



# Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management

www.jeffersoncountywv.org/homeland-security.html

September, 2010

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**Staff:**

**Barbara Miller, CEM, CFM Director**

**Terri Mehling, Planner/Program Manager/Deputy Director**

**Jennifer Maggio, Administrative Assistant, Public Information Officer and Volunteer Coordinator**



## National Preparedness Month

September 2010

**Get A Kit**

**Make A Plan**

**Be Informed**

**Get Involved**

Ready ✓

Plan Now. Work Together. Be Ready.

## PROCLAMATION

### National Preparedness Month, September 2010

WHEREAS, “National Preparedness Month” creates an important opportunity for every resident of **Jefferson County, WV** to prepare their homes, businesses, and communities for any type of emergency from natural disasters to potential terrorist attacks; and

WHEREAS, investing in the preparedness of ourselves, our families, businesses, and communities can reduce fatalities and economic devastation in our communities and in our nation; and

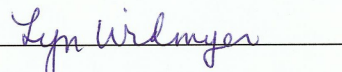
WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s *Ready* Campaign, Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and other federal, state, local, private, and volunteer agencies are working to increase public activities in preparing for emergencies and to educate individuals on how to take action; and

WHEREAS, emergency preparedness is the responsibility of every citizen of **Jefferson County** and all citizens are urged to make preparedness a priority and work together, as a team, to ensure that individuals, families, and communities are prepared for disasters and emergencies of any type; and

WHEREAS, all citizens of **Jefferson County** are encouraged to participate in citizen preparedness activities and asked to review the *Ready* campaign’s Web sites at [ready.gov](http://ready.gov) or [listo.gov](http://listo.gov) (in Spanish) and become more prepared.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the **Jefferson County Commission** hereby proclaims September, 2010 as National Preparedness Month, and encourages all citizens and businesses to develop their own emergency preparedness plan, and work together toward creating a more prepared society.

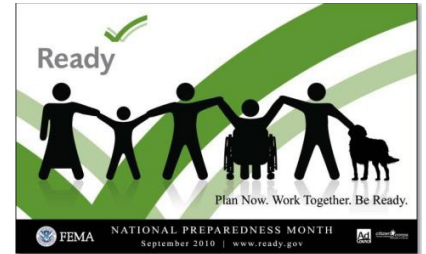
DATED this 12 Day of August 2010 by the **Jefferson County Commission**



Lyn Widmyer, President



NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH  
September 2010 | [ready.gov](http://ready.gov)



In Support of National Preparedness Month

Please Join Jefferson County Homeland Security &  
Emergency Management for

*Family Emergency Preparedness Night*

*September 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.*

*at*

**Independent Fire Company**

*200 West 2nd Avenue*

*Ranson, WV 25438*

Activities will include:

Building an Emergency Supply Kit

Making a Family Emergency Plan

A Team Approach to Preparedness

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training

Please bring your family and emergency contact information, and  
we'll walk you through making a Family Emergency Plan.

For more information on Family Emergency Preparedness Night, please  
contact Jennifer D. Maggio at 304-724-8914.

For more information on emergency preparedness, visit [ready.gov](http://ready.gov)

# September 11th Commemoration



Independent Fire Company will be hosting its 9th annual 9-11 Commemoration ceremony on Saturday, September 11, 2010 at 9:59 a.m. The ceremony will take place at the fire station, 200 W. 2nd Avenue, Ranson, WV. It should last approximately 1/2 hour.

The guest speaker will be a veteran with the FDNY. We look forward to his first hand recollections of September 11th at Ground Zero in lower Manhattan.

The ninth anniversary commemoration will occur between the times the World Trade Center Towers collapsed. Those killed and injured at the Pentagon, in Shanksville, PA and in the War on Terror will also be honored. Assisting will be members of the Jefferson High School Cougar Air Force Junior ROTC and Washington High School Patriot Chorus. Bagpipe music will be presented by Joe Kent.

The public is encouraged to attend to help us remember. Available Police, Fire, EMS, and Military personnel are requested to attend, in uniform, if possible. For further information, contact Henry Christie at

# WV's First Lady, Gayle Manchin, joins the Safe America Foundation as spokesperson for the 2nd Annual 9/11 Drill Down for Safety

## Your Participation Requested on 9/11



(L to R) Safe America Foundation President Len Pagano; West Virginia First Lady Gayle Manchin; and Volunteer West Virginia Chair and West Virginia Business Volunteer Council Co-Chair Sam Cipoletti.

