



NEWS FROM DOWN UNDER

Volume V, Issue I

January 2012

County of Cumberland

Emergency
Management
Agency

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



National Preparedness System Description Lays Groundwork for Achieving National Preparedness Goal

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), on behalf of the administration, announced the release of the National Preparedness System description, which will help lay the groundwork for strengthening the nation's resilience against all threats and hazards. The system description is the second deliverable required under Presidential Policy Directive / PPD-8: National Preparedness, which was released March 30, 2011.

"What makes this preparedness system unique is that it engages the whole community – individuals, businesses, community, and faith-based organizations, schools and all levels of government," said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. "We recognize that the nation will be most prepared for threats and hazards when we work together."

The National Preparedness System description identifies six components to improve national preparedness for a wide range of threats and hazards, such as acts of terrorism, cyber attacks, pandemics and catastrophic natural disasters. The System description explains how as a nation we will build on current efforts, many of which are already established in the law and have been in use for many years.

The six components of the National Preparedness System are:

- Estimating capability requirements;
- Building or sustaining capabilities;
- Developing and implementing plans to deliver those capabilities;
- Validating and monitoring progress made towards achieving the National Preparedness Goal; and
- Reviewing and updating efforts as needed to promote continuous improvement.

The National Preparedness System description incorporated input from state, local, tribal, and territorial representatives, many of whom also served on the writing team for the document.

The National Preparedness Goal, which was the first deliverable to PPD-8 and was released on October 7, 2011, sets the foundation for the implementation of PPD-8. The directive also called for the development of a National Preparedness System description to explain the resources and tools needed to achieve the National Preparedness Goal. Implementation of the National Preparedness System is a multi-year effort that is being coordinated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the description lays out how the six components will interact to build, sustain and deliver the core capabilities

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- Identifying and assessing risks;

Emergency Management

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

FEMA IS 247

Public Alert and Warning System

FEMA, 12/14/2011

Course Description

This course provides basic information on the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). The goal of this course is to provide authorized public safety officials with: increased awareness of the benefits of using IPAWS for effective public warnings; skills to draft more appropriate, effective, and accessible warning messages; and best practices in the effective use of Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) to reach all members of their communities.

This course consists of the following lessons:

Lesson 1: Introduction to IPAWS

Lesson 2: Appropriate, Effective, and Accessible Alert and Warning Messages

Lesson 3: Common Alerting Protocol Message Composition

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Define Integrated Public Alert and Warning System
- Identify the benefits of using IPAWS for generating warnings.
- Describe IPAWS operation.
- Identify the basis for determining who is authorized to send IPAWS alert and warning messages.
- Apply criteria for sending appropriate alert messages.
- Identify the components of effective alert and warning messages.
- Apply criteria for creating accessible alert and warning messages.
- Describe factors that influence public response to warning messages.
- Discuss the myths associated with public response to warning messages.
- Define CAP.
- Identify some of the commonly used CAP elements and their associated values.
- Identify how a CMAS message is mapped from CAP.

Primary Audience

This course is designed for emergency managers, law enforcement officials, fire department personnel, dispatch personnel (911), National Weather Service (NWS) personnel, and other authorized centers (according to a State's EAS plan, State emergency plan, Amber Plan/Amber Alert).

IS-247—Integrated Public Alert and Warning System

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is247.asp>

Prerequisites—None

Contact Hours—2 hours CEUs 0.2

Formidable Footprint

Pandemic Exercise

National Community/Neighborhood Exercise Series

On January 28 neighborhood, community and faith based organizations across the country will have the opportunity to assess their capabilities in preparing for and responding to an Influenza Pandemic by participating in the [Formidable Footprint Pandemic Exercise](#).

During the past year teams from across the United States have been participating in the internet based series of Formidable Footprint exercises. These exercises have provided participants with the opportunity to assess their capabilities to respond to various disaster threats.

Pandemic Exercise – January 28, 2012

Exercises have also been scheduled for the following scenarios:

*Earthquake – Flood – Hurricane – Tornado –
Wildfire*

The Formidable Footprint exercise series has been developed in accordance with Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) protocols. The objectives of the exercises are for CERTs, Neighborhood Watch Programs, Neighborhood Associations, Community / Faith Based Organizations, Citizen Corps, Fire Corps and others to work as a team to become better prepared for the next disaster their community may face.

