



October, 2016



Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management

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

October, 2016

JCHSEM Quarterly Partnership Meeting at The Anvil on October 28 Jason Elliott, Hydrologist for NWS is Speaker

Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management will hold their final Quarterly Partnership Meeting of 2016 at The Anvil Restaurant, 1290 W. Washington St., Harpers Ferry, WV 25425 on October 28.

Jason Elliott, Hydrologist for the National Weather Service in Sterling, VA will be the speaker. His comments will include information about the return of the Potomac River Gauge in Shepherdstown after 12 years of absence.



Lunch choices:

Chef salad with ham, turkey, cheese, etc w/ choice of dressing

1/4 lb Cheeseburger w/ fries

Crab cake sandwich w/ fries

Price inclusive is \$15.00 per person, payable to The Anvil at the luncheon.

To register for the luncheon, contact Steve Allen, JCHSEM Deputy Director at 304-728-3329 or email him at sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org prior to Friday, October 14th. Be sure to include your choice of menu items!

Jefferson County Commissioners:

Patsy Noland, President

Walt Pellish, Vice President

Dale Manuel

Peter Onozko

Jane Tabb

Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Steering Committee:

John Sherwood, Chair

Ed Smith, Vice Chair, Fire and Rescue Representative

Michele Goldman, Eastern Panhandle Care Clinic

Katherine Dunbar, Good Shepherd Inter-Faith Caregivers

Mason Carter, Jefferson County Department of Engineering

Jeffrey Polczynski, ENP, Jefferson County Emergency Communications Center

Jane Tabb, County Commission Representative

Kelly Parsons, Nichols, DeHaven & Associates

Pete Dougherty, Jefferson County Sheriff

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

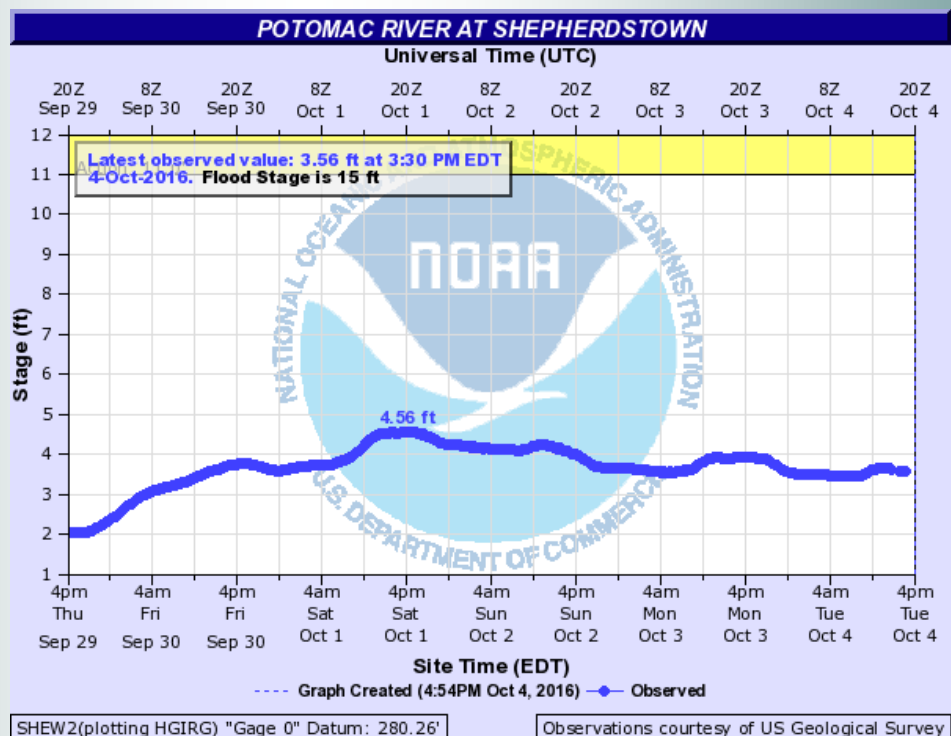
Clair Brendel, American Red Cross

Staff:

Barbara Miller, CEM, CFM
Director

Stephen Allen, Planner/Program Manager/
Deputy Director

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



FOCUS GROUP STUDY SEEKS PARTICIPANTS

Jefferson County Area Residents

Have you experienced flooding?
Do you rely on flood forecasts to decide when to prepare?



Nurture Nature Center is recruiting participants for focus groups, as part of a research project with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, about the use of National Weather Service flood forecast and warning tools.

Participants will be asked to answer questions and provide input about various flood warning tools and products issued by the National Weather Service.



Participants should live in the Jefferson County area and be at least 18 years of age. Each participant will receive \$20 compensation for their time and input. Light refreshments will be provided.

Wednesday, October 19 — 7 p.m.

Jefferson County Maintenance Department
128 Industrial Blvd.
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Focus groups will also be held for residents in Frederick County, MD and Water Resource and Emergency Managers in both Jefferson County, WV and Frederick County, MD. For information on those sessions, see socialscience.focusonfloods.org or contact Rachel Hogan Carr at rhogan@nurturenature.org or 610-253-4432.



The Nurture Nature Center is a non-profit organization whose focus is on flood education.

This project was funded by the NOAA
National Weather Service, Grant number
NA16NWS4680004.



Register online at socialscience.focusonfloods.org
or by email or phone at: rhogan@nurturenature.org or 610-253-4432.

Don't Wait, Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms every 10 Years October is Fire Prevention Month



October is Fire Prevention Month. This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Don't Wait – Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years," represents the final year of our three-year effort to educate the public about basic but essential elements of smoke alarm safety.

