







Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management

http://www.jeffersoncountywv.org/county-government/departments/homeland-security-and-emergency-management

December, 2016

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John Reisenweber, Jefferson County Development Authority

Sanford H. "Sandy" Green, Region 3 Homeland Security Area Liaison

Holly Frye, Shepherd University Service Learning Program

Clair Brendel, American Red Cross

Staff:

Barbara Miller, CEM, CFM Director

Stephen Allen, Planner/Program Manager/ Deputy Director

Brandon Vallee, Administrative Assistant Public Information Officer and Volunteer Coordinator

JCHSEM collecting donated items for the Jefferson County Animal Welfare Society during the month of December

Each December, the JCHSEM staff chooses a local group to collect donated goods for during the holiday season. This year, the staff's choice is the Jefferson County Animal Welfare Society (JCAWS). Below is their "wish list" for donated items. If you are attending any of the JCHSEM meetings between now and December 21, you are encouraged to bring donated items for the JCAWS. The JCHSEM staff will deliver the donated goods to the JCAWS on December 22nd. You may also drop off your donation to the JCHSEM office at 28 Industrial Blvd., Suite 101, Kearneysville, WV 25430 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tax-deductible monetary donations should be sent directly to: JCAWS, PO Box 147, Charles Town, WV 25414, or you may donate online through their website at: www.awsjc.org. JCAWS is a no-kill animal shelter and adoption center that has been serving Jefferson County since 1952. The Animal Welfare Society is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 charitable organization. Your donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. They are registered with the State of West Virginia.

Paper Products: Toilet paper, paper towels, newspapers.

<u>Medical Supplies</u>: Benedryl, Neosporin, Advantage or Frontline tick and flea medication for dogs and cats, vinyl & latex gloves (size large and extralarge), money to designate to the medical fund which assists animals that come into our care who require special medical attention which we normally cannot service due to funding.

<u>Cleaning Supplies</u>: liquid dish soap, bleach, fabric softener, Lysol spray, Lysol floor cleaner, Clorox wipes, liquid clothing detergent (MUST be "he" high efficiency type), dryer sheets, Clorox liquid bleach (the generic bleach reacts with our cleaning chemicals and it can become toxic to the animals), 45 gallon trash bags, rubber gloves (size large and extra large), anti-bacterial hand soap, trash cans on wheels, sponges

<u>Cat Supplies</u>: kitten food, cat food, unscented clay and/or scoopable/ clumpable litter, cat treats, cat toys, canned kitten food, Advantage or Frontline for cats, small litter boxes and cat carriers - 8 qty., no tip stainless steel bowls. <u>Dog Supplies</u>: Allergy formula dog food - Duck and Potato Natural Balance (available at Petco), puppy food, dog food, rawhide chews, dog toys, dog treats, canned puppy food, Advantage or Frontline for Dogs. We need (2) medium crates, (2) large crates, (1) extra large crate.

<u>Miscellaneous Items Needed</u>: yard lime (non-hazardous to animals), Round-up weed killer, large and extra large, bath mats and comforters.

Office Supplies: Colored copy paper (yellow, blue and purple), white copy paper, manila file folders, purple, red and blue file folders, Brother TN-420 toner cartridges.

<u>Donations of Services</u>: Pest control service, automobile service, plumbing services, air-conditioning and heating service, computer assistance, contractor services, photographer for the web site pictures.

JCHSEM to Develop Faith Based Organization Partnerships

Faith-based Community Organizations (FBCO) partnerships are extremely important before, during and after disasters. During the 2016 Summer Flooding event in Southern West Virginia, it was the FBCOs that assisted their communities with comfort, care, sheltering, distribution of resources and information to their membership during the disaster, and many of those same FBCO representatives are now serving on Long-Term Recovery Committees that are planning a better tomorrow for their communities and assisting with still-unmet needs

In WV Homeland Security and Emergency Management provided a training, Mobilizing Faith-Based Community Organizations in Preparedness of Disasters on November 3 in Moorefield. Representatives from Jefferson County attended the training and want to move forward encouraging more involvement with our local FBCOs. JCHSEM has scheduled a meeting with FBCOs on Wednesday, January 11 at 1:00 p.m. at the Jefferson County Maintenance Department Meeting Room at 128 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, WV 25430.

