

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 December 6, 2007

9 am – noon
Ramada Inn
Des Moines, IA

****September is National Preparedness Month**

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division Newsletter

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division

Two new HSEMD newsletters (August 20 and September 5) have been posted at:
http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/asp/news_room/newsletters.asp.

Three highlights from the August 20 issue:

- **Clayton County receives Governor's disaster proclamation**

On August 9, Governor Culver issued a proclamation of disaster emergency for Clayton County due to damages from severe weather and flooding that occurred on July 17 and 18. This declaration automatically launched Iowa's individual disaster assistance grant program, which means low-income residents in Clayton County could apply for state grants of up to \$3,319 to replace losses caused by the heavy rains.

- **Mahaska County holds full-scale exercise**

Mahaska County recently held a large full-scale exercise with participation from the local fire departments, hazmat team, hospital, public health, sheriff's office, 911 center and emergency management. The scenario involved 20 people accidentally being sprayed with fungicide by a low-flying crop duster. The exercise included the first field deployment of a new decontamination shower.

- **HSEMD creates a guidebook for local officials**

The guidebook provides basic, introductory information to officials at the local level on how Homeland Security and Emergency Management functions within the state and how local, state and federal emergency management partners work together to keep Iowans safe.

The guidebook can be viewed here: www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/asp/resource_room/info_library.asp.

Three highlights from the September 5 issue:

- **Governor Culver requests Presidential Declaration for August flooding**

On September 4, Governor Culver sent a letter to President George Bush requesting a Presidential Declaration for flooding and severe weather that occurred August 17 and continuing in northern and southern Iowa. The Individual Households Program is being requested in 14 counties. Individual assistance damage assessments for potential eligible expenses under federal programs totaled \$3.1 million. It is estimated that over 2,300 homes were affected by the floods.

- **Iowa receives USDA disaster designation**

On August 21, Iowa was granted a U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Disaster Designation for damages that vegetable and fruit growers suffered during the late spring freeze from April 4 to April 10. Producers in the eight counties may be eligible for low-interest emergency loans through the USDA's Farm Service Agency. Producers in the 23 contiguous counties may also be eligible. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for loans to help cover part of their actual losses.

- **Virginia Tech report released**

The Governor of Virginia released Virginia Tech Review Panel Report the last week of August. The Report includes valuable information for emergency responders, mental health providers, and policy makers. The Report includes details that haven't been widely reported including the University's use of outdoor warning speakers during the active shooting, that two SWAT Teams were on alert near campus at the time of the shooting and a finding that included developing a University Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

A copy of the report can be viewed here: <http://www.governor.virginia.gov/TempContent/techPanelReport.cfm>.

Emergency Preparedness Fair Southwestern Community College

Date Offered:

September 22, 2007. The fair will be held from 10am – 2pm at Southwestern Community College in Creston, Iowa.

Cost:

This is a free event

The fair is sponsored by the Union County Public Health Agency and the Union County Emergency Preparedness Committee. It will focus on helping individuals learn how to prepare for emergencies that could affect Union County. Participants will be able to meet with organizations that assist in emergencies and a free meal will be provided.

Iowa's Second Annual Multi-Hazard Preparedness Symposium Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management – Region One Homeland Security Board

Dates Offered:

September 27-28 at the Iowa Events Center, Hy-Vee Hall in Des Moines, Iowa.

Cost:

This is a free event

This two-day event will feature sessions on a variety of topics including, but not limited to; pandemic flu, mass fatality situations, special needs populations, ethical considerations in allocating scarce medical resources in crisis situations, Iowa's antiviral stockpile program, radiation basics for emergency responders, and lessons learned from effective communication in disasters. Additionally, the conference will feature special guest speakers Lt. Governor Patty Judge and Iowa Department of Public Health Director Thomas Newton.

EMS, Fire, and Law Mini Jamboree Southwestern Community College

Date Offered:

September 29, 2007

Cost:

\$45 (Price includes tuition, handouts, and food) To register call: 641-782-1441, 641-782-1449 or 1-800-247-4023 ext. 441 or 449.

Four presentations will be featured and Continuing Education Hours are available. Speakers will present best practices from a two-week use of the Incident Command System after a double drowning, a case study in the management of penetrating trauma, a presentation on the most commonly abused illegal and legal drugs in Iowa, and an extensive review of lessons learned from the Columbine High School tragedy.

Eight Hour Telecommunicator In-Services: Your Resources From the State of Iowa

Iowa Law Enforcement Academy

Dates Offered:

October 1-4, 2007. All classes are located at The Iowa Department of Criminal Investigation and run from 8am to 4:30pm each day.

Cost:

\$80. To register, call Carolyn at ILEA 515-242-5357. Registration is limited to 30 participants.

This training opportunity will include presentations from the Iowa Department of Criminal Investigation, the Iowa Department of Transportation, and the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. Additionally, participants are welcome to tour the Iowa's newest DCI Crime Lab.

Building Immunity to H5N1 Influenza

Upper Midwest Center for Public Health

Date Offered:

October 10. The event will be held at The University of Iowa's Medical Education and Research Facility from 12:30pm – 1:30pm.

