

EdTrAC Connect is distributed electronically every month. It provides preparedness training-related news and information to EdTrAC members and other individuals or organizations interested in receiving the updates. All of the information can be republished or distributed to other parties. Submissions can be made any time, but must be received by the first week of the month in order to be published in the new month. To submit items for the EdTrAC Connect, or to subscribe/unsubscribe, please contact Mat Willey at 515-243-2000 or mwilley@sppg.com.

EdTrAC, the Education and Training Advisory Committee, serves as a coordinator, link, and information clearinghouse about issues, training, and exercises that benefit those in the state who are responsible for ensuring the safety and health of Iowans on a day-to-day basis. Bringing together members who represent a wide array of preventers and first responders, EdTrAC takes an innovative and multidisciplinary approach to coordinating preparedness training priorities for Iowa. More information about EdTrAC can be found at www.edtrac.us.

EdTrAC is convened and funded by The University of Iowa College of Public Health, Center for Public Health Preparedness. Partnering agencies include the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, the Iowa Department of Public Safety, and the Iowa Department of Public Health. State Public Policy Group serves as the coordinator and staff for EdTrAC.

Upcoming EdTrAC Quarterly Meeting Schedule

Thursday, September 6, 2007

9 am – noon
Ramada Inn
Des Moines, IA

Thursday December 6, 2007

9 am – noon
Ramada Inn
Des Moines, IA

**** *EdTrAC would like to extend a special congratulation to Chris Atchison on his recent appointment as director of the University Hygienic Laboratory.*

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division Newsletter

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division

A new HSEMD newsletter (August 7, 2007) has been posted at:

http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/asp/news_room/newsletters.asp.

Three highlights from the August 7 issue:

- **Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant**

The U.S. Department of Commerce has announced a \$968 million national grant to help state and local first responders improve public safety communications and coordination. Iowa's share of the Public Safety Interoperable communications (PSIC) grant amounted to \$10.9 million.

- **New UHL Director**

University of Iowa Vice President for Research Meredith Hay announced on July 17 the appointment of Christopher G. Atchison as director of the University Hygienic Laboratory (UHL), effective Aug. 1. Atchison has served as interim director at the UHL since October 2006.

- **Joint Field Office Closes**

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division and Federal Emergency Management Agency Joint Field Office (JFO) closed August 10. On August 9, JFO Public Assistance staff was relocated to the HSEMD offices in Johnston and may be reached at the Division's main number, 515-725-3231.

Stop Abuse and Sexual Assault Against Older Individuals Training Iowa Law Enforcement Academy

Dates Offered:

August 16-17

Cost:

No cost. Pre-registration is required. Contact Linda Hildreth at Department of Elder Affairs 510 E 12th St., Ste. 2, Des Moines, Iowa 50319 or via email at Linda.Hildreth@iowa.gov

Law Enforcement Officers, County Attorneys, Court Personnel, and Judges will gain accurate information regarding recognizing, intervening, prosecuting and assisting in crimes against older individuals and individuals with disabilities.

OBJECTIVES:

- Understanding the Investigative Tools & Techniques
- Recognizing Abuse, Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence
- Review of Applicable Law
- Identification of Resources
- Standardized Order For County Attorneys

Firearms Instructor School Iowa Law Enforcement Academy

Dates offered:

August 20-31

Cost:

\$475.00 Pre-register online at: http://www.state.ia.us/government/ilea/form_regis_jal.html

Or mail to: Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Attention:

Judy Luedeman

P.O. Box 130,

Johnston, IA 50131-0130.

Or fax to: Judy Luedeman at (515) 242-5471

This two-week school, instructed by Academy staff, will provide Iowa Law Enforcement Academy certification as a firearms instructor and will give graduates the skills to establish and operate a departmental firearms program.

Fulfilling Our Mission: Translating Your Compassion into Community Action **American Red Cross Central Iowa Chapter**

Dates Offered:

August 21, 6 – 9 pm

Cost

No cost. Pre-registration is required. To pre-register, contact Dean Sweberg at 515-471-8333 or swebergd@desmoines-redcross.org.

Fulfilling Our Mission: Translating Your Compassion into Community Action is a basic, entry level instructor-led course, which introduces potential disaster volunteers and members of other local agencies to the role of the Red Cross in the community's actions in preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies and disasters. The course will enable individual volunteers to translate their care and compassion for their community into action and provide information to other agencies on Red Cross work and possible partnership in preparation for and response to a disaster.

