



# Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management

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

**December 2018**

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James M. Sager, Deputy Director, Planner,  
Program Manager  
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Information Officer and Volunteer  
Coordinator

## December 3-7, 2018 is Winter Weather Awareness Week

National Weather Service in Charleston, West Virginia:

After the mild and dry winter of 2017/2018, it would be easy to let your guard down. However, winter in the Mountain State can bring heavy snow, ice storms, bitter cold, and even severe thunderstorms and floods.

Now is the time to prepare for whatever winter may bring and the National Weather Service along with the West Virginia Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management have designated December 3-7, 2018 as Winter Weather Awareness Week.



Each year, dozens of Americans die due to exposure to the cold. Even more fatalities occur in vehicle accidents, fires caused by heaters, or due to carbon monoxide poisoning from the improper use of generators during power outages. The aftermath of a winter storm can also have an impact on a community for days, weeks or even months. Ultimately it is up to every citizen to be prepared for what winter may bring!

Know the risks your community faces and monitor weather forecasts. When a winter storm is in the forecast, communicate with family members and know their location and travel plans. Make sure all family members are able to get emergency alerts.

While the best idea is to just stay home during winter storms, sometimes that is not possible. Winterize your vehicle now, while the weather is warm, and keep an emergency kit in your car. Weather conditions can vary greatly within short distances here in the mountains so make sure to check the forecast and road conditions along your route of travel. The West Virginia Department of Transportation urges you to "know before you go" by checking traffic and road closure information at [wv511.org](http://wv511.org) before heading out the door.

Winter Weather Awareness Week is a perfect time for families, communities, schools and businesses to review their plans and to build or resupply their emergency kits. To help that effort, the National Weather Service in Charleston and Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management will share winter weather preparedness information throughout the week via the web, Facebook and Twitter.



Charleston National Weather Service during  
Snow Storm Jonas—Jan 2016

## Put a Freeze on Winter Fires



**National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA)** - Heating, holiday decorations, winter storms, and candles all contribute to an increased risk of fire during the winter months. The NFPA and the U.S. Fire Administration have teamed up to help reduce your risk to winter fires and other hazards, including carbon monoxide and electrical fires. Check out these winter fire safety facts:

- Most of the U.S. is at risk for winter storms, which can cause dangerous and sometimes life-threatening conditions. Blinding wind-driven snow, extreme cold, icy road conditions, downed trees and power lines can all wreak havoc on our daily schedules. Home fires occur more in the winter than in any other season, and heating equipment is involved in one of every six reported home fires, and one in every five home fire deaths.
- Heating is the second leading cause of U.S. home fires, deaths and injuries. December, January and February are the peak months for heating fires. Space heaters are the type of equipment most often involved in home heating equipment fires, figuring in two of every five fires (40%).
- Often called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas created when fuels such as gasoline, wood, coal, propane, etc. do not burn completely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel are potential sources of CO. Carbon monoxide incidents are more common during the winter months, and in residential properties.
- Portable generators are useful during power outages, however, many homeowners are unaware that the improper use of portable generators can be risky. The most common dangers associated with portable generators are carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, electrical shock or electrocution, and fire hazards. According to a 2013 Consumer Product Safety Commission report, half of the generator-related deaths happened in the four coldest months of the year, November through February, and portable generators were involved in the majority of carbon monoxide deaths involving engine-driven tools.
- December is the peak time of year for home candle fires; the top three days for home candle fires are Christmas, New Year's Day, and New Year's Eve. Each year between 2012 and 2016, an average of 8,200 home candle fires were reported each year.
- Electrical home fires are a leading cause of home fires in the U.S. Roughly half of all home electrical fires involved electrical distribution or lighting equipment, while nearly another half involved other known types of equipment like washer or dryer fans, and portable or stationary space heaters

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- Christmas trees are combustible items that become increasingly flammable as they continue to dry out in your home. One-third of home fires that begin with Christmas trees occur in January. Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur they're much more likely to be serious.

The following tips can help you and your family stay safe this winter and put a freeze on winter fires.

# PUT A FREEZE ON WINTER FIRES

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, **be fire smart!**

**Half of all home heating fires** occur in the months of



Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and **as far away as possible from your home.**

**Install and test** carbon monoxide alarms at least **once a month.**



Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year.**

Heating equipment is involved in **1** in every **7** reported home fires and **1** in every **5** home fire deaths.



Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least **10** feet from your home and any nearby buildings.

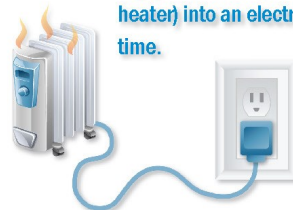


Keep anything that can burn at least

**3** feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, or space heaters.



Plug only **1** heat-producing appliance (such as a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov/winter](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/winter) and [www.nfpa.org/winter](http://www.nfpa.org/winter).



FEMA



U.S. Fire Administration



Fire is Everyone's Fight™



NFPA

## Need a Smoke Detector? Give the American Red Cross a Call



### *Smoke Alarms Save Lives!*

More lives are lost every year to home fires than to all major disasters.

Every day, seven people die in home fires, most in homes that lack working smoke alarms. Unfortunately, you are more likely to die in a home fire in West Virginia than any other state. To help save lives and make homes safer, the American Red Cross is installing FREE smoke alarms across the state.

To request a free alarm installation, visit [SoundTheAlarm.org/WestVirginia](https://SoundTheAlarm.org/WestVirginia) or call 1-844-216-8286.



## Snow Shoveling Safety

With the winter season rapidly approaching, Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management (JCHSEM) is encouraging Jefferson County Residents to shovel smart this winter.

According to the National Safety Council, snow shoveling is responsible for thousands of injuries and as many as 100 deaths each year. The combination of excess physical activity, increased heart rate, and high blood pressure with the combination of cold weather can cause heart attacks, displaced disks, sore muscles, or worse. Those with a history of heart disease should not shovel without a doctor's permission. If you feel tightness in your chest or dizziness, stop immediately. A clear driveway is not worth your life.

The National Safety Council recommends the following tips to shovel safely:

- Do not shovel after eating, drinking alcohol, or while smoking
- Take it slow and stretch out before you begin
- Shovel early and often. Fresh, powdery snow is lighter
- Push the snow rather than lifting it. If you do lift it, use a small shovel or only partially fill the shovel
- Lift with your legs, not your back
- Do not work to the point of exhaustion.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help



While using a snow blower may be a faster and easier alternative to shoveling, be aware of the risks. The American Society for Surgery of the Hand and the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons suggest the following for operating a snow blower:

- Follow the instructions of the snow blower and do not remove safety equipment
- If the blower jams, turn it off and disengage the clutch
- Keep your hands and feet away from the moving parts—consider using a stick or a broom instead
- Do not drink alcohol and use the snow blower
- Be aware of the carbon monoxide risk of running a snow blower in an enclosed space
- Refuel your snow blower when it is off, never when it is running.

Stay safe this winter!

## Sign Up to Receive Nixle Alerts!



JCHSEM 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 emergencies as well as, where emergency shelters are located, where commodities can be obtained (such as water or ice), etc. Signing up is easy and it's 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 access to a phone receives our emergency alerts in case 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](http://www.nixle.com) and click on "resident". You can always call our office if you have local questions or need assistance with getting registered.



## Don't Forget Pets in Need this Holiday Season



Each December, the Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management (JCHSEM) staff chooses a local group to collect donated goods during the holiday season. This year, the staff's choice is the Animal Welfare Society of Jefferson County. Below is their "wish list" for donated items. If you are attending any of the JCHSEM meetings between now and December 20, you are encouraged to bring donated items to them.

The JCHSEM staff will deliver the donated goods to the Animal Welfare Society of Jefferson on December 21st. 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: Animal Welfare Society of

Jefferson, P.O. Box 147, Charles Town, WV 25414, or you may donate online through their website at: [www.awsjc.org](http://www.awsjc.org).

Animal Welfare Society of Jefferson 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.

### Animal Welfare Society of Jefferson's Wish List:

**Paper Products:** Toilet paper, paper towels, newspapers.

**Medical Supplies:** Benedryl, Neosporin, Advantage or Frontline tick and flea medication for dogs and cats, vinyl and latex gloves (size large and extra-large).

