



March, 2015



Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management

www.jeffersoncountywv.org/homeland-security.html

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Chuck Ellison, Frontier Communications, Utility Representative.

John Reisenweber, Jefferson County Development Authority

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

Holly Frye, Shepherd University Service Learning Program

Staff:

Barbara Miller, CEM, CFM Director

Vacancy, Planner/Program Manager/Deputy Director

Brandon Vallee, Administrative Assistant, Public Information Officer and Volunteer Coordinator



Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Supports Flood Preparedness

JCHSEM will be supporting Flood Safety Awareness Week March 15-21, 2015 and encouraging all to know your risk, take action, and be an example where you live. Flooding is a nationwide threat to the United States and its territories throughout the year. However not all floods are alike. Some floods develop slowly, while others, such as flash floods, can develop in just a few minutes and without visible signs of rain. Additionally, floods can be local, impacting a neighborhood or community, or very large, affecting entire river basins and multiple states. Everyone should be aware of flood hazards no matter where you live or work, but especially if you are in low-lying areas, near a river or tributary, or downstream from a dam. Even very small streams, gullies, creeks, culverts, dry streambeds or low-lying ground that appear harmless in dry weather can flood.

Jefferson County, alongside the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Ready Campaign will be encouraging residents to take action against flooding by:

- Determining your risk to flooding by reviewing flood-hazard maps.
- Learn about the WV Floodmap Tool at <http://www.mapwv.gov/flood/>
- Signing Up for JCSHEM's Alert Text Messages and/or email alerts.
- Building an emergency kit and making a family communications plan.
- Elevating the furnace, water heater and electric panel in your home if you live in an area that has a high flood risk.

For more information about how to protect you and your family from the effects of flooding, go to <http://www.ready.gov/floods>



Flooding at Harpers Ferry on both the Potomac & The Shenandoah Rivers



A board mounted on a building in Harpers Ferry shows the high water marks of the history of the town's floods.

2015-State Training Opportunities

Questions regarding these courses should be address to Christian Fernley, State Training Officer at 304-558-5380

G548 Continuity of Operations Managers Training Course

Date: March 17-19, 2015

Time: 8am - 5pm

Location: Cacapon State Park

Course Description:

This course is designed to acquaint experienced Continuity of Operations (COOP) practitioners and instructors with the COOP Program Managers Course materials. The course will also refresh experienced instructors on instructional methodology and techniques.

Selection Criteria: This course is designed for Public Sector staff with responsibility for managing their COOP effort. Others who are integral to the COOP planning process may also take the course. Required Prerequisites: Participants must have knowledge of COOP Programs and the Federal Continuity Directives 1 and 2. Recommended Prerequisite: IS-0547.a, Introduction to Continuity of Operations Course Length: 3 days

L-273 Basics of Floodplain Management Course

Date: March 23-26, 2015

Time: 8:30am to 4:30pm

Location: Quality Hotel Conference Center, Harpers Ferry, WV

Course Description:

The L-273 Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP is a free (expenses paid through CAP-SSSE Grant) FEMA sponsored comprehensive four day ,hands on, participatory training course on program aspects of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) presented annually (in various WV locations) for Floodplain Administrators and Local officials of our Counties and Communities. Class size is limited to thirty-first come- first served. Focus is geared toward, but not limited to, training newly appointed (less than one year experience) or non floodplain educated Community Floodplain Administrators in permitting and enforcement of FEMA minimum development standards and regulations for established flood zone areas.

The course is taught by FEMA Region III Planning Officers and WV NFIP staff per an existing 12 unit FEMA produced Power-Point schedule covering, as examples, Floodplain mapping, flood insurance, legal issues, permitting, outreach, regulations, etc..

Attendance at this course serves to satisfy WV's annual six hour Floodplain Management training requirement as well as fulfilling some of the ASFPD required hours to meet Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) biannual CE requirements.

Prerequisites:

Each applicant must register for participation by filling out the 119-245-1 FEMA application found on the FEMA website at <http://training.fema.gov/apply> . As well, a Student Identification Number (SID) must be obtained to be registered at the EMI facility in Maryland at <http://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid/> which serves to obtain the attendance certificate.

POC: Robyn C. Mumphard @ 304-957-2571.

National Disaster Recovery Framework Health and Social Services Recovery Support Function Boot Camp Training!!!

Where: Charleston, WV

When: 2 Options to attend: April 15, 2015; 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

--OR--

April 16, 2015; 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Facilitator: CDR Betty Hastings

U.S. Department of Health & Human Service

DHHS/ASPR/Office of Emergency Management/Division of Recovery

Target Audience: Disaster Volunteer Agencies, Local and State Government and First Response Agencies

There will be a Boot Camp Training that will provide participants with an in depth examination of the National Disaster Recovery Framework and the Health and Social Services Recovery Support Function.

