



# Jefferson County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

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

**October 1, 2022**

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## JCOHSEM Staff:

Stephen S. Allen, Director  
Dick Myers, Deputy Director/ Planner/  
Program Manager  
Jennifer Walters, Administrative Assis-  
tant/Public Information Officer/  
Volunteer Coordinator

## From the Director's Chair

Welcome to the October 2022 edition of the Jefferson County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management's (JCOHSEM) newsletter.

This newsletter includes information about various topics including Cybersecurity Awareness Month, National Fire Prevention Week, Global Handwashing Day, and Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills. This edition is full of details which we hope you find informative.

## Cybersecurity Awareness Month



### Cybersecurity Awareness Month Theme

#### See Yourself in Cyber

This year's campaign theme — "See Yourself in Cyber" — demonstrates that while cybersecurity may seem like a complex subject, ultimately, it's really all about people. This October will focus on the "people" part of cybersecurity, providing information and resources to help educate CISA partners and the public, and ensure all individuals and organizations make smart decisions whether on the job, at home or at school – now and in the future. We encourage each of you to engage in this year's efforts by creating your own cyber awareness campaigns and sharing this messaging with your peers.

- For individuals and families, we encourage you to See Yourself taking action to stay safe online. That means enabling basic cyber hygiene practices: update your software, think before you click, have good strong passwords or a password keeper, and enable multi-factor authentication (meaning you need "More Than A Password!") on all your sensitive accounts.

- For those considering joining the cyber community, we encourage you to **See Yourself joining the cyber workforce.** We'll be talking with leaders from across the country about how we can build a cybersecurity workforce that is bigger, more diverse and dedicated to solving the problems that will help keep the American people safe.
- For our partners in industry, we encourage you to **See Yourself as part of the solution.** That means putting operational collaboration into practice, working together to share information in real-time, and reducing risk and build resilience from the start to protect America's critical infrastructure and the systems that Americans rely on every day.

## 4 Things You Can Do

Throughout October, CISA and NCA will highlight key action steps that everyone should take:

- **Think Before You Click: Recognize and Report Phishing:** If a link looks a little off, think before you click. It could be an attempt to get sensitive information or install malware.
- **Update Your Software:** Don't delay -- If you see a software update notification, act promptly. Better yet, turn on automatic updates.
- **Use Strong Passwords:** Use passwords that are long, unique, and randomly generated. Use password managers to generate and remember different, complex passwords for each of your accounts. A passwords manager will encrypt passwords securing them for you!
- **Enable Multi-Factor Authentication:** You need more than a password to protect your online accounts, and **enabling MFA makes you significantly less likely to get hacked.**

## Interested in becoming a Cybersecurity Awareness Month partner? Join the Cybersecurity Awareness Month Campaign!

Are you an individual, organization, business, government agency, nonprofit, association, school, or academic institution, interested in partnering with the Cybersecurity Awareness Month campaign?

Cybersecurity Awareness Month partners help promote vital cybersecurity information throughout October and all year long that is important for your organization, leadership and staff combat cyber threats as they continue to grow.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month partners receive a Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2022 toolkit which includes the following resources:

- Ways to Create a Campaign
- Partner Toolkit
  - Sample social media posts
  - Sample email to send to employees
  - Sample newsletter article
  - Cybersecurity tip sheets
  - Cybersecurity talking points
- Cybersecurity 101 presentation
- Cybersecurity Awareness Month presentation template

## Interested in becoming a partner?

For more information, and to become a Cybersecurity Awareness Month partner email them at [Cyberawareness@cisa.dhs.gov](mailto:Cyberawareness@cisa.dhs.gov).

# National Fire Prevention Week 2022



Since 1922, the NFPA has sponsored the public observance of Fire Prevention Week. In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed Fire Prevention Week a national observance, making it the longest-running public health observance in our country. During Fire Prevention Week, children, adults, and teachers learn how to stay safe in case of a fire. Firefighters provide lifesaving public education in an effort to drastically decrease casualties caused by fires.

Fire Prevention Week is observed each year during the week of October 9th in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire, which began on October 8, 1871, and caused devastating damage. This horrific conflagration killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures, and burned more than 2,000 acres of land.