There is **NO CHARGE** for participation in any of the Formidable Footprint exercises.

For additional information or to register for the up-coming Tornado Exercise please access the following web site today:

www.FormidableFootprint.org



**Formidable Footprint
Pandemic Exercise**



Save the Date! 4th Annual Maine Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference

*Don't miss this educational and
networking opportunity.*

4th Annual Maine Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference

Augusta Civic Center

Tuesday & Wednesday - April 24 - 25, 2012

Hosted by:

- Maine Emergency Management Agency
- International Association of Emergency Managers, Region 1
- State Emergency Response Commission and
- Maine Association for Local Emergency Managers

REGISTRATION OPEN for Exhibitors only

Partner with Over 400 participants, Government Officials, Emergency Managers, Business Leaders, Educators, Health and Human Services Providers and Private, Non-Profit Organizations.

Conference Attendees may register beginning on January 25th, 2012. Stay tuned for updates at MainePrepares.com. Exhibitors may register online NOW.



Presenters and Topic Ideas Wanted!

The Conference Planning Committee is looking for your ideas. If you have an idea for a topic and/or speaker or if you would like to present at the conference, please let us know. Don't miss this two day learning and networking experience with preparedness partners and exhibitors.

Contact:

Faith Mayer/Dwane Hubert, MEMA
207-624-4400
MainePrepares@maine.gov

Free and Low-Cost Email Pagers Available For Deaf/Hard Of Hearing Mainers

The Maine Center on Deafness (MCD), Division of Deafness (DoD), and Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) together initiated the country's first emergency alert program known as the "Emergency Notification System" or "ENS" for residents who are Deaf or hard of hearing in the state of Maine. This program officially opened to the public in March 2005.

The ENS program, administered through MCD, supplies free email messages that notify users of local, state, and national emergencies such as road closures, child abductions, severe weather warnings, and public safety announcements. MCD also offers a stationary all-hazard alert radio with amplification instead of the pager device.

Email pagers and alert radios are available at MCD for free or reduced cost depending on individuals' income. For more information about this program contact:

Alyssa Gagnon
Maine Center on Deafness
68 Bishop Street
Portland, Maine 04103
1-800-639-3884, ext. 109v or 309tty
email at Ealert@mcdmaine.org
or visit <http://www.mcdmaine.org>

Qualified applicants must be Maine residents and Deaf or hard of hearing.

Maine Prepares Tip

Donate Clean, Usable Clothing To A Local Agency

December 28, 2011

This is a great week to clean closets. Clothes that are clean, and still have a lot of use in them, are great to donate to a local agency that deals in used clothing. You may be helping someone close to home, or your outgrown blue jeans may arrive at a disaster site. Either way, you've helped someone weather the storm.

<http://www.maine.gov/dps/fmo/index.htm>

Daily Tip from: www.Maineprepares.com©

CTOS Free Online Training Available

MEMA December 12, 2011

Greetings from CTOS-Center for Rad/Nuc Training at the Nevada National Security Site. I am sending this to bring awareness to the online training opportunities CTOS offers. Currently, we have two web based courses with more on the way soon. All of our web-based courses can be found on the CTOS Web Campus at <http://www.nts-ctos.com>

First, we offer an AWR-140-W Weapons of Mass Destruction Radiological/Nuclear Awareness Course, Web Based. This course presents WMD radiological/nuclear overview designed for first responders and other personnel who are likely to be the first to arrive on the scene of a radiological/nuclear incident. It focuses on the basics of radiation, possible health effects, hazard identification, and proper notification procedures. The AWR-140 is also available as an instructor led course. The AWR-140 contains pre-requisite knowledge for our PER-241 WMD Rad/Nuc Course for HazMat Technicians and is recommended for everyone that attends any CTOS training.

Second, we recently received approval for our NEW AWR-224-W Secondary Screener Radiation Detection Kit Components and Controls (SS/RDK CC) web-based course. This course provides general information on the purpose and use of the Thermo FH40 radiation detector and Probes contained in the Thermo Scientific Emergency Radiation Detection Kit (RDK). The SS/RDK CC course provides basic information and some of the basic skills necessary to use the RDK in a variety of settings. This course is a pre-requisite for our new instructor led PER-227 Secondary Screener/Radiation Detector Kit Operations and Strategies course but contains useful information regarding the Thermo FH-40 controls and probes for agencies that use this detector.