Invited to the meeting are faith-based community organization (FBCO) representatives, emergency managers, and first responders to strategically mobilize and engage members of FBCOs, including religious charities, nonprofits such as the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, churches (both affiliated and unaffiliated), temples, synagogues, mosques, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) etc., in a reciprocal approach to disaster planning that is integrated into current local emergency management efforts. We hope to emphasize grassroots mobilization and coordination efforts as a means of engaging all faith communities, thereby reaching those marginalized communities most vulnerable to disaster, most frequently excluded from the planning process, and ultimately, most difficult to aid in recovery. We will introduces vital emergency management concepts to FBCO leaders, and educate emergency management/first responder communities about the critical role FBCOs can play in strengthening preparedness.

Over the next several months, the group will focus on what roles FBCOs are already playing in disasters. Examples are that the United Methodist Church has UMCOR, the Lutheran Church has the S.T.U.F.F. program, and one + program, Salvation Army provides mobile and congregate feeding and provides disaster counseling. The Red Cross assists with sheltering, damage assessments, and the safe and well program. These are just a few examples. At the meeting, we will discuss others! We will also focus on how FBCOs can get information from emergency management that they need during disasters, and opportunities for their congregations and members to prepare their own disaster supply kits and family disaster and communications plans before the next disaster.

JCHSEM has recently developed an updated list of FBCOs and will be sending out an email invitation for the meeting. However, if you are reading this and you are interested, you are invited to attend! Please email Barbara Miller at bmiller@jeffersoncountywv.org if you would like to be added to the email list or if you have any questions about the meeting or the group.



Holiday Fire Safety from USFA

Cooking, candles, decorations, electrical cords, and heating devices, are all things you can expect at a winter holiday party, but, they're also fire hazards. Keep your holiday parties safe with these U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) tips:

- Test your smoke alarms and tell your guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking at high temperatures; like frying, grilling or broiling.
- Ask people who smoke to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them, so young children don't touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Thoroughly wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

Find Home Holiday Fire Facts, Christmas Tree Fire Safety, and other Holiday Fire Safety tips on the USFA's Holiday Fire Safety page: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/holiday.html

TSA Pittsburgh Surface Compliance Group Presentation to JCHSEM, Law Enforcement, and Surface Transportation Representatives in November

Sponsored by TSA Office of Security Operations, Surface Compliance Branch, TSA Pittsburgh-Surface Group met in Ranson at the Independent Fire Department with security experts in Intelligence, Law Enforcement, Explosives and Transportation Security with Federal, State, Local and private sector partners and learned about other TSA programs such as Security Assessments, Exercise development and facilitation, and Risk Mitigation Activities. Items discussed were:

- Multi-Modal Intelligence Briefing provided by TSA Office of Intelligence and Analysis,
- Active Shooter Training by Assistant Federal Security Director for Law Enforcement Frank Hartle,
- IED Awareness Training from TSA's Transportation Security Explosive Specialists,
- Security Awareness Training utilizing the First Observer Program by TSA Surface Inspectors. Inspector Joe Larkin was in charge of the program and worked with JCHSEM on the arrangements for the meeting.





Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Reminds Residents about Preparing for Extreme Winter Weather

With the winter season rapidly approaching, Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management (JCHSEM) is encouraging all residents of Jefferson County to be prepared for winter storms and extreme cold.

It is essential to know the terms used to describe changing winter weather conditions as they impact what actions you must to take to stay safe. These terms can be used to determine the timeline and severity of an approaching storm. (Advisory / Watch / Warning). The NWS also issues advisories and warnings for other winter weather, including blizzards, freezes, wind chill, lake effect snow, and dense fog. Be alert to weather reports and tune in for specific guidance when these conditions develop.

Freezing Rain - Rain that freezes when it hits the ground, creating a coating of ice on roads, walkways, trees and power lines.

Sleet - Rain that turns to ice pellets before reaching the ground. Sleet also causes moisture on roads to freeze and become slippery.

Wind Chill - Wind-chill is the temperature it "feels like" when you are outside. The NWS provides a Wind-chill Chart to show the difference between air temperature and the perceived temperature and the amount of time until frostbite occurs. For more information, visit: www.nws.noaa.gov/om/windchill.

<u>Winter Weather Advisory</u> - Winter weather conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences and may be hazardous. When caution is used, these situations should not be life threatening. The NWS issues a winter weather advisory when conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences that may be hazardous. If caution is used, these situations should not be life-threatening.

<u>Winter Storm Watch</u> - A winter storm is possible in your area. Tune in to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television for more information. The NWS issues a winter storm watch when severe winter conditions, such as heavy snow and/or ice, may affect your area but the location and timing are still uncertain. A winter storm watch is issued 12 to 36 hours in advance of a potential severe storm. Tune in to NOAA Weather Radio, local radio, TV, or other news sources for more information. Monitor alerts, check your emergency supplies, and gather any items you may need if you lose power.

