



# NEWS FROM DOWN UNDER

Volume IV, Issue VII

July 2011

## County of Cumberland

Emergency  
Management  
Agency

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## *Lightning Awareness Week: The Science of Lightning*

June 21, 2011

The National Weather Service declared the week of June 19th through 25th, **Lightning Safety Awareness Week**. This safety information is courtesy of the [National Weather Service, Gray, Maine](#).

heating can cause these clouds to grow vertically upward into the atmosphere. These "towering cumulus" clouds may be one of the first indications of a developing thunderstorm. The final stage of development occurs as the top of the cloud becomes anvil-shaped.

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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

If you can hear thunder,  
you are within striking  
distance of the storm.  
Story on Page 1

### *Understanding the Science of Thunderstorms and Lightning*

By definition, all thunderstorms contain lightning. Lightning is a giant spark of electricity that occurs within the atmosphere or between the atmosphere and the ground. As lightning passes through the air, it heats the air rapidly to a temperature of about 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit, about 5 times hotter than the surface of the sun.

During a lightning discharge, the sudden heating of the air causes it to expand rapidly. After the discharge, the air contracts quickly as it cools back to a normal temperature. This rapid expansion and contraction of the air causes a shock wave that we hear as thunder (this shock wave can damage walls and break glass).

All thunderstorms go through various stages of growth, development, electrification, and dissipation. The process of thunderstorm development often begins early in the day when the sun heats the air near the ground and pockets of warmer air start to rise in the atmosphere. When these pockets reach a certain level in the atmosphere, cumulus clouds start to form. Continued

As a thunderstorm cloud grows, precipitation forms within the cloud with mostly small ice crystals in the upper levels of the cloud, a mixture of small ice crystals and small hail (graupel) in the middle levels of the cloud, and a mixture of rain and melting hail in the lower levels of the cloud. Due to air movements and collisions between the precipitation particles near the middle of the cloud, the various precipitation particles become charged. The lighter ice crystals become positively charged and are carried upward into the upper part of the storm by the updraft. The heavier hail becomes negatively charged and is suspended by the updraft or falls toward the lower part of the storm. The end result is that the top of the cloud becomes positively charged and the middle and lower part of the storm becomes negatively charged.

Normally, the earth's surface has a slight negative charge; however, as the negative charges build up in the lower and middle part of the storm, the ground beneath the base of the cloud and in the area immediately surrounding the cloud

*(Story continued on Page 3)*

## *Emergency Management*

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

## Regional Shelter Update

The validation of Regional Shelters in Cumberland County is underway. As was discussed in a previous newsletter article, the rationale for having designated regional shelters is to ensure that the county has the means identified and the plans developed to quickly establish large shelters to accommodate hundreds or thousands of evacuees in response to disaster events, such as ice storms, hurricanes and tornados, which cause significant damage to homes and property. Currently, Cumberland County has over 40 surveyed and approved local American Red Cross (ARC) shelters. Of those shelters, the desire is to validate approximately one third as regional shelters.

Prospective regional shelters are being selected for survey based multiple criteria, the most important of which are:

- The municipality and facility willingness to host evacuees when there is no damage to local infrastructure
- The size of the facility. It must be large enough to accommodate hundreds of evacuees and their pets on site.
- Facility services. The facility must have the capacity to feed and support the hygiene needs (showers, sinks and toilets) of the sheltering population.
- Facility Accessibility. The facility must be fully accessible to evacuees with disabilities or functional needs.

In the event of a disaster, likely only two or three regional shelters would be opened at any given time in Cumberland County. This would enable the county to accommodate a maximum number of evacuees per site while minimizing the strain on ARC shelter volunteers and resources. If Cumberland County has suffered damage, the probability exists that other counties will have suffered the same and ARC volunteers and resources will have to be shared across the region.

The opening of regional shelters will be initiated at the request of municipal emergency managers from the damaged portions of the county. Specific sheltering site selection will be accomplished through Cumberland County Emergency Management (CCEMA) and ARC collaboration and with the express approval of host municipal and facility leadership. Once regional shelter sites are designated, word will be passed by the media and local public officials.

