

# PREPAREDNESS UPDATE

St. Clair County Office of Emergency Management Homeland Security  
295 N. Airport Dr. Kimball, MI 48074 (810)989-6965

St. Clair County, MI

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## NEW VIDEO SIMULATOR SYSTEM TEACHES 1<sup>ST</sup> RESPONDERS IN OUR AREA

1<sup>st</sup> responders now have a new tool to train on. The video simulator system is called Edge, it is not like a typical game where you receive points for kills or for finding items, it creates an avatar to move around. The avatar can put out fires, rescue victims, do patient assessment, triage, as well as scene safety, taking down a threat and protecting lives. It is interactive with the other responders on the system and radio communications.

The system can be played with one entity or all responding disciplines. It is up to the instructor to set up the scenario however they choose. It could be a fire, a barricaded gunman, or an active shooter in a school, church, or business. Here is the link from EBW-TV to learn more:

<http://ebw.tv/edge-training-assists-first-responders-real-life-scenarios-happens/>





## CITIZENS ACADEMIES TO BEGIN SOON

The St. Clair County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office is implementing a Citizens Academy. This Academy will focus on showing the general public a glimpse into the job responsibilities of our area 1<sup>st</sup> responders. This will showcase Fire/EMS, Law Enforcement, and Emergency Management.

We think it is important that our residents have an understanding of these jobs. These Academies will be taught by responders from the field, and consist of 6 weeks of training, once a week in the evenings for 2 hours and 1 combined group session on a Saturday with a combined scenario.

Our Academies were designed with the cooperation of the Port Huron Police Department, building off their successful concept.

**Please note that these Citizens Academies are not a certification academy and are intended as an information-only program.**

The Academy dates are as follows: All times are from 7pm – 9pm with a Saturday from 9am – 2pm.

Law Enforcement Academy	Fire/EMS Academy	Emerg. Management Academy
Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays
April 10 <sup>th</sup>	April 11 <sup>th</sup>	April 12 <sup>th</sup>
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	April 18 <sup>th</sup>	April 19 <sup>th</sup>
April 24 <sup>th</sup>	April 25 <sup>th</sup>	April 23 <sup>rd</sup> (Monday)
May 1 <sup>st</sup>	May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	May 3 <sup>rd</sup>
May 12 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)	May 12 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)	May 12 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)
May 15 <sup>th</sup>	May 16 <sup>th</sup>	May 17 <sup>th</sup>
ALL ACADEMY GRADUATION May 22 <sup>nd</sup> (Tuesday)		

At the end of the Academies, participants can choose to apply to be part of a volunteer Community Ready Team that will support our area 1<sup>st</sup> responders when requested.

If you are interested in attending any of the Citizens Academies, or would like more information please call:

810-989-6965, or email: [emergencymanagement@stclaircounty.org](mailto:emergencymanagement@stclaircounty.org)

## More Fun with NIMS part II (400)!

The St. Clair County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management recently held a National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command System ICS 400 class-Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff- Complex Incidents. The two day class occurring in February 2018 and was held at the Kimball Fire Department Station 1 on Allen Rd. The class size of 27 students was the largest ever held in the county since the inception of the program in 2008. Multiple disciplines were present including members from Fire Departments, Law Enforcement agencies, EMS, Emergency Management, and Hospitals. The diverse group allowed for great discussion and interaction during the portions of the class that required scenario based problem solving.



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## Do 1 Thing for March

**GOAL FOR MARCH:** Know how to respond safely when instructions are given to evacuate or take shelter.

In a disaster you may be asked to either evacuate or shelter-in-place. In the excitement of an emergency, it can be difficult to focus on what you are doing. Know what to do to keep your family safe. Practice your tornado and fire safety plans. If your family has practiced, they will be more comfortable doing it when the emergency actually happens.

Click the links below for more detail

### Tasks:

- ✓ [Identify the best storm shelter in your home and practice getting to the shelter with your family.](#)
- ✓ [Learn how to safely shelter in place.](#)
- ✓ [Make a Go Bag for emergency sheltering.](#)

# WHAT IS THE HOMELAND SECURITY-EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

For many years, St. Clair County HSEM has actively embraced the “whole community” concept. A key pillar of the program is the HSEM Advisory Council that was created in 2004. The purpose of the HSEM Advisory Council is to serve as a coordinating body for assessing homeland security and emergency management needs.

They are responsible for:

- Promoting enhanced coordination between emergency response agencies
- Promoting standardization and interoperability throughout the jurisdiction
- Fostering innovative approaches to meeting homeland security and emergency management needs
- Fostering the effective use of the jurisdiction’s homeland security funding.
- Capturing innovative practices and report accomplishments that can be replicated in other communities nationally.

The voting membership of the Advisory Council is made up of one representative from each group listed below:

- Urban fire service (paid)
- Rural fire service (volunteer)
- Municipal law enforcement
- County law enforcement
- County Commissioner
- Emergency Management
- Medical Control - Emergency Medical Service
- Medical Control - Hospitals
- Hazardous Material
- Public Works
- Public Safety Communications
- Clergy
- City Governmental Administrative
- Township Governmental Administrative
- Metropolitan Planning
- Community Mental Health
- Public Health
- Port Huron Police
- Port Huron Fire
- Business
- Utilities – Gas
- Utilities - Electric
- Labor
- Private Security
- Cyber Security

The Advisory Council also serves as the Local Emergency Planning Committee and the Citizens Corp Council. They meet bi-monthly at the Emergency Operations Center

## Instructors from New Mexico Tech were on hand to teach many educators, business leaders and 1<sup>st</sup> responders

The topics were; Understanding and Planning for School Bomb Incidents, Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings, and Homemade Explosives – Awareness, Recognition and Response.

The participants now have the foundation knowledge needed to create a school bomb incident response protocol which will be part of a school's or school district's emergency operations plan. It is also designed to aid emergency responders who respond to school bomb incidents.

The target audience was firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency medical personnel, private security personnel, and school employees who are responsible for planning for and responding to bombing incidents in schools.

The courses were very informative and started administrators thinking about emergency response plans.



Or visit our website at: [www.bereadystclaircounty.org](http://www.bereadystclaircounty.org)