**Cleaning Supplies:** Pine scent cleaner, Valu Time free & clear laundry soap (Weis Mkt), Lysol spray, Lysol floor cleaner, Clorox wipes, liquid clothing detergent (MUST be "HE" high efficiency type), 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.

**Cat Supplies:** Kitten food, dry cat food (MEAT as first ingredient - Nutro, Pro Plan, Rachael Ray, 4-Health), 40-lb Premium Pellet Bedding (Southern States), cat treats, cat toys, canned kitten food (Pate please), Advantage or Frontline for cats, small litter boxes and cat carriers (8 are needed), no tip stainless steel bowls.

**Dog Supplies:** Allergy formula dog food - Duck and Potato Natural Balance (available at Petco), puppy food, dog food, American made bully sticks, dog toys, dog treats, canned puppy food, Advantage or Frontline for Dogs.

**Miscellaneous Items Needed:** Yard lime (non-hazardous to animals), Round-up weed killer, large and extra large bath mats and comforters.

**Office Supplies:** Copy paper, 9-volt batteries, manila file folders, purple, red and blue file folders.

**Donations of Services:** Pest control service, automobile service, plumbing services, air-conditioning and heating service, computer assistance, contractor services, photographer for the website pictures.



## Welfare Society of Jefferson County - Pet Photos with Santa



**Animal Welfare Society  
Of Jefferson Co  
Santa Photos**

All animals welcome  
Pets must be leashed  
or in carriers

Family photos  
with Santa  
taken also

**Tractor Supply Store  
Rt 340  
Charles Town, WV**

**Dec 2, 2018  
1 - 3 PM**

\$10 per pose  
Photos will be emailed

\$15 for photos to be  
printed and mailed

All proceeds go towards operating funds at The Shelter

## Don't Forget Your Pets this Winter

**Remember, if it's too cold for you, it's probably too cold for your pet, so keep your animals inside.**

If left outdoors, pets can freeze, become disoriented, lost, stolen, injured or killed. In addition, don't leave pets alone in a car during cold weather, as cars can act as refrigerators that hold in the cold and cause animals to freeze to death.

For more tips and suggestions for preparing your pets for winter, check out Ready.gov : <https://www.ready.gov/animals> and the ASPCA: <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/cold-weather-safety-tips> for tips and suggestions.



**Don't Forget Your Pets**  
Bring them indoors

Make sure they have a warm dry place with  
plenty of food and water

   
weather.gov/winter



## JCHSEM Volunteer Spotlight - John Sherwood

John Sherwood has always had a passion for emergency services, professionally and personally. He grew up in Baltimore, MD and attended Loyola University as an accounting major. He joined the Army for four years serving under the 3<sup>rd</sup> armored division and the 44<sup>th</sup> medical brigade. After leaving the military, Mr. Sherwood attended Cornell University and took coursework in emergency services, focusing on tracing the development of Emergency Medical Services across the country. Mr. Sherwood assisted with the implementation of EMS programs in Baltimore, MD, Johnstown, PA, Honesdale, PA, and Allentown, PA while working in the medical field. During this time, he served as a volunteer paramedic, assisting local fire departments. After serving as the CEO of Wayne Memorial Hospital in Honesdale, PA, Mr. Sherwood moved to Jefferson County in 1999 after accepting a position at Jefferson Memorial Hospital as its CEO. Mr. Sherwood oversaw the merger of Jefferson Memorial Hospital with West Virginia University Medical System before retiring in 2005.



Following his retirement, Mr. Sherwood jokes that he has become a full time volunteer. Mr. Sherwood coordinates Second Home for Catholic Services, serves as an unofficial safety coordinator for St. John's Catholic Church, works with Hospice of the Panhandle to support and thank veterans for their service, and is a member of the Charles Town Rotary. He believes that volunteerism is an avenue to be involved and improve your community, learn life skills, and to help people.

Mr. Sherwood became involved with Jefferson County Emergency Management under Project Impact in 2001, after recognizing the importance to the community, the necessity of volunteerism, and the mixture of backgrounds and perspectives when planning and responding to a disaster. Mr. Sherwood has served as the chair of the Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Steering Committee since 2001, after missing the first meeting and being elected. Mr. Sherwood has assisted with the development and execution of the Disaster Ready Kids program and often assists in the Emergency Operations Center during disasters and training exercises.