Contact:

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"Preparing a Nation Through Training"

Resolve To Be Ready

As the New Year approaches, the *Ready Campaign* is reminding Americans to *Resolve to be Ready* in 2012.

Those who make New Year's resolutions are 11 times more likely to report continued success in achieving a goal than individuals who have not made a resolution, according to the *Journal of Clinical Psychology*.

The *Ready Campaign* would like to make an emergency preparedness resolution easy to keep by providing the tools and resources needed to take four important steps: be informed about the different types of emergencies that can happen in your area and their appropriate responses, make a family communications plan, build an emergency kit, and get involved in community preparedness. We hope you will join the *Ready Campaign* this Holiday Season in promoting *Resolve to be Ready*.

<http://www.ready.gov/resolve>

You will also find Web banners for your organization's Web site, a sample E-mail and a Newsletter you can share with your key constituents.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact *Ready* at Ready@fema.gov.



Exercise Schedule

- **April 12, 2012, Thursday**
[CCEMA Hurricane Orientation Workshop](#)
Location: Portland—PWD Nixon Training Center
Contact: D.B. Feeney, CCEMA (207) 892-6785
- **May 3, 2012, Thursday**
[Cumberland County Hurricane Tabletop Exercise](#)
Location: Portland—PWD Nixon Training Center
Contact: D.B. Feeney, CCEMA (207) 892-6785
- **Summer 2012**
[Portland International JetPort Functional Exercise](#)
Contact: Deputy Chief Dave Pendleton—Portland
- **Fall 2012**
[Monson Chemical Full Scale Exercise](#)
Contact: Deputy Chief Stephen Fox—South Portland

Questions and Answers National Weather Service

DOES THE WIND CHILL TEMPERATURE AFFECT MY CAR OR CAR BATTERY?

WILL MY CAR BE HARDER TO START WHEN THE WIND CHILL TEMPERATURE IS COLD?

No to both questions. Your car and your car's battery are affected only by the actual temperature. Wind chill temperatures are a measure of the rate of heat loss from the human body. For a car left overnight, the temperature of the car is approximately the same as the surrounding air, so there would be no additional heat loss due to wind, hence no wind chill.

In general, morning temperatures are coldest on nights with little or no wind. Therefore, your car battery is more likely to fail on a night with little or no wind than a windy night.

This "Question and Answer" is courtesy of the National Weather Service Forecast Offices in Gray and Caribou, Maine.

Meetings

- January 11, 2012, 8:30 a.m.
[Cumberland County Local EMA Meeting](#)
Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine
- January 11, 2012, 10 a.m. (following EMA meeting)
[Cumberland County IMAT](#)
Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine
- January 17, 2012, 6:30 p.m.
[Cumberland County ARES](#)
Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine
Contact: Ron Brown, WA1RB
- January 20, 2012, Noon
[Maine-NH Transportation Incident Management](#)
Location: (Tentative in York, Maine—TBD)
Contact: Tom Reinauer, Southern Maine RPC
(207) 324-2952 x 18 www.smrpc.org
- January 26, 2012
[Mid-Coast ARES/CERT](#)
Location: Topsham, Maine
Mid-Coast Chapter ARC, Community Way
Contact: John Goran, Maine SEC
K1JJS@aarl.net (207) 865-0554
- March 14, 2012, 10 a.m. (following EMA meeting)
[Cumberland County IMAT](#)
Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine

National Preparedness System Description

(Continued from Page 1)

needed to achieve the Goal.

The National Preparedness System description and additional information about PPD-8 and its implementation are available at www.fema.gov/ppd8.

Contact: Marc Taliento marc.tagliento@dhs.gov



CERT Basic Training Participant Manual in Braille and Screen Reader Versions

The National CERT Program continues to promote CERT training for all audiences. In addition to the recent release of the low vision and Spanish versions of the *CERT Basic Training* Participant Manual, we are pleased to announce the release of the Participant Manual in Braille and PDF screen reader versions. Each version includes the same content as the standard version Participant Manual—the nine units of the course and 13 hazard annexes.

Please access the screen reader version of the Participant Manual on the national CERT website:
https://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/training_mat.shtm#screenreader

Local CERT program coordinators/managers can request copies of the Braille version of the Participant Manual. Please call the FEMA Distribution Center at [1-800-480-2520](tel:1-800-480-2520) or email FEMA-Publications-Warehouse@dhs.gov. Use Publication Number P-856 and Catalog Number 11189-2 to order the Participant Manual (four volumes in Braille). Please be sure to allow 6 – 8 weeks for delivery.

