



May, 2015

DISASTER READY KIDS PROGRAM

Jefferson County Commissioners:

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Chuck Ellison, Frontier Communications, Utility Representative.

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

Holly Frye, Shepherd University Service Learning Program

Staff:

Barbara Miller, CEM, CFM Director

Sandee Niles, Planner/Program Manager/Deputy Director

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

Do you have summer children's programs that you are looking for activities and/or readers for? We can help!

Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management is once again sponsoring the Disaster Ready Kids Program for 2015.

This year we will be utilizing the "Mimi Mouse Learns to Prepare for Emergencies" DVD and accompanying materials. The Mimi Mouse program is designed for 4-7 year olds and provides general tips for parents on how to talk about emergencies, teaches children what an emergency kit is and how to build one, informs children about who to contact during an emergency, and how to review and practice for the family's emergency plan.

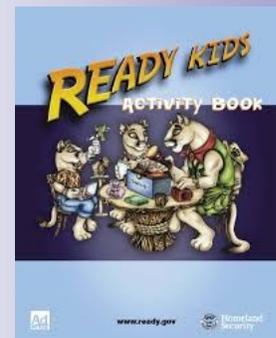
If your group of children is over the age of 9, we can show them how to put together a Family Disaster Kit or a Pet Disaster Supply Kit.

Our staff will come to your facility, present the chosen materials, and begin encouraging everyone to start thinking about emergencies in a positive and interactive way. The only requirements are that you have adults there to be responsible for the children while the activities are taking place, that you let us know how many children to prepare for (estimate), and that you work with us to schedule a time that works well for both organizations.

There is no cost to participate in this program.

We are scheduling for the 2015 summer season from May 1 until September 30, 2015. If you have questions, please contact Brandon Vallee at 304-724-8914 or email to bvallee@jeffersoncountywv.org as soon as possible. If you would like to schedule a session, please ask Brandon to send you the list of available programs and the form to set up you session.

We do need at least a two-week notice to schedule your activity.



Sandee Niles Selected as JCHSEM Deputy Director/Planner/Program Manager

Sandee Niles was sworn in as Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management's new Deputy Director/Planner/Program Manager on April 20 at the Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center by County Clerk, Jennifer Maghan.



Ms. Niles will soon graduate with her Masters Degree in Emergency Management from American Public University in Charles Town. Over the course of her career, Sandee served with the United States Senate where she was the senior program manager for emergency preparedness and logistics, spent six years with the United States Coast Guard, and has served as a firefighter, medic, and a long-time Red Cross volunteer.

Sandee's office number is 304-728-3329 and her email is sniles@jeffersoncountywv.org



JCHSEM Staff



L to R: Sandee Niles, Deputy Director/Planner/Program Manager; Barbara Miller, Director; and Brandon Vallee, Administrative Assistant/Public Information Officer/Volunteer Coordinator.

Recommended Independent Study Courses for May, 2015

Each month, JCHSEM recommends one or more of the FEMA Independent Study Courses for all volunteers to take to increase their knowledge base. The courses chosen for May are: IS-248, Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) for the American Public. The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Program Management Office designed this course to provide the American Public with an introduction to IPAWS. It identifies the key features and benefits of IPAWS and the authorities responsible for sending alert and warning messages. It also describes the actions you can take before and during an emergency to protect yourself and your loved ones. You can find this course at:

<https://www.training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-248>

and IS-42, Social Media in Emergency Management. Social media is a new technology that not only allows for another channel of broadcasting messages to the public, but also allows for two way communication between emergency managers and major stakeholder groups. Increasingly the public is turning to social media technologies to obtain up to date information during emergencies and to share data about the disaster in the form of geo data, text, pictures, video, or a combination of these media. Social media also can allow for greater situational awareness for emergency responders. While social media allows for many opportunities to engage in an effective conversation with stakeholders, it also holds many challenges for emergency managers. The purpose of this course is to provide the participants with best practices including tools, techniques and a basic roadmap to build capabilities in the use of social media technologies in their own emergency management organizations (State, local, Tribal) in order to further their emergency response missions. You can find this course at: <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=is-42>

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

Volunteer Opportunities

Disaster Ready Kids Program:

JCHSEM is looking for a few people to add to our cadre of volunteers to be trained to become a part of our Disaster Ready Kids Program for the Summer of 2015. The program runs May through September. Volunteers must fill out a Jefferson County Government Volunteer application, successfully pass a background investigation, and complete a training to be held on May 5 before being accepted for this program. Volunteers will assist JCHSEM staff to present age-appropriate information to children at daycare centers, schools, camps, scout troops, and other youth groups. The presentations may include reading children's disaster preparedness books, showing DVDs, working on activities, teaching pet preparedness, or teaching children how to help their family to prepare a disaster supply kit. Interested persons should contact Brandon Vallee, JCHSEM Volunteer Coordinator at 304-724-8914 to apply. Volunteers should love children, be animated readers, and have a passion for teaching preparedness activities. Teachers/counselors of the groups remain with the children at all times.

