



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

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

Two new HSEMD newsletters (October 29, November 13) have been posted at:

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

Three highlights from the October 29 issue:

USAR team responds to sinking Storm Lake dredge

On October 19, Buena Vista County Emergency Management Coordinator Bob Christensen contacted HSEMD and advised that the City of Storm Lake's dredge had gotten water in the pontoon due to high wave action and was taking on water. The dredge weighs 175 tons, is 40x100' and had 4,000 gallons of diesel fuel on board.

After several days of response by various entities, and multiple different attempts at raising the dredge, dive teams were finally able to seal all openings in the pontoons so they would hold air, allowing the dredge to float. The dredge was towed ashore where it will be repaired this winter.

Iowa participates in National Preparedness System field test

On October 11, Iowa kicked off its participation in a field test of the National Preparedness System. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is testing the system with a wide range of stakeholders, including local, state, and federal homeland security, emergency management, and public health professionals, and representatives from nongovernmental organizations and the private sector. Iowa is one of eight to ten states participating in the field test.

Each participating state will choose one or two capabilities to test from the Target Capabilities List (TCL). There are 37 capabilities in all, including areas such as Citizen Evacuation and Medical Surge. Iowa will test its Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRNE) Detection Capability. The field test will be completed by December 6.

Heavy storms cause two disaster proclamations

On October 11, a Governor's proclamation of disaster emergency was issued for Delaware County due to a storm that moved through the area on October 7. On October 15, Montgomery County was declared a disaster area following heavy rains on October 13, which pushed rivers and streams over their banks. State resources and the State's Individual Assistance program for low-income residents were made available under the proclamations.

Iowans with household incomes of up to 130 percent of federal poverty guidelines may apply for a grant of up to \$3,300 to help recover from flood damage. This is a reimbursement program, meaning that applicants must include receipts when applying for help. The grant application and step-by-step instructions can be found on the front page of the Department of Human Services Web site at dhs.iowa.gov. Look for the words "Storm Help" or individuals can call toll-free (877) 937-3663.

Three highlights from the November 13 issue:

Iowa hosts first-ever deployment exercise for the NPS

The National Veterinary Stockpile focused on one element of what would be incorporated in a full scale response to a foreign animal disease incident and how the stockpile could be delivered to Iowa in a disaster. The main objectives of the exercise were to ensure that state personnel understand the NVS Program and its capabilities, test deployment process and procedures, test in-transit cold chain management procedures, and identify potential NVS document updates.

HSEMD prepares Iowa preparedness report

Recently, Congress mandated through the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2007 that each state prepare a State Preparedness Report. This year, the majority of the report will be submitted in narrative form and is due to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security by January 4.

Each State Preparedness Report must contain the following four sections; Executive Summary, State Overview,

Compliance, and Priorities. The priorities section constitutes the majority of the report. In this section, states will report on accomplishments, current capabilities, three-year targets, initiatives, and resources for each priority. States are required to report on each of the eight national priorities and may also report on their own unique state priorities.

Safeguard Iowa appoints new executive director

Jami Haberl was recently appointed executive director of the Safeguard Iowa Partnership, a voluntary coalition of Iowa's business and government leaders. Haberl succeeds Ed Beaman, who staffed the Safeguard Iowa Partnership in its early months.

The Partnership is leading a statewide effort to integrate the resources and expertise of Iowa's businesses with those of government to improve the effectiveness of all stages of disaster management. As executive director, Haberl will be responsible for the administration and operations of the Safeguard Iowa Partnership. She will work in coordination with its Operating Council (comprised of corporate security/business continuity experts and senior managers from relevant state agencies) to implement initiatives that deliver new and highly innovative homeland security/emergency management capabilities.

A New Directive from the United States White House

The President released HSPD 21 – Public Health and Medical Preparedness. The Directive establishes a National Strategy for Public Health and Medical Preparedness, which builds upon principles set forth in Biodefense for the 21st Century and aims to transform our national approach to protecting the health of the American people against all disasters. The document sets goals and deadlines for addressing strengthening the four most critical components of public health and medical preparedness: biosurveillance, countermeasure distribution, mass casualty care, and community resilience. The Directive calls for within 180 days after the date of the directive, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall commission the Institute of Medicine to lead a forum engaging Federal, State, and local governments, the private sector, academia, and appropriate professional societies in a process to facilitate the development of national disaster public health and medicine doctrine and system design and to develop a strategy for long-term enhancement of disaster public health and medical capacity and the propagation of disaster public health and medicine education and training.

