

NEWS FROM DOWN UNDER

Volume III, Issue II

February 2010

County of Cumberland

Emergency
Management
Agency

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Public Safety, Emergency Management and Allied Organizations are invited to submit articles, events, training opportunities and news.

*Send to: David B. Feeney
feeney@cumberlandcounty.org*



2009 Homeland Security Grant

AUGUSTA, MAINE – The Maine Emergency Management Agency has awarded over \$2 million statewide in 2009 Homeland Security grants to counties, municipalities and state agencies.

MEMA received over \$5 million worth of requests, with only \$2.7 million available to be awarded under the program. The Homeland Security Grant Review Committee carefully evaluated every application based on the criteria published by MEMA in the FY2009 Grant Application package. Specifically the Review Committee scored projects in accordance with Maine's Homeland Security Objectives and the State Homeland Security Strategy.

The Grant Review Committee included representatives from law enforcement, county emergency management, information technology and communications.

Under the Homeland Security Grant Program, applicants are also required by Federal law to provide documentation of compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) standards. NIMS set out specific benchmarks for emer-

gency plans, training and exercises.

Within Cumberland County, the following FY2009 HSGP were awarded:

- Portland Water District—\$46,334.48 Security Phase I
- Cumberland County EMA—\$55,000.00 EMA Planner
- Cumberland County CART—\$7,500.00
- Town of Cumberland Exercise—\$11,780.00

A County-by-County Summary of FY2009 HSGP Awards is available on the MEMA Website.

MeCDC Urges People to Get H1N1 Vaccine

Augusta—January 21, 2010 Maine CDC Press Release

The Maine CDC is urging people to get vaccinated against H1N1 Influenza.

“Now that plenty of vaccine is available we strongly recommend everyone get vaccinated,” said Dr. Dora Anne Milles, Director of the Maine CDC. There are about 100 public places that vaccine can be obtained, including several dozen clinics that are offering the vaccine for free. You can find vaccine by calling 211, checking the flu clinic locator at www.maine flu.gov, or by calling your health care provider.

Continued on Page 6—MeCDC Vaccine

Emergency Management

Emergency Management is the assessment, analysis, planning, and assignment of available resources to prevent, prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of all types of hazards or emergencies.

Emergency Management is a comprehensive system of policies, practices, and procedures designed to save lives, prevent injuries, and protect property and the environment if an emergency occurs.

January —A New Financial Emergency Plan From the MEMA Director:

January 23, 2010

Whether it's a natural disaster or a family emergency, it's the worst time to discover that you cannot find vital family records or papers. It's the worst time to realize you don't have your insurance or bank account numbers, your insurance agent's phone number, or a list of the valuable items in your house.

Organizing your important records may be the last thing you might think of as a vital part of disaster planning. But maybe it should be the first.

For Your Family:

We've put together some simple steps to financial preparedness as part of our Maine Prepares preparedness library. www.MainePrepares.gov

These simple steps will get you started putting together a household inventory, and organizing your credit card and bank account records, insurance policies, medical records, and identification information. We recommend a safe deposit box for copies of important records, but another option is to keep copies in a safe place away from your house, such as at another family member's home.

Remember, too, that we're not just talking about a flood or a fire. What if you have a burglary, and you can't remember or describe what was stolen? What if you have a medical emergency, and your family has to sort out how to pay bills, or where to file an insurance claim?

These simple financial preparedness steps can give your family one less thing to worry about, at a time when you need peace of mind the most.

Business Owners:

Everything about disaster recovery starts with your records.

The Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS) has some great tools for business emergency planning. In particular, their checklist on Vital Records will walk you through identifying your vital records, and recording where they are kept and backed up. www.disastersafety.org

When a major emergency or disaster occurs in any part of the State, SBA Disaster Assistance is one of the programs potentially available for businesses to help them recover. Your financial history records will be particularly important,

first to help the State justify the need for this assistance, and then for you to apply for it.

Public Officials:

No doubt your community already complies with Maine State laws and rules regarding record retention. Your financial records are open to the public, and you probably have an accountant who advises you on financial record-keeping procedures. The Maine State Archives also has great resources for local records managers.

