

NEWS FROM DOWN UNDER

Volume III, Issue V

May 2009

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.

Send to: David B. Feeney feeney@cumberlandcounty.org

Ice Storm Aid to Maine Tops \$5 Million

Release Date: April 3, 2009

More than \$5 million in federal disaster aid has been obligated to assist Maine communities following last December's historic ice storm that affected millions across the region. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) are coordinating local recovery efforts.

"This has been another costly winter for many Maine communities," said State Coordinating Officer Ginnie Ricker. "We continue working to ensure that the cities and towns affected by the ice storm get the assistance they need."

FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) program provides funding to local communities for the repair, replacement, or restoration of public facilities, as well as costs incurred for disaster cleanup or emergency actions taken to protect lives or property.

"We have an efficient and effective relationship with the State of Maine and this represents real progress on the road to recovery," said Nick Russo, FEMA's federal coordinating officer. "We remain committed to seeing that all avail-

able assistance makes its way to local communities as quickly as possible."

The federal share of eligible recovery costs is at least 75 percent, while the remainder is split between the state and local government. The PA Program is only activated following a presidential disaster declaration and provides grant assistance to applicants including state agencies, local governments, and certain non-profit organizations.

FEMA's PA Program may only provide assistance for projects that are located in a disaster-declared area and are the legal responsibility of an eligible applicant. The program cannot provide assistance for projects that are under the jurisdiction of other federal agencies, such as roads and bridges that are a part of the federal highway system or facilities located on federal lands like wildlife refuges and national parks.



Maine was declared eligible for federal assistance on January 9, paving the way for financial aid to local governments and municipalities in seven counties.

Emergency Management

Emergency Management is the assessment, analysis, planning, and assignment of available resources to prevent, prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of all types of hazards or emergencies.

Emergency Management is a comprehensive system of policies, practices, and procedures designed to save lives, prevent injuries, and protect property and the environment if an emergency occurs.

NIMS Supporting Technology Evaluation Program

The National Preparedness Directorate (NPD) announces a new program to assist the emergency management/response community with identifying products that comply with National Incident Management System (NIMS) standards and that are consistent with NIMS concepts and principles. The program, called the NIMS Supporting Technology Evaluation Program (NIMS STEP), provides independent, third party evaluations of supporting technologies.

The program has the three primary objectives:

- To evaluate products for their incorporation of NIMS concepts and principles.
- To determine product's adherence to the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS) Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) 1.1 standard.
- To determine product's adherence to the OASIS Emergency Data Exchange Language-Distribution Element (EDXL-DE) 1.0 standard.

Experts in the field of emergency management/response assess each product in a non-operational environment and provide an assessment based on guidelines determined by NIMS (publication FEMA 501). Test engineers evaluate product's adherence to NIMS recommended standards and conduct assessments that provide vendors with an independent process for identifying gaps and making improvements to their products. The test reports will also provide officials with data to assist in making procurement decisions. NIMS STEP evaluation activities are conducted at the NIMS Support Center (NIMS SC) in Somerset, Kentucky. The facility is equipped to evaluate products that support emergency managers/responders in decision-making prior to and during an incident, such as alert and warning, command and control, and resource management applications. Vendor participation in NIMS STEP is voluntary and the evaluation results and use of trade names in the report do not constitute a DHS or FEMA certification or endorsement of the use of such commercial hardware or software. The evaluations do not constitute a determination of NIMS compliance.

For additional information on the NIMS STEP program or to apply to have your product evaluated, visit: www.nimsstep.org or www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/CommunicationsInfoMngmnt.shtm.

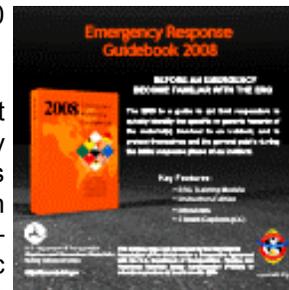
NPD values your input and would appreciate any feedback you might have on the NIMS STEP program. To provide feedback or if you have any questions about the program or application process, direct your email to:

FEMA-NIMS@dhs.gov.