To date, CCEMA and the ARC have conducted two regional shelter surveys (Gorham Middle School and Scarborough High School) and have a third survey scheduled (Brunswick High School) for in mid-July. Ideally, all surveys will be completed over the summer months. As you

might imagine, however, it is difficult to align the schedules of municipal officials, shelter facility representatives (most often school administrators), and survey team members.

Regional shelter surveys take approximately three hours to complete. They are opened with a brief program overview and the introduction of participants to one another. Next, a comprehensive tour of the facility is led by facility representatives. During the tour, much of the shelter layout work is accomplished through discussion between survey team members and with the facility and emergency management representatives. Following the tour, the group reconvenes to complete discussion and solidify the shelter layout. To complete the survey, the group then splits-up and individuals move throughout the facility to conduct detailed planning of their assigned spaces. After the survey, notes, photographs, diagrams, plans, etc. are consolidated and sent to CCEMA for incorporation into a package which supplements the ARC signed shelter survey document.

The Regional Shelter effort in Cumberland County is gathering momentum. CCEMA and the ARC appreciate the support provided by survey team members and the willing participation of school and municipal officials. With the survey of each site, we believe that we truly strengthen our collective ability to serve the public during time of disaster.

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## *Essential Sign Language for First Responders*

Date: July 19, 2011 (Two Class Offerings)  
Date: August 9, 2011  
Time: 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
Location: Wiscasset, Maine  
Lincoln County Communications Center

### **Description of Event:**

Join us for this **FREE class**. We will teach first responders the essential sentences, phrases and medical vocabulary to offer assistance in an emergency situation requiring sign language. Learn medical terms and general phrases to help with general assistance, size up a scene, or for use in search & rescue situations.

***Class size is limited so please register today!***

Sponsors: Office of Emergency Management and Maine Center on Deafness

**For more information, contact:**  
Heidi Leinonen, Lincoln County EMA Planner  
882-7559  
[LCEMAplanner@ymail.com](mailto:LCEMAplanner@ymail.com)

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## *Lightning Awareness Week: The Science of Lightning*

(Continued from Page 1)

becomes positively charged. As the cloud moves, these induced positive charges on the ground follow the cloud like a shadow. Farther away from the cloud base, but under the positively charged anvil, the negative charge may be further induced.

In the initial stages of development, air acts as an insulator between the positive and negative charges. However, when the electrical potential between the positive and negative charges becomes too great, the insulating capacity of the air breaks down and there is a discharge of electricity that we know as lightning.

Lightning can occur completely within the thunderstorm cloud or between the cloud and the ground. In-cloud lightning generally occurs between positive charges near the top of the cloud and negative charges near the middle or bottom of the cloud. Cloud-to-ground lightning occurs between charges in the cloud and charges on the ground. Lightning can also occur between clouds.

Cloud-to-ground lightning can be categorized into two different types -- the negative flash and the positive flash. The negative flash usually occurs between the negative charges in the lower part of the storm and the positive charges on the ground under and near the cloud base. Positive flashes usually occur between the positively-charged upper levels of the storm and the negatively-charged area surrounding the storm.

In the negative cloud-to-ground flash, an almost invisible, negatively-charged channel of air forms in the lower part of the cloud and surges downward toward the ground. As this "step leader" approaches the ground, streamers of positive charge propagate upward from trees, buildings, and other objects on the ground. When one or more of these streamers meet the step leader, the connection is complete, and the lightning channel discharges which we see as the very bright "return stroke" that we call lightning. The entire process takes only a small fraction of a second.

The process for a positive flash is similar except that a positive channel usually originates in the anvil of the storm and propagates downward. In this case, streamers of negative charge move up to meet positively-charged channel as it approaches the ground. When a connection is made, a positive flash of lightning occurs.

While both negative and positive flashes of lightning can be deadly, positive flashes are more apt to catch people by surprise. Because the distance between the ground and anvil is much greater than the distance between the ground and the cloud base, a much larger electric potential is needed to initiate a positive flash of lightning. For the same reason, positive flashes are infrequent and

scattered around the storm.