Upcoming events:

Senior Officials Workshop for All Hazards Preparedness

Texas Engineering Extension Service, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, and the Texas A&M University System

Dates:

Workshop is typically delivered at a time and place determined by the requesting jurisdiction.

Cost:

Free. To get more information call Phil Crosbie at 979.458.8161 or email him at Phil.Crosbie@teemail.tamu.edu Also, you may contact Diane Walters at 979.458.8877 or email her at Diane.Walters@teemail.tamu.edu

The Senior Officials Workshop is for local-jurisdiction elected and appointed senior officials. Its purpose is to provide a forum to discuss strategic- and executive-level issues related to disaster preparedness, share proven strategies and best practices, and enhance coordination among officials responsible for emergency response to a disaster.

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 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 or Terry Klooster at 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/

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.

Campus Community Emergency Response Team – Train the Trainer Program for American Colleges and Universities

United States Department of Homeland Security in collaboration with Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice

Dates Offered:

November 27-29

Cost:

Free. You must register by visiting www.c-cert.msu.edu or by calling Phil Schertzing at 517.432.4156 for additional details.

Building on the standard CERT curriculum adopted by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, this three-day Train-the-Trainer Program includes information and guidelines for teaching and implementing CERT in the unique context of the campus community.

National Register Emergency Medical Technician Refresher Course The Central Iowa EMS Directors Association

Dates Offered:

November 30 – December 2

Cost:

\$75 for one session.

Go to www.polkcityfd.com to register. Click on the CIEMSD link on the left side. Enter Login: **CIEMSD**. Enter **password: Iowa**. Complete the fields listed and be sure to include which sessions you are attending. You will receive and email back indicating if you have been accepted into the class and where your payment should be mailed. Classes will be held from 8am until 5pm each day at Camp Dodge in Johnston

Freedom of Information and Openness Training for Records Custodians and Journalists Iowa Newspaper Foundation, National Freedom of Information Coalition, Iowa Freedom of Information Council, Iowa Association of School Boards, Iowa State Association of Counties,

Iowa League of Cities, Iowa Broadcasters Association

Dates Offered:

December 6 - Des Moines

Ola Babcock Miller Building

• ICN Sites available in Sioux City, Ft. Dodge, Mt. Ayr •

Cost:

\$20 for on-site program. \$10 for ICN program. Registration deadline is November 27. For information on how to register contact Leo Landis at 515.244.2145 ext. 159

Freedom of Information and Openness Training for Records Custodians and Journalists Iowa Newspaper Foundation, National Freedom of Information Coalition, Iowa Freedom of Information Council, Iowa Association of School Boards, Iowa State Association of Counties, Iowa League of Cities, Iowa Broadcasters Association

Dates Offered:

December 7 - Mt. Pleasant

Civic Center/Public Library

Cost:

\$20 for on-site program. \$10 for ICN program. Registration deadline is November 27. For information on how to register contact Leo Landis at 515.244.2145 ext. 159

Freedom of Information and Openness Training for Records Custodians and Journalists Iowa Newspaper Foundation, National Freedom of Information Coalition, Iowa Freedom of Information Council, Iowa Association of School Boards, Iowa State Association of Counties, Iowa League of Cities, Iowa Broadcasters Association

Dates Offered:

December 13 - Cedar Rapids

Grant Wood Area Education Agency

• ICN Sites available in Council Bluffs and Bettendorf •

Cost:

\$20 for on-site program. \$10 for ICN program. Registration deadline is November 27. For information on how to register contact Leo Landis at 515.244.2145 ext. 159

**Freedom of Information and Openness Training for Records Custodians and Journalists
Iowa Newspaper Foundation, National Freedom of Information Coalition, Iowa Freedom of Information Council, Iowa Association of School Boards, Iowa State Association of Counties, Iowa League of Cities, Iowa Broadcasters Association**

Dates Offered:

December 14 - Storm Lake

Buena Vista University

Cost:

\$20 for on-site program. \$10 for ICN program. Registration deadline is November 27. For information on how to register contact Leo Landis at 515.244.2145 ext. 159

Weapons of Mass Destruction – Threat and Risk Assessment

United States Department of Homeland Security, Texas Engineering Extension Service, Texas A&M University System, Johnson County EMA and the Coralville Fire department

Dates Offered:

March 25-28

Cost:

Free. Call 319.248.1835, 319.248.1844 or email dstannard@ci.coralville.ia.us for additional details.

This course provides a unique opportunity for individuals to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to help them protect public safety and infrastructure from the threat of a terrorism incident. Course participants, using their extensive professional experience, work together in multi-discipline teams to apply the information presented during the course in a variety of hands-on, small-group activities as well as realistic, multi-media scenarios.

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/>