Emergency Response Guidebook 2008 Video

The U. S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has released an Emergency Response Guidebook 2008 training video in DVD format, or to download to your computer. The ERG 2008 training video explains the contents of the ERG and how to use the guidebook as a resource in event of a hazardous materials transportation incident. (length: 20 minutes)

The ERG is a guide to aid first responders to quickly identify the specific or generic hazards of material(s) involved in an incident, and to protect themselves and the general public during the initial phase of an incident.



To order a free copy of the DVD go to: <http://tinyurl.com/ERG-Video> (link to: PHMSA Free Publications).

The video is also viewable or downloadable from the PHMSA website at:

www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/library/erg

Under <Related Links>, mouse click on <Watch Video> to view, or <Download Video> to save video to your computer (128 MB).

Toxic Release Inventory Workshops to be Held

Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) workshops will assist those facilities that are required to file under Section 313 of the Emergency Planning Community Right-to-Know (EPCRA) law. Focus will be on changes that have recently been implemented and a discussion on future changes. Workshops will be presented by Dwight Peavey, EPA Region I.

Dates / Location

- May 1, 2009, 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Augusta Civil Center
- May 27, 2009, 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Verrillo's Restaurant, Portland, Maine
- June 4, 2009, 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Ramada Inn, Lewiston, Maine

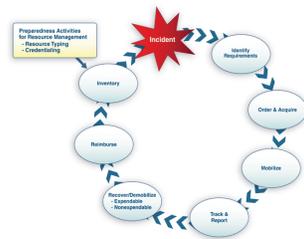
Please register with Nicholas Leonardi at (617) 918-1636 or leonardi.nicholas@epamail.epa.gov

NIMS Resource Management Overview

Emergency management and incident response activities require carefully managed resources (personnel, teams, facilities, equipment, and/or supplies) to meet incident needs. Utilization of the standardized resource management concepts such as typing, inventorying, organizing, and tracking will facilitate the dispatch, deployment, and recovery of resources before, during, and after an incident.

Resource management should be flexible and scalable in order to support any incident and be adaptable to changes. Efficient and effective deployment of resources requires that resource management concepts and principles be used in all phases of emergency management and incident response.

The resource management process can be separated into two parts: resource management as an element of preparedness and resource management during an incident. The preparedness activities (resource typing, credentialing, and inventorying) are conducted on a continual basis to help ensure that resources are ready to be mobilized when called to an incident. Resource management during an incident in a finite process, as shown in the below figure, with a distinct beginning and ending specific to the needs of the particular incident.



2009 Exercise Schedule

- June 4, 2009 (Thursday)
Portland Jetport Tabletop Exercise (JetEx'09)
Contact: Lt. Janine Roberts—Portland P.D.
jrob@portlandmaine.gov
- June 25, 2009 (Thursday)
MEMA EOC Tabletop Exercise
Contact: Jeremy Damren—MEMA
- October 2009 (Proposed)
Wild Fire Tabletop Exercise
Cumberland, York and Oxford Counties
- October 29, 2009 (Thursday)
MEMA EOC Functional Exercise
Contact: Jeremy Damren—MEMA

Cumberland County CERT Training

Cumberland County EMA is offering a Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) training course beginning on, Wednesday, May 13, 2009. The CERT program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

If a disaster happens that overwhelms local response capabilities, CERT members can apply the training learned in the classroom and during exercises to give critical support to their family, loved ones, neighbors or associates in their immediate area until help arrives. When help does arrive, CERTs provide useful information to responders and support their efforts, as directed, at the disaster site.

CERT members can also assist with non-emergency projects that improve the safety of the community. CERTs have been used to distribute and/or install smoke alarms, replace smoke alarm batteries in the home of elderly, distribute disaster education material, provide services at special events, such as parades, sporting events, concerts and more.

CERT program consist of eight (8) units and each involve 2 -3 hours of classroom instruction and demonstration, and one (1) final session on course review and a simulated team exercise. The program is offered free-of-charge and refreshments will be available. For more information on the CERT Program, go to: www.citizencorps.gov/cert. For questions or to register for this program, contact: David B. Feeney – CCEMA (207) 892-6785 or feeney@cumberlandcounty.org

The schedule for the total of nine (9) modules is as follows (subject to changes):