The greatest danger associated with the positive flashes, however, is that they strike in areas where most people think they are safe from the storm. They generally strike well beyond the area where rain is falling and well beyond the main area where most of the lightning (negative flashes) and thunder is occurring. Consequently, many victims are caught completely off guard.

The best advice in order to minimize your risk of becoming a lightning victim is to get to a safe shelter sooner and to stay there longer. In general, if you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance of the storm.

**Remember...When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!**

### Lightning Fact for the Day:

What is often referred to as "Heat Lightning" is simply the lightning from a distant thunderstorm that is too far away for the resultant thunder to be heard. In most cases, the light you observe is being reflected off clouds near the horizon. Keep an eye on the storm though, since it may be headed in your direction.

### Lightning Question of the Day:

How can you tell how far a flash of lightning is away from you?

### Answer:

While you see the visible flash of lightning almost instantaneously, the sound of the thunder

travels at a speed of about 1100 feet per second or about 1 mile in 5 seconds. For every 5 seconds between the time you observe the lightning and the time you hear the thunder, the lightning flash is 1 mile away. If you count 10 seconds between the lightning flash and the corresponding thunder, the lightning flash was 2 miles away. For 15 seconds, the flash would be three miles away.

Unfortunately, this method **only works for the previous flash** and does not tell you how close the next lightning strike will be. Generally, if you hear thunder, you are within striking distance for the next flash of lightning. If you are not in a safe place at the time, **move to a safe place immediately.**

### Learn More:

To learn more about lightning safety, visit the: [National Weather Service Lightning Safety page.](http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov)

<http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/overview.htm>



## *HSEEP Training Course*

### Maine Emergency Management Agency Training Announcement

#### Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Training Course July 27, 28, 29, 2011

The HSEEP Training Course incorporates exercise guidance and best practices from the HSEEP Volumes. Throughout the course, participants will learn about topics including exercise program management, design and development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning. The HSEEP Training Course is an interactive course that allows participants to share personal lessons learned and best practices while gaining practical experience. In addition to the instructor-led course presentations, the course includes small group activities, videos, and group discussions. The course also provides overviews of HSEEP-related initiatives such as technology (e.g., the HSEEP Toolkit) and capabilities-based planning (e.g., Target Capabilities List [TCL]). This blended approach will give participants hands-on experience that readily translates to real-world exercise skills. Activities include creating exercise documentation, conducting exercise planning conferences and briefings, and practicing exercise evaluation. The course has been developed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) using input from Federal partners, subject matter experts (SMEs), and State and local representatives. HSEEP is a capabilities-based exercise program that includes a cycle, mix, and range of exercise activities of varying degrees of complexity and interaction. The purpose of HSEEP is to build self-sustaining exercise programs and provide a standardized methodology for designing, developing, conducting, and evaluating all exercises.

Note: This training course is an expansion of the Volume II Exercise Evaluation and Improvement Training Course and includes more details on exercise program management, planning, and conduct, as well as evaluation and improvement planning.

Target Audience: Individuals involved in exercise programs and/or exercise design, development, conduct, control, evaluation, and improvement planning are encouraged to attend.

Participant Preparation: Participants will need a basic knowledge of exercise design and HSEEP terminology. Therefore, participants are required to complete the Independent Study (IS)-120.A, An Introduction to Exercises before attending the HSEEP Training Course. It should take approximately 3-5 hours to complete.

• Location:

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS120A.asp>

- Choose the "Interactive Web-based Course" followed by "Take Final Exam"
- Proof of completion is required. Please bring your completion certificate with you to the HSEEP course.

Additionally, the training course will briefly cover other DHS initiatives. As such, it is recommended participants complete the following Independent Study courses:

- IS-130, Exercise Evaluation and Improvement Planning
- IS-139, Exercise Design
- IS-700, NIMS, an Introduction
- IS-800.B, National Response Framework, an Introduction

Course Location: The course will be held at the Portland Water District, the Jeff P. Nixon Development Center (Nixon Training Facility)

[http://www.pwd.org/community\\_involvement/Jeff\\_P\\_Nixon\\_Facility.php](http://www.pwd.org/community_involvement/Jeff_P_Nixon_Facility.php)

It is located at 225 Douglass Street, Portland, ME. Douglass Street runs from Brighton Avenue to Congress Street. Classes will run from 8:30 a.m to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, and 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Friday. Lunch will be provided. Contact Jeremy Damren if lodging is required.

