

County of Cumberland

Emergency Management Agency
 (207) 892-6785

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

It's Always Exercise Season in Maine

By: Mike Shutts, CCEMA

Whether you're getting in shape for the ski slopes, the beach, golf or making your organization the best prepared out-fit around, it's always a good time to get out there and exercise.

In January and February of this year, I participated in a couple of exercises co-sponsored by the Maine Rural Water Association (MRWA), Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), and the Maine Drinking Water Program. After the Elk River chemical spill in West Virginia, many public water districts took a heightened interest in potential chemical threats to source waters. In this two-part series of exercises, the Brunswick & Topsham Water District was the featured water district. The first event was a seminar/workshop, and the second event was a tabletop (TTX), both conducted at the Topsham Public Safety Building.

I believe this two-part exercise series was a success for a number of reasons:

1. Based on reality - The Elk River Spill generated significant interest around the county
2. A strong planning team – key stakeholders participated
3. A good exercise plan (ExPlan)
4. The presentations at the seminar/workshop were very good, and relevant
5. There was great participation by everyone in attendance at both events
6. The Incident Commander, Brunswick Fire Chief Ken Brilliant, put together a strong incident management team, drawing from representatives from fire, law enforcement,

Maine DEP, and the Brunswick & Topsham Water District. Many other key players were added to the team as the incident matured.



MEMBERS OF BRUNSWICK AND TOPSHAM police and fire department, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, and others work in a simulated incident command post at the Topsham Public Safety Building Tuesday during a tabletop exercise involving a hypothetical chemical spill in the Androscoggin River watershed. DARCIE MOORE / THE TIMES RECORD

A number of the agencies reported that they were making changes to their emergency operations plans as a result of lessons learned at the TTX. Others brought their plans, and were able to refer to them as the exercise progressed. This event had the effect of recurrent training for many.

At the end of the TTX, it was repeated many times that one of the greatest take-aways was the opportunity to work with fellow stakeholders as they worked through the exercise scenario and injects. I expect that if and when they are faced with a real-life situation, the connections made at the TTX will be renewed, and with a confidence generated from the experience of working alongside each other at this exercise.

Now is the time to bring together your exercise planning team and develop a progressive exercise program. There is always a reason to exercise your plans and procedures, and it is always exercise season in Maine.

FEMA Releases National Planning System Descriptions

Planning is fundamental for our national preparedness. We use planning to engage the whole community in the development of executable strategic, operational, and tactical approaches to meet defined objectives. The National Planning System provides a unified approach and common terminology to plan for all-threats and hazards and across all mission areas of Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery. In addition, a shared understanding of the types and levels of planning will enable the whole community to think through potential crises, determine capability requirements and address the collective risk identified during the risk assessment process.

This document contains an overview of the National Planning System and includes:

- The **Planning Architecture**, which describes the strategic, operational, and tactical levels of planning and planning integration; and
- The **Planning Process**, which describes the steps necessary to develop a comprehensive plan, from forming a team to implementing the plan.

The current homeland security environment is complex and involves an increasing number and type of partners who must work together to meet preparedness objectives. The National Planning System enables a consistent approach to planning across multiple organizations; facilitating better collaboration, situational awareness, and unity of effort while remaining flexible and adaptable to changing conditions. The architecture and process contained in the National Planning System integrates elements of the entire National Preparedness System.

The whole community – individuals and families, including those with access and functional needs; businesses and nonprofits; schools; media; and all levels of government – is encouraged to participate in the planning process.

To learn more about the National Planning System, please visit:

www.fema.gov/national-preparedness

(Also see related article this newsletter Page 2— National Planning System) Source; NIMS Alert 01-16, FEMA

2016 FEMA Awards Application Period “Opening Soon”

Have you or someone you know made a difference in your community? If so, the Federal Emergency Management Agency encourages you to apply or nominate someone for the 2016 FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Awards. Since 2009, the awards highlight innovative local practices and achievements by recognizing individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions toward making their communities safer, better prepared, and more resilient.

This year, the awards feature three new categories to showcase even more of the work you do to prepare your communities. The new categories are: Outstanding Inclusive Initiative in Emergency Management, Outstanding Private Sector Initiative, and America’s PrepareAthon! in Action.

