



Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management

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

February, 2017

Jefferson County Commissioners:

Peter Onoszko, President

Jane Tabb, Vice President

Josh Compton

Caleb Hudson

Patsy Noland

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**



FALL IN LOVE WITH PREPAREDNESS

The Perfect Valentines Gift

What's a Valentine's Day gift with staying power? How about a gift that shows your concern for your loved one's well-being: the gift of emergency preparedness!

- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio or a NOAA Weather Radio
- A flashlight with extra batteries.
- Solar-powered cell phone charger.
- Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- First aid kit.
- Fire extinguisher or fire escape ladder.
- Enrollment in a CPR or first aid class. The American Heart Association offers several courses, including a free hands-only CPR online course.
- Books, coloring books, crayons, and board games, so kids will have something to do if they have to go to a shelter or shelter in place.
- Personal hygiene comfort kit, including shampoo, body wash, wash cloth, hairbrush, comb, toothbrush, toothpaste and deodorant.
- An emergency kit, filled with non-perishable foods, bottled water, a first aid kit, and other supplies



2017 Annual Partnership Meeting focuses on HIDTA



JCHSEM held their annual Partnership Meeting at the Epic Buffet at Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races on Friday, January 27th. After a short presentation on JCHSEM's activities for 2016, Tom Carr of the Washington-Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) was introduced by Jefferson County Sheriff, Pete Dougherty. Mr. Carr said that Jefferson and Berkeley Counties account for 15% of the total of overdoses in the state. He discussed a nationwide real-time overdose surveillance system, HIDTA's Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program—ODMAP, which assists public health, fire, emergency medical service, and law enforcement agencies track known and suspected overdose incidents using Smartphone technology. ODMAP helps decision makers develop strategies and tactics to curb the spread of substance abuse disorders and reduce overdose occurrences. The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) funded the Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (W/B HIDTA) to develop ODMAP and provide it free-of-charge to first responder and government agencies. Approximately 100 people attended the luncheon, which was provided gratis by Hollywood Casino.



Staff and Steering Committee members who attended the luncheon. L to R, front row: Steve Allen, Deputy Director/Planner/Program Manager; Jane Tabb, County Commission Liaison; Barbara Miller, Director; Clair Brendel, Jeff Polczynski. Back Row: Brandon Vallee, Administrative Assistant/PIO/ Volunteer Coordinator; Michele Goldman, Ed Smith, and Sheriff Pete Dougherty.

JCHSEM sponsoring the Advanced Skywarn Stormspotter Class for Flooding in April



JCHSEM will sponsor the National Weather Service's (NWS) Advanced Skywarn Stormspotter Class for Floods on Wednesday, April 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Independent Fire Department in Ranson. The class is free and a National Weather Service meteorologist will teach the class and bring related materials.

The classes are designed to educate the public on weather threats in the area, as well as strengthen the ties between the NWS and the local community. The more volunteer spotters the NWS has, the faster vital ground truth information gets to the NWS forecasters who make the decisions to issue life saving weather warnings.

Advanced classes, including the Flood class, require SKYWARN® Basics as a prerequisite. JCHSEM has sponsored the Basics class in the past, but if you missed it, you may take in at another location prior to this course. You may attend a class even if it is not in the county you reside in. For a complete listing of National Weather Service Skywarn Stormspotter offerings, go to <http://www.weather.gov/lwx/skywarn>.

Course Description: NWS Skywarn Stormspotter Class for Flood

Training in the Flood class is a good overview of flood threats in this area. It is intended for everyone. Basics I is a prerequisite for this class. The Flood class includes:

- Role of spotters & review of area
- What to report & how
- Types of Flooding
- Forecasting and Meteorology of Flooding
- Flooding Case Studies
- NWS products for flooding

The National Weather Service has a total of 267 trained Skywarn stormspotters in Jefferson County!

To register for the Flood Skywarn Program, go to <http://www.weather.gov/lwx/skywarn>
The NWS will post it there in the next week or two. Keep checking back!

If you have any questions, contact Brandon Vallee at bvallee@jeffersoncountywv.org or call him at 304-724-8914.

Need Training?

Emergency Management is a constantly-changing field. While we all strive to keep up with the latest technology, the best ways to work with stakeholders to develop plans, how to conduct successful floodplain management, performing damage assessments, how to handle the debris after a disaster, help 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> Once you set up your account, you can log on and look at the list of available courses being taught in West Virginia. Current courses include the Basics of Floodplain Management, HazMat Highway Containers in a Tunnel Specialist, Search and Rescue in Community Disasters, Disaster Preparedness for Hospitals and HealthCare Organizations within the Community Infrastructure; National Emergency Management Basic Academy Train the Trainer; Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts, and Rail Care Incident Response for Crude, Ethanol and Other Flammable Liquids-Rail Car Response. The courses are always changing, so check back often.

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute's url is <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.

RESA 8 to Hold ICS 300 and ICS 400 Classes in February

RESA 8 is offering NIMS ICS Classes on two weekends in February! These will be perfect for those who have to work during weekdays and have been unable to attend previous classes mid-week!!

Be sure to have your online NIMS courses completed—IS-700; IS-800, IS-100, and IS-200. These NIMS online courses are available free from FEMA at the Emergency Management Institute's Independent Study website at <https://training.fema.gov/is/crslist.aspx>

The RESA 8 Classes will be:

February 4th & 5th for ICS-300

And

February 11th & 12th for ICS-400. (ICS-300 is a prerequisite for the ICS-400 Course)

Times are 9-5 each day.

Classes will be held at the Berkeley Springs Fire Department in Morgan County.

See the RESA 8 website for registration and more information. <http://www.resa8.org/?PN=Calendar>

Questions about these courses may be directed to either Dick Myers, Morgan County Director of Emergency Management at dmyers@morgancountywv.org 304-867-3145 or Dave Plume at RESA 8 at dplume@k12.wv.us or 304-267-3595.

Disaster Exercises, 2017

WV Homeland Security Region III (WVHSR3) Initial Planning Workshop and the the After Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) Meeting for the Dark Grid Exercise Series was held in Jefferson County in December, 2016. Representatives from all counties in WVHSR3 were in attendance.

2017 WV Homeland Security Region 3, Tabletop Exercise.....March 27 at National Guard Armory, Moorefield, West Virginia.

2017 WV Homeland Security Region 3, Functional Exercise.....TBA

2017 WV State Emergency Response Commission TTX.....TBA

2017 WV Homeland Security Region 3, Full Scale Exercise.....TBA

2017 WV Homeland Security Region 3, AAR/IP Meeting.....TBA

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 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, 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**

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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

February Meetings

02- HAM Radio Testing at the Jefferson County EOC, 1730

02- WV Emergency Management Association Board Meeting-Frontier Building, Charleston

03- WV Emergency Management Council Meeting-Frontier Building, Charleston

07-Counter Terrorism Committee Meeting, 1400 at the Jefferson County Public Services Building, Extension Service Meeting Room

08-Public Awareness, Education and Training Committee Meeting 0830 at Jefferson County Maintenance Department Meeting Room

15-LEPC Meeting at 0730 at IHOP in Ranson

20-Presidents Day Holiday-Offices are Closed

20-Resilient Neighbors Network Phone Meeting at 1100

28 Pancake Day at Citizens Fire Company, Charles Town

28 JCHSEM Steering Committee Meeting 900 at Jefferson County EOC

28 County Government IT Meeting at 1500 in Library Meeting Room

* Sterling National Weather Service Calls every Monday at 0900

*Weather Calls every Monday and Friday at 1000 a.m. with State EOC and National Weather Service