## Home fire escape planning and practicing

It is important for everyone to plan and practice a home fire escape. Everyone needs to be prepared in advance, so that they know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds. Given that every home is different, every home fire escape plan will also be different.

Have a plan for everyone in the home. Children, older adults, and people with disabilities may need assistance to wake up and get out. Make sure that someone will help them!

## Smoke alarms

Smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger. Smoke alarms need to be in every bedroom, outside of the sleeping areas (like a hallway), and on each level (including the basement) of your home. Do not put smoke alarms in your kitchen or bathrooms.

Choose an alarm that is listed with a testing laboratory, meaning it has met certain standards for protection.

For the best protection, use combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms that are interconnected throughout the home. These can be installed by a qualified electrician, so that when one sounds, they all sound. This ensures you can hear the alarm no matter where in your home the alarm originates.

**Do you know how fast fire can move? FAST.**

You could have less than 2 minutes to get out safely once the smoke alarm sounds.

**Fire is fast!**

There is little time to escape. It only takes minutes for thick black smoke to fill your home.



**Fire is hot!**

Heat is more threatening than flames. Room temperature can rise to 1,000° F at eye level.



## Importance of fire prevention

In a fire, mere seconds can mean the difference between a safe escape and a tragedy. Fire safety education isn't just for school children. Teenagers, adults, and the elderly are also at risk in fires, making it important for every member of the community to take some time every October during Fire Prevention Week to make sure they understand how to stay safe in case of a fire.

## Global Handwashing Day 2022



### Spread the Word About Global Handwashing Day!

Each year on October 15, Global Handwashing Day highlights the importance of handwashing with soap and water, especially during key times throughout the day. CDC has developed resources to promote handwashing in your community on Global Handwashing Day and throughout the year!

Washing your hands is easy—and it's one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of germs. Studies have shown that handwashing can prevent 1 in 3 diarrhea-related sicknesses and 1 in 5 respiratory infections, such as a cold or the flu.



Follow these five steps every time.

1. **Wet** your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
  2. **Lather** your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
  3. **Scrub** your hands **for at least 20 seconds**. Need a timer? Hum the “Happy Birthday” song from beginning to end twice.
  4. **Rinse** your hands well under clean, running water.
  5. **Dry** your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains **at least 60% alcohol**.

For more information on how clean hands save lives, visit [www.cdc.gov/handwashing](http://www.cdc.gov/handwashing).

## Keeping Hands Clean at Work

Handwashing is one of the best ways to avoid getting sick and spreading illness to others. Germs can spread easily in offices where employees share the same space, supplies, and equipment. CDC recommends washing hands often, especially during key times when you are likely to get and spread germs.

In workplaces, these key times are:

- **Before** eating lunch or preparing food
- **After** using the bathroom
- **After** blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing

If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that has at least 60% alcohol. For more information, visit CDC’s page on hand hygiene at work.

## Teach Your Children About Handwashing. Lead by Example!

CDC encourages parents and caregivers to make clean hands a healthy habit to keep themselves and their family safe.

Washing your hands is easy, and it’s one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of germs. Studies have shown that handwashing can prevent 1 in 3 diarrhea-related sicknesses and 1 in 5 respiratory infections, such as a cold or the flu. When your family is healthy, you don’t have to worry about missing school, work, or other activities.

Help your children make handwashing a healthy habit at home, school, and play.

- Teach kids the five easy steps for handwashing—wet, lather, scrub (for 20 seconds), rinse, and dry—and the key times to wash hands, such as after using the bathroom or before eating.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- **Caution!** Supervise young children under the age of six when they use hand sanitizer to prevent swallowing alcohol or contact with eyes.
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- Give frequent reminders so that handwashing becomes a habit and a regular part of your child’s day.
- Lead by example.

For more information on how clean hands save lives, visit [www.cdc.gov/handwashing](http://www.cdc.gov/handwashing).

# Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills

This year's International ShakeOut Day is October 20, when millions of people worldwide will participate in earthquake drills at work, school, or home.

