

NEWS FROM DOWN UNDER

Volume II, Issue XI

November 2008

**County of
Cumberland
Emergency
Management
Agency
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2008 Homeland Security Grant Program

October 8, 2008

The Maine Emergency Management Agency has announced the availability of FY 2008 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) in Maine. Eligible applicants are city and county governments, and associated public facilities.

For 2008, based on State and Federal Homeland Security priorities, grant application criteria are focused on:

- All-hazards emergency planning,
- Interoperable communications,
- Shelter and recovery operations,
- Training and exercises,
- Public Education and awareness
- NIMS Compliancy measures; and
- School district emergency planning.

A total of \$2.286 million is available for allocation under the competitive process. All applications must be submitted to County EMA offices no later than the close of business on, Friday, November 21, 2008. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered for funding. Once projects have been approved and awards have been accepted, sub-grantees will have until, August 31, 2011, to complete project activities and

request reimbursement from MEMA.

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Requirements:

HSGP applicants are required to ensure registration and reporting of their jurisdiction's compliancy efforts through the NIMSCAST online tool. According to current federal policies, NIMSCAST scores should reflect 100% for counties and communities to be considered having achieved full NIMS compliancy for 2008 requirements.

Jurisdictions had until, October 1, 2008, to complete NIMSCAST data entry and demonstrate compliance. Even if a jurisdiction was not compliant with NIMS on October 1st, the jurisdiction may still regain eligibility by completing NIMS compliance activities and certifying completion through NIMSCAST. Applicants for HSGP funding must be 100% compliant at the time of application, Friday, November 21, 2008, to be eligible for consideration of funding. Per Federal requirements, Corrective Actions Plans (CAP) will no longer be accepted in lieu of 100% NIMS Compliance. For more information and to download the FY08 HSGP materials and forms, go to:

www.maine.gov/mema/homeland/home_grants_current.shtml

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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



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.

Limington Lumber Full Scale Exercise

On, Sunday, October 12, 2008, a full scale exercise (FSE) was held in the Town of East Baldwin at the Limington Lumber Company. The exercise scenario involved a simulated structure fire requiring the response from mutual aid communities, including those from Limington, Standish, Sebago, Cornish, Baldwin, East Hiram, and South Hiram, and combined, furnished over 20 pieces of apparatus. The Town of Scarborough provided the use of the Mobile Command Vehicle that served as a communications platform; Donnie Durrah from Cumberland County Regional Communications (CCRCC) functioned as dispatch and coordinated communications. Baldwin Fire Chief Allan Dolloff coordinated the response as Incident Commander. The main objective of this multi-jurisdictional exercise was to evaluate and determine if an adequate water supply could be established and maintained to support a large operation. Fire engines were continuously supplied with water by utilizing dump tanks that were positioned on site to receive transported water from various natural sources, including dry hydrants and siphoning directly from Sand Pond. A crew from Central Maine Power Company arrived early on scene to simulate the disconnect of high-voltage power to ensure responder safety; Limington Lumber Company is one of CMP's largest consumers of electrical power. The Scarborough Mobile Command Vehicle was instrumental in providing interoperable communications support through the integration of frequencies utilized by responding municipal departments. A critique of the exercise to discuss and review Lessons Learned was held at the Baldwin Elementary School on, Thursday, October 16, 2008.

Future Meetings:

- **November 5, 2008, 1:00 p.m.**
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
CCEMA, 22 High Street, Windham, Maine
- **November 10, 2008, 9:30 a.m.**
Region I Full Scale Exercise Critique Meeting
South Portland Emergency Operation Center
- **November 12, 2008, 8:30 a.m.**
Local EMA Director's Meeting CCE-
MA, 22 High Street, Windham, Maine
- **November 18, 2008, 6:30 p.m.**
Cumberland County ARES Meeting CCE-
MA, 22 High Street, Windham, Maine
- **November 19, 2008, 6:00 p.m.**
Cumberland County CART Team CCE-
MA, 22 High Street, Windham, Maine

Cumberland County CART Meeting

The second meeting of the County Animal Response Team (CART) was held at the Cumberland County EMA office in Windham on, Wednesday, October 29, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. and 25 members attended.

County Animal Response Teams (CART) are local networks of government, not-for-profit organizations, businesses, concerned citizens, producers, and others. CART will be the core resource for addressing many animal emergency issues in the State of Maine.

