



Hoosier Responder

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MOBILE EMS SIMULATION LABORATORY AVAILABLE DECEMBER 1

Beginning December 1, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security will make a mobile emergency medical service simulation (EMS) unit available to paramedics and first responders statewide. This mobile EMS simulation laboratory is the first of its kind in Indiana and provides high-level training to paramedics and emergency responders by providing the opportunity to treat patients with realistic injuries and health issues without the real life consequences of mistakes.

Stocked with a wide variety of EMS equipment, including a simulation manikin, this unit can simulate various different illnesses and injuries while providing realistic feedback based on the treatment administered. Simulation training has been shown to improve the performance of firefighters, EMS personnel, police, and other responders by nearly 50%.

To reserve this unit for use by your organization, please contact Marie Carroll at mcarroll@dhs.in.gov.

In This Issue:

REMEMBER SAFETY TIPS WHILE SHOPPING ONLINE	2
PREPARE FOR WINTER STORMS BEFORE THEY OCCUR	3
INDIANA SAFETY CONFERENCE FOR FIRST RESPONDERS AND SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILIES	4
APPLICATION PERIOD FOR NFA CLASSES IS NOW OPEN	5
PERRY COUNTY RECEIVES STORMREADY DESIGNATION	6
GREAT CENTRAL US SHAKEOUT WINS PREPAREDNESS AWARD	7

From the Director's Chair-Executive Director Joe Wainscott

CYBERSECURITY IS ESSENTIAL PROTECTION FOR BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

As we rely more and more on the Internet for communication and commerce, the dependence on cyber security is even more pronounced. Attacks on information systems and computers are becoming more common each day.

According to a recent survey of small business owners in the United States by Symantec and the National Cyber Security Alliance, the vast majority of small business owners believe their company is safe from hackers, viruses, malware, and cyber security

breaches. Almost 80 percent of the business owners surveyed claimed they did not have a formal written Internet security policy for employees, with half not even having an informal policy.

Indiana has been identified as a leader in the areas of cyber security, Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources, and Smart Grid planning and partnership. We at the Indiana Department of Homeland Security see ourselves as a facilitator of processes in these areas as cyber security is of vital importance to the economic

prosperity, public safety and national security of the United States.

Protecting your systems from attack is an uphill battle. While you must defend all fronts, attackers only need a single vulnerability to exploit. Communication and education are essential to cyber security. Sharing information about attack attempts with your partners, such as how you are being attacked



[\(continued on page 2\)](#)

REMEMBER THESE TIPS WHILE SHOPPING ONLINE

Remember online shopping safety tips this holiday season

As the holiday season is quickly approaching, more Hoosiers are turning to the internet for their holiday shopping needs. According to the National Retail Federation, 43.9% of holiday shopping will be done online. With this increase comes the need to secure your computer and internet connection to ensure your transactions are safe from hackers and potentially dangerous malware and spyware.

Online shopping can be just as safe as shopping in stores as long as you know what to look for. Always look for sites that offer secure transactions. Numerous organizations, such as Verisign, DigiCert, and GoDaddy, verify the security of websites and issue a secure certificate. Secure sites will display this certificate prominently when paying for an order and will be linked to a site confirming the legitimacy of the certificate.

Relying on the reviews of other consumers is another way to determine the legitimacy of a site.

Sites such as Epinions.com or BizRate offer customer evaluations of thousands of sites and products. Additionally, online retailers such as Amazon or Ebay will provide consumer reviews of sellers and products to allow customers to see if there has been a history of scams or inferior quality products.

Many consumers fall victim to phishing or pharming techniques where scammers attempt to trick consumers into giving away personal information. Phishing is a scam where an email is sent that appears to be from a store, credit card company, bank or other website. The email may ask the consumer to provide personal information such as credit card numbers or social security numbers to verify their account. It is important to remember that legitimate companies will never ask customers for personal information via email.