The application period will open on February 29, 2016 and close on March 28, 2016. All applications must feature activities taking place between January 1, 2015 and March 28, 2016. The awards will highlight achievements in the following categories:

- Outstanding Citizen Corps Council
- Community Preparedness Champions
- Awareness to Action
- Technological Innovation
- Outstanding Achievement in Youth Preparedness
- Preparing the Whole Community
- Outstanding Inclusive Initiative in Emergency Management
- Outstanding Private Sector Initiative
- Outstanding Community Emergency Response Team Initiative
- Outstanding Citizen Corps Partner Program
- America’s PrepareAthon! in Action

To learn more about the FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Awards, visit:

<http://www.ready.gov/preparedness-awards>

You can also view profiles of past award winners to find out about their outstanding achievements.

Meetings

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Date: March 2, 2016, 1:00 p.m.
 Location: South Portland, Maine
 Texas Instrument
 Contact: Mike Shutts, CCEMA—LEPC Liaison
 (207) 892-6785 shutts@cumberlandcounty.org

River Flow Advisory Commission—Annual Meeting

Date: March 3, 2016, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
 Location: Augusta, ME—MEMA Offices
 Contact: Thomas Redstone—MEMA
 thomas.redstone.maine.gov

Cumberland County Local EMA Directors meeting

Date: March 9, 2016, 8:30 a.m.
 Location: CCEMA, Windham, Maine

Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System (PACTS) Transit Committee meeting

Date: March 10, 2016, 8:30 a.m.
 Location: Saco, ME—SMPDC
 Contact: Tom Reinauer, Transportation Director
 Southern Maine PDC and Kittery Area MPO
 treinauer@smpdc.org (207) 571-7065

Southern Maine Regional Resource Center (SMRRC) Regional Healthcare Coalition meeting

Date: March 15, 2016, 9:00 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.
 Location: Brunswick, ME, The Brunswick Hotel & Tavern
 Contact: Paul Weiss, Director SMRCC
 director@smrrc.org (207) 662-3954

Maine—New Hampshire Traffic Incident Management

Date: March 18, 2016, 1200 p.m.
 Location: West Kennebunk Fire Station
 Contact: Tom Reinauer, Transportation Director
 Southern Maine PDC and Kittery Area MPO
 treinauer@smpdc.org (207) 571-7065

Mid-Coast ARES/CERT

Date: March 25, 2016
 Location: Topsham, Maine
 Mid-Coast Chapter ARC, Community Way
 Contact: John Goran, K1JJS
 arsk1jjs@gmail.com (207) 865-0554

Southern Maine Regional Resource Center (SMRRC) Regional Healthcare Coalition meeting

Date: April 21, 2016, 9:00 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.
 Location: Biddeford Campus—SMHC (classroom B & D)
 Contact: Paul Weiss, Director SMRCC
 director@smrrc.org (207) 662-3954

Greater Portland Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Committee

Date: April 27, 2016 (tentative)
 Location: Portland, ME—Greater Portland Council of Governments
 Contact: Maddy Adams, GPCOG, 774-9891
 madams@gpcog.org

Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program HSEEP Course

June 7-9, 2016

The Maine Emergency Management Agency will be conducting the FEMA training program Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Course. This intensive three-day course will provide a comprehensive overview of exercise design along with practical skill development. Using the same terminology and processes, this course will provide activities that will give participants an opportunity to interact with many of the templates and other materials that are provided by the National Exercise Division to ensure exercises are conducted in a consistent manner.

Target Audience: Anyone who will be a member of an exercise design team or fulfill a role in one of the following areas of the exercise design process: Design, Development, Conduct, Evaluation or Improvement process for an exercise. The primary audience for the course is training officers, exercise managers, persons that will utilize the exercise and evaluation system and persons interested in becoming an HSEEP certified evaluator for the Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security. All students must have completed up to IS-120.A An Introduction to Exercises prior to taking the course. Copy of certificate must accompany application. Recommend pre-attendance courses include: IS-139 Exercise Evaluation and Improvement Planning; IS-139 Exercise Design; ICS-700 NIMS; ICS-800 National Response Framework.