Many other disaster training courses are offered at no cost by the American Red Cross to registered volunteers. If you are interested in responding to disasters, both locally (house fires are most common) and around the country (3-week assignments), contact the American Red Cross to get involved. Disaster training is provided at no cost, and your travel/incidental expenses are covered while on a national disaster relief operation. Find your local Red Cross chapter by visiting www.redcross.org

Shelter Operations Training **American Red Cross**

Dates Offered:

August 23rd 1:00pm-4:00pm

August 24th 9:00am-Noon

August 29th 9:00am-Noon

Cost: No cost. To register call 515-471-8350 or email webergd@desmoines-redcross.org

The Iowa Department of Public Health and The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) are jointly sponsoring "Shelter Operations Training". Three ICN sessions will be conducted at more than 50 sites across the state. Organizations that

are invited to attend are State Agencies, Police, Fire, EMS, Current and Prospective Red Cross Volunteers, Faith-Based Organizations, School Districts, and other community organizations interested in participating in sheltering during a disaster.

Jail In-Service 20-hour School **Iowa Law Enforcement Academy**

Dates Offered: August 28-30

Cost:

\$135.00 Pre-register online at http://www.state.ia.us/government/ilea/form_regis_cjf.html Or mail to Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Attn: Judy Luedeman, P.O. Box 130, Johnston, IA 50131-0130. Or fax to: Judy Luedeman at (515) 242-5471

This training session focuses on the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to function effectively and professionally as a communications center supervisor. Special emphasis is placed on incident management, leadership skills, and effective communications.

Telecommunicator Supervisor Management School **Iowa Law Enforcement Academy**

Dates Offered: August 28-30

Cost:

\$160.00 Pre-register online at http://www.state.ia.us/government/ilea/form_regis_cjf.html Or mail to Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Attn: Carolyn Farrell-Moody, P.O. Box 130, Johnston, Iowa, 50131-0130. Or fax to Carolyn Farrell-Moody at (515) 242-5471.

This training session focuses on the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to function effectively and professionally as a communications center supervisor. Special emphasis is placed on incident management, leadership skills, and effective communications.

Emergency Medical Technician Basic Flex Course **Southwestern Community College**

Dates Offered:

Course begins August 28 and will last 16 weeks. Pre-registration is required by August 14. To register call 641-782-1332 or 641-782-1441 or toll-free 800-247-4023 extension 441 or 332.

Cost:

Tuition: \$525.00

Books: \$80

Additional Certification Testing Fees

The newly designed flex course is a combination online and classroom course. It is designed to offer a more flexible schedule than traditional classroom settings.

Students in this EMT-Basic Flex Course will:

- Meet one evening a week for classroom (classroom in Lenox, Iowa)
- One class a week will be completed online at your convenience, on your time schedule, on your computer
- Assignments and quizzes are done online with a range of dates for completion

Teleconference: Case Studies Featuring Some of the Newest CLSI Recommendations for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST) The University Hygienic Lab

Date:

August 29, 2007, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Cost:

No cost. Please contact Rick Bonar by email at richard-bonar@uiowa.edu with the following information by Wednesday, August 22, 2007

This session will provide strategies for dealing with several contemporary issues in detecting and reporting antimicrobial resistance. The newest CLSI guidelines for antimicrobial susceptibility testing will be highlighted.

Telecommunicator In-Service Iowa Law Enforcement Academy

Dates Offered:

September 9; eight hour training

Cost: To register, call Nancy or Carolyn at ILEA 515-242-5357.

Topics include Handling EMS calls, Relay Iowa, Disaster Preparedness, and more.

5th International Bird Flu Summit New-Fields Exhibitions September 25 – 26, 2007 Las Vegas, NV

Paramedics, firefighters, police officers, and other emergency first responders will have a chance to learn first hand the best practices and model protocols they need to effectively respond to a pandemic, when they attend the 5th International Bird Flu Summit this September 25 – 26 at Las Vegas, Nevada.

Nine breakout sessions specifically designed for these different emergency management service (EMS) providers were recently added to the agenda of the two-day event.

Officers of fire departments, for instance, will learn when and how to effectively transition into All-Hazards Management

Responders, and how to enforce quarantines and undertake mass vaccinations.