I'll also make a plug for a different kind of records – road and bridge maintenance records. If you keep track of repairs to your road systems, you'll be able to show if you have certain roads or areas that receive frequent damage from weather events. That can help make the case for a Hazard Mitigation grant to fix the problem once and for all. MEMA offers an [easy-to-use Road Tracker spreadsheet] (<http://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/attach.php?id=53924&an=3>) (in Microsoft Excel format) to track road repairs.

Record-keeping is the least thought about aspect of disaster planning, and could easily be the most important. Make a resolution and start your Emergency Financial First Aid Kit today.

Thoughts? Let me know.

Sincerely,

Rob McAleer, Director,
Maine Emergency Management Agency

2010 Exercise Schedule

- February 6, 2010, Saturday
Initial Planning Conference (IPC)
Tri-County Wild Land Fire Tabletop Exercise
Location: Cornish Fire Department
Contact: David B. Feeney—CCEMA
- April 24, 2010, Saturday
Tri-County Wild Land Fire Tabletop Exercise
Location: Sacopee Valley Middle School
Contact: David B. Feeney—CCEMA
- June 5, 2010, Saturday
Portland JetPort Full Scale Exercise
Contact: Lt. Janine Roberts—Portland PD
- October 2010 (Proposed)
Tri-County Wild Land Fire Functional Exercise
Contact: David B. Feeney—CCEMA
- October 16, 2009, Saturday
Maine Section Simulated Emergency Test (SET)
(Amateur Radio State Emergency Communications Test).
Contact: Bryce Rumery, k1gax@juno.com

Cumberland County EMA Activity Highlights

CCEMA H1N1 Update

The Cumberland County H1N1 Taskforce membership met in January to review the current status of the virus and to identify any gaps in vaccination coverage. Reports received through the Maine CDC and Atlanta warn that the virus is expected to have periods of lulls and spikes throughout the remainder of the winter and well into the year.

Incident Management Assistance Teams (IMAT)

We've received 23 applications for the Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) and have indications from various chiefs and organizations that we'll receive more. The goal of building a team of not less than 30 personnel looks to be attainable. An initial team meeting will be held the evening of 17 February. We participated in a Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) led IMAT meeting in Augusta for the purposes of discussing standardized training of teams across the State.

Commodity Points of Distribution (C-PODS)

CCEMA continues to work on developing Commodity Points of Distribution (C-POD) and Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Points of Dispersion (POD) within Cumberland County. We have queried Municipalities on the suitability of currently designated C-POD sites and have met with the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Director, Mike Radke, specifically to address SNS POD initiatives. We also met with the Disaster Services Coordinator for the Maine Conference of Churches to discuss the potential participation of church volunteers in helping to staff C-PODs.

2010 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)

Work on the 2010 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) has begun with site visits to Municipalities, beginning with the Town of Yarmouth, to catalogue their mitigation projects. The Towns of Baldwin, Cumberland and Casco are next in the queue. We intend to contract with the Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) to lead this effort and have developed a Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for CCSWCD to review. Cumberland County is required to update the HMP not later than December, 2010.

Tri-County Wild Land Fire Tabletop Exercise

The development of the Tri-County Wild Land Fire Tabletop Exercise (TTX) continues and is being coordinated by the Directors of Cumberland, York and Oxford County Emergency Management Agencies. Ray Lussier of Life Safety Specialist, Inc. was contracted to facilitate the series of Wild Land Fire Exercises scheduled within 2010.

Saturday, February 6, 2010, is the date of the Initial Planning Conference (IPC) and it will be attended by key individuals from various disciplines to represent those functions within the exercise. The IPC is held to review the Tabletop Exercise Scenario, Expected Actions and Objectives.

The date of the exercise is ,Saturday, April 24, 2010, and tentatively, a proposed Functional Exercise is planned for October 2010.