Unit	Date	Time	Day
Disaster Preparedness	May 13	6:30 pm	Wednesday
Fire Safety	May 20	6:30 pm	Wednesday
Disaster Medical I	May 27	6:30 pm	Wednesday
Disaster Medical II	June 10	6:30 pm	Wednesday
CERT Organization	June 17	6:30 pm	Wednesday
Light Search and Rescue	June 30	6:30 pm	Tuesday
Disaster Psychology	July 8	6:30 pm	Wednesday
Terrorism and CERT	July 22	6:30 pm	Wednesday
Course Review/Exercise	July 25	8:30 am	Saturday

New Version of MARPLOT and ALOHA Software Available

March 25, 2009

The EPA and NOAA have announced updated versions of MARPLOT and ALOHA software, free to users of the Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) software. CAMEO, MARPLOT and ALOHA are used by emergency planners and responders to record inventory of hazardous materials at facilities, and map and project contamination areas if an accident were to occur.

MARPLOT 4.0, available as of today, is compatible with Windows XP and Windows Vista. Working in its easy-to-use GIS interface, users can switch quickly between three basemaps: standard map files, high-resolution aerial photos, and topographical maps.

Users can draw overlay objects on the basemaps, customize the map view by specifying which objects and map layers are shown, and get LandView-like population estimates inside selected areas. Users can also click on a location of interest to get its elevation and an instant weather forecast, and can easily display ALOHA threat zones on the map.

Included web mapping services enable the latest U.S. Census county maps, and state and national map layers to automatically download as users work in MARPLOT.



Macintosh users should note that MARPLOT version 4.0 is currently available only for Windows. A Macintosh version is planned for the future. In the meantime, an Intel-based Mac can run MARPLOT 4.0 in Windows using Boot Camp or virtualization software that allows Windows to run on the Macintosh. Otherwise, the previous version of MARPLOT for the Mac is version 3.3.3 and is available for downloading.

Also available as of today is ALOHA 5.4.1.1, which includes an updated chemical library; now with updated DIPPR data and updated toxic levels of concern (AEGs, ERPGs, and TEELs), and a fix to a bug that prevented users from entering heat of vaporization when adding a new chemical to the library. ALOHA 5.4.1.1 is compatible with Microsoft Windows and with Macintosh OS X. CAMEO developers recommend that all ALOHA users download ALOHA 5.4.1.1 from the Cameo website.

More information on CAMEO, MARPLOT and ALOHA can be found on the U. S. EPA CAMEO website:

www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/cameo/index.htm

Contact: Robert Gardner/Faith Mayer 207-624-4400

All-Hazards Type III Communications Unit Leader

Through the Office of Emergency Communications Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (OEC/ICTAP), the All-Hazards Type III Communications Unit Leader (COML) class is available to provide DHS approved National Incident Management System compliant Communications Unit Leader instructions to ensure that every state/territory has trained personnel capable of coordinating on-scene emergency communications during a multi-jurisdictional response.

Class Objectives:

- Identify the functions of the Communications Unit and the duties and responsibilities of the COML.
- Arrive at an all-hazards incident properly equipped, gather information to assess the assignment, and begin initial planning activities of a COML.
- Plan, organize staff, manage, and demobilize the communications unit in a safe and effective manner to meet the needs of the incident.
- Coordinate with the incident sections, appropriate communications personnel and other agencies to assist in accomplishing the overall incident objectives.
- Design, order, and ensure the installation and maintenance of all communications systems.
- Maintain accountability of assigned communications equipment.

Target Audience: The COML class is targeted for all local, regional, state and federal cross disciplinary emergency response professionals and coordination/support personnel with a communications background. **Students will represent NIMS compliant jurisdictions with a population of 4,000 minimum.** Course will be delivered in Train-the-Trainer format and students will be expected to conduct courses within their respective regions upon return.

Pre-Requisites: Each student should be familiar with their Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TIC Plan) and/or their state/local Communications Plan and communications assets. You must have completed IS100, IS200, IS300, IS700, and IS800 prior to attending this course. Proof of completion of these courses must be provided upon application.

Course Location: Holiday Inn—Waterville, Maine.

June 23-24-25, 2009: Classes are from 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m. daily, breaks and lunch will be provided. Lodging will be available for those traveling 50 miles; lodging the night before class is available to those traveling 100 miles, subject to MEMA prior approval. **This class is eligible for reimbursement of backfill/overtime to the sponsoring jurisdiction.** To register, complete FEMA 75-5 Form and forward to MEMA (207-287-3189 fax). Contact Mike Grant at MEMA for questions or further information on reimbursement or lodging. (800) 452-8735 or (207) 624-4400.