Safe America created the **TEXT FIRST, TALK SECOND** to raise public awareness around the importance of utilizing text messaging for non-emergency communications during a disaster. When disaster strikes, voice networks can become congested with people trying to call each other for non-vital communications. This can result in people in desperate need of help being unable to reach those they need to reach, such as emergency services, friends or loved ones. In some instances, this may mean that emergency services personnel may not be able to communicate with each other. Here is what to do to participate on September 11, 2010: First, **TAKE THE PLEDGE NOW** at [www.safeamerica.org](http://www.safeamerica.org) to join thousands of others across the nation to participate in this texting drill. Get the word out. Let your family and friends know that if a natural or man-made disaster happens in your vicinity, the best way to find out if you are okay is to contact you by text first. Make sure every member of your family knows how to use the text messaging on their phone or smart phone. If they don't know how to text, teach them. Finally, on September 11th, do one of the following:

**DRILL A:** Individual sends the following text to family members and friends: "I M OK / R U OK" The friend or family members respond, "I M OK"

**DRILL B:** Employer sends text message to employees: "This is a texting drill through the alert notification system. For more information on preparedness, go to [www.safeamerica.org](http://www.safeamerica.org) (or your company website or [www.jeffersoncountywv.org/homeland-security.html](http://www.jeffersoncountywv.org/homeland-security.html) or [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)) Employees respond by going to the suggested website, making contact or following employers instructions.

Text messaging saves valuable bandwidth that can allow real emergency calls to get through.

JCHSEM wants to remind all readers to **ALWAYS CALL 9-1-1** for all emergencies. Do **NOT** text them. Use the phone to call 9-1-1.



1 Kick Off for National Preparedness Month—Community Wide Disaster Preparedness Night at Independent Fire Company, 200 West 2nd Avenue, Ranson, WV. Call 304-724-8914 for more information. First 200 attendees will receive a DVD or CD about preparing your family for disasters!

1 “Show Us Your Disaster Kit” Photo Contest begins! Call 304-728-3329 for more information.

2 Lunch & Learn Thursday: Learn about the Eastern Panhandle Chapter of the American Red Cross and Disaster Services, Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center at 12:00 Noon. Pre-register by calling 304-724-8914

2 Amateur Radio Testing Night

7 Public Awareness, Education and Training Committee Meeting, Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center at 9:00am

9 Lunch & Learn Thursday: Learn about Financial Preparedness for Before and After Emergencies, Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center at 12:00 Noon. Pre-register by calling 304-724-8914

9 Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management will give a presentation at AARP on Disaster Preparedness for Seniors. Call 304-724-8914 for more information.

11 Independent Fire Company’s 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony at Independent Fire Company at 9:58am

11 Wal-mart in Charles Town will offer discounts on certain items for your disaster supply kit. Visit the store to receive free handouts on disaster preparedness topics. A Medical Reserve Corps volunteer will be available from 10am—3pm to answer your questions and provide assistance.

11 Drill Down For Safety—Safe America Foundation's 2010 Preparedness Campaign. This year there is a special focus on Texting to encourage Americans to send a text first before making a voice call during a critical event, thereby allowing communication networks to remain robust. Visit [www.safeamericaprepared.org](http://www.safeamericaprepared.org) for more information.

13-16 WV State Emergency Response Commission/ Local Emergency Planning Committee Conference at Pipestem State Park.

13 Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management will give a presentation at the Jefferson County Council on Aging on Fire Safety for Seniors. Call 304-724-8914 for more information.

16 Lunch & Learn Thursday: Learn about the latest health issue facing Jefferson County, Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center at 12:00 Noon. Pre-register by calling 304-724-8914

22 Disaster Ready Kids Program at RESA VIII (100 students throughout the day), The Storm Book

23 Lunch & Learn Thursday: Join the National Weather Service and discuss weather related risks in Jefferson County, Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center at 12:00 Noon. Pre-register by calling 304-724-8914

27 Disaster Ready Kids Program at The Light of the Child Montessori School in Shepherdstown. Book: Clifford and the Big Storm

27 Business Continuity Planning—Attend one of the sessions being offered! 1:00pm or 6:00pm. Workshops to be held at the Holiday Inn Express, 681 Flowing Springs Road, Ranson, WV. Preregister by calling 304-724-8914

28 Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management Steering Committee Meeting at 9:00am at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville. For more information, call 304-728-3290.

29 Disaster Ready Kids Program at RESA VIII (100 students throughout the day), The Storm Book

30 Lunch & Learn Thursday: Join us for a discussion on protecting your home technology from a disaster, Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center at 12:00 Noon. Pre-register by calling 304-724-8914.