Future Meetings:

- **February 3, 2010, 1:00 p.m.**
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
Cumberland County EMA, Windham, Maine
- **February 6, 2010, Saturday—8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**
Initial Planning Conference—Wild Land Fire TTX
Cornish Fire Department
- **February 10, 2010, Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.**
Local EMA Director's Meeting
Cumberland County EMA, Windham, Maine
- **February 17, 2010, 6:00 p.m.**
Initial Cumberland County IMAT Meeting
Cumberland County EMA, Windham, Maine
- **February 19, 2010, 12:00 p.m.**
Maine—New Hampshire Traffic Incident Management
Location: York Library
Contact: Tom Reinauer
- **February 23, 2010, 6:00 p.m.**
Cumberland County CART Team Meeting
Cumberland County EMA, Windham, Maine
- **March 4, 2010, 10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.**
River Flow Advisory Commission Meeting
Location: MEMA—Augusta
Contact: Lynette Miller (207) 624-4420

Independent Study Programs New /Updated EMI Courses Launched

IS-704.a—NIMS Resource Management Course
New 01/15/10

<http://training.fema.gov/IS>

USFA/NFA NIMS/ICS Equivalency

The United States Fire Administration's National Fire Programs Division has developed or revised the following National Fire Academy (NFA) course to comply with the National Incident Management (NIMS National Standard Curriculum Training Development Guidance.

List of NFA courses meeting the NIMS requirements for ICS-100 through ICS-400:

- ICS 100: Q462 Introduction to ICS for Operational First Responders.
F806/W806 NIMS ICS for Fire Service
F160/W160 NIMS ICS for EMS
- ICS 200: Q463 Basic ICS for Operational Fire Responders
F806/W806 NIMS ICS for Fire Service
F160/W160 NIMS ICS for EMS
- ICS 300: H465 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents for Operational First Responders.
R152/N152 EMS Special Operations *
R243/O243/N243 Hazardous Materials Incident Management *
R337/N337/O337 Command & General Staff Functions for Local Incident Management Teams *
R306, Executive Analysis of Fire Service Operations in Emergency Management *
R308, Command & Control of FD Operations in Natural and Manmade Disasters *
* 2007 Version or later
- ICS 400: H467, Advanced ICS for Complex Incidents, Command and General Staff, and MACS
R337/N337/O337 Command & General Staff for Local Incident Management Teams *
R306 Executive Analysis of Fire Service Operations in Emergency Management *
R308, Command & Control of FD Operations in Natural and Manmade Disasters *
* 2007 Version or later

Source: www.usfa.dhs.gov

Dam Safety Workshop for Dam Owners

January 6, 2010

The Maine Emergency Management Agency will host two sessions of "Dam Safety Workshop for Dam Owners" on Wednesday, February 10.

What: Dam Safety Workshop for Dam Owners

Where: Florian Hall, Central Maine Commerce Center
45 Commerce Drive, Augusta

When: Wednesday, February 10, 2010
Session 1: 9 am to 11 am
Session 2: 2 pm to 4 pm

Who Should Attend?

Anyone who owns a dam and has an Emergency Action Plan. Dam owners are also encouraged to invite those individuals who would play a role should an emergency occur: town officials, first responders, dispatchers, other plan holders, potential evacuees, etc.

This session is primarily for dam owners in Kennebec, Somerset, Waldo, Androscoggin and Lincoln Counties. However, dam owners from anywhere in the state are welcome to register and attend.

NOTE: Similar workshops will be scheduled in Aroostook and Penobscot Counties in early May and other counties are also being considered. If you would like to be included on the invitation list for those locations, please contact Tara Ayotte at the address below.

Workshop Content:

The Dam Safety Workshop focuses on the Dam Safety Program, including:

- Hazard classification
- Examples of dam failures
- Emergency Action Planning (EAPs), and
- Implementing the EAP

Refreshments will be available.

To register or for more information, contact:

Tara Ayotte, Dam Safety Administrator

tara.ayotte@maine.gov

207-624-4432

207-287-3178 (FAX)

Please indicate which session you will attend, and provide the names of all your participants.

Registration is open through February 5th.