To register, please fill out a FEMA training form and fax or e-mail it to:

Jeremy Damren, State Exercise Coordinator  
207-287-3178 (fax) 207-624-4410 (telephone)

[jeremy.damren@maine.gov](mailto:jeremy.damren@maine.gov)

READINESS THROUGH EDUCATION  
Maine Emergency Management Agency  
72 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0072  
(207) 624-4400

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

## *Maine Prepares Tip*

### *"But I Didn't Know It Was Going to Rain"*

June 27, 2011

Make a portable NOAA Weather Radio a part of your hiking, camping or boating gear. Weather conditions can change rapidly. Having a NOAA Weather Radio can make the difference between you being caught on a ridge or on the lake in a thunderstorm, and being safe and dry.

Daily Tip from: [www.Maineprepares.com](http://www.Maineprepares.com)©

# FEMA, FCC Announce Nationwide Test of the Emergency Alert System

**Similar to local Emergency Alert System Tests, this test is schedule to take place on November 9, 2011**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 9, 2011) – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will conduct the first nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS). The nationwide test will occur on Wednesday, November 9 at 2 p.m. eastern standard time and may last up to three and a half minutes.

The EAS is a national alert and warning system established to enable the President of the United States to address the American public during emergencies. NOAA's National Weather Service, governors and state and local emergency authorities also use parts of the system to issue more localized emergency alerts.

Similar to local EAS tests that are already conducted frequently, the nationwide test will involve broadcast radio and television stations, cable television, satellite radio and television services and wireline video service providers across all states and the territories of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and American Samoa.

On November 9, the public will hear a message indicating that "This is a test." The audio message will be the same for both radio and television. Under the FCC's rules, radio and television broadcasters, cable operators, satellite digital audio radio service providers, direct broadcast satellite service providers and wireline video service providers are required to receive and transmit presidential EAS messages to the public. A national test will help the federal partners and EAS participants determine the reliability of the system and its effectiveness in notifying the public of emergencies and potential dangers nationally and regionally.

"A national test of our Emergency Alert System, with the vital communications support and involvement of participants, is a step towards ensuring that the alert and warning community is prepared to deliver critical information that can help save lives and protect property," said Damon Penn, FEMA's Assistant Administrator of National Continuity Programs. "Because there has never been an activation of the Emergency Alert System on a national level, FEMA views this test as an excellent opportunity to assess the readiness and effectiveness of the current system. It is important to remember that this is not a pass or fail test, but a chance to establish a baseline for making incremental improvements to the Emergency Alert System with ongoing and future testing. It is also important to remember that the Emergency Alert System is one of

many tools in our communications toolbox, and we will continue to work on additional channels that can be a lifeline of information for people during an emergency."

"The upcoming national test is critical to ensuring that the EAS works as designed," said Jamie Barnett, Chief of the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. "As recent disasters here at home and in Japan have reminded us, a reliable and effective emergency alert and warning system is key to ensuring the public's safety during times of emergency. We look forward to working with FEMA in preparation for this important test."

Over the past two years and as part of ongoing national preparedness planning efforts, FEMA, the FCC and other federal partners, state, local, tribal and territorial governments, Emergency Alert System participants and other stakeholders have been working toward making this test a reality.

As the federal, state, tribal, territorial and local governments prepare for and test their capabilities, this event serves as a reminder that everyone should establish an [emergency preparedness kit](#) and [emergency plan](#) for themselves, their families, communities, and businesses. Anyone can visit [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov) for more information about how to prepare for and stay informed about what to do in the event of an actual emergency.



## Business & Service Organizations

**Maine's businesses** form the backbone of the state's economy; small businesses alone account for a majority of the economy. If businesses are prepared to survive and recover, the State and our economy are more secure.