EMS providers from public works departments will learn how to control traffic, evacuation and mass transportation during a pandemic, ensure the minimum delivery of clean water and sanitation services, and overcome an expected surge in the telecommunications network as more employees choose to work from home.

They will also have the unique opportunity to meet directly with, and gain lessons from counterparts who have had to deal with huge emergencies, such as the officers of the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

The breakout sessions will also involve discussions on urgent pandemic issues such as how to:

- Effectively stockpile vaccines, ensure the delivery of diagnostic kits, mask, gloves and other needed materials
- Manage hospital admissions
- Secure hospitals from possible riots and civil disturbances
- Protect first responders from falling ill or being hurt in civil disturbances

For more information about the conference, please contact New-Fields Exhibitions at 202-536-5000 or visit the website: www.new-fields.com.

Fall 2007 Grand Rounds Series

University of Iowa, Upper Midwest Center for Public Health Preparedness

September – November 2007

The Fall 2007 Grand Rounds Series includes the following educational opportunities.

- September 27, 2007 – *Pandemic Influenza Planning: The White House Homeland Security Council* (in conjunction with the Epi Seminar Series offered through the University of Iowa College of Public Health's Epidemiology Department)
- October 10, 2007 – *Research and the Potential for Human Vaccine Development for Avian Influenza*
- October 12, 2007 – *Vaccine Development at PATH*
- November 13, 2007 – *Protecting Workers and Industry from Cross-Species Infectious Diseases*

More information will be made available at http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icphp/grand_rounds/current_session/

Fire Service Training Bureau Hazardous Materials Symposium

Dates Offered: October 25-26, in Ames. Information will be mailed, and will be available on the FSTB website in the next few weeks.

Fire Service Training Bureau Firefighter Recruit Academy

Dates Offered: October 22 - November 2, in Ames. Information has been mailed, and is available on the FSTB website.

Fire Service Training Bureau Fire Service Instructors Conference

Dates Offered: November 16-17, in Ames. Information will be mailed, and will be available on the FSTB website in September.

New Online Preparedness Training Opportunities Coming Fall 2007 Iowa Department of Public Health – Upper Midwest Center for Public Health Preparedness

- An Introduction to the Joint Information Center
- Effect of Disasters on Mental Health: Children
- Evidence Preservation for Hospital Personnel
- Risk Communications for Special Populations
- Volunteer Management for Public Health
- Volunteer Training: First Steps, Incident Command System (ICS), Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and Stress Management

For more information please contact Angela Harding with the Upper Midwest Center for Public Health Preparedness at (319) 335-8451 or e-mail angela-harding@uiowa.edu.

National Preparedness Month Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management

In September, the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division and the American Red Cross will partner to promote National Preparedness Month in September with additional help from Lt. Governor Patty Judge, Hy-Vee, the National Weather Service, and the Iowa Lottery.

An emergency—be it a flood, tornado, winter storm or power outage—can occur quickly and without warning. Although we cannot prevent emergencies, there are some simple things that we can do now to be better prepared: assemble an emergency supply kit, create a family communication plan, make plans for your pets, and address special needs.

New Resources on Interoperable Communications U.S. Department of Homeland Security

For years, achieving communications interoperability has been a top priority for federal, state, and local jurisdictions across the country. To assist this effort, *LLIS.gov* has developed the Interoperable Communications Resource Page to serve as a one-stop resource for federal, state, and local interoperable communications guidance, research, and plans. The page highlights documents in key areas in interoperable communications such as tactical planning, strategic planning, technology solutions, and the use of common language.

New Resources on Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan Exercises

This resource page highlights the lessons learned from last year's tactical interoperable communication plan (TICP) exercises conducted by more than 76 urban and metropolitan areas. The TICP Exercises Resource Page features TICP exercise after-action reports from urban areas across the country and *LLIS.gov*'s original research highlighting widely applicable TICP exercise lessons learned in areas such as communications protocols, incident command/unified command, and exercise design.

To access these resource pages, please log onto *LLIS.gov* (www.llis.gov) and click on the links provided under FEATURED TOPICS. Additionally, we encourage you to submit your own plans, reports, or other documents related to interoperable communications at IOComms@llis.dhs.gov. As always, we welcome your thoughts, questions, and suggestions.