30 Winners announced of the “Show Us Your Disaster Kit” contest.

# Show Us Your Disaster Kit Photo Contest

## "Show Us Your Disaster Kit" Photo Contest Begins September 1<sup>st</sup>!

Beginning September 1, 2010, Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management is conducting a photo contest to see how well Jefferson County residents are prepared for a disaster or emergency at home, school or at work. Show us the "stuff" in your disaster supply kit! Do you have a kit for your pet? Then send us a photo of you and your pet with the items in the kit. Examples of what is included in a disaster kit are food, water, flashlight, radio, etc. For a complete list of disaster supply kit items, visit <http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/index.html> There are first, second and third place prizes. First place prize is a gift basket from Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races. Second place prize is \$50 Giftcard for Walmart. Third place prize is being provided by BB&T. The contest is open to any Jefferson County resident of any age. Winning photos will be published in local newspapers.

**RULES:** Submissions—limited to one photo no larger than 8x10 for each entry form. Photos MUST include the person with their kit. Print your name, address, and phone number on the back of each print. Digital manipulation that changes the content or meaning of a photograph is not allowed.

**ENTRIES WILL NOT BE RETURNED.** Finalists agree to allow the publication of winning photos, as well as rights to reprint and use photos on the Jefferson County Commission Website and the Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Newsletter without compensation. Employees of the Jefferson County Commission and immediate families are not eligible to participate. Entries must be postmarked by September 15, 2010. A winner will be announced on September 30, 2010. Contest is open to Jefferson County residents only. There are no age restrictions.

### 2010 "SHOW US YOUR DISASTER KIT" CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

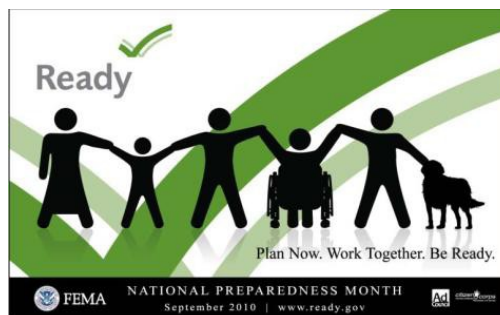
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this entry I agree to the rules of the contest.

Send your photo and this entry form to:

Tent Mehling  
Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management  
28 Industrial Blvd., Suite 101  
Keameysville, WV 25430

For questions, call (304) 728-3329



We want to see how well Jefferson County residents are prepared for a disaster or emergency at home, at school or at work. See the form below for all details. PRIZES! The first place winner will claim a gift basket from Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races! Second place is a Gift Card from Wal-Mart, and the third place prize is a gift from BB&T! All entries need to be postmarked by September 15th. So Get Ready, Jefferson County! And show us a picture of you and your kit!

# LUNCH-N-LEARN SESSIONS

How many times have you said, “I would like to know a little more about that, but I just don’t have time.” If that sounds familiar, then Lunch-N-Learn sessions are perfect for you. After all, you have to eat lunch, so why not learn while you do? Every Thursday during September, JCHSEM will be hosting a different Lunch-N-Learn each Thursday from noon—1 p.m. Just bring your lunch and come on over. In addition to the great information you’ll get, we have DOOR PRIZES that were donated from sponsors listed on the back page of this newsletter. Here’s the line up for this September:

September 2- Debbi Palmer from the Eastern Panhandle Chapter, American Red Cross will be talking about ways to get better prepared, what the Red Cross does, and information on volunteer opportunities within the Red Cross.

September 9—Kevin Haymaker from the Bank of Charles Town will teach us about FINANCIAL PREPAREDNESS before and after emergencies.

September 16—Sandy Hite will be talking about the latest hot topic from the Jefferson County Department of Health and opportunities in the Medical Reserve Corps.

September 23—Christopher Strong from the National Weather Service in Sterling will be joining us to talk about the weather that can cause problems in our County and recent storms.

September 30—Neal Nilsen from AskNeal.com will lead the discussion on how to protect our HOME computers and technology from disasters and cyber threats.

All Lunch-N-Learn sessions will be taught at the Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management’s EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, WV 25430. You may pre-register by calling 304-724-8914 or you can just show up.

## Every Business Should Have a Plan Workshop

Barbara Miller, JCHSEM Director, Neal Nilsen of AskNeal.com, and David Skeen, WV Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety Continuity of Operations (COOP) Coordinator will team up for two workshops in September aimed at business preparedness. The workshops will be held at the Holiday Inn Express in Ranson on September 27th. Two sessions are being offered for the convenience of local business owners and CEOs. The first session will be held from 1-4 p.m. The second session will be from 6-9 p.m. You only need to attend one session to complete this workshop. There are many things that can be done in the pre-disaster timeframe that can help your business to be back up and running faster on the other side of a fire or disaster, and many organizations are required to have continuity plans. For more information or to register, please contact Jennifer Maggio at 724-8914.