Winter Storm Warning - A winter storm is occurring or will soon occur in your area.

Blizzard Warning - Sustained winds or frequent gusts to 35 miles per hour or greater and considerable amounts of falling or blowing snow (reducing visibility to less than a quarter mile) are expected to prevail for a period of three hours or longer. electricity. Your flashlight and radio should be either hand-cranked or battery-powered, and stored with extra batteries. Your cell phone charger should be hand-crank, solar, or able to be charged from a car outlet.

<u>MEDICAL</u> – Include first aid kit, prescription and non-prescription/over-the-counter medications, and medical supplies. <u>SANITATION</u> – Pack supplies for sanitation, such as hand sanitizer, towelettes, paper products, diapers, and plastic bags, for use when water resources are limited.

<u>ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY</u> – Include battery backup power for power-dependent mobility devices, oxygen, and other assistive technology needs.

EXTRA CLOTHING, BLANKETS, and SLEEPING BAGS – Dress in layers to keep warm if you lose power. Ensure you have enough clothing, hats, mittens, and blankets or sleeping bags for everyone in the house.

<u>ITEMS FOR SNOW AND ICE</u> – Stock up on rock salt to melt ice on walkways or sand or kitty litter to improve traction and snow shovels or other snow removal equipment.

<u>WOOD</u> – Store a supply of dry, seasoned wood if you have a working fireplace or wood-burning stove with a safe flue or vent. Please note that this is a basic list of supplies that should be in your emergency preparedness kit. Your kit should reflect your family's specific needs (such as access and functional needs, pets, or infants). For a more suggestions on what to include in your emergency preparedness kit, please check out: http://www.ready.gov/kit

It is also a good idea to prepare your automobile and house for the winter months. Ensure your car is winterized (checking key components, fluids, and safety measures) and has its own emergency preparedness kit. Ensure your home is ready for colder weather by insulating water pipes, cleaning out gutters, maintain heating equipment and chimneys, checking smoke detectors, and insulating walls and attics. For more general emergency preparedness tips, please check out: http://www.ready.gov

Finally, before the snow starts flying, be sure to sign up for Nixle Alerts. Using the Nixle program, Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management is able to send out emergency alert notifications by text, e-mail, Twitter, and Facebook. In order to sign up for these alerts, go to http://local.nixle.com/register or text your Jefferson County zip code to 888777 and then text JCHSEM to the same number. This is a free service.

Winter Safety for Senior Citizens

From the National Institute on Safety



Did you ever hear a parent tell a child to put on a coat before they catch a cold? That's because just being really cold can make you very sick, and it's not limited to kids. The National Institute on Aging (NIA) says older adults can lose body heat fast—faster than when they were young. A big chill can turn into a dangerous problem before an older person even knows what's happening. NIA has a brochure, Stay Safe in Cold Weather! with tips on how to stay warm when it's cold. Here are a few of the tips they recommend:

- Set your heat at 68 degrees or higher.
- Dress warmly on cold days even if you are staying in the house.
- Wear loose layers when you go outside on chilly days. Wear a hat, scarf, and gloves.
- Don't stay out in the cold and wind for a long time.
- ◆ Talk to your doctor about health problems that may make it harder for you to keep warm.
- Find safe ways to stay active even when it's cold outside.
- Ask a neighbor or friend to check on you if you live alone.
- If you think someone has hypothermia, call 9-1-1 right away. Cover him or her with a blanket. Don't rub his or her legs or arms.

For more tips including keeping warm inside and how to talk with your doctor about staying safe in cold weather, check out the Stay Safe in Cold Weather Booklet from NIA at https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/publication/stay-safe-cold-weather/what-hypothermia





DARK GRID AAR/IP Meeting and Meeting to begin planning the 2017 Exercise Series to be held on December 9th



There will be a West Virginia Homeland Security Region 3 Exercise Meeting at the Jefferson County Maintenance Department Meeting Room on December 9, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Due to the nature of this meeting, it is expected to go to approximately 3:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to review the 2016 Draft of the After Action Report, and to develop each County's Improvement Plan. Additionally, there will be a review of the 2015 Clandestine Chaos AAR/IP to see what improvements have been made over the past year that were identified in the IP. Finally, there will be a discussion about the 2017 Exercise Series and the EPA will accept input for next year's exercise series. They need to know what Core Capabilities that each Emergency Support Function is interested in focusing on in the seven counties that make up West Virginia Homeland Security Region 3. They are also accepting input from the communities about what resources, plans, and/or equipment that you need to test in next year's exercises. Finally, it has been suggested that agencies that normally have their own exercises, to try to make them a part of this larger exercise. Rather than having 8 exercises for various agencies over the course of the year, it is hoped that as much as possible can be folded into the WVHSR3 exercise.