2010 Training Opportunities

- February 03, 2010, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Public Information Officer Awareness (G289)
NOTE: This Class is Full
 Location: MEMA Classroom—Augusta
 Contact: Mike Grant—MEMA (Submit FEMA 75-5)
- February 03, 2010, 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Incident Command System: ICS-300—Part I
 February 10, 2010, 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Incident Command System: ICS-300—Part II
 Location: Oakland Fire Department
 Pre-register and attend both sessions are required
 Prerequisites: IS700, ICS100 and ICS200.
 Contact: Kennebec County EMA (207) 623-8407
 kclepc@kennebeccounty-me.gov or
 Contact: Somerset County EMA (207) 474-6788
 EmergencyManagement@SomersetCounty-ME.org
- February 2010 (see below)
ICS-300, Intermediate Incident Command
 Location: Lincoln County Communications Center
 Contact: Kimberley L. Kaiser Lincoln County EMA
 (207) 882-7559 or (207) 380.1527
 kim902@co.lincoln.me.us RSVP by January 21
 Dates are as follows:
 February 9 18:00—22:00 February 11 18:00—22:00
 February 23 18:00—22:00 February 25 18:00—22:00
 February 27 08:00—16:00
- February 10, 2010
Dam Safety Workshop
 (Two sessions—see article Page 4)
 09:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
 02:00 p.m.—04:00 p.m.
 Location: Florian Hall, Augusta
 Contact: Tara Ayotte, Dam Safety Engineer
 (207) 624-4432 (207) 287-3178 fax
 Please indicate which session you will attend—
 Registration Open through February 5th.
- February 13, 2010, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
ICS 400, Advanced Incident Command System
 Location: Kingfield Fire Station
 Contact: Tim Hardy, Franklin County EMA Director
 (207) 778-5892
- February 20-21, 2010
ICS 300, Intermediate Incident Command System
 Location: Paris Fire Department
 Contact: Oxford County EMA (207) 890-9110
 oxctyema@megalink.net
- February 23—24, 2010, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Basic Public Information Officer (G290)
NOTE: This Class is Full
 Location: MEMA Classroom—Augusta
 Contact: Mike Grant—MEMA (Submit FEMA 75-5)
- February 26, 2010: 09:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Toolkit
 Location: Cianchette Auditorium—Brewer, Maine
 Contact: Jeremy Damren—MEMA (207) 624-4400
- February 27, 2010—08:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Basic Investigation of Wildland & Urban Interface Fires
 Location: Augusta: Maine Forest Service - Bolton Hill
 Contact: Maine Chapter IAAI, P. O. Box 1101,
 Auburn, Maine 04211-1101
 www.maineiaai.com
 \$10.00 for Charter and Non-Members)
- March 2010 (see below dates)
ICS 400 Advanced Incident Command
 Location: Lincoln County Communications Center
 Contact: Kimberley L. Kaiser—Lincoln County EMA
 (207) 882-7559 or (207) 380.1527
 Dates are as follows: March 9 18:00—22:00
 March 10 18:00—22:00 March 13 08:00—16:00
 Please RSVP by, February 26, 2010.
- March 15—16, 2010 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
ICS 300 Intermediate Incident Command
 Location: Dover-Foxcroft Fire Department
 Contact: Piscataquis County EMA
 (207) 564-7475 (fax) Forward FEMA 75-5 or mail
 No registrations will be accepted after March 5, 2010
- March 23, 2010, 08:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (1-day training)
Hurrevac 2010 Training (Hurricane Tracking)
 Location: FEMA Region I, Boston, MA
 Contact: Paul Morey—Paul.Morey@dhs.gov
 RSVP by: March 1, 2010
- March 24, 2010, 08:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (1-day training)
Hurrevac 2010 Training (Hurricane Tracking)
 Location: FEMA Region I, Boston, MA
 Contact: Paul Morey—Paul.Morey@dhs.gov
 RSVP by: March 1, 2010
- April 29—30, 2010
Second Annual Maine Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference
 Location: Augusta Civic Center
 Contact: Robert Gardner / Dwane Hubert—MEMA
 (207) 624-4400

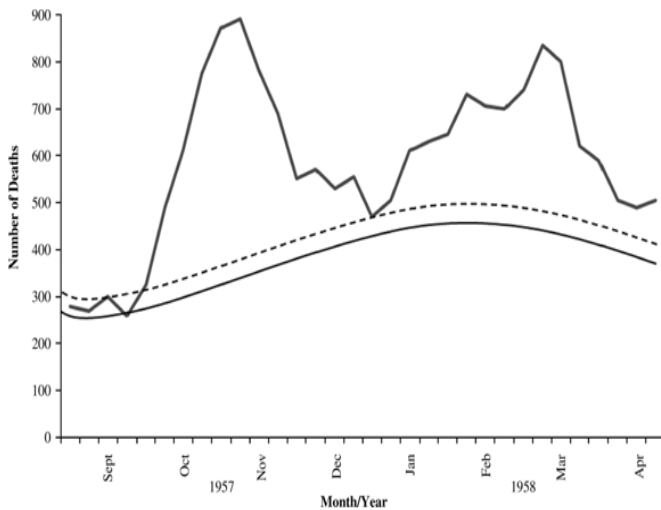
MeCDC Vaccine

Continued from Page 1

Pandemic influenza strains such as the H1N1 strain are more contagious than normal influenza viruses, so vaccination is a critical strategy to stopping its circulation and chances of the virus worsening. "Even if you are not in one of the high risk groups, it is likely someone you live with or work with is. It is important to get vaccinated to protect your own health as well as those whom you are close with," said Dr. Mills.