**Maine's service organizations** play a critical role in our communities. Their clients rely on them every day – and during an emergency situation, their roles will be even more important..

**Your business or organization** can weather any storm. It starts with the [planning you do today](#)

**One in four businesses will never reopen after a disaster.**



## *County Incident Management Assistance Team Weekend Retreat*

Maine Emergency Management Agency  
Training and Exercise Announcement

**Training and Exercise  
August 5th—7th, 2011**

The Maine Emergency Management Agency, County Emergency Management Agencies, and the Maine Forest Service will host a County IMAT Weekend Retreat which will involve both training and exercises throughout the weekend.

- \* Exercise involving all of the meetings and products produced within the planning cycle (Saturday)
- \* Demonstration/Display of IMT/IMAT Vehicles (Saturday evening)
- \* Lessons learned in events which required IMAT's (Sunday morning)

Target Audience: County IMAT Team Members, County EMA Directors, State IMT, FEMA IMT

Course Location: The course will be held at Sugarloaf, USA, which is located in Carrabassett Valley. Check in for the weekend will be on Friday evening with the start of the event at 0900hrs Saturday morning.

All overnight and meals Saturday and Sunday will be provided at no cost to participants.

To register, please fill out a FEMA training application form, and fax or email it to:

Jeremy Damren, State Exercise Coordinator  
(207) 287-3178 (fax)  
Jeremy.damren@maine.gov  
(207) 624-4410 (phone)

### *FEMA Independent Study*

The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) has reinstated use of the OpScan Form. This form will be accepted for examination purposes until 28 December 2012 at which time it will be retired. Blank OpScan forms may be requested until 28 September 2012.

Organizations that utilize the OpScan form should begin formulating processes to prepare for the retirement of this form and the hardcopy processing of examinations by EMI. Beginning 1 January 2013 all EMI Independent Study course testing will be accomplished online.

## *NIMS Compliance Assistance Support Tool (NIMSCAST) Update*

The purpose of this *NIMS Alert* is to announce the release of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Compliance Assistance Support Tool (NIMSCAST).version 4.00.12.

Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 requires that all Federal Departments and agencies make adoption of NIMS by State, tribal, and local organizations a condition to receive Federal Preparedness assistance. To that end, FEMA's National Integration Center developed NIMSCAST as a free self-assessment instrument for Federal, State, tribal, and local governments to evaluate and report on their respective implementation of NIMS.

Users will see a NIMSCAST with familiar navigation but improved functionality. Included in the new release is the ability to rollover prior year's Corrective Action Plan information and the restored capability to send e-mails to user accounts through NIMSCAST. *NIMS Guide 01-11* is available for more-specific information on NIMSCAST version 4.00.12.

Additionally, the NIMSCAST homepage ([www.fema.gov/nimscast](http://www.fema.gov/nimscast)) will soon feature an updated *NIMSCAST User Guide*. This guide includes improved step-by-step instructions, additional guidance on using available reports, and a glossary.

This release of NIMSCAST represents the first step toward its integration into FEMA's Preparedness Compliance Assessment System Tool (PrepCAST). FEMA is developing the PrepCAST as its online portal that will link users to reporting tools, of which NIMSCAST is the cornerstone. The 2012 State Preparedness Report (SPR) Survey, presently under draft, will be accessible via PrepCAST in the future. Additionally, FEMA plans to continue to expand PrepCAST to incorporate additional collections in the future. The first version of PrepCAST scheduled for release in the Fall 2011.

For additional information on NIMS, NIMS implementation, or NIMSCAST contact the National Integration Center at 202-646-3850 or via e-mail:

FEMA-NIMS@dhs.gov.

If you have lost or forgotten your NIMSCAST log-on information, you may reset it by going to [www.fema.gov/nimscast](http://www.fema.gov/nimscast) webpage and click on "Reset My Password" and you will receive an email from FEMA/NIC with instructions, or contact David Feeney at CCEMA, [feeney@cumberlandcounty.org](mailto:feeney@cumberlandcounty.org) (207) 892-6785.