At 10:20 am (local time) on 10/20, you can join millions of people across the world practicing earthquake safety. While we encourage you to participate with everyone, you can register your ShakeOut drill for any day of the year, and drill at a time of your choice. You can also include people in multiple locations through video conferencing.



Many areas of the globe are prone to earthquakes. You could be anywhere when an earthquake strikes: at home, at work, at school or even on vacation. Are you prepared to survive and to recover quickly?

Great ShakeOut earthquake drills are an opportunity to practice how to be safer during earthquakes: "Drop, Cover and Hold On." ShakeOut also has been organized to encourage you, your community, your school, or your organization to update emergency plans and supplies, and to secure your space in order to prevent damage and injuries.

**Why is it important to do a Drop, Cover, and Hold On drill? To react quickly you must practice often. You may only have seconds to protect yourself in an earthquake, before strong shaking knocks you down--or drops something on you. Practicing helps you be ready to respond.**

- If you are inside a building, move no more than a few steps, then Drop, Cover and Hold On:
- **DROP** to the ground (before the earthquake drops you!),
- Take **COVER** by getting under a sturdy desk or table, and
- **HOLD ON** to it until the shaking stops.
- Stay indoors till the shaking stops and you are sure it is safe to exit. In most buildings you are safer if you stay where you are until the shaking stops.
- If you are outdoors when the shaking starts, you should find a clear spot away from buildings, trees, streetlights, and power lines, then Drop, Cover and Hold On. Stay there until the shaking stops.
- If you are driving, pull over to a clear location, stop and stay there with your seatbelt fastened until the shaking stops. Once the shaking stops, proceed with caution and avoid bridges or ramps that might have been damaged.

Ground shaking during an earthquake is seldom the cause of injury. Most earthquake-related injuries and deaths are caused by collapsing walls and roofs, flying glass and falling objects. It is extremely important for a person to move as little as possible to reach the place of safety he or she has identified because most injuries occur when people try to move more than a short distance during the shaking.

Look around you now, before an earthquake. Identify safe places such as under a sturdy piece of furniture or against an interior wall in your home, office or school so that when the shaking starts you can respond quickly. An immediate response to move to the safe place can save lives. And that safe place should be within a few steps to avoid injury from flying debris.

## 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.

**\*\*Due to the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, many of the previously scheduled courses have been cancelled. Please check <http://www.onlinelearning.wv.gov/dmapscm6> or contact Chuck Bennett at [charles.w.bennett@wv.gov](mailto:charles.w.bennett@wv.gov) with any questions in regards to cancelled or rescheduled courses.\*\***

### Upcoming Local Training

None Scheduled at this time.

## Smoking Mountains II Disaster Exercise Series 2022



The Smoking Mountains II “Functional” exercise is now scheduled for Jefferson County and the rest of Region 3 counties. It is going to be held on Tuesday, October 4, 2022 in Hardy County at the Hardy County National Guard Armory located at 157 Freedom Way in Moorefield, WV 26836. All 7 counties will meet and set up their Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) at various locations within the gymnasium/drill hall. We are also going to make the exercise virtual in order to allow outside agencies who could not participate in-person to engage with us on-line by connecting through the use of MS Teams or another virtual meeting platform. **The start time is 9:00 a.m. sharp!**

The scenario we participated in for the table top exercise consists of a series of fires in a mountainous environment, with additional needs for investigations and securing of the scenes. We assume the scenario for the functional exercise will follow this baseline of events. It involved the evacuations of residences and the need for sheltering and feeding of the evacuees and the first responders. Secondary to the mountain fire is an intentionally set fire in construction equipment at a local industrial plant. There is also a hazardous materials incident involving a train and a tractor-trailer. There are many needs for assistance and mutual aid to cover the unmet needs.

An After Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) will be compiled by the U.S. EPA and its START contractors following this functional exercise. The participating agencies will be receiving a copy of the draft document to review and report any changes or corrections to the document along with a response to the shortcomings or discrepancies presented in the exercise along with actions which may be taken to mitigate the problems encountered. As this document is finalized, copies will be distributed to all of the agencies for their review and future corrective actions.