Incident Command System for Executives Training Materials Available Online NEMA-CDC

The 2007 "Incident Command System for Executives" training material is now available to all NEMA members. The training curriculum and instructional materials were developed by NEMA and IEM, through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control.

For the past three years, NEMA and IEM have been delivering ICS training to state interagency teams comprised of executive level state officials representing public health, emergency management, fire, law enforcement, governor's offices and other state agencies with roles and responsibilities for disaster and public health preparedness and response. The training consists of an overview of ICS and a bioterrorism focused tabletop exercise.

Click on the following link <http://www.nemaweb.org/?1100> to access the training manual and the PowerPoint presentation, or cut and paste the URL address into your Internet browser. Note some of the files are large and make take several minutes to download.

NEMA and the CDC encourage you to make the most of the materials to aid in your bioterrorism preparedness. Feel free to modify the exercise scenario and other training material to meet your agency's needs. If you have questions about the materials feel free to contact Beverly Bell, NEMA Sr. Policy Analyst, at bbell@csq.org.

New Electronic Guidebook to Help First Responders Quickly and Safely Respond to HazMat Incidents

U.S. Department of Transportation

Office of Public Affairs

Washington, D.C.

Two federal agencies joined forces to give fire fighters and other emergency responders instant access to information that will help them – in the first critical moments of an incident – determine the best way to safely contain hazardous materials spills and battle chemical fires.

Emergency responders will for the first time have electronic access through laptops and personal digital assistants (PDAs) to the 2008 Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) under the new effort between the U.S. Departments of Transportation (DOT) and Health and Human Services (HHS). The guidebook is the go-to reference for first responders to help them quickly identify hazardous material classifications, determine the best response, and protect themselves and

the general public immediately after an incident.

“This new digital tool will give our police, fire fighters, and other emergency responders first on the scene the information they need to make the rapid-fire decisions necessary to protect the public and themselves,” said Ted Willke, PHMSA Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

The new electronic guidebook was made possible by a new agreement signed today between DOT’s Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and the HHS’s National Library of Medicine.

The library developed special software to give emergency responders access to the guidebook through PDAs as well as Windows-based laptops and desktops. The software application, called the Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders (WISER), will be available later this year.

For more information on the ERG, visit <http://hazmat.dot.gov/pubs/erg/guidebook.htm/>. For information on WISER visit <http://wiser.nlm.nih.gov/>.

For additional questions, contact Patricia Klinger or Joe Delcambre at (202) 366-4831.

Introduction to Disaster Services American Red Cross Online Course

Introduction to Disaster Services is a free online course consisting of three separate learning modules that will introduce learners to American Red Cross Disaster Services and allow them to discover how volunteers support this critical mission and to explore ways they can become involved in their local chapter.

This online course takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. To take the course, visit the website: http://www2.redcross.org/flash/course01_v01/.

Providing Mass Medical Care with Scarce Resources: A Community Planning Guide HHS Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Shares Resources

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, in collaboration with the Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness, has released ***Providing Mass Medical Care with Scarce Resources: A Community Planning Guide***. This planning guide was developed to provide community planners, as well as planners at the institutional, state and federal levels, with valuable information that will help in their efforts to plan for and respond to a mass casualty event (MCE).

The planning guide examines MCE response and preparedness challenges across a wide range of health care settings and issues recommendations for planners in specific areas. The guide also discusses ethical and legal considerations related to MCE planning in pre-hospital, hospital, acute-care, and alternative-care sites.

To access ***Providing Mass Medical Care with Scarce Resources: A Community Planning Guide*** go to <http://www.ahrq.gov/research/mce/>. To order a print copy of the guide, contact the AHRQ Publications Clearinghouse at 800-358-9295 or by sending an e-mail to ahrqpubs@ahrq.hhs.gov.

Websites to Check Regularly for Trainings and Exercises

AgTerror Preparedness Center

<http://www.agterror.org/>

EdTrAC

<http://www.edtrac.us>

Iowa Department of Public Safety, State Fire Marshal Division

<http://www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/fstb/>

Iowa Law Enforcement Academy

<http://www.state.ia.us/ilea/courses.html>

Iowa Responder Training

<http://www.iowarespondertraining.com/>

National Fire Fighter Near-Miss Reporting System

www.firefightersnearmiss.com

Prepare Iowa Learning Management System

<http://www.prepareiowa.com/Public/>