When asked about which disaster, emergency, or weather event had the greatest impact on his life, Mr. Sherwood discussed a few events, including responding to a commuter plane crash in Johnstown, PA, the Johnstown, PA flood of 1977, and Hurricane Katrina. These events taught him the importance of emergency services during a disaster and the sheer destructive power of Mother Nature.

When asked about what piece of advice he could give to the community about emergency preparedness, Mr. Sherwood stressed the importance of residents learning how emergency services function and how the community can be involved in emergency preparedness. He suggested that people should take simple steps such as donating to the local fire department, taking a CPR class, and being aware of your surroundings (such as knowing where emergency exits, First Aid Kits, or AEDs are located). Mr. Sherwood encourages all residents to be prepared for any time of emergency by having an emergency preparedness kit, having a plan, and being ready to go.

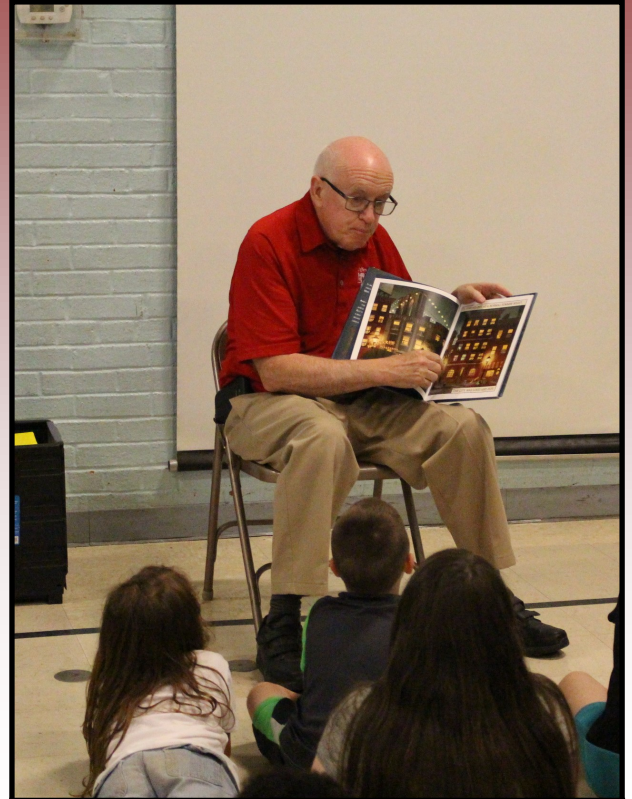
When Mr. Sherwood is not volunteering, his passions include reading fiction novels, biking on the C&O canal, and photography.

*Thank you for your service, Mr. Sherwood. From all of us at Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management, we truly appreciate everything that you have done for Jefferson County.*





Mr. Sherwood and Ed Smith catching up during a retirement party for Barbara Miller on December 13, 2017



Mr. Sherwood reading to students at Alpha Best Daycare at C.W. Shipley on June 24, 2016



Mr. Sherwood introducing the presenter at the Anvil during the October Quarterly Partnership Luncheon on October 12, 2017



Mr. Sherwood participating in the Jefferson County Board of Education School Bus Table Top Exercise on August 10, 2017



Mr. Sherwood playing with a "training leg" during the "Stop the Bleed" presentation during the April Quarterly Partnership Luncheon at Alfredo's Grill on April 27, 2018



## Don't Let The Grinch Spoil Your Holiday Season

**Jefferson County Sheriff's Office** - Black Friday signals the official opening to the holiday shopping season. As such, we would like to offer a few safety suggestions to keep you and your purchases safe:

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- No texting on the way to and from your vehicle.
- Be wary of strangers who approach you.
- Don't shop alone, especially at night.
- Get your keys out before leaving the store.
- The safest place to keep your purchases while out shopping is locked in your trunk. Should you not have enough trunk space available, on the floor of the back seat, covered with a blanket is a good alternative.
- Try not to use the ATM.
- Do not leave your purse in the car, but if you do, lock it in the trunk.
- Do not overload yourself with packages. Take them to your vehicle as often as practical.
- Try not to carry large sums of cash when shopping, paying with check or credit cards are the safest options.
- If you must carry a purse while shopping, a security travel pouch (aka really small fanny pack) or cross body bag or strap with the purse securely fitted to your front are the safest options.
- If you are shopping online and will not be home when your packages are delivered, consider having the packages shipped to a secure delivery location, your job (if permissible), or installing a secure package drop box at your home.