## Transcaer® Anhydrous Ammonia Training Tour Materials Available on Line

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 24, 2011) – As a supplement to its nationwide training tour to educate safety officials on how to respond to anhydrous ammonia release incidents, the TRANSCAER® Anhydrous Ammonia Training Tour training materials and resources are now available online.

TRANSCAER (Transportation Community Awareness and Emergency Response) is a voluntary, nationwide outreach effort that helps communities prepare for and respond to hazardous material transportation incidents.

Earlier this Spring, TRANSCAER launched its nationwide Anhydrous Ammonia Training Tour, a multi-stakeholder effort to educate and train officials in states across the country on emergency response to anhydrous ammonia incidents. To date, the tour has held hands-on educational training workshops in more than 30 cities in 11 states all across the country.

The new website, [www.transcaer.com/aa-tour](http://www.transcaer.com/aa-tour), is a “one-stop shop” for the most comprehensive online training program on Anhydrous Ammonia. Materials available include Anhydrous Ammonia Tour training videos, handbooks, PowerPoint presentations and instructor and student guides that address emergency response, chemical properties, transports and nurse tanks, and railcars, as well as promotional print materials including posters and brochures. All of the Anhydrous Ammonia Training Tour materials were developed by a team of seasoned experts from across various industries.

The website contains practical tools that give emergency responders the information they need to manage an anhydrous ammonia release incident. The “Emergency Response” section of the online training module reviews: Real-life plume modeling used to calculate air pollution concentrations; weather impacts on ammonia releases; how to determine and protect downwind threats; other environmental impacts and controls; and containment options for anhydrous ammonia releases.

Ammonia, along with other potentially hazardous materials, is used in a variety of beneficial applications – anhydrous ammonia is rich in nitrogen and is the primary component of fertilizer. Because anhydrous ammonia is classified as a hazardous substance, and used and stored under high pressure, those who work with anhydrous ammonia must be properly trained on specific handling procedures.

Robert S Gardner , Technological Hazards Coordinator  
MEMA, 72 SHS Augusta, Maine 04333-0072  
1-800-452-8735 (In state only) 207-624-4400

## Training Opportunities

- **EOC Operations and Planning for All Hazards**  
Date: July 12-14, 2011, 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.  
Location: Portland, Maine, PATHS—see article page 8
- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Workshop Module I: Application Overview and History of Damages**  
Date: July 13, 2011, 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.  
Location: Augusta, Maine Emergency Management  
Register: JoAnn Mooney, (207) 624-4400
- **Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program**  
Date: July 27—28, 2011, 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m., and  
July 29, 2011, 8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. (2 1/2 days)  
Location: Portland, ME: PWD Nixon Training Center  
Contact: Jeremy Damren—MEMA (207) 624-4410  
Registration: FEMA Form 119-25 (207) 287-3178 (fax)  
(see HSEEP Article on Page 4)
- **Debris Management Workshop and Exercise**  
Date: August 9, 2011, 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
Location: Augusta, Maine, MEMA  
Contact: Jeremy Damren, MEMA (207) 624-4400  
Registration: Fax FEMA Training Form (207) 287-3189
- **CERT Jamboree**  
Date: September 9—11, 2011  
Location: Mount Vernon, ME, Camp Laurel  
Contact: Scott Parker, Oxford County, (207) 743-6336
- **Disaster Behavioral Health Volunteer Training**  
Date: September 23 - 24, 2011, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Location: Auburn, Hilton Garden Inn  
Contact: Tammy McLaughlin [tmclaughlin@neias.org](mailto:tmclaughlin@neias.org)
- **Disaster Behavioral Health Volunteer Training**  
Date: October 6 – 7, 2011, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Location: Boothbay Harbor, Spruce Point Inn  
Contact: Tammy McLaughlin [tmclaughlin@neias.org](mailto:tmclaughlin@neias.org)
- **Maine Public Health Association (MPHA) 27th Annual Conference**  
Date: October 18, 2011, 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
Location: Portland, Maine Health, 110 Free Street  
Registration: [www.mainepublichealth.com](http://www.mainepublichealth.com)
- **IEMC: Emergency Operations Center Incident Management Team Interface (L947)**  
Date: October 18—21, 2011, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.  
Location: Augusta, Maine—MEMA  
Contact: Jeremy Damren, (207) 624-4400
- **Disaster Behavioral Health Volunteer Training**  
Date: November 3 – 4, 2011, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Location: Belfast, University of ME, Hutchinson Center  
Contact: Tammy McLaughlin [tmclaughlin@neias.org](mailto:tmclaughlin@neias.org)

