



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](mailto: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](http://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

## **Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division Newsletter** **Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division**

Three new HSEMD newsletters (September 18, October 2, and October 15) have been posted at:

[http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/asp/news\\_room/newsletters.asp](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/asp/news_room/newsletters.asp)

## **Two highlights from the September 18 issue:**

- **Iowa receives Presidential disaster funding for flooding**

On Friday, September 17, Governor Chet Culver received confirmation that Iowa has received a Presidential Disaster Declaration which will make available assistance for Iowa government and non-profit agencies affected by the August flooding and severe weather. The Governor received notification from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that a request for Public Assistance programs was approved for 14 counties:

- **Wright County tests response to mass casualty incident**

Wright County first responders tested their ability to respond to a mock anhydrous ammonia two-vehicle accident at a full-scale exercise in August. The exercise, held in Goldfield, tested the implementation of the incident command system, the ability to provide effective prehospital care to a mass casualty incident, and the evacuation response of area first responders. The exercise included 50 participants from 12 agencies.

### Three highlights from the October 2 issue:

- **2007 Homeland Security Grant Program allocations announced**

The distribution of 2007 homeland security funding for local and state entities was recently announced by HSEMD. Iowa received just over \$7 million under the '07 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), slightly over half of what was received under the '06 program. Because of the drastic cut in funding, HSEMD engaged partners to determine how to fund those programs most essential to our state. Over \$5.6 million of HSGP funds will be distributed to local entities, and just under \$1.4 million will be dedicated to state programs. The HSGP included four separate grants for a total of \$7,043,386.

- **1600 jurisdictions submit NIMS compliancy Information**

HSEMD is happy to announce that as of September 25, that it has received all of the information needed to maintain NIMS compliancy with over 1600 jurisdictions in Iowa. All this information has been submitted into the federal NIMSCAST compliancy tool and has been rolled up to the NIMS Integration Center. Beginning in October, we should see the final draft for FY 2008 NIMS requirements.

- **State mitigation plan approved**

FEMA Region VII approved the State of Iowa Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan on September 18. Approval of the plan ensures the State of Iowa's eligibility to apply for federal disaster assistance and hazard mitigation grant program dollars. States must submit their standard hazard mitigation plans for approval every three years. Iowa's Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan was submitted to FEMA for review the week of October 1.

The newly-approved plan is available on the HSEMD Web site at [http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/asp/programs/hazard\\_mitig.asp](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/asp/programs/hazard_mitig.asp).

### Three highlights from the October 15 issue:

- Iowa leads Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) group

On September 28, Iowa assumed duties as the National Coordination Group (NCG) for the EMAC, making HSEMD the lead on activating EMAC and coordinating state to state resources when an emergency or disaster is anticipated or occurs.

The NCG is the operational arm of EMAC and is responsible for oversight of all EMAC emergency response and

recovery operations. The NCG ensures that operational procedures are followed, coordinating teams are adequately staffed, and that timely status reports on EMAC deployments are issued. In coordination with other ETF members and the EMAC committee chair, the NCG leader resolves any policy or procedural issues during the activation and implementation of EMAC functions within the emergency management systems command and control structure.

- **Siouxland responders participate in Tri-State emergency exercise**

On September 25, emergency responders from Iowa, South Dakota and Nebraska held a training event and drill testing the ability to respond across state borders and communicate with each other once on scene. The training scenario involved severe weather impacting the main biorefining plant and storage facility in Hudson, South Dakota and the railroad line from South Dakota to Iowa. The exercise defined the need for additional information and training on cross-state border asset sharing.

- **Polk County displays disaster support units**

Polk County officials recently unveiled three Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (C.B.R.N.E.) Incident Support Units. The Polk County Emergency Management Agency has assembled disaster support equipment and supplies on three trailers that will soon be staged throughout Polk County. Contents of the trailers include: decontamination tents, showers, and conveyors for immobilized patients; product containment drums and liquid bladders; portable heating, electricity generation, and lighting; as well as personal protective equipment.

## **Upcoming events:**

### **Implementation of the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Upper Midwest Center for Public Health Preparedness**

**Date Offered:**

Thursday, October 18 – 11:30 a.m. at The University of Iowa Room General Hospital E331

**Cost:**

Free

Speaker Kenneth Staley M.D., M.P.A., will provide an overview of federal health and national security policy processes. Additionally Dr. Staley will highlight challenges translating policy into practice and examine evolving paradigms of local preparedness. Dr. Staley is the director for biodefense policy at the White House Homeland Security Council, where he oversees implementation of the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza and coordinates the development of policies related to biodefense and the medical consequences of weapons of mass destruction.

### **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 C.B.R.N.E. Response Protocol on Friday morning.

## **HIV/AIDS in Africa: A Focus on Prevention**

### **Upper Midwest Center for Public Health Preparedness**

**Date Offered:**

October 26 – 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event will be held at the University of Iowa General Hospital in room E331.

**Cost:**

Free

HIV/AIDS is having a disproportionately high impact on the continent of Africa. Approximately 70% of the 40 million HIV-infected individuals worldwide live in Africa, and in some countries in southern Africa, over 30% of the population is infected. Specific populations such as military personnel, truck drivers, teachers, and commercial sex workers are considered to be at high risk for HIV infection.