To protect yourself at home:

- Make sure your doors and windows are locked
- Put away ladders and tools that would aid burglars in breaking in.
- Inspect your Christmas lights for exposed and frayed wires.
- Make sure your tree always has plenty of water.
- Turn off Christmas lights when you go to bed.

If you are going to be spending an extended time away on vacation or visiting others:

- Use timers on your lights, TV, or radio to give the appearance that you are home.
- Make sure a vehicle is parked in your driveway.
- Place a hold on your mail or have a trusted friend, neighbor, or family member pick it up.





## Farewell Jefferson County!



When I moved to Charles Town from Cleveland, Ohio in July 2014, I came here unsure that I made the right decision. Having a new job, living in a new community, starting a new life—it can all be overwhelming. I have been asked numerous times, “why did you move to Jefferson County?” It was not for family, nor was it because I was familiar with the area. I moved to Jefferson County because I wanted to make a dramatic, positive impact on the community while learning all that I could in emergency management. I now know that I made the right decision and my life has been forever changed.

For the past four years, I have had the honor of serving the residents of Jefferson County as an Administrative Assistant, Public Information Officer, and as a Volunteer Coordinator for Jefferson County Homeland Security and

Emergency Management. This time almost seems like a blur, but we have been through so much; from earthquakes, snow storms, major flooding events, tornadoes, strong thunderstorms, and even a plane crash. It has been a wild ride.

My mission while working in Jefferson County was to ensure the community and its pets were informed, notified, prepared, and resilient for all matter of disaster. While I know there is always more work to do, I am pleased with the progress that has been made through Lunch and Learns, Blizzard the Preparedness Dog, Disaster Ready Kids, social media awareness weeks, and community outreach events from Bark in the Park to the Jefferson County Fair.

I have found a new emergency management opportunity for me to explore and unfortunately that means my last day with Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management will be on Monday November 26, 2018.

I am excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead of me. I truly appreciate all of the lessons learned, people I’ve met, and experiences we have shared while working in West Virginia. Thank you all for welcoming me to Jefferson County, making me feel at home, and sharing your kindness, empathy, compassion, experiences, humor, and knowledge. I can proudly say that I know I have a home in Jefferson County, regardless of where I am. Thank you!

—Brandon Vallee & Blizzard the Preparedness Dog  
([brandon.vallee@gmail.com](mailto:brandon.vallee@gmail.com))



## Pictures of the SKYWARN Basic Course on November 7, 2018



JCHSEM would like to give a special thanks to Kevin Witt with the National Weather Service, for presenting the SKYWARN Basics Course on November 7, 2018.

We would also like to give thanks to Ed Smith and Independent Fire Company for allowing us to host the course in their meeting hall.

Thank you for the 50+ people who attended.

Stay tuned for more SKYWARN Courses soon!



## Need Training?

Emergency Management is a constantly-changing field. Whether it is keeping up with the latest technology, to working with stakeholders to develop plans, conducting successful floodplain management, performing damage assessments, managing debris after a disaster, helping our communities to recover, or just learning the fundamentals, there are plenty of options available to you. Here are some great opportunities for training that you may or may not know about:

**West Virginia Military Affairs and Public Safety's Training Center, CourseMill**. If you are involved in emergency management in West Virginia, you can set up your free account at <http://www.onlinelearning.wv.gov/dmapscm6/home.html>.

Once you set up your account, you can log on and look at the list of available courses being taught in West Virginia. Current courses include the Basics of Floodplain Management, HazMat Highway Containers in a Tunnel Specialist, Search and Rescue in Community Disasters, Disaster Preparedness for Hospitals and HealthCare Organizations within the Community Infrastructure; National Emergency Management Basic Academy Train the Trainer; Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts, and Rail Care Incident Response for Crude, Ethanol and Other Flammable Liquids-Rail Car Response. The courses are always changing, so check back often.