Adele Jones, Co-Leader of CART, introduced guest speaker, Katie Lisnick, Maine's Director for Humane Society of the United States. Lisnick explained the mission of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and what assistance could be offered to help the CART during an event should the local resources be overwhelmed. Ms. Lisnick further described the capabilities of other allied organizations; such as the HSUS N-DART™ Team, United Animal Nation, and the American Humane Society.

CART members are encouraged to complete FEMA's Independent Study training courses; which include: IS-700 NIMS, IS-100 Basic ICS, and IS-10/IS-11 Animals in Disaster series. Additional training may be offered or required by the Maine Emergency Management Agency, and may include training offerings through the N-DART, the National Animal Rescue Shelter Organization (NARS), the Maine Department of Agriculture and the FEMA CERT program.

Adele Jones with the Town of Scarborough Fire/Rescue and Adam Farrington, an officer with the City of Westbrook Animal Control, are co-chairs of the CART. Bonnie Canfield is the Cumberland County EMA Liaison for all CART activities.

The next CART meeting is scheduled on: Wednesday, November 19, 2008, 6:00 p.m. at CCEMA in Windham.

For more information on CART, contact Bonnie Canfield at CCEMA:(207)892-6785 canfield@cumberlandcounty.org

Bunker Laughs



" TOMORROW WILL BE SUNNY AND 75 DEGREES WITH FREEZING RAIN AND A FOOT OF SNOW FOLLOWED BY RECORD HEAT WITH ICING CONDITIONS AND A 95% CHANCE THAT YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS MINE..."

Maine's Elders and Emergencies: Working for the Future

The Maine Center for Public Health, The Harvard School of Public Health, MEMA, and other agencies, have made available, an on-line interactive course entitled:

Maine's Elders and Emergencies: Working for the Future.

This course is designed for city and state officials, representatives of community-based organizations and other service providers, adult caregivers, first responders, elder adults and any individual who wants to participate in promoting emergency preparedness for elder community needs. This course will provide you with the tools and knowledge to prepare and respond to elders in an emergency. It is professionally narrated and has non-graded quizzes that will allow one to test their responses. It has printable facts and other downloadable information, and it also "encourages you to share this online course" with anyone who may benefit from it. To enroll in this course, visit: www.cphp.sph.harvard.edu

Log In: User Name: Elder Password: Elder
(case sensitive) (case sensitive)

Certificates of completion will be sent by U.S.P.S. 4-6 weeks from date of course completion.

Contact: Joshua C. Frances, (207) 662-5143



*Incident Commander Allan Dolloff—Town of Baldwin
2008 Limington Lumber Company Full Scale Exercise*



*Fire Suppression Drill—Limington Lumber Company
2008 Limington Lumber Company Full Scale Exercise*

NIMS Five-Year Training Plan

A critical tool in promoting the nationwide implementation of NIMS is a well-developed training program that facilitates NIMS training throughout the nation, growing the number of adequately-trained and qualified emergency management/response personnel. Closely related to the training, core competencies will form the basis of the training courses' learning objectives and personnel qualifications that validate proficiency. IMSI is charged with the development of NIMS core competencies, training courses, and personnel qualifications.

Released in February 2008, the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan describes the operational foundations of these efforts; defines NIMS core competencies, training courses, and personnel qualifications as part of the National Training Program for NIMS; assembles and updates the training guidance for available NIMS courses (organized as a core curriculum); and lays out a plan for the next five years to continue development of the National Training Program.

The Five-Year NIMS Training Plan compiles the NIC's existing and on-going development of NIMS training and guidance for personnel qualification. Previous guidance on NIMS training has been updated and is issued as appendices of the document. The National Training Program for NIMS will develop and maintain a common national foundation for training and qualifying emergency management/response personnel. To accomplish this, the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan describes a sequence of goals, objectives, and action items that translates the functional capabilities defined in the NIMS into positions, core competencies, training, and personnel qualifications.

http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/nims_training.shtm

State Communications Interoperability Plan Update

October 10, 2008—MEMA

Grants:

All grantees have been notified of approved applications and many projects have already been started. A grant requirement was to set aside a portion for the Strategic Technology Reserve. Based on our (MEMA) approved justifications, we have been making strides to begin utilizing these funds for the following project areas:

Mobile Command Vehicle Upgrades:

The last month has been busy working with the Department of Conservation to get their MCV up to speed with the other vehicles. We have the satellite dish shipped to Old Town and it is scheduled to be installed in the next couple of weeks. This will allow Conservation to locate their vehicle anywhere in Maine with mobile access to the State of Maine network and the internet. Conservation also is being outfitted with a radio that covers every major band we use in Maine, making this vehicle truly interoperable at any operation. We are still looking into bandwidth upgrades for each of the vehicles and we should be moving forward in the upcoming month.