For more information or to register for one of the two sessions, please contact Gina Namay at Volunteer WV at (304) 558-0111 or gina.l.namay@wv.gov. A person only needs to register for one session and a confirmation email will be sent.

Lunch will be provided.

Recommended Independent Study Courses for March, 2015

Each month, JCHSEM recommends one or more of the FEMA Independent Study Courses for all volunteers to take to increase their knowledge base. Two courses have been chosen for the month of March. The courses are:

IS-550: Continuity Exercise Design Course and
IS-524: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Planner's Workshop.

The IS-550 course is designed to provide students with the tools and experience necessary to develop continuity exercises for their organization. This course explains the unique aspects of continuity exercise design. The course also provides instruction on how to develop a continuity exercise and allows participants to utilize what they learn to create continuity exercises. It can be found at <http://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-550>.

The IS-524 course Continuity of Operations (COOP) Planner's Workshop is to provide COOP training for Continuity Planners at the Federal, State, Territorial, Local, and Tribal levels of government. Federal Continuity Directive (FCD) 1 directs the Federal executive branch departments and agencies and offers guidance for non-federal, in governments for developing COOP Plans and Programs. COOP Plans facilitate the performance of essential functions during any situation which may disrupt normal operations. The goal of this workshop is to provide you with the tools and hands-on experience necessary to improve your departments' or agencies' Continuity of Operations (COOP) plans. It can be found at <http://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-524>

Once completed and the student has passed the online test, a certificate from FEMA will be emailed to you recognizing your course completion.

JCHSEM hosted the National Weather Service Basics I Skywarn Stormspotter Class on February 26th at Independent Fire Company

Kevin Witt and Ashley Sears from the National Weather Service in Sterling, Virginia taught the NWS Skywarn Stormspotter Class to over 85 people on February 26, 2015 at Independent Fire Company. If you missed this offering, but want to take a stormspotter class, you can find another by visiting the Skywarn page at <http://www.weather.gov/lwx/skywarn>. The National Weather Service offers classes throughout their forecast area.

Special thanks to Jay Watson and Independent Fire Company for allowing us to use their facility for the class!



Disaster Exercises, 2015

WV Homeland Security Region III (WVHSR3) Initial Planning Workshop was held in Moorefield in December, 2014. Representatives of all of the Counties of WVHSR3 were in attendance. Additional planning meetings are upcoming.

WV Hospital Association, Regions 8 & 9 After Action Meeting.....January 20, 2015 in Hampshire Co.

Jefferson County Government, Continuity of Operations Training and Tabletop Exercise, January 23, 2015

WV Homeland Security Region III Tabletop Exercise.....April 22, 2015

WV Homeland Security Region III Functional Exercise.....To Be Announced

Jefferson County LEPC Tabletop Exercise.....To Be Announced

WV Homeland Security Region III Full Scale Exercise.....September 19, 2015 in each of the Counties of WV Homeland Security Region III. The Jefferson County EOC will be activated, as well as, Emergency Responders in the field.

WV Homeland Security Region 3 Improvement Planning Workshop ..To Be Announced.

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.



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 in 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, Jeff Jefferies, Chair

Any interested person may serve on this committee. The Risk Assessment/Mitigation Planning Committee examines 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. 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 either bmiller@jeffersoncountywv.org or bvallee@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**

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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

March, 2015

10 Counter Terrorism Committee Meeting at JCEOC, 1400 Hours

11 Public Awareness Committee Meeting at JCEOC, 0830 Hours

17-19 G548 Continuity of Operations Managers Training Course at Cacapon State Park. (See page 2)

23-26 L-273 Basics of Floodplain Management Course at the Quality Inn Conference Center in Harpers Ferry (See page 2)

31 Steering Committee Meeting at JCEOC, 0900 Hours

Other dates to plan for:

April 22 WV Homeland Security Region 3 Table Top Exercise, 1000-1500 in Hampshire County.

May 9-National Pet Preparedness Day

June through September-Disaster Ready Kids Program

June 6-Bark in the Park

June 7-10 West Virginia Emergency Management Conference at Canaan Valley State Park

July-Date & Place TBA-WV Homeland Security Region 3 Functional Exercise

August 16-22 -Jefferson County Fair Booth

September-National Preparedness Month

September 19-WV Homeland Security Region 3 Full Scale Exercise-Venues throughout Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Hardy, Grant, Hampshire, Mineral and Pendleton Counties.

Please mark your calendars for October 27-28, 2015 for the Jefferson County LEPC's Mass Fatalities Conference at The Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Shepherdstown! Watch for more information in the coming months!!