FEMA Announces Release of Final Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101

Release Date: April 14, 2009

Release Number: HQ-09-039

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today the release of the final Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101: "Developing and Maintaining State, Territorial, Tribal, and Local Government Emergency Plans."

CPG 101 completes the requirements of HSPD-8, Annex I to develop a "national integrated planning system." Combined with the Integrated Planning System (IPS) guidance provided by the Department, the vision of a vertically integrated planning system providing for a consistent planning process across all levels of government is realized.

While IPS focuses on Federal planning, CPG 101 was developed by a team of state, tribal and local officials from across the United States working together to develop guidance that can aid State, tribal, local, and territorial officials in protecting their citizens.

CPG 101 is the first in a series of publications developed through the FEMA National Preparedness Directorate's CPG Initiative. Future CPGs will discuss planning considerations for a variety of emergency functions, hazards and special preparedness programs including; special needs planning, household pets and service animals, fusion center / emergency operations center interface, and hazard-specific guidance.

CPG 101 serves as the emergency plan foundation for both public and private sector planning in the United States. Planners in all disciplines and organizations may find portions of the guide useful in the development of their emergency response plans.

The CPG 101 document can be found online at www.fema.gov/about/divisions/cpg.shtm. For more information on other FEMA initiatives, visit www.fema.gov.

Independent Study Program New EMI Course Launched

New 3/26/2009:

IS-836—Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex

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

Training Announcements

- May 13, 2009, 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. (Wednesday)
Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT Module 1 of 9)
Location: Cumberland County EMA (207) 892-6785
Contact: David B. Feeney feeney@cumberlandcounty.org
- May 20, 2009, 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. (Wednesday)
Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT Module 2 of 9)
Location: Cumberland County EMA (207) 892-6785
Contact: David B. Feeney feeney@cumberlandcounty.org
- May 27—28, 2009, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
G363 Hurricane Readiness for Coastal Communities
Location: Schoodic Point Conference Facility
Contact: Mike Grant—MEMA (Submit FEMA 75-5 Form)
- May 27, 2009, 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Workshop
Location: Verrillo's Convention Center - Portland, Maine
Registration: Nicholas Leonardi (617) 918-1636 or leonardi.nicholas@epamail.epa.gov (see Article—Page 2)
- May 27, 2009, 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. (Wednesday)
Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT Module 3 of 9)
Location: Cumberland County EMA (207) 892-6785
Contact: David B. Feeney feeney@cumberlandcounty.org
- May and June 2009
AWR 147: Rail Car Incident Response
See Article Page 6)
- June 2 - 3, 2009 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (OGT-200)
Advanced Incident Management/Unified Command
Location: Florian Hall—Augusta, Maine (MEMA)
Contact: Mike Grant—MEMA (FEMA 75-5 application)
- June 10, 2009, 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. (Wednesday)
Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT Module 4 of 9)
Location: Cumberland County EMA (207) 892-6785
Contact: David B. Feeney feeney@cumberlandcounty.org
- June 17, 2009, 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. (Wednesday)
Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT Module 5 of 9)
Location: Cumberland County EMA (207) 892-6785
Contact: David B. Feeney feeney@cumberlandcounty.org
- June 23—25, 2009, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
COML Unit Leader Type III Training
Location: Holiday Inn—Waterville, Maine
Contact: Mike Grant—MEMA (see article Page 4)
- June 24—25, 2009, 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
ICS 300 Intermediate (Note: Class is Full)
Location: North Yarmouth Public Safety Building
Contact: David B. Feeney—CCEMA (207) 892-6785 feeney@cumberlandcounty.org
- June 26, 2009, 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
ICS 400 Advanced (Note: Class is Full)
Location: North Yarmouth Public Safety Building
Contact: David B. Feeney—CCEMA

AWR 147: Rail Car Incident Response Training

The State Emergency Response Commission and the University of Findlay are co-sponsoring the Rail Car Incident Response Training.