Mobile Repeaters:

During MEMA's visits to each of the Counties to discuss PSIC and grant funding we came across a few common themes. One of these was that many responders face large geographic gaps in their radio systems. A temporary solution we could use to help assist incident command is a mobile-programmable repeater. Using this device, the incident commander could specify if he needs to extend his ability to reach back to dispatch or extend communications into low lying areas. We are in the process of developing a mobile repeater justification sheet for the County EMAs. We recognize that this is a specific and expensive device so we are asking for County EMAs to submit an application so we can determine how many we can purchase while staying within our budget. We will be sending out the forms to the County EMA Directors in the next week. Following the receipt of the justifications, MEMA will produce an RFP to be released for competitive response to meet the needs.

ARES/RACES

Because our ARES/RACES teams are extremely important for ensuring interoperability across the state, MEMA is providing up to \$1,500 for current teams to assist in the purchasing of necessary maintenance or sustainment items. This will provide counties the opportunity to purchase spare parts, connectors, tools, batteries, wiring, etc.

and a radio repair kit to be able to quickly diagnose and fix any issues they may encounter during training or an actual event.

Radios:

The RFP for portable and mobile radios is currently on the street. The RFP is due into Office of Information Technology before the end of October. This will enable county and local entities to purchase radios, accessories and programming through the state's contract.

MEMA will be purchasing a cache of radios to support NIMS compliant towns over the next 2 years. This will allow for entities that did not receive funding through the competitive grant process to meet a common communications baseline for interoperability.

Training Options:

Over the past several months, the PSIC Training Team has worked hard to develop a communications training curriculum that will be available in several mediums.

1. DVD (will be handed out during classroom training)
2. Online: At <http://www.jpmaweb.com>. You will need to register in order to take the online class.

Point of Delivery (POD) Demonstration

Woonsocket, RI, 08/09/2007 -- On the second day of a two-day prototype "Point of Delivery" (POD) event hosted by the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency in conjunction with FEMA, participants from 27 Rhode Island communities along with representatives from the states of Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire set up and operated an actual POD site with the help of approximately 150 local volunteer "recipients". The event underscored the importance of a communities' need to know the mechanics and methods required to establish a POD site in their cities and towns immediately following a catastrophic event.

FEMA photo by Win Henderson



Exercise Victims in a “Box”

MEMA, through Mark Belserene, is inquiring of any local interest to use inflatable victims in exercises. MEMA considers these “instant” victims to be a “very viable solutions and greatly reduces liabilities of victims and responders while still allowing for realistic treatment and transport. While we (MEMA) don’t expect these to completely replace the human factor, many possibilities do exist such as wet decontamination without hypothermia and great triage opportunities for EMT and hospital staff.”

MEMA will consider purchasing and making available should there be sufficient interest. Please forward comments to David B. Feeney at Cumberland County EMA and he will forward a general consensus to Jeremy Damren—MEMA Exercise Coordinator, for further consideration.

David B. Feeney—CCEMA

(207) 892-6785 or feeney@cumberlandcounty.org

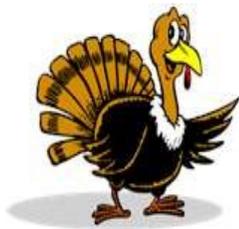


Stuff to Know

An American cow named Fawn was not afraid of flying. In May 1963, she was swept up by a tornado and carried half a mile, only to land safely in another farmer’s field. Five years later, another tornado carried her over a bus. She survived this too, and lived to the ripe old age of 25.

Your brain is more active and thinks more at night than during the day.

Federal emergency management in the U.S. has existed in one form or another for over 200 years. A series of devastating fires struck the port city of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, early in the 19th century. The 7th U.S. Congress passed a number of measures in the Congressional Act of 1803 that provided relief for Portsmouth merchants by waiving duties and tariffs on imported goods. This is widely considered the first piece of legislation passed by the federal government that provided relief after a disaster. In the 21st century, the 2008 budget for FEMA is \$8.02 billion (source: Wikipedia).