Course Location: The course will be held at the Maine Emergency Management Agency at 45 Commerce Drive in Augusta. Class will run from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lunch and breaks will be provided; lodging is available upon qualification, please contact MEMA for approval.

For more information, contact Kevin Rousseau at (207) 624-4410 or kevin.rousseau@maine.gov. We are an equal opportunity educational provider. For further information or to register, please contact Kevin Rousseau at MEMA. All applications should be submitted by email/fax via FEMA training application form found at:

<http://www.maine.gov/mema/training>

National Planning System

Abridged article submitted
by: D.B. Feeney, CCEMA Planner

The Nation faces evolving threats and hazards shaped by nature, technology, and adversaries. Aligning planning efforts by using a shared planning architecture and process could help to integrate and synchronize plans across the whole community.

The National Planning System provides a unified approach and common terminology to support the implementation of the National Preparedness System through plans that support an all threats and hazards approach to preparedness. These plans—whether strategic, operational, or tactical—enable the whole community to build, sustain, and deliver the core capabilities identified in the National Preparedness Goal.

The National Planning System contains two key elements: the Planning Architecture, which describes the strategic, operational, and tactical levels of planning and planning integration; and the Planning Process, which describes the steps necessary to develop a comprehensive plan, from forming a team to implementing the plan.

Planning Architecture

The National Planning System consists of three levels of planning:

- **Strategic-level** plans address the execution of long-term or ongoing processes. Senior elected or appointed officials provide policies and/or directives that drive development strategies.
- **Operational-level** plans provide a description of roles and responsibilities, tasks, integration and actions required of a jurisdiction or its departments and agencies during incidents.
- **Tactical-level** plans focus on managing resources such as personnel and equipment that play a direct role in incident response.

Planning is coordinated and integrated vertically – up and down levels of government and the community – and horizontally – across diverse functions, mission areas, organizations, and jurisdictions. Taken together, vertical and horizontal planning helps ensure coordination of incident management expectations across the various functions and capabilities required for all threats and hazards.

Planning Process

Planning activities involve two parts: 1) ensuring support of applicable parties, and 2) conducting a common planning process. The common planning process, as outlined in Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101, encompasses the following:

1. Form a Collaborative Planning Team. Engaging and

integrating the whole community as part of the planning team produces the most realistic and complete plans.

2. **Understand the Situation.** At its core planning is a process to manage risk. By understanding the risk landscape, planning teams can make better decisions regarding how to manage risk and develop needed capabilities.
3. **Determine Goals and Objectives.** The necessary capabilities identified in Step 2 are used to establish priorities, goals and objectives. Priorities indicate a desired end-state. Goals are broad, general statements that specify desired results. Objectives are specific and identifiable actions carried out during the operation.
4. **Plan Development.** Develop and analyze possible solutions or courses of action for achieving the outcome of Step 3. Based on this analysis, select the preferred solution or course of action.
5. **Plan Preparation, Review, and Approval.** The courses of action developed in Step 4 become a plan. Once drafted, the organizations responsible for implementation circulate the plan for review and approval.
6. **Plan Implementation & Maintenance.** Plans should be regularly reviewed and updated due to changes in risk, statute, policy, or doctrine, as well as lessons learned from actual incidents.

Article source: www.fema.gov/national-planning-system



Figure 1.1: The Preparedness Cycle

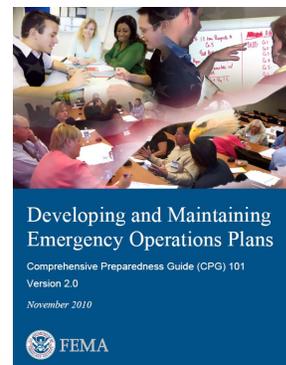


Figure 1.2: Relationship Between Strategic, Operational, and Tactical Planning

Figure: 1.1: The Preparedness Cycle

Figure: 1.2: Relationship Between Strategic, Operational, and Tactical Planning

Figure Source: Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101, V.2.0—Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans, Nov 2010.