For additional tools for communicating with all audiences, including people with disabilities, please visit the [FEMA Office of Disability Integration and Coordination Preparedness Resources web page](#).

<http://www.fema.gov/about/odic/preparedness.shtm#2>

Sincerely,

National CERT Program

Training Opportunities

- **Communications Unit Leader Course – COML Type III**

Date: January 3, 4, 5, 2012, 8:15 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Location: Hamden, Maine - Public Safety Facility

Contact: Mike Grant, MEMA, (207) 624-4400

michael.f.grant@maine.gov

Registration: Forward FEMA 119-25-1 Form to MEMA

- **Annual Tier 2 Reporting Workshops**

Date: January 11, 2012—Brewer, Maine—Jeff's Catering

Date: January 18, 2012—Augusta Civic Center

Date: February 1, 2012—Portland—Fireside Inn & Suits

Registration: MEMA Fax 207-287-1378 or email your registration information to: Maine.serc@maine.gov at least 10 days prior to scheduled date.

(Attendee's Name, Company/Address, Phone, Email, and Name and Date of Workshop Attending).

- **IS-100 Incident Command System**

Date: January 16, 2012, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. - Part A
January 23, 2012, 6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. - Part B

Location: North Yarmouth Fire Department

Contact: David B. Feeney,

feeney@cumberlandcounty.org

- **Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program**

Date: January 18-20, 2012, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Location: Augusta, Maine—MEMA

Registration: FEMA 119-25-1 Form to MEMA

Contact: Jeremy Damren or Mike Grant—MEMA

- **ICS/EOC Interface Course (G191)**

Date: January 25, 2012, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Location: Bangor Police Training Room, 240 Main Street

Registration: Forward FEMA 119-25-1 Form to MEMA

Contact: Mike Grant, MEMA (207) 624-4400

- **IS-700 NIMS, An Introduction**

Date: January 30, 2012, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Location: North Yarmouth Fire Department

Contact: David B. Feeney, CCEMA,

feeney@cumberlandcounty.org

- **Mitigation for Emergency Managers (G393)**

Date: January 31—February 2, 2012, 8:15—4:30 p.m.

Location: Augusta, Maine—MEMA Classroom

Contact: Mike Grant, MEMA, (207) 624-4460

Registration: Forward FEMA 119-25-1 Form to MEMA

- **4th Annual Maine Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference**

Date: April 24-25, 2012

Location: Augusta Civic Center

Attendee Registration Opens, January 25, 2012

Exhibitors Registration is now open at:

www.regonline.com/partners2012

Narrowbanding Reducing the amount of spectrum a radio uses to transmit a message.

MEMA—December 23, 2011

*In December of 2004, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced requirements to narrowband radio frequencies. We are now quickly approaching the deadline for compliance with that order, **January 1st, 2013.***

By this date, all radios and radio systems covered by the narrowband order must be compliant with the order. Those failing to be compliant will face a cease and desist order on their radio systems or potentially fines (up to \$10,000) from the FCC.

The narrowband order affects license holders:

- In the Public Safety Conventional (PW) frequency pool; and
 - In the Industrial/Business (IG) pool operating in frequencies between 150-174 MHz and 421-512 MHz.
- If your organization holds a license in this frequency range you should check into this further by contacting your radio vendor and/or working with a FCC frequency coordinator.

To begin the transition to narrowband you will need to consider the following points,

1. Assess/inventory current equipment and radio systems
2. Plan/budget for new equipment
3. Apply for new/modified license
4. Establish timetable for new equipment
5. Implement your transition plan
6. Implement new equipment/systems

For more information and to review the entire MEMA article, please visit:

www.maine.gov/mema/programs/icommm/mema_prog_icomm_narrowband.shtml

FEMA Training Form 119-25-1 (Aug 2010) (previously 75-5) may be downloaded from: www.maine.gov/mema (Tabs: <Programs> <Training> <Training Application>)



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
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



Monthly Communications Test

- January 12, 2012, at 1330 hours.**
- Log onto WebEOC
 - HAN Notification—1330 hours
 - Conference Call—1345 hours
 - Radio Check Immediately Following Conference Call

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