Training Announcements “preparedness through education”

- **CPR, AED & First Aid Classes—On-going** American Red Cross of Southern Maine (207) 874-1192 ext 294, or www.maineredcross.org
- November 4—5, 2008, 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
ICS 300 Intermediate Incident Command System
Location: Brewer, Maine—Jeff’s Catering
Contact: Michelle Tanguay —Penobscot County EMA (207) 945-4750 or ema@penobscot-county.net.
Submit FEMA 75-5 training application
- November 5—6, 2008, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
G290 Basic Public Information Officer
Location: South Paris, Maine— Oxford County EMA
Contact: Mike Grant—MEMA Submit FEMA 75-5 800-452-8735 (207) 624-4400
- November 14—15, 2008, 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
ICS 300—Intermediate Incident Command System
Location: Farmington Fire Station—Farmington, Maine
Contact: Tim Hardy, Franklin County EMA Director (207) 778-5892 THardy@fncome.com
- December 9—12, 2008, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
L499 Incident Command System Train-the-Trainer
Location: Augusta, Maine—Florian Hall (MEMA)
Contact: Mike Grant—State Training Coordinator (207) 624-4400 Submit FEMA 75-5 training application
- January 13—14, 2008, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
G230 Principles of Emergency Management
Location: Augusta, Maine—MEMA Classroom
Contact: Mike Grant—State Training Coordinator (207) 624-4460 Submit FEMA 75-5 training application
Target Audience: State, County and municipal emergency management staff only.
- January 27—28, 2008, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
G235 Emergency Planning
Location: Augusta, Maine—MEMA Classroom
Contact: Mike Grant—State Training Coordinator (207) 624-4460 Submit FEMA 75-5 training application
Target Audience: County and local emergency directors and their deputies only.
- February 10—11, 2008, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
G703 NIMS Resource Management
Location: Augusta, Maine—MEMA Classroom
Contact: Mike Grant—State Training Coordinator (207) 624-4460 Submit FEMA 75-5 training application
Target Audience: County and local emergency management directors and their deputies, IMAT personnel
- February 10, 2009, 8:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.
Emergency Planning Community Right-to-Know
Location: Portland, Maine—Verrillo’s Banquet Center
Contact: Robert Gardner—MEMA (207) 624-4400 or 800-452-8735 maine.serc@maine.gov

Federal Government Begins Mandating High Visibility Vests for Emergency Responders

Excerpts from article at: www.rkb.us

On November 24, 2008, a new federal regulation (23 CFR 634) goes into effect mandating that anyone working in the right-of-way of a federal-aid highway must be wearing high-visibility clothing that meets the requirements of ANSI / ISEA 107; 2004 edition class 2 or 3. This requirement will apply to all emergency responders.

The Code of Federal Regulations Title 23 (Highways) Part 634 was originally published in the Federal Register Vol 71, No 226, pp 67792 - 67800. The Rule itself (634.3) simply states that:

"All workers within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway who are exposed either to traffic (vehicles using the highway for purposes of travel) or to construction equipment within the work area shall wear high-visibility safety apparel."

Definitions (634.2) within Part 634 cover what is meant by "Workers" and "high-visibility safety apparel". Emergency responders are included in this definition anytime they are working "within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway" with some exceptions for law enforcement officers working on an incident involving criminal activity.

"High-Visibility Safety Apparel" is defined to mean "personal protective safety clothing that is intended to provide conspicuity during both daytime and nighttime usage, and that meets the Performance Class 2 or 3 requirements of the ANSI/ISEA 107-2004".

For more information, go to:

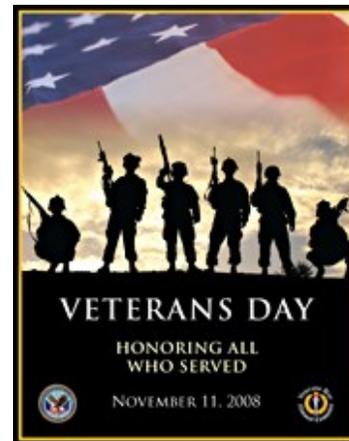
https://www.rkb.us/contentdetail.cfm?content_id=200647



Scarborough Mobile Command Vehicle
2008 Limington Lumber Company Full Scale Exercise



Donnie Durrah dispatching—Scarborough Mobile Command Vehicle
2008 Limington Lumber Company Full Scale Exercise



Community Events (Large Gatherings)

- **November 4, 2008**
Election Day
- **November 11, 2008**
Veteran's Day
- **November 27, 2008**
Thanksgiving Day
- **April 6, 2009**
BoSox vs Tampa Bay—Home Opener