There will be an EVENTBRITE site set up for the purpose of RSVPing soon. In the meantime, please contact Steve Allen, JCHSEM Deputy Director if you are interested in attending this regional meeting.

Sign Up to Receive NIXLE ALERTS!



Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management uses NIXLE

Alerts to send emergency alert notifications by text, e-mail, Facebook and Twitter. We send out weather watches and warnings, as well as Emergency Public Information during disasters. Examples include tornado, flood, severe snowstorm, and severe thunderstorm watches, warnings, advisories, and emergen-

cies, as well as, where emergency shelters are located, where commodities can be obtained, etc. Signing up is easy and its FREE! To sign up, go to

http://local.nixle.com/register or text your zip code to 888777 and then text JCHSEM to the same number.

In addition to NIXLE, we still use traditional media, such as newspapers, TV, and radio, however, receiving NIXLE alerts on your phone is the fastest way to receive emergency public information. Make sure that everyone in your family that has a phone, receives our emergency alerts in case that you are not together when a disaster happens. Make receiving NIXLE Alerts a part of your family's communication plan. If you have questions about NIXLE Alerts, you can go to www.nixle.com and click on "resident". You can always call our office if you have local questions or need assistance with getting registered.

Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management is hosting Media Day

Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management (JCHSEM) will be hosting a Media Day for local Public Information Officers and Media Representatives on Wednesday, January 4th, 2017 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm and the Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center.

Who: Local Public Information Officers and Local Media Representatives

What: JCHSEM is providing an opportunity for all of the local public information officers and media representatives to get to know each other better, share contact information, and talk about emergency public information during a critical incident.

Where: Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center

28 Industrial Blvd.

Kearneysville, WV 25430

When: Wednesday, January 4th 2017 at 1:00 pm

Why: This event provides an opportunity to discuss the roles and procedures of public information during a critical incident while working towards the common goal of keeping the general public safe and informed during a critical incident.

To reserve a spot for media day, please contact Brandon Vallee, by phone at 304-724-8914 or email to bvallee@jeffersoncountywv.org no later than 5:00 pm on January 3rd, 2017.

Disaster Exercises, 2016

WV Homeland Security Region III (WVHSR3) Initial Planning Workshop was held in Canaan Valley in November, 2015. Representatives of all of the Counties of WVHSR3 were in attendance. Additional planning meetings are upcoming.

The After Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) Meeting for the 2015 Clandestine Chaos Exercise was held for the region at the Jefferson County Maintenance Department on January 19, 2016 from 0900-1600.

2016 WV Homeland Security Region 3, Tabletop Exercise......April 19, 2016, Berkeley County 2016 Jefferson County Government COOP Tabletop Exercise......May 24, 2016, Bardane 2016 WV Homeland Security Region 3, Functional Exercise...June 21, 2016, Hampshire County 2016 WV State Emergency Response Commission TTX-Active Shooter/Power Plant..Camp Dawson 2016 WV Homeland Security Region 3, Full Scale Exercise.......September 17, 2016 2016 WV Homeland Security Region 3, AAR/IP Meeting......December 9, 2016

An effective exercise program is an essential component of our preparedness as it validates plans, tests operational capabilities, maintains leadership effectiveness, and examines ways to utilize the whole community. Exercise program management involves a collaborative approach that integrates resources, organizations, and individuals in order to identify and achieve program priorities.



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Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management-Committees

Steering Committee, John Sherwood, Chair

The Steering Committee works with the JCHSEM Director to guide the activities of JCHSEM. A fourteen-member Steering Committee is made up of public and private representation. JCHSEM is a Department within the Jefferson County Commission, who has overall responsibility for the department and its employees. The Jefferson County Commission appoints all members to the steering committee. This committee meets on the 4th Tuesday of February. March, May, June, August, September and holds a Nov/Dec meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the JCHSEM EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced. The Quarterly Partnership meetings held in January, April, July, and October also serve as the Steering Committee meetings for those months.

Public Awareness, Education and Training Committee, Katherine Dunbar, Chair

Any interested person can serve on this committee. The Public Awareness, Education and Training Committee is responsible to communicate the organization's activities to the public and to build support for JCHSEM's programs. They work with the Director and other staff to keep the entire community focused on the objectives of JCHSEM, the opportunities for additional involvement and support by updating citizens and businesses about what the partners are doing and how the community will and is benefiting from these efforts. Additionally, they are responsible to assist the program manager is setting up speaking engagements and public awareness events. This committee meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of the at 0830 in the EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced.