Since the beginning of January, 10 Mainers have been hospitalized for H1N1, including four children. Of those hospitalized, three required admission to an intensive care unit, including one child and one young adult.

During the 1957 pandemic, there was a mild surge in the spring, followed by a large surge in the fall, another large one in the winter of 1958 and others following that, with the virus circulating for several years. All pandemics are different, but most have multiple waves of illness and death.



1957 pandemic 'waves'

"Although the H1N1 disease surge is on the decline, these hospitalizations remind us that the virus is expected to circulate for months, if not years, to come. Pandemics usually come in waves and if the last pandemic is any indication, we may have another wave of disease. Now is an excellent time to get vaccinated, especially given the amount of vaccine available" said Dr. Mills.

Training Announcement: Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program HSEEP Toolkit Training

The Maine Emergency Management Agency will be conducting a toolkit training on the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP).

At the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Enter exercises into HSEEP's Design and Development System.
- Synchronize and de-conflict exercises.
- Create an Exercise and Evaluation Guide (EEG)
- Create a Master Scenario Events List (MSEL)

Date: February 26, 2010—Brewer, Maine

Selection Criteria:

The primary audience for this training is individuals who have already completed the 2 or 3 day HSEEP Course and exercises are the part of their responsibilities as their main job or as an auxiliary function at the State, tribal, or local level of government. Class size will be limited to 15 students.

Instructors:

Jeremy Damren, MEMA Exercise Coordinator, and Mike Grant, MEMA Training Coordinator will serve as instructors.

Course Location:

The course will be held in the Auditorium at the Cianchette Building. The Cianchette Building is located at 43 Whiting Hill Road, Brewer. Class will run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Lunch and breaks will be provided, all other expenses are the responsibility of the student.

For further information or to register, please contact Jeremy Damren at MEMA—All applications should be submitted via FEMA 75-5 Training Application Form.

Contact: Jeremy Damren , Exercise Coordinator—MEMA (207) 624-4400





Important Links

Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency
Home: www.cumberlandcounty.org/EMA

Maine Emergency Management Agency
Home: www.maine.gov/mema
Library: www.maine.gov/mema/mema_library.shtml

Maine Prepares
Home: www.maine.gov/mema/prepare

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Home: www.fema.gov
Training: <http://training.fema.gov>
Grants: www.fema.gov/government/grant/index.shtm
Assistance: www.DisasterAssistance.gov

Domestic Preparedness Support
U. S. Department of Homeland Security www.dhs.gov
NIMS Resource Center <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims>
Lessons Learned Information Sharing System
www.llis.gov
Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)
<http://hseep.dhs.gov>

Center Disease Control
Maine CDC: (H1N1)
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/swine-flu-2009.shtml>

U. S. CDC: (H1N1) <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu>
Flu.gov <http://www.pandemicflu.gov>

Southern Maine Regional Resource Center (SMRRC)
Home: www.smrrc.org

Ready America www.ready.gov

National Weather Service—Gray, Maine
www.erh.noaa.gov/gyx

Maine ARES <http://www.maineares.org>

2-1-1 Maine
Home: www.211maine.org

5-1-1 Maine (Maine DOT Travel Information)
Home: www.511maine.gov

American Red Cross of Southern Maine
Home: <http://southernmaine.redcross.org>

PROP
Home: www.wherepeoplecomefirst.org

Southern Maine EMS
Home: www.smems.org

Volunteer Maine
Home: www.volunteermaine.org

Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG)
Home: www.gpcog.org



Monthly Communications Test

February 11, 2010, at 1330 hours.

- Log onto WebEOC
- HAN Notification—1330 hours
- Conference Call—1345 hours
- Radio Check—1400 hours

Cumberland County EMA Staff:



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