

HSEM COMMUNITY UPDATE

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

St. Clair County, MI

09/11/2018

Issue 80

RESCUE TASK FORCE EQUIPMENT FUND



Acts of mass violence are challenging our nation, our communities and our first responders. While the tactics used by the assailants at each incident differ vastly, each incident requires a coordinated multi-discipline response by emergency services agencies. This is based on data indicating the most common cause of preventable death in mass casualty events is bleeding control as many victims died from blood loss before contact with first responders.

To accomplish this we need equipment totaling \$102,000. This equipment provides each fire department and several EMS units with 3 sets of ballistic equipment, 3 IFAK personal first aid kit, and a mass casualty bag that can provide treatment to 5 people. There are several ways to assist:

- “Adopting” a first response agency by donating \$3400 to provide an agency with the necessary equipment
- A monetary donation of any amount

Checks should be made payable to the Community Foundation, note "Rescue Task Force Project" on the memo line and mail to: Community Foundation of SCC
500 Water Street
Port Huron, MI 48060

Credit card donations can be made online at www.stclairfoundation.org then select “Donate Today” and search for the Emily Bigelow Emergency Services Fund.

THANK YOU for your generous donations:

DTE Energy \$2500
St. Clair County Medical Control \$15,504



Recent Training on Emergency Operations Center in times of Crisis.

The training was provided by FEMA and brought to us by instructors from Texas A&M Engineering and Extension Services. It was a great reminder of how every position works together in the Emergency Operation Center.

Some of the issues that were submitted by the participants were:

What is the most pressing EOC issue affecting the participants?

- Getting buy in/attendance from those agencies not involved in the training.
- Getting the EOC operational (having templates) created, and training everyone their positions.
- Standardization of communication within the EOC and process what happens when assets are ordered, follow thru on delivery, etc.
- Scalability meaning this was the first time we used a combined groups and although we have all worn multiple hats we need to define it better in advance.
- Doing more exercises where we practice the Planning P process with all of our groups...getting those who weren't at this training to be trained under this new process.
- Continued training to engrain the process into members of the EOC
- More discussion about alternate models for EOC

Participants identified the following EOC gaps:

- We need to figure out what level of documentation is truly reasonable and expected and continue to work on information management, flow, sharing
- We need to figure out what checklists can be made and configure them in numerous manners (including paper).
- Important that even in the model tested that communication remains open between sectors to ensure there isn't duplication of activities.
- How to effectively communicate with chiefs and ensure directives are carried out in the field.
- We need to shore up what our preferred communication methods will be and create a message flow that works for us – either electronic or paper. Have paper as a backup. We need to decide on what system works for the EOC, MICIMS, email, and chat on VCC.
- We need to work with finance to set thresholds or levels of spending for an approval during activation especially if we don't have a financial representative.
- Law enforcement representation



Be Ready for the Nationwide Test on 9/20/18

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), will conduct a nationwide test of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) and Emergency Alert System (EAS) on Thursday, September 20, 2018, at approximately 2:20 PM EDT. The test will assess the operational readiness of the IPAWS infrastructure for distribution of a national message and determine if technological improvements are needed. The EAS test will be conducted in conjunction with radio, television, and cable operators in all U.S. states, territories and tribal lands, and the WEA test will take place in coordination with participating wireless providers. This will be the first nationwide IPAWS WEA test.

The logo for 'do1thing' is centered on a black rectangular background with a yellow underline. The word 'do' is in white lowercase letters, followed by a blue square containing the white number '1', and then the word 'thing' in white lowercase letters.

Goal for September: Make sure everyone in your household can receive, understand, and act on information received in an emergency.

Getting correct information during an emergency is the key to taking safe action. Someone in your household may not be able to receive, understand, or act on emergency information. Think about what special needs your household may have. Take action now to make sure everyone in your family will be safe in an emergency.

Things to consider...

- Emergency news or weather broadcasts may not be closed captioned.
- Information that is shown on screen may not be spoken aloud.
- Automated voices and voices over loud speakers may be hard to understand.
- Information comes quickly and the stress of a disaster may make it hard to understand or remember instructions.
- Words moving across the bottom of a television screen may move very quickly.
- The screen color or color of the text might make some information on television hard to read.

For more information on how to achieve this month's steps go to: <http://do1thing.com/> there is also a link to show how your business can be ready.

W.I.N.S. UTILIZED FOR THE BOIL WATER ALERT – CAPAC 8/28/2018

On August 28, 2018 the Village of Capac had a situation that required a “boil water” alert be issued. In the past sending out this type of alert would entail numerous ways in hopes to reach as many residents as possible. In this instance it was sent out via the Warning Information Notification System (W.I.N.S.). Using the system, the alert sent out to target only those residents and businesses serviced by the Capac water system and it was completed in a matter of minutes!

A targeted W.I.N.S. alert was sent. 566 total residents notified within minutes. Alert targeted only those residents and businesses that are serviced with Capac Water (picture below).

In the event of a boil water alert in other communities, this system will send out notifications of this type to your area. The following areas have pre-loaded the information to send out the notification right away: Algonac, Burtchville, Capac, E.China, Ira, Marine City, Marysville, Memphis, Port Huron, St. Clair and Yale.

129 of those notified did confirm the notification (for others a message was left if they had voicemail)

To sign up to receive alerts from the WINS system, to go www.bereadystclaircounty.org then click on the “Alerts” icon.



We remember. Take time to reflect on the positive. Going forward, prepare yourself for any major event.

Or visit our website at: www.bereadystclaircounty.org

