizations. SKYWARN® is a volunteer program with nearly 290,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service.



SKYWARN
WEATHER.GOV®

Although SKYWARN® spotters provide essential information for all types of weather hazards, the main responsibility of a SKYWARN® spotter is to identify and describe severe local storms. In the average year, 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods and more than 1,000 tornadoes occur across the United States. These events threatened lives and property.

Since the program started in the 1970s, the information provided by SKYWARN® spotters, coupled with Doppler radar technology, improved satellite and other data, has enabled NWS to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flash floods.

SKYWARN® storm spotters are part of the ranks of citizens who form the Nation's first line of defense against severe weather. There can be no finer reward than to know that their efforts have given communities the precious gift of time--seconds and minutes that can help save lives.

Who is Eligible?

NWS encourages anyone with an interest in public service and access to communication, such as HAM radio, to join the SKYWARN® program. Volunteers include police and fire personnel, dispatchers, EMS workers, public utility workers and other concerned private citizens. Individuals affiliated with hospitals, schools, churches, nursing homes or who have a responsibility for protecting others are also encouraged to become a spotter.

How Can I Get Involved?

NWS has 122 local Weather Forecast Offices, each with a Warning Coordination Meteorologist, who is responsible for administering the SKYWARN® program in their local area. Training is conducted at these local offices and covers:

- Basics of thunderstorm development
- Fundamentals of storm structure
- Identifying potential severe weather features
- Information to report
- How to report information
- Basic severe weather safety

Classes are free and typically are about two hours long. To find a class in your area:

- Go to: <http://www.stormready.noaa.gov/contact.htm> and click on your state.
- When your state comes up, click on the name of your Weather Forecast Office.
- Once at your local WFO home page, in the blue bar on the left, look for the SKYWARN® link to find a schedule of classes and other local information
- Spotter's Guide: English, Espanol (.pdf format available at: <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/gyx>).

SKYWARN® is a registered trademark of NOAA's National

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>

New Courses Launched: November 2012

- IS-288—The Role of Voluntary Agencies in Emergency Management
 - IS-319—Tornado Mitigation Basics for Mitigation Staff
 - IS-320—Wildfire Mitigation Basics for Mitigation Staff
 - IS-321—Hurricane Mitigation Basics for Mitigation Staff
 - IS-322—Flood Mitigation Basics for Mitigation Staff
 - IS-453—Introduction to Homeland Security Planning
 - IS-328—Plan Review for Local Mitigation Plans
-

Basic Information Officer Course (G290)

Date: February 13, 2013 through February 14, 2013
 Time: 8:15 AM - 4:30 PM
 Location: Town of Hampden Public Safety Facility
 106 Western Avenue
 Hampden, Maine

Description of Event:

The State Emergency Management Agency will be conducting a training seminar on the Federal Emergency Management Agency training program for Public Information Officers (PIO). In order to be NIMS compliant all agencies must have a designated and trained PIO.

This 2-day course is intended for the new or less experienced PIO. Program emphasis is on the basic skills and knowledge needed for emergency management public information activities. Topics include the role of the PIO in emergency management, conducting awareness campaigns, news release writing, public speaking, and television interviews.

Completion of FEMA Public Information Officer Awareness Course (G289/IS29) is a prerequisite for attendance of the program. IS29 is at

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is29.asp>

Please include copy of certificate with application.

Selection Criteria: State, Tribal, County and local emergency management and emergency services staff who have either full or part time direct responsibility for public information in their communities or departments. *Applicants will include an organizational chart* indicating their position in local or departmental public information functions. **Students should bring copies of their PIO plan and laptop computers if available.**

Instructors:

Lynette Miller, MEMA PIO, and Mike Grant, MEMA Training Officer, will serve as instructors.

Course Location: The course will be held at the Town of Hampden Public Safety facility located at 106 Western Avenue in Hampden. 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. We are an equal opportunity educational provider.