Cost:

This is a free event.

Dr. Richard J. Webby will make a presentation that discusses the origin, evolution, and control strategies for H5N1 influenza viruses. Dr. Webby will provide an overview of the virus' emergence in the last ten years and evaluate the preclinical effectiveness of control strategies. Additionally, the presentation will be available via live webcast by registering at: <http://www.prepareiowa.com/Public/Catalog/Description.aspx?CourseID=530>

Eight Hour Telecommunicator In-Services: Lessons Learned from Flight 232 and Preparedness for Interoperable Communications in the Future

Iowa Law Enforcement Academy

Dates Offered:

October 11, 2007 at the Plymouth County Law Enforcement Center from 8am to 4:30pm.

Cost:

\$80. To register, call Carolyn at ILEA 515-242-5357. Registration is limited to 30 participants.

On July 19, 1989; United Flight 232 crashed at the Sioux City Airport. Woodbury County Emergency Management Coordinator Gary Brown will share lessons learned from that tragic incident. Additionally, Mr. Brown will provide information on the best practices utilized on that day which saved more than half of the 199 passengers on board.

Core Disaster Life Support (CDLS)

Rural Health Education Center

Date Offered:

October 13. The course will be held at Indian Hills Community College in Ottumwa and will run from 8:00am - 5:00pm.

Cost:

\$ 85. To register contact the Program Director Rural Health Education Partnership, Lori Reeves by phone: 641-683-5337 or email: lreeves@indianhills.edu.

Presented in cooperation with the Center for Biopreparedness Education, this course is an awareness-level course focused on the first responders to disasters. The program is constructed around the Detection, Incident Command, Security, Assess Hazards, Support, Triage/Treatment, Evacuation and Recovery. and is designed to teach core concepts of disaster management. In addition, students are taught concepts that will allow them to be more effective in the recognition and response to medical disasters. MASS Triage* is taught to allow these providers to more effectively assist in the mitigation of the disaster and to assist in the process of triage.

Iowa Hazardous Materials Symposium

Fire Training Service Training Bureau

Dates Offered:

October 25-26

Cost:

\$100 per person. You may fax your registration and billing information to the Fire Service Training Bureau at 800.722.7350. Or, you may register by calling 515.294.6817 or 888.469.2374.

The symposium consists of several tracks offered on Thursday, followed by a general session held on Friday. The tracks consist of various sessions allowing attendees to either follow one track throughout the symposium, or attend sessions from multiple tracks. Friday's general session is a case study of the ChemCentral incident in Kansas City, MO, which will be presented by keynote speaker Chief Richard "Smokey" Dyer of the Kansas City Fire Department. There will also be an update of the CBRNE Response Protocol on Friday morning.

Criminal Intelligence Systems Training

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Date Offered:

November 6. The course will be held at the Iowa Department of Public Safety in Des Moines, Iowa. The training will be held from 8am-12:30pm.

Cost:

No Cost. To register call 1-800-446-0912 ext. 235 or 227 or email 28cfr23info@iir.com You can also register online at <http://www.iir.com/registration/28cfr.cfm> Class size is limited to 60 participants.

This training program will focus on the federal guideline governing the operation of federally funded criminal intelligence systems – 28 CFR Part 23. This training is designed to inform agencies on how to best strike a balance between the need for law enforcement to collect and disseminate criminal intelligence information and an individual's privacy rights. The training is coordinated by the Institute for Intergovernmental Research.

Communications Supervisor Course

Iowa Law Enforcement Academy

Dates Offered: November 13-15.

Cost: \$160. To register contact Nancy Brady at 515.242.5011.

Details TBA.

5th International Bird Flu Summit

New-Fields Exhibitions

Dates Offered:
September 25 – 26, 2007

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. The Summit will be held in 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, masks, 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

Dates Offered:

September – November 2007

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

- Research and the Potential for Human Vaccine Development for Avian Influenza – October 10, 2007
- Vaccine Development at PATH – October 12, 2007
- Pandemic Influenza Planning: The White House Homeland Security Council – October 18, 2007 (in conjunction with the Epi Seminar Series offered through the University of Iowa College of Public Health's Epidemiology Department)
- Controlling HIV in Africa – October 26, 2007
- Protecting Workers and Industry from Cross-Species Infectious Diseases – November 13, 2007

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

Fire Service Training Bureau

Firefighter Recruit Academy

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

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

Fire Service Training Bureau

Fire Service Instructors Conference

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

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

New Online Preparedness Training Opportunities Coming Fall 2007 to Prepare Iowa Learning Management System at www.prepareiowa.com

- 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.

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management National Preparedness Month

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.

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

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 National Emergency Management Association (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 Innovative Emergency Management (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 may 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@csg.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 individuals to American Red Cross Disaster Services and allow them to discover how volunteers support this critical mission as well as 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 (HHS) 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 issue recommendations for planners in specific areas. The guide also discusses ethical and legal considerations related to MCE planning in hospital, acute-care, alternative-care sites and pre-hospital.

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/>