



Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management

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

August 2019

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The Heat Is On, Cold Lemonade Anyone?



On August 2, 1999 President Bill Clinton declared all 55 counties in West Virginia were part of a federal drought disaster area. A devastating drought and heat wave caused losses to farmers in West Virginia to exceed 80 million dollars. This drought also included counties from Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, and

Connecticut. Much needed rain from hurricanes Dennis and Floyd effectively ended the drought in September.

It's summer time in Jefferson County and many people are enjoying the warm weather with family vacations, days at the lake, and time by the pool. In this edition of the Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management's (JCHSEM) newsletter, we will continue to look at the hazards and weather issues indicative of the summer months as the weather continues to heat up.

August's themes include National Night Out and Back to School - Children and Youth Preparedness. We will discuss upcoming training opportunities offered locally as well as training offered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). We will also be sharing with you some tips for disaster preparedness for you and your family.

National Night Out

Together with FEMA, JCHSEM is recognizing National Night Out on the first Tuesday in August. National Night Out, established in August of 1984, was introduced to promote involvement in crime prevention activities as well as a way to foster police-community partnerships. This event has grown





into a symbol of camaraderie amongst neighbors, families, and individuals. National Night Out aims to make our neighborhoods safer places to live by fostering community relationships and inspiring friendships among individuals from all walks of life.

Today, there are over 16 thousand communities that participate in this event. Many people host cookouts, parades, and large festivals to celebrate the law

enforcement community. The Shepherdstown Police Department, in conjunction with the Shepherd University Police Department, will be hosting a National Night Out like event. This event, however, will not be held on the official National Night Out of August 6, but will be held instead sometime in September. More information on this event will be published in the September Newsletter.

Back to School - Children and Youth Preparedness

It's almost that time. The time children dread but parents are secretly happy about: school is almost back in session! Although there are still a few weeks of summer fun left, school will start for Jefferson County Public Schools on Monday, August 19. During the month of August, and all throughout the year, JCHSEM is recognizing the importance of children and youth preparedness.

Children respond to disasters differently than adults do. Children have unique needs that must be accounted for when disaster strikes. Many parents think it may be too scary to discuss disasters with their children. The truth is, however, the more open the communication and discussion is, the better prepared children will be when disasters happen. It is very important to ensure children are included in disaster preparedness discussions. This will help provide reassurance and create a sense of empowerment in children. The more they know and are prepared, the less stressful and scary the situation will be.



Perhaps start the conversation by asking the child if he or she knows what the words disaster and emergency mean. This will open up the conversation and allow you to begin building on the child's concepts of disasters. Remember, children are naturally inquisitive individuals. Be ready to answer their questions by preparing yourself with knowledge. Know the hazards and risk of disasters in your area. Is your area prone to

[illegible]

create a scavenger or shopping hunt to prepare your supply kit. For more information on how to create your kit visit <https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>.

Children regularly spend large amounts of time in a daycare or school facility. For many parents, it is very important to be confident in the safety of their children at school. Discuss with your child's day care or school about the emergency plans they have in place to ensure the safety of the children in their care. All schools should have an organized and systematic emergency operations plan to prepare, respond to, and recover from a crisis

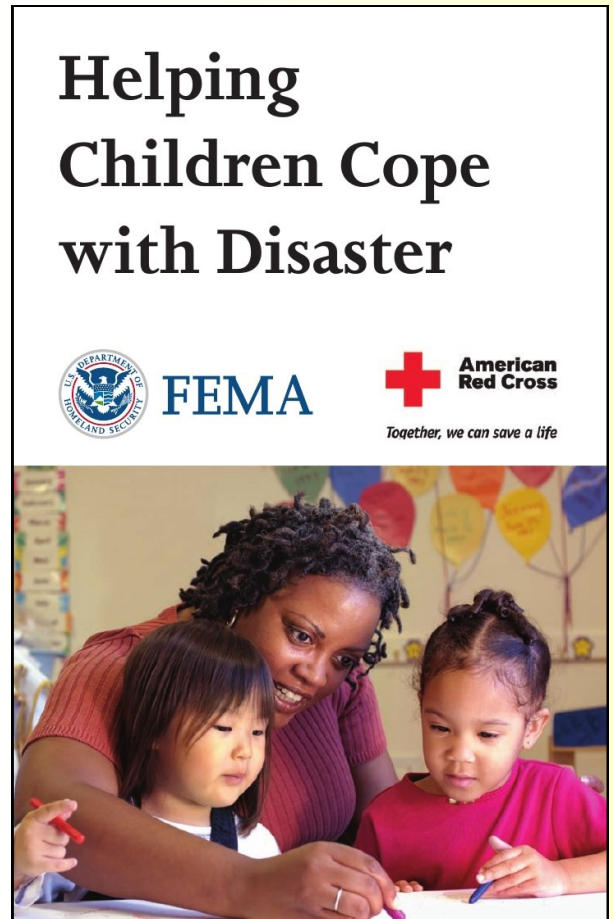
- Review with your child your family communication plan. For more information on how to create this plan as well as a printable communication card visit: <https://www.ready.gov/kids/make-a-plan>.