For further information or to register, please contact Lynette or Mike at MEMA. 624-4400

All applications should be submitted by email/fax via FEMA training application form found at:
<http://www.maine.gov/mema/training>

Training Opportunities

- **Disaster Behavioral Health—A Critical Response**

Date: December 6—7, 2012, 8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
 Location: Portland, ME, Fireside Inn
 Contact: Debbie Beaulieu, AdCare Educational Institute
 dbeaulieu@neias.org (207)626-3615
 Registration/FMI online at:
<http://www.neias.org/mecdc/DBH2012.html>

- **Advanced Incident Command System (ICS400)**

Date: January 15, 2013, 6:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.
 January 22, 2013, 6:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.
 January 29, 2013, 6:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.
 Location: Wiscasset, ME, Lincoln County EOC
 Contact: Kris Draper, Lincoln County EMA 882-7559
 emafinance_admin@lincolncountymaine.me

- **Basic Information Officer Course (G290)**

Date: February 13—14, 2013, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
 Location: Hampden, ME, Hampden Public Safety
 Contact: Lynette Miller, MEMA, (207) 624-4460
 Prerequisite: FEMA IS29 or G289.
 Registration: Sent FEMA Training Form 119-25-1 and IS29/G289 Certificate to MEMA at fax: (207) 287-3189

Exercise Schedule

- **Summer 2013**

Portland International JetPort Full Scale Exercise
 Contact: Portland Fire Department

- **November 5-8, 2013**

Vigilant Guard (VG14) Exercise
 Contact: Lt. Colonel Diane Dunn, Maine National Guard
 (207) 620-2137 diane.dunn@us.army.mil



Wind Chill Chart



		Temperature (°F)																	
		40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	-5	-10	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40	-45
Wind (mph)	5	36	31	25	19	13	7	1	-5	-11	-16	-22	-28	-34	-40	-46	-52	-57	-63
	10	34	27	21	15	9	3	-4	-10	-16	-22	-28	-35	-41	-47	-53	-59	-66	-72
	15	32	25	19	13	6	0	-7	-13	-19	-26	-32	-39	-45	-51	-58	-64	-71	-77
	20	30	24	17	11	4	-2	-9	-15	-22	-29	-35	-42	-48	-55	-61	-68	-74	-81
	25	29	23	16	9	3	-4	-11	-17	-24	-31	-37	-44	-51	-58	-64	-71	-78	-84
	30	28	22	15	8	1	-5	-12	-19	-26	-33	-39	-46	-53	-60	-67	-73	-80	-87
	35	28	21	14	7	0	-7	-14	-21	-27	-34	-41	-48	-55	-62	-69	-76	-82	-89
40	27	20	13	6	-1	-8	-15	-22	-29	-36	-43	-50	-57	-64	-71	-78	-84	-91	
45	26	19	12	5	-2	-9	-16	-23	-30	-37	-44	-51	-58	-65	-72	-79	-86	-93	
50	26	19	12	4	-3	-10	-17	-24	-31	-38	-45	-52	-60	-67	-74	-81	-88	-95	
55	25	18	11	4	-3	-11	-18	-25	-32	-39	-46	-54	-61	-68	-75	-82	-89	-97	
60	25	17	10	3	-4	-11	-19	-26	-33	-40	-48	-55	-62	-69	-76	-84	-91	-98	

Frostbite Times ■ 30 minutes ■ 10 minutes ■ 5 minutes

$$\text{Wind Chill (°F)} = 35.74 + 0.6215T - 35.75(V^{0.16}) + 0.4275T(V^{0.16})$$

Where, T= Air Temperature (°F) V= Wind Speed (mph)

Effective 11/01/01



Important Links

Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency

Home: www.cumberlandcounty.org/EMA

Maine Emergency Management Agency

Home: www.maine.gov/mema

Library: www.maine.gov/mema/mema_library.shtml

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.shtml

Assistance: www.DisasterAssistance.gov

Domestic Preparedness Support

U. S. Department of Homeland Security www.dhs.gov

NIMSCAST www.fema.gov/nimscast

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

www.erh.noaa.gov/gyx

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

2-1-1 Maine

Home: 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



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

MAINE PREPARES

MAINE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY | STATE OF MAINE



Monthly Communications Test

December 13, 2012, Thursday

- Log onto WebEOC
- HAN Notification—12:45 p.m.
- Conference Call—1:00 p.m.
- Open Radio Check—1:10 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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