If you or your organization are interested in participating in the next portion of the 2022 exercise series, please contact Stephen Allen at: [sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org](mailto:sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org).

## Online FEMA Training

FEMA offers a number of online courses at <https://training.fema.gov/is/>. 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 in the federal, state, local or tribal governments.

JCOHSEM recommends the following FEMA Independent Study Courses. These courses are free and available online. After the course is completed an online test can be taken. Once the test is passed you will receive a completion certificate.

### IS-100.C: Introduction to the Incident Command System

**Course Overview:** ICS 100, Introduction to the Incident Command System, introduces the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. This course describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

**Primary Audience:** The target audience includes persons involved with emergency planning, and response or recovery efforts.

**Course Length:** 2 hours

**Course Link:** <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-100.c>

### IS 200.C - Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response

**Course Overview:** Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, reviews the Incident Command System (ICS), provides the context for ICS within initial response, and supports higher level ICS training. This course provides training on, and resources for, personnel who are likely to assume a supervisory position within ICS.

**Primary Audience:** The intended audience (s) are response personnel at the supervisory level who are involved with emergency planning, response, or recovery efforts.

**Course Length:** 4 hours

**Course Link:** <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-200.c>

### IS 908 - Emergency Management for Senior Officials

**Course Overview:** The purpose of this course is to introduce senior officials to the important role they play in emergency management. The responsibility for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from incidents, both natural and manmade, begins at the local level – with individuals and public officials in the county, city, or town affected by the incident. This course presents:

- Simple steps official can take to become acquainted with their emergency management role, authorities, and team members.
- Video presentations sharing lessons learned from officials of the City of Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana.

**Primary Audience:** Senior officials, including mayors, city managers, and county managers.

**Course Length:** 1 hour

**Course Link:** <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-908>



# **Jefferson County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management-Committees**

## **Steering Committee, John Sherwood, Chair**

The Steering Committee works with the JCOHSEM director to guide the activities of JCOHSEM. A fourteen-member Steering Committee is made up of public and private representation. JCOHSEM 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 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Meetings held on the third Wednesday of February, April, June, August, October, and December. 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 JCOHSEM's programs. They work with the director and other staff to keep the entire community focused on the objectives of JCOHSEM, 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. This committee is responsible in assisting the director in setting up speaking engagements and public awareness events. This committee meets monthly on the second 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, West Virginia Emergency Management Division of the West Virginia Department of Homeland Security (WVEMD) and FEMA in July 2003. The plan was updated in 2008 and 2013. The 2013 plan was approved by WVEMD and FEMA in June 2013 and the 2018 plan was approved in November 2018.

## **Counter Terrorism Committee, Stephen Allen, 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 counterterrorism or human-caused disasters. Meetings are held on the second 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](mailto:sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org)

Times, dates, and places may need to be changed due to inclement weather, scheduling conflicts, or Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activation. If you have questions, call the JCOHSEM office at (304) 728-3290.

Jefferson County Office of  
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](mailto:sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org)

Dick Myers, Deputy Director, Planner,  
Program Manager  
Office: 304-728-3329  
Email: [dmyers@jeffersoncountywv.org](mailto:dmyers@jeffersoncountywv.org)

Jennifer Walters — Administrative  
Assistant, Public Information Officer,  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Office: 304-724-8914  
Email: [jwalters@jeffersoncountywv.org](mailto:jwalters@jeffersoncountywv.org)

#### PUBLIC SAFETY; PUBLIC TRUST



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

## October Meetings & Events

- Sterling National Weather Service calls every Monday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m.
- WV State weather calls on Mondays and Fridays at 10 a.m.
- WV Emergency Management Council calls each Tuesday at 9 a.m.
- WV Amateur Radio Network Test Thursday, September 1 at 6:00 p.m.
- The Counter-Terrorism Committee meeting for October is cancelled due to a scheduling conflict.
- The Public Awareness, Education and Training committee meeting for October is cancelled due to a scheduling conflict.
- Jefferson County Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting on October 19 at Hospice of the Panhandle, 330 Hospice Lane, Kearneysville, WV. Meeting starts at 8:15a.m.