- Provide your child's school with information on any unique needs your child may have, including any health issues.
- Ensure your child's school has any medication or other items your child may need if they have to remain at school for an extended period of time.
- Ensure the school and your child's teacher have up-to-date contact information for you and for family and friends in the event you are unavailable.
- Learn about the schools emergency response plans.

When a disaster happens it is important to consider your child's needs. He or she will likely be scared and need you to comfort them. During this time use a calming tone and reassure your child everything is going to be okay. Talk to them about what is happening in terms they can understand. This will help guide and encourage the child in a positive way.

After the disaster remember to answer your child's questions calmly and accurately. Encourage your child to talk about their feelings and concerns. Limit their exposure to media. Continued exposure to an event in the form of pictures and media discussions can cause increased fear and anxiety.

Every child responds to disasters differently and it is important to recognize and learn how to deal with different behaviors that may arise as a result of the disaster. Use your support networks to help children cope with the effects of a disaster. For more information on how to help children cope with a disaster including a Psychological First Aid Series visit <https://www.ready.gov/kids/parents/coping>.



Disaster Ready Kids Program

Youth preparedness programs are a great way to enhance a community's resilience. Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management has a Disaster Ready Kids Program whereby we deliver disaster preparedness information to children who are in Jefferson County Schools primarily during the summer months (or any other time should the teacher request it). This program can be tailored to be used for kids of all ages!

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

We have a wide range of activities available for your school. We can conduct a disaster presentation in which we discuss what disasters and emergencies are as well as show the children a family disaster supply kit. This is ideal for children of any age. The "Mimi Mouse Learns to Prepare for Emergencies" storybook DVD program is designed for 3-5 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, and informs children about who to contact during an emergency. The Ready with Freddie DVD features Freddie Flashlight and Code Red Rover to help teach children ages 5-8 how to make a disaster plan and emergency kits with their families. We also have over 70 books available to do story time with kids of all ages!



If your group of children is over the age of 8 we can do a preparedness presentation, show them how to put together a Family Disaster Kit, or we can work together to develop a unique lesson plan based on your needs.

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. We require your organization have adults present to be responsible for the children while the activities are taking place. Additionally we ask 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 2019 Summer season May 1 until September 30, 2019. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to schedule a session, please feel free to contact me at (304) 724-7914 or by email at bgustafson@jeffersoncountywv.org.

We need at least two-weeks notice to schedule your activity.

Brianna L. Gustafson

Administrative Assistant/ Public Information Officer/ Volunteer Coordinator
Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management