# NOAH's WISH Training

The Cumberland County Animal Response Team (CCART) hosted and participated in a Noah's Wish Training program held at the Cumberland Fairgrounds, Cumberland, Maine on Saturday, June 4, and Sunday, June 5, 2011.

This event was attended by approximately 40 people who traveled from as far as TX, NY, CT, MA, NH and from



across Maine.

The Noah's Wish program is unique in that it is the only training offered in the United States and Canada that prepares volunteers to respond to disasters by simulating disaster response conditions, and giving volunteers the opportunity to experience some aspects of an actual mobilization.

Attendees to this event were expected to be self-sufficient for the two-days of training and were told in advance to bring their own sleeping bags-tents etc, non-perishable food and water needed as none would be provided otherwise; along with personal hygiene items, etc. (No showering allowed)

Topics covered over the course of the two day training



Photo: Alpaca Wrangling, "Jack" the baby gets loose, and everyone following directions formed a human corral, which went smoothly.

include:

- \* Volunteer Information
- \* Animal Intake
- \* Blood-borne Pathogens, and other Hazards,
- \* Animal First-aid and CPR, Effective Communications,
- \* ICS 100 and IS 700 NIMS,
- \* Conflict Resolution,
- \* Animal Triage Techniques, Animal Sheltering.
- \* Tornadoes Preparedness was the Disaster Topic for this session,
- \* Domestic Birds and Camelids were also covered. (*Camelids: relating to camel species*).



Above left photo: Abbott Farm Alpaca Tom Monroe holds Julie, Jack and Liam by leash. Above right photo: Peggy Fryer and "Ivy" offer advice on Domestic Birds.

Our guest speakers were:

Peggy Fryer & Ivy- Domestic Birds

Stacie Hanes, NWS Gray Maine –Tornadoes

Tom Monroe and Stacey Whitton- Camelids (Alpacas)



Photo Above: Stacie Hanes, NWS Gray



Photo Top Right: Julia, Liam and "Jack".

Left Photo: "Field of cold Dreams".

## *MPHA 27th Annual Conference*

### Registration is open for the Maine Public Health Association's Annual Meeting!

You are invited to attend Maine's premier professional public health event, MPHA's 27th Annual Meeting titled Facing Public Health Challenges of Today for a Healthier Tomorrow. The event will take place on Tuesday, October 18th at MaineHealth's beautiful new facility in Portland. We will be partnering with organizations across the State to bring the highest quality of education, innovation and inspiration to those that work in, and around, the field of public health.

This year's event will bring together approximately 300 public health professionals throughout the State and will feature 12 breakout sessions focusing on innovative prevention strategies to model policies and collaborations. Our keynote speaker will be the dynamic Dr. Georges Benjamin, Executive Director of the American Public Health Association who will address the audience on the theme of the conference including collaborative national evidence-based policies and strategies and the power of public health in this economy. Don't miss the presentation of our two annual service awards which highlight programmatic and policy leaders in our field and opportunities for state-wide networking and strategic policy planning.

For a detailed agenda, breakout session listings and to register: <http://www.mainepublichealth.org/>

We look forward to seeing you on October 18th!