National Pet Preparedness Day at Petco & Bark in the Park

On Saturday, May 9, JCHSEM staff and volunteers will have a table at Petco in Ranson to give out preparedness information and talk to customers about how to prepare a disaster supply kit for their domestic pets and how to prepare the same for their human companions. Volunteers need to know about pet preparedness and must be able to hand out brochures to participants at these events. The Bark in the Park volunteers will also need to be able to walk a short distance and may be asked to assist putting up and taking down the tent, as this is an outside event. Shifts for May 9 are from 10 a.m. –1 p.m. and from 1 p.m. –4 p.m. at Petco in Ranson. Shifts for June 6 are from 10 a.m.—Noon and from Noon-2 p.m. Interested persons should contact Brandon Vallee, JCHSEM Volunteer Coordinator at 304-724-8914 to apply.

2015 Clandestine Chaos Regional Table Top Exercise

Jefferson County joined with other counties in West Virginia Homeland Security Region 3 for the annual Table Top Exercise that was designed and carried out by the Environmental Protection Agency on April 22 at the Berkeley County Sheriff's Department in Martinsburg. Clandestine Chaos was a Terrorism/Meth Lab Hazardous Materials scenario. Below are pictures from the exercise:





The Annual Governor's Service Awards are a wonderful opportunity to recognize those who dedicate countless hours of their time to help those in need and build a brighter future for West Virginia. I encourage everyone to nominate a West Virginian or a group of West Virginians who have gone above and beyond to bring about positive change in their communities and our state.".....Governor Tomblin

Do you know an individual, family, organization or business that exemplifies community leadership through service? Nominate a local hero for a Governor's Service Award today!

To nominate a local hero, go to:

http://www.volunteerwv.org/2/programs/gsa/index_programs_gsa_2015_input.cfm



Job Opportunity

The American Red Cross is currently seeking a Disaster Program Specialist for their Kearneysville, WV Chapter. This position will cover the WV Region. As a Disaster Program Specialist, work hours can vary based upon need as agreed upon by the selected candidate and supervisor to include 1st, 2nd or 3rd shift during weekdays and weekends. To read the full job description and find out how to apply, go to <https://www.americanredcross.apply2jobs.com/ProfExt/index.cfm?useaction=mExternal.showJob&RID=54639>

Red Cross Update at Quarterly Partnership Luncheon

Karen Allen, WV American Red Cross spoke at the Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Quarterly Partnership meeting on April 29. In addition to bringing the group up-to-date on the Northeast West Virginia Chapter transitions, she also talked about filling the open position in their Kearneysville office, and the need for many more Red Cross volunteers throughout the service area.



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

THIRA Training Workshop, Berkeley County.....April 13, 2015

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

WV Homeland Security Region III Functional Exercise.....July 20, 2015

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 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. 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 sniles@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

May, 2015

- 4 ETEAM Training at Jefferson County EOC 1500-1700
- 6 Training for Volunteers helping with the Disaster Ready Kids Program, 1600
- 7 HAM Radio Testing at Jefferson County EOC
- 9 National Pet Preparedness Day at Petco, 1000-1600
- 12 EOC Participant Training at Jefferson County EOC, 1000-Noon
- 12 Counter Terrorism Committee Meeting at Jefferson County EOC, 1400
- 13 Public Awareness Committee Meeting at Jefferson County EOC at 0830
- 13 Jefferson County LEPC Meeting at Noon. Members watch your email for place TBA
- 19 Eastern Panhandle Emergency Manager's Association (EPEMA) meeting at Canaan Valley Fire Department at 1800.
- 20-21 EOC/ICS Training at Canaan Valley State Park, 0800-1700 daily.
- 25 Memorial Day Holiday, Office is Closed
- June 2-JCHSEM Steering Committee at 0900 at Jefferson County EOC Conference Room
- June 6-Bark in the Park
- June 7-10 West Virginia Emergency Management Conference at Canaan Valley State Park
- July 20 WV Homeland Security Region 3 Functional Exercise in Hampshire County
- August 16-22 -Jefferson County Fair Booth
- September 19-WV Homeland Security Region 3 Full Scale Exercise-Venues throughout Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Hardy,