The Rail Car Incident Response course has been developed to educate emergency responders on freight rail car incidents involving hazardous materials. As more and more rail traffic transports cargo, including hazardous materials, it is critical that emergency responders are well trained. The increase in traffic adds to the already present risk of transportation incidents involving hazardous cargo. In addition, since a majority of the rail traffic travels through rural America, it is important that the often times resource limited rural responder community become educated about the dangers and unique hazards presented with rail cars. The information covered in this course will enhance the ability of emergency responders, especially rural emergency responders, to manage rail car incidents.

The following key elements serve as the basis for the course:

- Recognizing the chemical being transported, which has physical, chemical, and toxicological properties that dictate the transportation requirements and the manner in which the chemical must be considered in an emergency situation;
- Identifying the packaging system, which is reflected in the design and construction of the rail tank car, and the components of the rail car as well as all the information conveyed in the car stenciling;
- Explaining the incident to determine the damage to the car and the potential hazard to people, property, and the environment from the release or reaction of the chemical and to take appropriate protective action;
- Recognizing the appropriate and safest handling method of the chemical in the damaged car to mitigate the situation, whether by transfer, neutralization, venting, flaring, etc., and understanding these options;
- Managing the incident and the many conflicting interests represented by all the potential participants at the incident: and
- Identifying federal, state and private sector resources available to assist in the response.

This course will cover additional information that will include topics such as the effects of Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion (B.L.E.V.E.), the Detect, Estimate, Choose, Identify, Do, and Evaluate (D.E.C.I.D.E.) analysis system, basic rail car design, damage assessment, product transfers, and a glossary of railroad terms.

The Rail Car Incident Response course is a 1-day program

(8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) and being offered at the following locations:

May 27, 2009—Waterville Fire Department

May 28, 2009—Waterville Fire Department

June 2, 2009—South Portland Fire Department

June 3, 2009—South Portland Fire Department

June 4, 2009—South Portland Fire Department



To Register, or for more information, go to www.maine.gov/mema/serc/serc_training_reg.shtml

Contact: Faith Mayer—MEMA (207) 624-4441
faith.e.mayer@maine.gov

Future Meetings:

- **May 7, 2009, Thursday—10:00 a.m.**
Jet Port TTX (JetEx09) Planning Meeting
 Portland Jet Port Conference Room A
- **May 13, 2009, Wednesday—8:30 a.m.**
Local EMA Director's Meeting
 CCEMA, 22 High Street, Windham, Maine
- **May 19, 2009, Tuesday— 6:30 p.m.**
Cumberland County ARES Meeting
 CCEMA, 22 High Street, Windham, Maine
- **May 21, 2009, Thursday—10:00 a.m.**
Jet Port TTX (JetEx09) Planning Meeting
 Portland Jet Port Conference Room A
- **May 26, 2009, Tuesday—6:00 p.m.**
Cumberland County CART Team CCE-
 MA, 22 High Street, Windham, Maine
- **June 3, 2009, Wednesday—1:00 p.m.**
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
 CCEMA, 22 High Street, Windham, Maine

Town of New Gloucester New Fire Station

The Town of New Gloucester hosted the, April 8, 2009, meeting of the Cumberland County Local Emergency Managers at their new fire station. The New Gloucester Fire & Rescue station, constructed at a cost of \$2.3 million, is a state of the art facility, built for the future. The town is proud of their new station, and of their efforts to purchase materials and procure labor locally.

The station, located on the Portland Road, replaces the former building that housed 3 engines designed for 2.

Tim Joy—New Gloucester Fire Captain and EMA Director, welcomed those in attendance. Anne Marie Brett, CCEMA Deputy Director, gave an overview of personal planning and preparedness and provided a large cache of handouts and “Go Bags”. Anne Marie offered the availability of EMA Staff to speak on personal preparedness to local community groups. David B. Feeney, CCEMA Planner, gave a brief overview of FY 2009 NIMS compliance, that includes preparation of a Special Needs Population Annex to the local emergency operations plans. Ron Jones, CCEMA Special Projects Coordinator, outlined assigned projects that include: Continuity of Operations Plans, Continuity of Government Plans, and Establishing a Cumberland County IMAT Team. Following the conduct of the meeting, Fire Chief Gary Sacco and Tim Joy gave a guided tour of their new facility.

The Staff of Cumberland County EMA wishes to extend our congratulations to the Town of New Gloucester on their new station, and our thanks for hosting the April EMA meeting.