Since 2003, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) has provided over \$15 billion to support HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment, primarily in African countries. The U.S. Department of Defense is the agency under PEPFAR that is implementing the assistance to military populations in these countries. This presentation will: 1) discuss the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa; 2) describe HIV/AIDS control measures supported by the U.S. government; and 3) make reference to HIV/AIDS activities in military populations in Africa.

## **United States Department of Agriculture National Veterinary Stockpile**

### **Deployment Exercise**

#### **Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship**

**Dates Offered:**

October 30 – November 2

**Cost:**

Please contact Mark Shearer – 515.281.5798 or via email [Mark.Shearer@idals.state.ia.us](mailto:Mark.Shearer@idals.state.ia.us)

The exercise begins with a tabletop at the State Emergency Operations Center on October 30 and followed by 3 days of field work with receipt, redistribution and recovery of stockpile assets. Deadline for security and headcount is Wednesday, October 24.

## University Hygienic Laboratory Region Three Professional Forum

### University Hygienic Laboratory

#### **Date Offered:**

November 7 – 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The event will be held at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory at Mahan Hall in Milford, Iowa.

#### **Cost:**

Free. Please register at <http://www.uhl.uiowa.edu/educationoutreach/conferenceevents/forum> For questions contact Rick Bonar([richard-bonar@uiowa.edu](mailto:richard-bonar@uiowa.edu))319.335.4099.

The objective of this educational opportunity is to present valuable information on preparedness activities to keep laboratorians informed. Every Lab is highly encouraged to send at least one representative who can bring back important information. Reimbursement to cover travel expenses for one person may be available through Regional Preparedness Funds.

## University Hygienic Laboratory Region Two Professional Forum

### University Hygienic Laboratory

#### **Date Offered:**

November 8 – 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The event will be held at North Iowa Community College Muse Norriss conference center in Mason City, Iowa.

#### **Cost:**

Free. Please register at <http://www.uhl.uiowa.edu/educationoutreach/conferenceevents/forum> For questions contact Rick Bonar([richard-bonar@uiowa.edu](mailto:richard-bonar@uiowa.edu))319-335-4099.

The objective of this educational opportunity is to present valuable information on preparedness activities to keep laboratorians informed. Every Lab is highly encouraged to send at least one representative who can bring back important information. Reimbursement to cover travel expenses for one person may be available through Regional Preparedness Funds.

## Criminal Intelligence Systems Training

### Bureau of Justice Assistance

#### **Date Offered:**

November 6 – 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The course will be held at the Iowa Department of Public Safety in Des Moines, Iowa.

#### **Cost:**

No Cost. To register call 1-800-446-0912 ext. 235 or 227 or email [28cfr23info@iir.com](mailto: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.

## **Iowa Fire Service Instructors Conference**

### **Fire Service Training Bureau**

**Dates Offered:**

November 16 – 17. The event will be held at the Quality Inn and Suites in Ames, Iowa.

**Cost:**

The registration fee for the conference is \$60.00 per person, which includes a 1 year membership in the Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors. Registration fee for FSTB Field Instructors will be paid by the Bureau. Cost of the banquet on Friday evening is \$20. Please email [fstbreg@dps.state.ia.us](mailto:fstbreg@dps.state.ia.us) for more details.

The annual Iowa Fire Service Instructors Conference is conducted for those who prepare and present training programs for fire, rescue, and EMS personnel, as well as those involved in public fire safety education. Whether you are just starting out, or have been involved in training for many years, this conference is meant for you.

## **Search Management for Law Enforcement and Searching for Victims of Predator Abductions**

**Pottawattamie County Sheriff's Office, Council Bluffs Police Department, and the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation**

**Dates Offered:**

November 19 – November 20

**Cost:**

\$75 Please contact the event representatives by October 19th if you plan to attend as the workshop requires a minimum of 40 participants. Please contact: Jim Peters at [jpeters180@mchsi.com](mailto:jpeters180@mchsi.com) or Terry Klooster at [klooster@dps.state.ia.us](mailto:klooster@dps.state.ia.us)

Participation in these workshops is restricted to certified law enforcement officers and their associates because of the

sensitive nature of the content.

Search management for law enforcement: This session will introduce the basic steps necessary to initiate a search for a variety of missing person scenarios. Content will include; using the incident command system for missing person situations, search resources, map management, managing the planning and operations functions, and documentation. This session will include a table top search scenario.

Missing children and searching for victims of abductions with a sexual assault and homicide: This session will look at California abduction incidents and review information from the FBI and the Washington State Attorney General's Office national study of child abductions. This session will introduce new strategies, tactics and management skills to assist law enforcement and search and rescue to better respond to these difficult incidents. This session will also include a table top search scenario.

## **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.

- 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/](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](http://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](mailto:angela-harding@uiowa.edu).

## 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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.html>. 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/](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](mailto: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](http://www.firefightersnearmiss.com)

**Prepare Iowa Learning Management System**  
<http://www.prepareiowa.com/Public/>