**FEMA's Emergency Management Institute's** URL is <https://training.fema.gov/emi.aspx>. From this training portal, anyone can take their online independent study courses for free. There are over 100 courses to choose from. You can also browse the schedules and information about their on-campus resident courses for those who are involved in emergency management at the federal, state, local or tribal governments.

## Upcoming Training Opportunities

Here is a listing of upcoming state sponsored training opportunities. These courses are free to attend however registration is required to attend.

On December 4-5, there will be a PER-335 Critical Decision Making for Complex Coordinated Attacks course at the Highlands Conference Center in Triadelphia, WV.

On December 11-13, there will be a Law Enforcement Active Shooter Emergency Response (LASER) course at Orchard View Intermediate School in Martinsburg, WV. This course is for WV Law Enforcement only.

To Register for these FREE Classes, go to: <http://www.onlinelearning.wv.gov/dmapscm6>.

For questions about the course or registration, contact [Gregory.c.fernley@wv.gov](mailto:Gregory.c.fernley@wv.gov) or call 304-558-5380

Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management recommends the following FEMA Independent Study Courses. These courses are free and available online. Those courses can be found at: <https://training.fema.gov/is/>.

IS-393.b - Introduction to Hazard Mitigation

IS-317 - Introduction to Community Emergency Response Teams

IS-248 - Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) for the American Public

IS-505 - Religious and Cultural Literacy and Competency in Disaster



## Disaster Exercises 2018

WV Homeland Security Region III (WVHSR3) Full Scale Exercise for the 2018 Exercise Series was held at Jefferson County EOC on Saturday, October 27, 2018. Representatives from all counties in WVHSR3 and Western Maryland Partners participated in their respective counties. If you or your organization are interested in participating in the 2019 exercise series, please contact Stephen Allen at: [sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org](mailto:sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org)

2017 WV Homeland Security Region 3, AAR/IP Meeting..... Completed  
 2018 WV Homeland Security Region 3, Tabletop Exercise..... Completed  
 2018 WV Homeland Security Region 3, Functional Exercise..... Completed  
 2018 WV Homeland Security Region 3, Full Scale Exercise..... Completed  
 2018 WV Homeland Security Region 3, AAR/IP Meeting..... TBA

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.



**Left:** 2018 Functional Exercise. **Right:** 2018 Full Scale Exercise



## **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 following the Quarterly Partnership Luncheons held in January, April, July, and October and meetings are scheduled as needed. Please call the office for exact dates, locations, and times.

### **Public Awareness, Education and Training Committee, Paula Marrone-Reese, 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 in setting up speaking engagements and public awareness events. This committee meets monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 0830 in the EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced.

### **All Hazards Mitigation Planning Committee, Mason Carter, Chair**

Any interested person may serve on this committee. The All Hazards Mitigation Planning Committee examines the community's risks and vulnerability to all hazards and assess the community's vulnerability to those risks. An All Hazards 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 has begun work on the 2018 Plan and will meet as needed until the plan's completion in June 2018. Please call the office for exact dates and times.

### **Counter Terrorism Committee, Stephen Allen, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Stephen Allen at [sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org](mailto:sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org)

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

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James Sager- Deputy Director, Planner  
and Program Manager  
Phone 304-728-3329  
Email: [jsager@jeffersoncountywv.org](mailto:jsager@jeffersoncountywv.org)

Vacant - Administrative Assistant,  
Public Information Officer and Volunteer  
Coordinator  
Phone 304-724-8914  
Email:

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 All Hazards Mitigation Planning; Public Awareness, Education and Training; Counter Terrorism; 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***

- 6 - HAM Radio Night at the Jefferson County EOC*
- 7 - Quarterly Communications Drill at the Jefferson County EOC*
- 11 - Counter Terrorism Committee meeting at the Jefferson County EOC at 1400 hours*
- 12 - Public Awareness Committee meeting at the Jefferson County EOC at 0830 hours*
- 19 - LEPC Meeting at IHOP at 0700 hours*
- 24 - Christmas Eve Holiday: Office closes at 1300 hours*
- 25 - Christmas Day Holiday. Office is Closed*

*January 2019, 1 - New Year Day Holiday: Office is Closed*

*\* Sterling National Weather Service Calls every Monday at 9:00 a.m.*

*\* Weather Calls every Monday and Friday at 10:00 a.m. with State EOC and National Weather Service*