Office (304) 724-8914

Fax (304) 728-3320

Cell (304) 279-8135

Email: bgustafson@jeffersoncountywv.org

2019 Jefferson County Fair



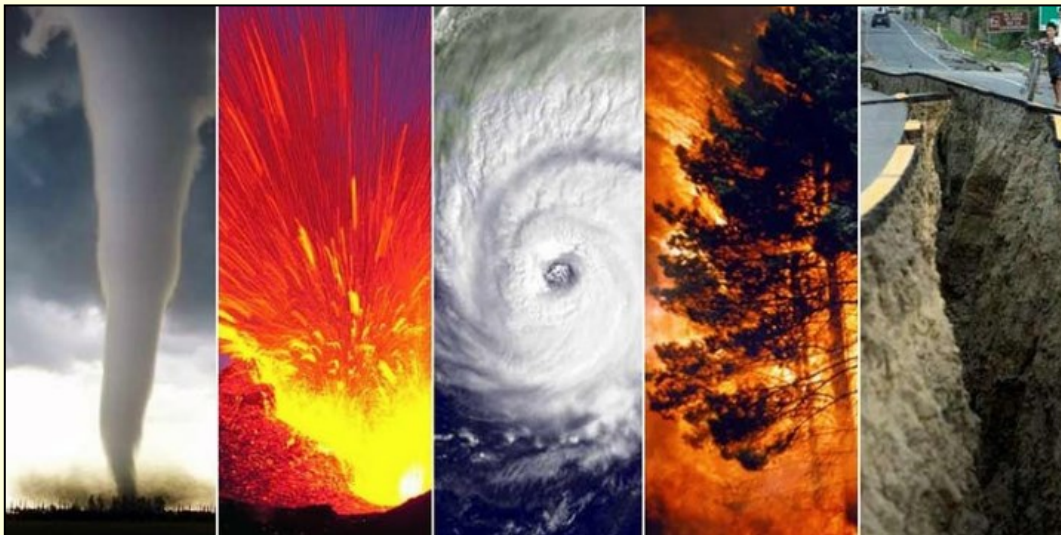
The 2019 Jefferson County Fair will take place August 18th - 24th. Each year JCHSEM helps coordinate the volunteers to staff our Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) booth. During this event we will engage the community in preparedness discussions and hand out preparedness materials. Disaster preparedness is crucial in mitigating the effects and hazards disasters have on individuals, families, and our community. We are still looking for volunteers to help us man the booth. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Brianna Gustafson at (304) 886-2666 or bgustafson@jeffersoncountywv.org.

Disaster Exercises Series 2019

The West Virginia Region 3 Table Top Exercise will be held on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at Charles Town Middle School (located at 817 High Street, Charles Town, WV, 25414) beginning at 9 a.m.

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.

If you or your organization is interested in participating in the 2019 exercise series, please contact Stephen Allen at: sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org.



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>.

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

Planning - Basic EM Academy L0103

Date: August 13-14, 2019 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: Days Hotel and Suites, Flatwoods

Course Description: This course in the National Emergency Management Basic Academy is designed to give basic concepts and planning steps to those new to the field of emergency management so that they may apply planning discipline and skills to challenges in their jobs. The course content includes emergency management planning doctrine and steps to take to accomplish writing plans and using them to deal with special events, which are common challenges for all jurisdictions. The content also derives from Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101, Developing and Maintaining State, Territorial, Tribal and Local Government Emergency Plans and its six-step planning process and inclusive Whole Community philosophy. Likewise, doctrine from Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 201, Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Analysis, is included in the course. Special event planning is then explained in the course and table group activities to analyze plans for special events are conducted.

Basics of Floodplain Management - L273

Date: August 26 - 29, 2019 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Holiday Inn and Suites, Huntington

Course Description: The L-273-Basics of Floodplain Management 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 twenty five and priority will be given to those who have not taken the class or have not taken the class within 3 years. 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 PowerPoint schedule covering, as examples, Floodplain mapping, flood insurance, legal issues, permitting, outreach, regulations, etc.

HSEEP

Date: August 27 - 28, 2019 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Location: Days Inn and Suites, Flatwoods

Course Description: This course is designed for local, State, Federal, and volunteer organizations, and private industry emergency management/response personnel with the responsibility for exercise program management and/or who serve as a member of an exercise planning team, and it is designed to meet the needs of this varied

audience. The HSEEP Training Course is an intermediate-level training course that incorporates exercise guidance and best practices from the HSEEP policy documents. The course prepares participants for exercise planning activities through identification of the five phases of the exercise process, the tasks associated with each phase, where exercises fall within the cycle, and the critical role exercises play in preparing the whole community to respond and recover from major emergencies. The course is designed to convey the importance of utilizing HSEEP resources as a primary planning tool for the Nation's emergency preparedness officials when engaged in the management, design, development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement of their Emergency Response programs.

Incident Tactical Dispatcher Training

Date: September 2-5, 2019 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: RETI Training Facility, Sutton WV

Course Description: An Incident Tactical Dispatcher is a specially trained individual qualified to operate away from the dispatch center in a command post, base camp or at the incident scene. Incident Tactical Dispatchers leverage the multi-tasking, communication, accountability and documentation skills of successful Tele communicators to provide public safety communications expertise and support at planned events and extended incidents such as hostage situations, multi-alarm fires, search and rescue operations, bombings, and active shooter incidents. Incident Tactical Dispatchers may support the Communications Unit as a single resource or as part of an incident tactical dispatch team. This course provides a basic understanding for the roles and responsibilities of an incident tactical dispatcher working in a tactical environment. This course is taught by OEC/ICTAP instructors who have both dispatch and communications unit experience. The course provides a realistic, hands-on approach to mastering the tasks and skills of an Incident Tactical Dispatcher. This course is designed for experienced dispatchers who are familiar with the Incident Command System and dispatch operations.