Tina Harnett Pettingill, MPH, CPC

## *Meetings*

- [Note: No July 2011 Local EMA Director's Meeting](#)  
Next meeting: August 10, 2011
- **July 19, 2011, 6:30 p.m.**  
Cumberland County ARES  
Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine  
Contact: Ron Brown, WA1RB
- **July 26, 2011, 6:00 p.m.**  
Cumberland County CART Meeting  
Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine  
Contact: Bonnie Canfield, CCEMA (207) 892-6785
- **July 28, 2011, 6:00 p.m.**  
Mid-Coast ARES/CERT  
Location: Topsham, Maine  
Mid-Coast Chapter ARC, Community Way  
Contact: John Goran, Maine SEC  
K1JJS@aarl.net (207) 865-0554

## *2011 Exercise Schedule*

- **July 7, 2011, 8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**  
Maine Lobster Festival TTX  
*Knox EMA will host a TTX in preparation for the upcoming Maine Lobster Festival*  
Location: Rockland, Maine—Knox County EMA  
Contact: Ray Sisk, EMA Director, (207) 594-5155
- **July 15, 2011**  
Jackman Communications Drill  
Location: Jackman, ME  
Contact: Mike Smith, EMA Director, (207) 474-6788
- **July 16, 2011, 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.**  
Northern Somerset County Full-scale Exercise  
Location: Jackman, ME  
Contact: Garrett Buzzell (207) 474-6788  
Garrett.Buzzell@somersetcounty-me.org
- **July 23, 2011, 8:30 a.m.**  
Mass Gathering Incident Response Full Scale  
Location: Union Fairgrounds  
Contact: Ray Sisk, Knox EMA (207) 594-5155
- **August 13, 2011, 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**  
Fallen Star 11—Waldo County FS Exercise  
Location: Thorndike, Maine—Thorndike High School  
Contact: Dale Rowley, (207) 338-3870  
emadirector@waldocountyme.gov

## *EOC Operations and Planning For All Hazards*

This is a 3-day course (24 hours) and it focuses on the processes and procedures necessary to ensure efficient, effective, and repeatable functioning of an emergency operations center and any level from local to state.

Target audience include personnel who have emergency management duties at any level from the location jurisdiction to the state, or have duties in an EOC during times of crisis. City/Town Managers, Fire/Police Chiefs and Deputies, DPW Managers, Government Administration, and Emergency Planners.

Date: July 12-14, 2011, 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. each day.  
Lunch is Provided.

Location: The Portland Arts and Technology High School (PATHS) located at 196 Allen Avenue, Portland, Maine 04013.

Registration is Limited: Contact Deputy Chief Chris Copp at: [cjcopp@cumberlandmaine.com](mailto:cjcopp@cumberlandmaine.com)



## Important Links

**Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency**  
Home: [www.cumberlandcounty.org/EMA](http://www.cumberlandcounty.org/EMA)

**Maine Emergency Management Agency**  
Home: [www.maine.gov/mema](http://www.maine.gov/mema)  
Library: [www.maine.gov/mema/mema\\_library.shtml](http://www.maine.gov/mema/mema_library.shtml)

**Maine Prepares**  
Home: [www.maine.gov/mema/prepare](http://www.maine.gov/mema/prepare)

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

**Domestic Preparedness Support**  
U. S. Department of Homeland Security [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov)  
NIMS Resource Center <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims>  
Lessons Learned Information Sharing System [www.llis.gov](http://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](http://www.smrrc.org)

**Ready America** [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)  
**National Weather Service—Gray, Maine**  
[www.erh.noaa.gov/gyx](http://www.erh.noaa.gov/gyx)

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

**2-1-1 Maine**  
Home: [www.211maine.org](http://www.211maine.org)

**5-1-1 Maine (Maine DOT Travel Information)**  
Home: [www.511maine.gov](http://www.511maine.gov)

**American Red Cross of Southern Maine**  
Home: [www.maineredcross.org](http://www.maineredcross.org)

**PROP**  
Home: [www.wherepeoplecomefirst.org](http://www.wherepeoplecomefirst.org)

**Southern Maine EMS**  
Home: [www.smems.org](http://www.smems.org)

**Volunteer Maine**  
Home: [www.volunteermaine.org](http://www.volunteermaine.org)

**Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG)**  
Home: [www.gpcog.org](http://www.gpcog.org)



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

## Monthly Communications Test

**July 14, 2011, at 1330 hours.**

- Log onto WebEOC
- HAN Notification—1330 hours
- Conference Call—1345 hours
- Radio Check Immediately Following Conference Call

## Cumberland County EMA Staff:



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