Why focus on smoke alarms three years in a row? Because NFPA's survey data shows that the public has many misconceptions about smoke alarms, which may put them at increased risk in the event of a home fire. For example, only a small percentage of people know how old their smoke alarms are, or how often they need to be replaced.

As a result of those and related findings, NFPA is addressing smoke alarm replacement this year with a focus on these key messages:

Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years.

Make sure you know how old all the smoke alarms are in your home.

To find out how old a smoke alarm is, look at the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm; the alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date.

A poster for an Open House event by Citizens Fire Co. The top section features a banner with the text "CITIZENS STRICTLY FIRE CO. VOLUNTEER" and an image of a fire truck. Below the banner, the text "OPEN HOUSE" is written in large, bold letters. To the left of "OPEN HOUSE" is a red fire hydrant icon, and to the right is a red fire extinguisher icon. Below "OPEN HOUSE" is the text "Sat. Oct. 8, 2016 1pm till 4pm". Below this text are four small images: a fire truck, a fire hydrant, a fire truck, and a fire truck. Below each image is a label: "EQUIPMENT TOURS", "DEMONSTRATIONS", "FUN FOR THE KIDS", and "FOOD AND DRINKS". Below these labels is the text "FIRE SAFETY DISPLAYS". At the bottom left, the text "CITIZENS FIRE CO. IS LOCATED AT 245 CITIZENS WY. CHARLES TOWN, WV 25414 (OFF THE 340 BYPASS) FOR MORE INFO, VISIT US AT WWW.CITIZENSFIRECOMPANY.COM OR LIKE US ON [facebook](#)" is written. At the bottom right is a logo for "Working SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES" with the tagline "Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery" and "Prevention Is Life Saving".

Mobilizing Faith-Based Community Organizations in Preparedness of Disasters

Date: November 3, 2016

Time: 8am to 5pm

Location: Believer's Victory Center - 160 Victory Lane, Moorefield, WV

Course Description:

This 8-hour, planning and management-level course trains faith-based community organization (FBCO) representatives, management-level emergency managers, and first responders from small and rural communities 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 NGOs etc., in a reciprocal approach to disaster planning that is integrated into current local and statewide emergency management efforts. This course emphasizes 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. This course introduces vital emergency management concepts to FBCO leaders, many of whom will have had no prior experience with emergency management and also seek to educate emergency managers and first responders about the critical role FBCOs can play in strengthening preparedness. PRE-REQUISITES: IS-100.b - Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS)

To enroll for this course, go to www.onlinelearning.wv.gov/dmapscm6



16th Annual Public Service Banquet



Jefferson County
Chamber of Commerce

The Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the 16th annual Public Service Banquet that will be held at the Skyline Terrace of Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races from 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. on October 18, 2016. Tickets are \$10 each and available from the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce.

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 emergencies, 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.

USGS Shepherdstown River Gauge returns to the Potomac River!

Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) is an essential component of our Climate, Water, and Weather Services. AHPS is a web-based suite of accurate and information-rich forecast products. They display the magnitude and uncertainty of occurrence of floods or droughts, from hours to days and months, in advance. These graphical products are useful information and planning tools for many economic and emergency managers. These products enable government agencies, private institutions, and individuals to make more informed decisions about risk based policies and actions to mitigate the dangers posed by floods and droughts.

The USGS Shepherdstown River Gauge was damaged and removed several years ago, but has now been returned to Potomac River so that forecasters can now make better predictions for interests along the Potomac downstream. "Having the Potomac River gauge live again is great news for our community and for those downstream of Shepherdstown on River Road, in the Glen Haven Community, and Harpers Ferry, as well as communities in Maryland and Virginia downstream. The USGS gauges are a key component of river forecasting and should help the hydrology forecasters at the National Weather Service to make better predictions for flood watches, warnings, advisories, and emergencies for the Potomac River now and in the future for our residents," said Barb Miller, Jefferson County's Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. "For example, if we know that the river is forecasted to go to 15 feet, we know that River Road below Shepherdstown will be fully covered with water, and residents can plan accordingly. Its great to have this resource back in the Potomac!"



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

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, Mason Carter, 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, 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, Stephen Allen at sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org, or Brandon Vallee at 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**

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
Phone 304-728-3329
Email: sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org

Brandon Vallee, Administrative Assistant,
Public Information Officer and Volunteer
Coordinator
Phone 304-724-8914
Email: bvallee@jeffersoncountywv.org

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

OCTOBER MEETINGS

- 1-Ranson Hispanic Festival, JCHSEM will have a Preparedness Booth!*
- 4-Special Meeting of Public Awareness, Education & Training Committee to work on CRS PPI Project*
- 6-Ham Radio Night at the EOC*
- 7-Eastern Panhandle Emergency Management Association Meeting at Hampshire County EOC, Romney*
- 11-Counter Terrorism Committee Meeting*
- 12-Public Awareness, Education & Training Committee Meeting*
- 18-5 Year Review of Jefferson County's Community Rating System Activities with ISO Representative*
- 18-Emergency Responder's Banquet at Skyline Terrace-Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races, 5:30-Tickets available from Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce*
- 19-Jefferson County LEPC Meeting at IHOP, Charles Town*
- 19-Nurture Nature Center to host Flood Focus Group at Jefferson County Maintenance Department. Contact Nurture Nature Center to register. Must preregister to participate.*
- 21-Harpers Ferry Women's Club tour of EOC and 9-1-1 Center*
- 28-JCHSEM Quarterly Partnership Meeting at The Anvil in Harpers Ferry. Sign up by contacting Steve Allen, Deputy Director at 304-728-3329 or email to sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org*