**New Gloucester Fire & Rescue
611 Lewiston Road**



SCIP Monthly Update

The Communication Survey: All, but one county have completed the survey; this is how you rated the Interoperability Continuum in you own communities:

Preliminary results of the Survey Question # 4—Training: Excellent—8%, Needs Improvement—8%, Average 36%
Your Commentary includes:

- Would like to be kept informed of all training
- Annual exercise, sometimes table tops, mostly full scale
- Need more but we are dealing with long distance to travel for training and most all volunteers with no time or resources to spare.
 - Working on it
 - Fairly poor
 - Much training is needs for dispatchers and RCC staff
 - Biggest issue is being able to get the right people, not just the top staff
 - Being able to watch training by persons well versed to see it done right would be beneficial
 - Thank you for the many opportunities
 - Training among Depts. (Operational) going well but could use more on County level
 - All emergency Services are highly trained. We are completing CONOPS training

Maine Interoperable Communications Committee (MICC) The next meeting scheduled for, April 21, 2009, 9:30 a.m.

Continued on Page 8—SCIP Update

SCIP Update

(continued from Page 7)

Scenario to think about?

Are you ready? Imagine your own tower in the community fails and the backup generator fails as well; your tower has no power and will be inoperable for at least three or four days. Are you prepared in case this happens? Do you have SOPs that cover this type of incident? Do your people know? How would you communicate? Something to think about...

If you need assistance and/or would like to talk about this with us, please don't hesitate to contact me at 624-4476 or email me at steven.mallory@maine.gov

Training and Exercises

COML Unit Leader Type III Training (COML) - Through the Office of Emergency Communications Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (OEC/ICTAP), the All-Hazards Type III Communications Unit Leader (COML) Class is available to provide DHS approved National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant Communications Unit Leader (COML) instruction to ensure that every state/territory has trained personnel capable of coordinating on-scene emergency communications during a multi-jurisdictional response.

This Training is scheduled for June 23-25 in Waterville. This is a train the trainer course and this class will be open to NIMS compliant communities with a population of 4000 or more. Five (5) students from each of the six (6) regions will be selected for a total of thirty (30). Contact MEMA Interoperable Communication Division (624-4476) for questions or further information, or go to our (MEMA) communication website to see the full descriptive and details.

News from our March Workshops

Here are the top five concerns from the County Workshops that were held in March. I (S. Mallory) selected comments that were mentioned from the majority of the Counties.

Top five (5) Concerns:

SOP: Most entities have these but they need to be improved and formalized.

Voice Tech: Well known dead zones, these areas need to be improved upon.

Data Cap: Almost non-existent within the Counties, sharing is limited at best.

Training: Would like to have more

Usage: We do the best with what we have.

Contact: Steven Mallory—MEMA (207) 624-4476
steven.mallory@maine.gov

HMGP Deadline

All applications for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program are due by the close of business on, Friday, May 29, 2009. For more information, visit MEMA's Mitigation Grant page at:

www.maine.gov/mema/mitigation/mema_mit_grants.shtml

Contact: JoAnn Mooney—MEMA (207) 624-4400



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.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>

Ready America

www.ready.gov

National Weather Service—Gray, Maine

www.erh.noaa.gov/gyx

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: <http://southernmaine.redcross.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

Southern Maine Regional Resource Center (SMRRC)

Home: www.smrrc.org

Do Something.org

Do Something and the Dunkin' Brands Community Foundation have teamed up to offer **\$500 Disaster Grants** to young people across the US and Canada. Are you building houses down in New Orleans, planning an emergency coat drive for families in crisis this winter, or collecting toys for kids who've been through a natural disaster? Then we want to hear from you!

Each week in 2009 we are giving out \$500 to an awesome person with a project idea around the themes of disaster preparedness and emergency response. We want to recognize YOU for what you're doing in your community. Eligibility Rules include that the applicant must be 25 years or under and either a U.S. or Canadian citizen. To learn more about this program, go to: www.dosomething.org/grants/disaster.