FEMA CPG 101

Training Opportunities

Emergency Response to Ethanol Rail Car Incidents—Piscataquis County

Date: March 1, 2016, 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
 Location: Greenville, ME—Greenville Fire Department
 Contact: Robert Gardner—MEMA
 (207) 624-4400 Robert.s.gardner@maine.gov

Public Safety WMD Response—Sampling Techniques and Guidelines (PER-222)

Date: March 2—4, 2016, 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
 Location: Westbrook, ME—Public Safety Building
 Contact: John Carroll, Scarborough FD
 (207) 730-4211 jcarroll@ci.scarborough.me.us

Emergency Response to Ethanol Rail Car Incidents—Somerset County—Jackman

Date: March 7, 2016, 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
 Location: Jackman, ME—Town Office
 Contact: Robert Gardner—MEMA
 (207) 624-4400 Robert.s.gardner@maine.gov

Emergency Response to Ethanol Rail Car Incidents—Lincoln County

Date: March 8, 2016, 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
 Location: Lincoln, ME—Region 3 Technical Center
 Contact: Robert Gardner—MEMA
 (207) 624-4400 Robert.s.gardner@maine.gov

Emergency Response to Ethanol Rail Car Incidents—Washington County

Date: March 16, 2016, 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
 Location: Topsfield, ME—Town Office
 Contact: Robert Gardner—MEMA
 (207) 624-4400 Robert.s.gardner@maine.gov

Incident Command System: Intermediate (ICS300)

Date: March 16—17, 2016, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
 Location: Augusta, Maine—Augusta City Hall Auditorium
 Contact: Chief Roger Audette—(207) 626-2421
 roger.audette@augustamaine.gov

ICS/EOC Interface Course (G191)

Date: March 24, 2016, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
 Location: Rockland, ME—Knox County EMA/EOC
 Contact: Mike Grant, MEMA
 (207) 624-4460 michael.f.grant@maine.gov

ICS/EOC Interface Course (G191)

Date: March 30, 2016, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
 Location: Bangor, ME—Penobscot County EOC
 Contact: Knox County EMA (207) 594-5155 or
 Mike Grant, MEMA
 (207) 624-4460 michael.f.grant@maine.gov

Ammonia Safety Day—South Portland

Date: March 30, 2016, 8:00a.m.—4:00 p.m.
 Location: South Portland, ME—Texas Instrument
 Contact: Robert Gardner, MEMA
 (207) 624-4400 Robert.s.gardner@maine.gov

Ammonia Safety Day—Brewer

Date: March 31, 2016, 8:00a.m.—4:00 p.m.
 Location: Brewer, ME—Jeff's Catering
 Contact: Robert Gardner, MEMA
 (207) 624-4400 Robert.s.gardner@maine.gov

Child Disaster Services Training (27-hour Workshop)

Date: April 1—2, 2016
 Location: Windham, ME—Cumberland County EMA
 Contact: Margaret Cushing, CCEMA
 (207) 892-6785
 (cushing@cumberlandcounty.org)



Incident Command System: Intermediate ICS 300

Date: April 5-8, 2016. (Limited Seating Available)
 Location: South Portland, Maine—Coast Guard SNNE
 Contact: Wyman Briggs or LCDR Laura Miller
 wyman.w.briggs@uscg.mil
 laura.s.miller1@uscg.mil

Basic Public Information Officer Course (G290)

Date: April 13—14, 2016, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
 Location: Saco, ME—Ramada Saco Plaza Conference
 Contact: Mike Grant, MEMA
 (207) 624-4460 michael.f.grant@maine.gov

8th Annual Maine Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference

Date: April 19-20, 2016
 Location: Augusta, ME—Augusta Civic Center

ICS/EOC Interface Course—G191

Date: April 27, 2016, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
 Location: Gray, ME—Gray Town Hall, 24 Main Street
 Contact: Mike Grant, MEMA
 (207) 624-4460 michael.f.grant@maine.gov

ICS 339—Division/Group Supervisors Course

Date: May 3—4, 2016. (Limited Seating Available)
 Location: South Portland, Maine—Coast Guard SNNE
 Contact: Wyman Briggs or LCDR Laura Miller
 wyman.w.briggs@uscg.mil
 laura.s.miller1@uscg.mil