Be Right, Be Bright- High Visibility Vests for Firefighters/EMT's



 **Important Links**

- **County of Cumberland Emergency Management Agency**
www.cumberlandcounty.org/EMA
- **MEMA Site**
www.maine.gov/mema
- **FEMA**
www.fema.gov
- **MEMA Forms & Publications**
www.maine.gov/mema/mema_library.shtml
- **American Red Cross of Southern Maine**
<http://southernmaine.redcross.org>
- **2-1-1 Maine**
www.211maine.org
- **Volunteer Maine**
www.volunteermaine.org
- **5-1-1 Maine**
www.511Maine.gov
- **Cumberland County**
www.cumberlandcounty.org
- **NIMS**
www.fema.gov/emergency/nims
- **Federal Homeland Security Grants**
www.fema.gov/government/grant/index.shtml
- **FEMA On-Line Training**
<http://training.fema.gov/IS/>
- **Southern Maine EMS**
www.smems.org
- **Emergency Essentials**
<http://beprepared.com/>
- **PROP**
www.wherepeoplecomefirst.org
- **GPCOG**
www.gpcog.org

ConOps Quick Reference

STATE of MAINE
Concept of Operations Plan (CONOPS)
for Incident Communications Interoperability
QUICK REFERENCE

CONOPS Criteria

The incident:

- Involves response from four (4) or more agencies
- Has an anticipated duration of six (6) or more hours
- Involves response from at least three (3) levels of govt.
- Local simplex (talk-a-round) channels not adequate for commanders needs.

If any 3 of the 4 criteria are met, the incident commander may request a "CONOPS" authorization.

CONOPS Authorization Request

The incident commander calls MEMA at 1-800-452-8735 (24/7/365), identifies himself, summarizes the situation, requests specific frequencies, identifies inbound calling freq, and gives contact information.

If request is approved MEMA will notify all communications centers within the incident region through State of Maine Public Safety Dispatch Centers. IC notifies MEMA when operations terminate.

CONOPS Frequencies

1. SWSP	154.710	4. SPCC	154.935
2. NWCC	155.475	5. STATE FIRE	154.310
3. EMS/LASER	155.160	6. SWCC	154.695

More CONOPS information at http://www.maine.gov/mema/response/mema_response_plans.shtml



Dump tank used to receive and store transported water to supply fire suppression equipment.

2008 Limington Lumber Company Full Scale Exercise

Monthly Communications Test

November 13, 2008, at 1330 hours.

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

Comprehensive Preparedness Guide CPG-301 Special Needs Planning

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced the interim release of the Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 301 (CPG-301): Emergency Management Planning Guide for Special Needs Populations. CPG-301 is designed to aid tribal, state, territorial and local governments in planning for individuals with special needs during an emergency.

Following an assessment of emergency operations plans in 2006, the DHS Nationwide Plan Review Phase 2 Report concluded that "substantial improvement is necessary to integrate people with disabilities in emergency planning and readiness." CPG-301 was developed to address *this shortfall with respect to people with disabilities, the elderly, and other individuals with special needs.*

CPG-301 was developed jointly by FEMA and the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. The interim guide reflects extensive input from key federal, state, and local government partners, along with nongovernmental organizations representing special needs communities.

CPG-301 follows the approach taken by the National Response Framework in defining special needs populations. The guide outlines how involving special needs populations in planning, enables emergency managers to address the function-based needs of individuals. CPG-301 outlines special needs considerations for: Developing Informed Plans; Evacuation; Transportation, Human Services/Medical management; Congregate Settings; Recover; and Training and Exercises.

The release of this guidance commemorates the Americans with Disabilities Act and promotes the inclusion of individuals with special needs in emergency management.

For more information and to obtain a copy of this 80-page planning document, go to:

<http://www.fema.gov/pdf/media/2008/301.pdf>

Fiscal Year 2009 NIMS compliance objectives include planning for special needs populations in the development of Emergency Operations Plans (EOP), to include, but not limited to, individuals with limited English language proficiency; individuals with disabilities; children; the aged, etc.

Emergency Management Institute (EMI) offers Emergency Planning and Special Needs Population course (G-197). The course material can be downloaded and is intended to be delivered as an instructor-led classroom training. This is

not a self-paced, self-study or computer based training program.

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/pub/register.asp>

EMI Independent Study Program also offers IS-197.SP Special Needs Planning Consideration for Service and Support Providers. This course is available as an on-line Interactive Web-based program.

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is197SP.asp>



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