EMI Independent Study Programs

Group training (Classroom) is now available for the following NIMS courses:

- IS-100.a—An Introduction to ICS
- IS-100.HE—Introduction to ICS for Higher Education
- IS-100.SCa—Introduction to ICS for Schools
- IS-200.a—ICS for Single Resources/Initial Actions
- IS-700.a—National Incident Management System
- IS-800.b—National Response Framework

If you are providing group training for any of these courses and plan to submit the exams via OpScan (bubble sheets) for EMI issued certificates, you must call the Independent Study Office at (301) 447-1200 during normal business hours of 7:30 a.m.—7:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. A copy of the final exam for the appropriate course will be mailed to you via U.S. Postal Service. Please allow adequate time for delivery of the exam prior to your training class. When returning the exams, please include a copy of the exam given as well as the IS Delivery Processing Form, which is sent to you with the copy of the exam. As an additional note, EMI is providing different exam versions; you must make a new request for a copy of the final exam for each subsequent classroom training being offered.

H1N1 Influenza

Simple Steps Can Reduce Spread of H1N1

April 30, 2009—Augusta

In light of H1N1's arrival in Maine and the resulting closure of at least one school and day care, this health advisory is to review the major steps we ask that people and organizations in Maine take.

The most important strategies to minimize flu's impact in Maine are those of vigilant respiratory hygiene: covering coughs and sneezes with sleeves or a tissue; washing hands frequently; and staying home if ill.

Importantly, everyone should also make preparations. These include activating a pandemic influenza plan. Every individual and family should also activate their plan. If one does not exist, then preparation check lists for a variety of settings including individuals, homes, businesses, and schools can be found at www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/checklists.html. These plans generally call for such measures as ensuring adequate critical supplies are on hand and preparing for higher than normal absenteeism.

"Everyone has an important role in making sure swine flu has a minimal impact in Maine. We can all be vigilant in practicing respiratory hygiene," said Dr. Dora Mills, Director of Maine CDC.

"If you become sick with the symptoms of swine flu during this period, you should call your health care provider with the information about your symptoms and where you traveled," Mills said.

The symptoms of swine flu in people appear to be similar to the symptoms of regular human influenza and include fever with cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills or fatigue. Some people have reported diarrhea and vomiting associated with swine flu. Like seasonal flu, swine flu may cause worsening of underlying chronic medical conditions.

Governor Baldacci said. "It's important to remember that a few simple steps, like washing your hands or staying home if you're ill, can make a real difference in helping to stop the spread of the flu."

Maine has been working closely with the federal government and other public health officials in New England on strategies for detecting and tracking cases of the swine flu and on potential responses. For facts about influenza, and more information about swine flu, visit the Maine CDC and U. S. CDC web sites.

www.mainepublichealth.gov or www.cdc.gov/swineflu

Community Events

(Large Gatherings)

- May 3—9, 2009
NWS Severe Storms Awareness Week
- May 10, 2009 (Sunday)
Mother's Day
- May 16—22, 2009
NWS Safe Boating Awareness Week
- May 25, 2009 (Monday)
Memorial Day—Holiday
- June 7, 2009 (Sunday)
Old Port Festival (36th Annual)
Portland, Maine For Information: (207) 772-6828
- June 20, 2009 (Saturday)
Windham Summerfest (3rd Annual)
Windham High School
- June 20, 2009 (Saturday)
Maine Blues Festival (4th Annual)
Naples, Maine
Greater Bridgton Lakes Reg. Chamber of Commerce
(207) 647-3472 info@mainelakeschamber.com
- June 21—27, 2009
NWS Lightning Awareness Week
- June 24—27, 2009
Maine Festival of American Music
New Gloucester, Maine (Shaker Village)
- August 1, 2009 (Saturday)
Beach2Beacon 10K
Cape Elizabeth, Maine
- August 9—15, 2009
Topsham Fair 2009
- August 9, 2009 (Sunday) 10:00 a.m.
2nd Annual Tri for a Cure
Maine Cancer Foundation
SMCC Campus
(Expo/Registration 08/08/09)
FMI: www.mainetriforcure.org
- August 13—16, 2009
40th Annual Cumberland Arts and Crafts Show
- August 15, 2009 (Saturday)
Brunswick Outdoor Arts Festival—Maine Street
- September 27—October 3, 2009
Cumberland Fair—138th Annual



Monthly Communications Test

May 14, 2009, at 1330 hours.

- Log onto WebEOC
- CityWatch Notification—1330 hours
- Conference Call—1345 hours
- Radio Check—1400 hours

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