Critical Decision Making for Complex Coordinated Attacks—PER 335

Date: September 4-5, 2019 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: Columbia Gas Building

Course Description: This course provides first responders from multiple disciplines with skills to manage the initial response to a large-scale attack in a chaotic environment during a complex coordinated attack (CCA). It aims to train responders in how to use intuitive skills such as observation, analysis, anticipation, and awareness to recognize the possibility of an attack involving multiple incidents of an extreme magnitude that inundate resources, exceed conventional tactics and strategies, and often require a joint response involving members from multiple disciplines and jurisdictions. Topics for discussion include recognizing the characteristics of a potential CCA; coordinating and integrating the response of multiple disciplines and agencies; managing resources; using information sharing and intelligence gathering to develop awareness; and solving problems using creative thinking. Participants will learn to gather and disseminate critical information accordingly in order to facilitate rapid analysis. They will also learn to recognize and prevent potential response obstacles or risks to safety including self-deployment and over convergence of assets. Participants will apply the skills learned in Critical Decision Making for Complex Coordinated Attacks through interactive activities, facilitated discussion, and practical application in a training environment. Professional Disciplines: Law Enforcement, Fire Service, EMS. The primary target audience for the Direct Delivery version of this course includes Emergency responders: police, fire, and emergency medical services personnel, including those who are likely to assume command at some point during response to a complex coordinated attack.

Public Information and Warning

Date: September 17-18, 2019 8:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.

Location: Days Hotel & Suites - Flatwoods, WV

Course Description: This National Emergency Management Basic Academy course introduces the

participants to what the Public Information Officer (PIO) does in emergency management along with the basic information about the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). The PIO topics covered include the role of the PIO; communication tools and resources encompassing social media; effective communication; preparing the community through outreach and other means; and communication in an incident. The IPAWS topics covered include what the system is and does, preparing alert and warning messages, and writing common alerting protocol messages. This is a 2-day classroom course which gives participants time to perform activities and exercises to reinforce the knowledge and build basic skills.

To Register for these FREE Classes, go to: <http://www.onlinelearning.wv.gov/dmapscm6>. Once you set up your account, you can log on and look at the list of available courses taught in West Virginia.

For questions about the course or registration, contact Gregory.c.fernley@wv.gov or call 304-558-5380.

FEMA also offers a number of online courses at <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.

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 248 - Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) for the American Public
- IS 366 - Planning for the Needs of Children in Disasters
- IS 394 - Protecting Your Home or Small Business From Disaster
- IS 909 - Community Preparedness: Implementing Simple Activities for Everyone

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 2nd 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 and the 2018 plan was approved in November 2018.

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 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 Stephen Allen at 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 at (304) 728-3290.

**Jefferson County
Homeland Security and
Emergency Management**

28 Industrial Blvd., Suite 101
Kearneysville, WV 25430

STAFF

Stephen Allen — Director

Office: 304-728-3290

Email: sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org

James Sager — Deputy Director, Planner and
Program Manager

Office: 304-728-3329

Email: jsager@jeffersoncountywv.org

Brianna Gustafson — Administrative
Assistant, Public Information Officer and
Volunteer Coordinator

Office: 304-724-8914

Email: bgustafson@jeffersoncountywv.org

**PUBLIC SAFETY;
PUBLIC TRUST**



The Jefferson County Commission's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (JCHSEM) 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, Storm-Ready, Community Rating System, Resilient Neighbor Network and Project Impact programs. JCHSEM is also responsible for the Jefferson County R.A.C.E.S. group.

August Meetings & Events

- Sterling National Weather Service Calls every Monday at 9 a.m.
- Weather calls every Monday and Friday at 10 a.m. with State EOC and National Weather Service
- August 6 - West Virginia Region III Table Top Exercise
- August 7 - Department Head Meeting
- August 13 - Counter Terrorism Committee Meeting
- August 14 - Public Awareness Committee Meeting
- August 18 - 24 - Jefferson County Fair
- August 21 - Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting
- August 27 - IT Squad Meeting