Incident Command System: Intermediate ICS 300

Date: May 4—5, 2016, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
 Location: Augusta, Maine—MEMA Classroom
 Contact: Mike Grant, MEMA
 (207) 624-4460 michael.f.grant@maine.gov

Incident Command System: Advanced ICS 400

Date: May 5, 2016. (Limited Seating Available)
 Location: South Portland, Maine—Coast Guard SNNE
 Contact: Wyman Briggs or LCDR Laura Miller
 wyman.w.briggs@uscg.mil
 laura.s.miller1@uscg.mil

Incident Command System: Advanced ICS 400

Date: May 19-20, 2016, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
 Location: Augusta, Maine—MEMA Classroom
 Contact: Mike Grant, MEMA
 (207) 624-4460 michael.f.grant@maine.gov

Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program

Date: June 7—8, 2016, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
 Location: Augusta, Maine—MEMA Training Room
 Contact: Kevin Rousseau, MEMA
 (207) 624-4410 kevin.rousseau@maine.gov
 (See Page 3 For More Information)

(Training Continued on Page 6)

CSB: West, Texas Explosion and Fire Final Report

The United States Chemical Safety Board (CSB) released its final report on the 2013 fire and eventual explosion of nearly 30 tons of fertilizer grade ammonium nitrate in West, Texas. This incident killed 15 people, 12 of them first responders, and injured 260 people. Volunteer fire departments and all first responder agencies should view the final report and short CSB video on this incident and reevaluate their response planning and the hazards in their jurisdiction.

West Fertilizer Explosion and Fire CSB Video:
www.csb.gov/west-fertilizer-explosion-and-fire/

The CSB found poor hazard awareness, inadequate emergency planning, and limited regulatory oversight all contributed to this event. In addition, the town of West was victim to something that is affecting many towns and cities across the country – residential creep. When the fertilizer plant was built in 1954, it was surrounded by fields. By 2013, the town had crept very close to it and zoning did not address the problem.



Location: West, Texas
Accident Occurred On: 04/17/2013
Final Report Released On: 01/28/2016
Accident Type: Chemical Distribution - Fire and Explosion

The CSB also found that, although the responding fire department was aware of the dangers of the anhydrous ammonia on site, they didn't anticipate the possibility of an ammonium nitrate explosion. The fire department also:

- Did not conduct a proper pre-incident planning for the site,

- May not have used the Emergency Response Guidebook or Material Safety Data Sheets,
- Lacked situational awareness, and
- Did not use the Incident Command System or National Incident Management System.

The CSB also found a lack of proper hazardous materials training. Both the training and pre-incident planning concerns stem partly from a lack of state and federal requirements for volunteer departments.

Relying on private companies or state and federal agencies to properly regulate and communicate hazards did not work in West, Texas, and any changes to the laws or regulations will take time. Becoming more proactive toward chemical threats or other hazards within your response area can be a life or death decision for members of your department.

(Source: Chemical Safety Board www.csb.gov)

Training Opportunities

(continued from Page 5)

COOP Manager's Train-the-Trainer—L548

Date: June 8—9, 2016, 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Location: South Portland, Maine—Coast Guard SNNE
Contact: Nate Spada, Continuity Manager
 DHS-FEMA Region I
 Nathan.spada@fema.dhs.gov (617) 957-7538
 (See Announcement Page 9)

Recovery from Disaster: Local Government Role (G205)

Date: June 13 & 15, 2016, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Location: Augusta, Maine—MEMA Classroom
Contact: Mike Grant, MEMA
 (207) 624-4460 michael.f.grant@maine.gov

Incident Command System: Intermediate ICS 300

Date: August 13-16, 2016 (Limited Seating Available)
Location: South Portland, Maine—Coast Guard SNNE
Contact: Wyman Briggs or LCDR Laura Miller
 wyman.w.briggs@uscg.mil
 laura.s.miller1@uscg.mil

