



# HSEM UPDATE



St. Clair County Office of Emergency Management Homeland Security  
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St. Clair County, MI

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## Vital Infrastructure Team Training

**The VIT has changed names back to the original CAAT (Critical Asset Assessment Team)**

Patrick Chagnon was brought in to provide expert training for the team. Jeff Friedland said "Patrick has done training all over the world, he just broadens our capabilities."

Patrick Chagnon is the founder and president of Blue Line Security Consulting Group in Windsor, Connecticut. He said the title of the two-day training session is "Disrupting the Extremist."

The team consists of members from law enforcement and other groups in the county operating under the umbrella of [St. Clair County Homeland Security and Emergency Management](#).

The team's purpose is to assess infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, major employers and government facilities to identify possible threats from terrorism, from accidents and from natural disasters and to improve security at those places. There are already presentations being scheduled for several key facilities within St. Clair County as it is important that business employees understand what indicators they may encounter during their workday that could result in the disruption of a potential local event. In January, the team will be available to present a similar presentation to service clubs, business groups etc. This presentation will last approximately 15 minutes and can be scheduled by calling 810-989-6329.

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THINK ABOUT THE RESIDENTS IN CALIFORNIA THAT HAD TO EVACUATE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT DUE TO THE WILDFIRES. THIS COULD HAPPEN TO ANY OF US. WHAT WOULD YOU TAKE IF YOU ONLY HAVE MINUTES TO LEAVE? DO YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY KIT?

## YOUR DO1THING FOR NOVEMBER IS:

**GOAL FOR NOVEMBER:** Remember important items that may be overlooked when leaving your home in a disaster.

Any emergency is easier to handle when you have prepared ahead of time. Put together an emergency kit with important items to keep at home, and a go bag with items you will need to take with you if you evacuate. Think about what you and your family would need in a disaster. You can make kits for your home, car or workplace. Emergencies can happen anywhere.

When severe weather is predicted, make sure your car has a full tank of gas. You don't want to wait in line for gas if you are told to evacuate. Some storms may also knock out electricity, causing gas stations to close. For further information see the website: [www.do1thing.com](http://www.do1thing.com)

# YOUR DO1THING FOR OCTOBER WAS:

## Do1Thing in October: Power

**Be able to safely meet your basic needs during an electrical outage.**

*[Have flashlights ready in an easily accessible place and check batteries in flashlights and radios.](#)*

When the lights go out, the safest way to provide emergency lighting is with flashlights or battery-powered lanterns.

*[Acquire and learn how to safely use a portable generator.](#)*

Using a properly connected generator of adequate size during a power outage will reduce or almost eliminate the impact a power outage has on your life. Make sure that the generator is placed outside when in use. Never use it inside.

*[Create a power outage plan and decide what you can do before, during and after a power outage to minimize the effect on your household.](#)*

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## AMERICORPS/POINTS OF LIGHT



We say goodbye to our 2016/2017 AmeriCorps program and welcome a new program for 2017/18.

If you are interested in getting preparedness training for your group let us know and we will provide it at no cost through our AmeriCorps/Points of Light program.

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## Just Reminding you.....

As we get ready to celebrate the upcoming holidays.....

Did you change the batteries in your smoke/fire/CO detectors??

Turkey Frying Safety: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=li\\_qbCbyTlo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=li_qbCbyTlo)

Christmas Tree Safety: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8osGNSKL9k4>

Holiday Shopping Safety: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=njm3JfuHp0c>



## **Violence and Terrorism Training**

The Nation has seen many forms of violence and terrorism in the past couple of months. We in St Clair County need to do our part in being prepared, knowing our surroundings and recognizing what is not normal, as well as knowing how and where to report abnormal behaviors or activities.

Recently, St Clair County had an opportunity to send representatives from St Clair Fire Department, Clay Township Police Department Marysville Public Safety, St Clair County Hazardous Operation Team, St Clair County Homeland Security and Emergency Management to New Mexico Tech for the Prevention of and Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents (PRSBI) course. This was an intense five-day, train-the-trainer program sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), a division of the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The course provided the knowledge and skill for developing policies, procedures, training, and operational capabilities to deter, prevent, interdict, respond to, and mitigate the effects of a suicide bombing. This was designed for law enforcement officer's fire, emergency medical services, emergency management operations personnel, and individuals in positions that would be responsible for responding to or planning for a suicide bombing threat or incident.

Here are quotes from some of the attendees... Sgt. Stephen Stockwell said it was "extremely informative class that has already changed the way I approach certain situations. I would highly recommend this course to anyone involved in first response or emergency management."

"PRSBI in New Mexico was a great school. There was so much information packed in to five days. Most important from the school was to recognize indicators that can alert law enforcement and first responders to the possible manufacture of homemade explosives. Anyone can learn to recognize and report these indicators (suspicious activity) with very basic training. Sgt. Scott Baldwin

Our next steps are to bring together business and industry groups and to educate them on the signs and indicators of terrorism. Having the knowledge and awareness of suspicious behaviors and reporting them will assist the emergency responders do their jobs to prevent a terrorist attack in our county.

# **Volunteers Wanted**

We currently have volunteer positions available. If you are interested in helping your community by being a volunteer, we can help you. We are looking for volunteers for the following missions:

Public Education  
Community Emergency Ready Team

We saw the devastation with the hurricanes in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. They had a fair amount of warning, but the outcome was not a good one. The massive number of people that lost their lives was shocking. This could happen anywhere at any time with little or no warning. How have you prepared for an emergency in your home, your neighborhood or your community?



We have many volunteer opportunities for you to help your family, your neighborhood and your community. Everyone has a skill that can be used. From healthcare professionals to business executives to military veterans to stay at home moms or dads every hand is valuable in the never ending preparedness challenges we face. We will provide you with the training you need to serve your community.

**To become a trained volunteer call St. Clair County Homeland Security and Emergency Management today at (810) 989-6965 or email:**

[emergencymangement@stclaircounty.org](mailto:emergencymangement@stclaircounty.org)

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