## Charles Town Wal-Mart Offering Discounts on September 11th for your Disaster Kit Items

The Charles Town Wal-Mart will be offering discounts on certain items for disaster supply kits on Saturday, September 11th. You will be able to pick up a list of items that should be in a disaster kit from a Medical Reserve Corps Volunteer in a booth there from 10 a.m.—3 p.m. to offer brochures on disaster topics and to answer your questions.

# Opportunities for Seniors to Learn about Preparedness this month

JCHSEM's Public Information Officer, Jennifer Maggio will present two opportunities for Jefferson County's Senior Citizens to learn about preparedness this month. The first will be on September 9th at AARP. This presentation, during their regular meeting, will focus on making a kit, having a plan, and general disaster preparedness. The second will be on September 13 at the Jefferson County Council on Aging, where she will present Fire Safety for Seniors. For more information on either of these programs, call 304-724-8914.

## JCHSEM At the Jefferson County Fair



**Jim Platten and Jennifer Maggio working the JCHSEM booth at the Jefferson County Fair. This event continues to be our best opportunity to reach our Jefferson County residents to talk to them about preparing for all kinds of disasters. This year, volunteers from the Jefferson County Local Emergency Planning Committee also helped out in our booth. Special thanks to all of our volunteers who helped our staff to man the booth throughout the week.**

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. in the JCHSEM EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced.

Animals in Disaster Committee, Kelly Parsons, Chair

Any interested person can serve on this committee. The Animals in Disaster Committee is responsible for developing and updating the Animals in Disaster Plan and to work with the JCHSEM to make recommendations regarding the Animals Annex of the Emergency Operations Plan. They will also identify potential resources for animals before, during and after a disaster. The committee meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the months of January, April, July, October at 9:30 a.m. in the JCHSEM EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced.

Emergency Planning for People with Special Needs Committee-Chair –Pamela Holstein-Wallace, Chair

Any interested person can serve on this committee. The Emergency Planning for People with Special Needs Committee is responsible for training and planning for issues of people who have mobility problems, people who have sight or hearing problems, people who speak a language other than English as their first language, the elderly and the very young, people who use oxygen or other medical devices and anyone who may need special assistance during times of disasters and/or evacuations. This committee will work with the JCOHSEM to update the portion of the Emergency Operations Plan that deals with these special needs. This committee meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the months of March, June, September, and December at 9:30 a.m. in the JCHSEM EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced. This room IS handicapped accessible.

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 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month except December at 9:00 a.m. in the EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced.

Partnership and Volunteer Development Committee, Holly Morgan-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 9:30 a.m. 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 will examine the community's risks and vulnerability to all hazards and assess the community's vulnerability to those risks. Additionally, they will look at specific buildings, infrastructure, etc. to determine which are most susceptible to risks. A Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan was completed and adopted by the Jefferson County Commission, all Jefferson County municipalities, WVOHSEM, and Federal Emergency Management Agency in July, 2003. The committee currently updated the original document. This committee meets on an "as needed basis". Please call the office at 728-3329 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 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 either [bmiller@jeffersoncountywv.org](mailto:bmiller@jeffersoncountywv.org) or [tmehling@jeffersoncountywv.org](mailto:tmehling@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  
Keameysville, WV 25430

Barbara Miller, Director  
Phone: 304-728-3290  
E-mail: [bmiller@jeffersoncountywv.org](mailto:bmiller@jeffersoncountywv.org)

Terri Mehling, Dep. Director, Planner and Program Manager  
Phone 304-728-3329  
Email: [tmehling@jeffersoncountywv.org](mailto:tmehling@jeffersoncountywv.org)

Jennifer Maggio, Administrative Assistant, Public Information Officer and Volunteer Coordinator  
Phone 304-724-8914  
Email: [jmaggio@jeffersoncountywv.org](mailto:jmaggio@jeffersoncountywv.org)

Fax: 304-728-3320

**PUBLIC SAFETY; PUBLIC TRUST**

The Jefferson County Commission's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management 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; Emergency Planning for Special Populations; Public Awareness, Education and Training; Counter Terrorism; Partnership Development and Retention; Animals in Disaster, and a Steering Committee that acts as an advisory group. We are responsible for the Citizen Corps/CERT, Storm-Ready, Community Rating System, and Project Impact programs. JCHSEM is also responsible for the Jefferson County R.A.C.E.S group.



**THANK YOU to our National Preparedness Month Sponsors!**

AskNeal.Com

B B & T

Black Dog Coffee

Charles Town Wal-Mart

Dunkin Donuts, Ranson

Holiday Inn Express, Ranson

Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races

Independent Fire Company, Ranson

Nerangis Enterprises (McDonald's)

Peterson Enterprises (Dairy Queen, Ranson)

Sheetz

Volunteer, WV!