FEMA 119-25-1 Training Form available at:
www.maine.gov/mema/training

Wind (Kts)	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	-5	-10	-15	-20	-25	-30
5	36	30	24	18	12	6	0	-6	-12	-17	-23	-29	-35	-41	-47
10	33	27	21	14	8	2	-5	-11	-17	-23	-30	-36	-42	-48	-55
15	31	25	18	12	5	-1	-8	-14	-21	-27	-34	-40	-47	-53	-60
20	30	23	17	10	3	-3	-10	-17	-23	-30	-37	-43	-50	-56	-63
25	29	22	15	8	2	-5	-12	-19	-25	-32	-39	-46	-53	-59	-66
30	28	21	14	7	0	-7	-14	-20	-27	-34	-41	-48	-55	-62	-68
35	27	20	13	6	-1	-8	-15	-22	-29	-36	-43	-50	-57	-64	-71
40	26	19	12	5	-2	-9	-16	-23	-30	-37	-44	-51	-58	-65	-73

Shelter • Maternal/child health services • Transportation • Consumer help • Energy assistance
 resources • Counseling • Financial assistance • Basic needs-food, clothing, shelter • Crisis in-
 tervening • Child care • Disability services • Home care • Senior services • Child development • Ad-
 vention • Children's health and insurance • Emergency shelter • Maternal/child health ser-
 vices • Energy assistance • Parenting education programs • Domestic violence programs • Sub-
 stance abuse • Alzheimer's resources • Counseling • Financial assistance • Basic needs-food



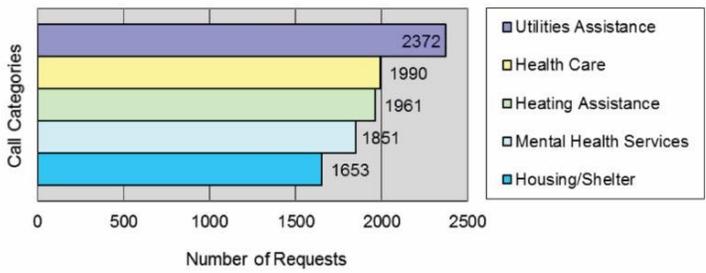
Intervention • Health care • HIV/AIDS testing • Child care • Disability services • Home care
 support • Elder care • Legal assistance • Suicide prevention • Children's health and insurance •
 Child health services • Transportation • Consumer help • Energy assistance • Parenting education
 substance abuse • Alzheimer's resources • Counseling • Financial assistance • Basic needs-food
 • Health care • HIV/AIDS testing • Child care • Disability services • Home care • Senior services

Project Heat Success

Thanks to WCHS-6 (Portland) and WBLZ-2 (Bangor), Project HEAT raised \$123,000 to help heat homes this winter. With a generous contribution from Dead River Company and other local fundraising efforts, it's anticipated that 850 households will be assisted before winter is over. Thanks to all our partners who made this possible.

New Guided Search

In an effort to streamline online resource searches, 2-1-1 has organized its guided search into 20 categories. When users click on the "SEARCH NOW" button on 211maine.org, they are then able to easily browse categories and find resources. They may still use the key word for more search options. Please take a look and let us know what you think info@211maine.org.



Eighth Annual Maine Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference

Online Registration is now open for attendees and presenters!

- Tuesday and Wednesday, April 19 and 20, 2016
- Augusta Civic Center, Augusta, Maine
- The Conference will feature more than 30 individual workshops and meetings offered over the two days. An early 'Draft' Agenda (subject to change) is available at registration.

The two highlighted areas for this conference are Power Grid Failure and Cyber Threats. Additional workshops of interest to emergency management and responders are also on the agenda. The agenda will continue to be refined as the Conference draws closer.

The keynote speaker panel for day one will focus on cyber security threats. The keynote speaker panel for day two will focus on power grid failure. Both sessions will include a variety of subject matter experts with expertise on the topics.

Online registration for participants **and exhibitors** is now open. There is no charge for attending the conference. There is a small fee for exhibitors, but no charge for not-for-profit and government exhibitors.

The Conference is a partnership among the State Emergency Response Commission, The Maine Emergency Management Agency and the Maine Association of Local Emergency Managers.

Don't miss this two-day learning experience with statewide and national preparedness partners.

Register now!