Partnership and Volunteer Development Committee, Holly Frye, Chair

Any interested person can serve on this committee. The Partnership Development committee assists the staff in identification and recruitment of potential partners and what they have to offer in community preparedness. This committee will be responsible for activities to promote partnership or membership development and recruitment of volunteers. This committee meets quarterly in the EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced. at 0830 on the last Monday of January, April, July and October.

Risk Assessment and Mitigation Planning Committee, Mason Carter, Chair

Any interested person may serve on this committee. The Risk Assessment/Mitigation Planning Committee examine the community's risks and vulnerability to all hazards and assess the community's vulnerability to those risks. A Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan was completed and adopted by the Jefferson County Commission, all Jefferson County municipalities, WVHSEM, and Federal Emergency Management Agency in July, 2003. The plan was updated in 2008 and 2013. The 2013 Plan was approved by WVDHSEM and FEMA in June, 2013. This committee meets Quarterly, and holds an Annual Meeting to review status of projects that were identified in the plan. Please call the office for exact dates and times.

Counter Terrorism Committee, Barbara Miller, Director, Chair

Membership to this sub-committee of the Risk Assessment and Mitigation Planning Committee is limited to members of law enforcement, emergency management, homeland security, emergency communications, Red Cross, schools, health care, fire companies, ambulance authority/EMS, and government, due to sensitive homeland security issues. The committee works on issues of planning and training for counter terrorism or human-caused disasters. Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced.

If you are interested in joining any of our committees, contact Barbara Miller at bmiller@jeffersoncountywv.org, or Brandon Vallee at bvallee<a href="mailto:bwille:bwil

Times, dates, places may need to be changed due to inclement weather, scheduling conflicts or EOC activation. If you have questions, call the JCHSEM office.

Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management

28 Industrial Blvd., Suite 101 Kearneysville, WV 25430

Barbara Miller, Director Phone: 304-728-3290

E-mail: bmiller@jeffersoncountywv.org

Stephen Allen, Deputy Director, Planner and Program Manager

Email: sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org

Brandon Vallee, Administrative Assistant, Public Information Officer and Volunteer Coordinator Phone 304-724-8914

Fax: 304-728-3320

PUBLIC SAFETY; PUBLIC TRUST

The Jefferson County Commission's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department is responsible for the coordination of preparedness, planning, response, recovery and mitigation of disasters and large emergencies in Jefferson County, West Virginia. Volunteer and community participation is encouraged and welcome. We currently have committees on Risk Assessment and Mitigation Planning; Public Awareness, Education and Training; Counter Terrorism; Partnership Development and Retention; and a Steering Committee that acts as an advisory group. We are responsible for the Citizen Corps/CERT, StormReady, Community Rating System, Resilient Neighbor Network and Project Impact programs. JCHSEM is also responsible for the Jefferson County R.A.C.E.S group.



Meetings & Events

December Meetings

- 1 -HAM Radio Night at the EOC
- 3-Breakfast with Santa at Independent Fire Department from 7 a.m.—11 a.m. See page 5 for prices.
- 5-Disaster Preparedness Presentation at the Jefferson County Council on Aging
- 6-JCHSEM Steering Committee Meeting (Combined November/December meeting) at 9 a.m. at Jefferson County EOC
- 6-Counter Terrorism Committee Meeting
- 9-Dark Grid Exercise AAR/IP Meeting at the Jefferson County Maintenance Department Meeting Room 0900
- 10-Blue Ridge Mountain Fire Department's Pancake Breakfast, 7-Noon. See page 5 for prices.
- 13 & 20-Counter Terrorism Committee Meetings
- 14-Public Awareness, Education and Training Committee @ 8:30 at Jefferson County EOC
- 21-Jefferson County LEPC Meeting at Independent Fire Department at 7:30 a.m. RSVP
- 26-Christmas Holiday, County Offices are Closed

January Meetings (See January Newsletter for more!)

- 02-New Year's Holiday, County Offices are Closed
- 03-Steering Committee Meeting at 9:00 @Jefferson County EOC
- 04-Media Day at the EOC 1:00-3:00 p.m. @ Jefferson County EOC RSVP to Brandon Vallee 304-724-8914
- 11-Faith Based Partners Meeting, 1:00 p.m. @Jefferson County Maintenance Department Meeting Room RSVP to Eventbrite