Contact:
 Conference Planning Team
 (207) 624-4400
 maineprepares@maine.gov



If you dial 9-1-1 accidentally
DO NOT HANG UP
Please stay on the line and
Speak with the
Emergency Communications Officer.

Maine Prepares

We have more ways to communicate with each other than ever before. But sometimes the information we receive -- or pass on -- just isn't correct.

A message flashed on the Internet can reach thousands of people in seconds. A relative or friend may have forwarded a warning, or a story that sounds true. But unfortunately, the information may simply be an unverified story, or worse, be deliberately and cruelly false.

A partially heard news bulletin on television or radio can be misinterpreted in a time of heightened concern.

It is our responsibility as citizens to be sure of the truthfulness of information before we act on it or pass it on. **Always** check out information, even if it came from a friend who innocently sent it on to you.

If you are concerned about something you believe you heard on the news:

- Listen to the news again carefully to make sure you heard the story correctly.
- *If need be, call a local, county or state official for confirmation.*

Check the reliability of e-mail or internet information.

Some excellent Internet sites can be helpful in separating real information from hoaxes. We have provided several references below.

To check on the authenticity of computer virus warning messages, visit the website of your anti-virus software provider.

Remember

With the advent of the Internet, we all have the power to become "publishers" of information. All the time, but especially during an emergency, we **all** also have a responsibility to make sure that information we send to others is accurate.

Maine Prepares
www.maine.gov/mema/prepare



MEMA WebEOC Q&A Tips

Question:

Did you know that the Reports under the Links header in the Control Panel are collections of data from WebEOC Boards you post or view?

Answer: If you need reports contact Alana Santos at MEMA and let her know which boards and which fields you require.

*Source: Alana J. Santos, MEMA,
 February 23, 2016
 Alana.j.santos@maine.gov*

Exercise Schedule 2016

Date: March 7—11, 2016, 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

CyberStorm V Cyber Exercise

Location: Augusta, ME—State of Maine Agencies

Contact: Kevin Rousseau, MEMA Exercise Officer
 (207) 624-4410 kevin.rousseau@maine.gov

Date: March 12, 2016

American Red Cross Full-scale Shelter Exercise

Location: Falmouth, ME High School Regional Shelter

Contact: Laurie Levine—Red Cross Liaison MEMA

Date: March 14, 2016, 6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

Central Washington County Tsunami

Tabletop Exercise

Location: Addison, ME—Addison Fire Department

Contact: Mike Hinerman—Washington County EMA
 (207) 255-3931
 wnema@washingtoncountymaine.com

Date: March 16, 2016, 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

Tsunami/LANTEX16—Awareness and Notification Workshop

Location: Augusta, ME—MEMA Classroom

Contact: Kevin Rousseau—MEMA Training Officer
 (207) 624-4410 kevin.rousseau@maine.gov

Date: October 14, 2016

Regional HazMat Full-Scale Exercise

Contact: Kevin Rousseau—MEMA Exercise Officer
 (207) 624-4410 kevin.rousseau@maine.gov

TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT



FEMA

Sponsored by FEMA Region I National Preparedness Division and U.S. Coast Guard Sector Northern New England

COURSE:

L548 – COOP Manager’s Train-the-Trainer

DESCRIPTION:

The Continuity of Operations (COOP) Manager’s Training Course is to provide training for Program Managers and personnel with COOP responsibilities in the private sector and at the Federal, State, Local, and Tribal levels of government. This training includes a train-the-trainer module to equip students to train the course to other COOP practitioners.

DATES /TIMES:

June 8 - 9, 2016
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Weds/Thur)
Registration opens at 8:00 a.m.

LOCATION:

U.S. Coast Guard Sector Northern New England
259 High Street, Rusty Scupper, Bldg 1
South Portland, ME 04106



Access the Coast Guard base via Broadway to Mussey Street. Signs to the base are posted on Broadway. You will be required to show ID at the gate prior to entry. Notices are posted regarding vehicle searches. The course will be held in the Rusty Scupper, ground floor of Bldg 1, which is the first building on the right as you drive in. The entrance to the Scupper is on the parking lot side of the building. Please do not park in “designated” spots with markings.

OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, participants should be able to do the following:

- Define COOP;
- Explain the business benefits of COOP;
- Identify the elements of a viable COOP capability;
- Identify the processes, resources, and tasks necessary to implement and manage a successful COOP program;
- Demonstrate the ability to teach a COOP course module;
- Have an increased knowledge of Continuity program management.

ELIGIBILITY:

Private sector and federal, state, and local government employees responsible for developing and managing COOP programs and those participating as an Emergency Relocation Group (ERG) member in a COOP Program.

APPLICATIONS:

Please fax a FEMA Form 119-25-1 (old 75-5) to *Nate Spada* at (617) 956-7538 or email to Nathan.Spada@fema.dhs.gov (recommended)

FEMA Form 119-25-1 can be downloaded at:

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

Applicants with special needs should complete Section 11 on FEMA Form 119-25-1.

COSTS:

There are no tuition fees for this course. Participants from federal agencies and private industry or contractors to State or local governments must pay their own transportation and lodging fees.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Friday, April 15, 2016

COURSE MANAGERS & TRAINING POINTS OF CONTACT:

Nate Spada
Continuity Manager
DHS-FEMA Region I
(617) 832-4745 – Office
Nathan.Spada@fema.dhs.gov

CWO2 Gregg Hoss
XO MILPERS/Personnel Officer
CG Sector Northern New England
(207) 780-3090 - Office
Gregg.E.Hoss@uscg.mil

BMC Ben Hicks
Training Coordinator
CG Sector Northern New England
(207) 780-3089
Ben.L.Hicks@uscg.mil

Arn M. Hegggers, Civilian
Preparedness Specialist
CG Sector Northern New England
(207) 741-5439
Arn.M.Hegggers@uscg.mil

Important Links

Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency
Home: www.cumberlandcounty.org/EMA

Cumberland County Local Emergency Planning Committee
Home: www.cumberlandcounty.org/EMA/lepc.htm

Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
Home: www.maine.gov/mema

Maine Information and Analysis Center (MIAC)
Phone: (207) 624-7280
Email: miac@nespin.riss.net

Boston FBI
Phone: (617) 742-5533
Home: <http://boston.fbi.gov>



Maine Prepares
Home: www.maine.gov/mema/prepare

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Home: www.fema.gov

Domestic Preparedness Support
U. S. Department of Homeland Security www.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

National Weather Service—Gray, Maine
Web Page: www.weather.gov/gyx
Operations Phone: (207) 688-3216

Central Maine Power—Power Outages
www.cmpco.com/outages



2-1-1 Maine www.211maine.org

5-1-1 Maine (Maine DOT Travel Information)
Home: www.511maine.gov

American Red Cross of Southern Maine
Home: www.maineredcross.org

Southern Maine COAD
P.O.Box 7192, Scarborough, ME (207) 228-4777
Home: www.southernmainecoad.org



Volunteer Maine
Home: www.volunteermaine.org

Northern New England Poison Center—Portland, ME
<http://www.nnepc.org> 1-800-222-1222

Sector Northern New England
U. S. Coast Guard—South Portland, ME
(207) 767-0320 Phone
(207) 767-0303 24-hour Phone
(207) 780-3675 Response



Cumberland County EMA Staff:



DIRECTOR
James E. Budway
budway@cumberlandcounty.org



DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Mary C. McElman
mcelman@cumberlandcounty.org



PLANNER
David B. Feeney
feeney@cumberlandcounty.org



PROJECT COORDINATOR
Ron Jones
jones@cumberlandcounty.org



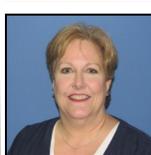
FINANCE ASSISTANT
Donna M. Somma
somma@cumberlandcounty.org



PLANNER
Margaret Cushing
cushing@cumberlandcounty.org



LEPC PLANNER
Mike Shutts
shutts@cumberlandcounty.org



PLANNER
Diane J. Eastwood
eastwood@cumberlandcounty.org



SPECIAL PROJECTS VOLUNTEER
Harry L. Marsters II



THE BUNKER
22 High St
Windham, ME
207.892.6785