Pharming is often much more difficult to detect. This is a fake website that is designed to look identical to a well-known website where customers are tricked into

thinking they are shopping at a legitimate site. Internet security software can often detect these sites, but some can go undetected. Always look at the address bar in your web browser to ensure that the site you think you are shopping at is the site displayed.

When paying for a purchase online, it is always better to use a credit card over a debit card. Credit cards often provide protection to the consumer against fraud, broken items, lost shipments, and other problems; whereas, debit cards often do not. Also, a debit card is linked directly to a bank account, potentially making the impact of fraud much more devastating. Scammers could empty an entire banking account with a debit card number and password.

Online shopping can offer many advantages to traditional shopping, but it is important to be aware of the risks involved. By following these tips, consumers can feel comfortable and secure with their online purchases. ▪

DIRECTORS COLUMN (continued)

or what IP addresses are attacking, will help identify weaknesses and potentially protect your systems from similar attacks in the future.

Cyber security must become a habit. From the top to the bottom of a business or organization, anyone can compromise the security of your network. Making sure everyone is involved and aware of cyber security practices is the best way to stay safe and secure. As the cyber world is constantly changing, your cyber security policy and practices must

keep up. Regularly updating security software and policy, as well as continuously monitoring contractors, can mitigate the risk of an attack. Even the best cybersecurity plans can be compromised if individuals do not know how to recognize a questionable website or email. Keep all employees involved and aware of cybersecurity procedures so they can identify a risky situation before it's too late.

The consequences of a cyber-attack can be devastating, but they are

preventable. Attacks are becoming more bold and daring, but staying up-to-date with your cyber security policy is the best way to prevent an attack. By knowing your system and its vulnerabilities, you can stay one step ahead of the attackers and operate your business or organization efficiently and securely.

For more about information you can provide to the public and private sectors, go to getprepared.in.gov. ▪

FCC TO PERFORM NATIONAL TEST OF EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

The Federal Communications Commission will test the Emergency Alert System (EAS) on November 9, 2011 at 2 pm Eastern.



For more information about the EAS National Test or the EAS system in general, visit GetPrepared.in.gov.

The EAS is a public alert and warning system that enables the President of the United States to

address the American public during extreme emergencies.

REMEMBER TO PREPARE FOR WINTER STORMS BEFORE THEY OCCUR

As colder temperatures quickly approach, it is important to prepare for winter storms and conditions that are common in Indiana. In order to help



Hoosiers prepare for potentially hazardous winter conditions, Indiana has designated the week of November 13-19 as Winter Weather Week.

prepared for the hazards of winter in Indiana. One of the biggest concerns associated with winter weather is the ability of storms to knock out

winter storms. Make sure to have a fully stocked preparedness kit for your vehicle as you may be stranded during a winter storm while driving. This kit should include some different items from your home preparedness kit such as a shovel to dig out of snow and multiple extra blankets for warmth.

Hoosiers prepare for potentially hazardous winter conditions, Indiana has designated the week of November 13-19 as Winter Weather Week.

heat, power, and communications services to your home or office. By following these tips, you can be better prepared for winter weather before it strikes.

- Heavy winter storms can cause some Hoosiers to lose heat in their homes. In this instance, be aware of the dangers of alternative heating devices. Keep space heaters away from draperies, blankets, bedding and other flammable materials. Also, never plug space heaters into extension cords or overloaded electrical outlets.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the upcoming winter is expected to be wetter than average with slightly cooler to normal temperatures. The conditions this winter are expected to be heavily influenced by La Niña, which is the cooling of surface water of the eastern and central Pacific Ocean causing disruptions to global weather patterns.

- Make sure you have a fully stocked emergency preparedness kit with items like non-perishable food, water, a battery-powered or hand-crank radio, extra flashlights, and batteries.
- Know how to recognize frost bite and hypothermia. Dressing in warm, loose layers of clothing can help avoid these issues. On snowy days, take frequent breaks to stay hydrated when shoveling snow from driveways and vehicles.
- Prepare your vehicle for

For more information about winter weather preparedness, visit GetPrepared.in.gov.

With the potential for greater than average precipitation, it is especially important to be

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES LISTED ON IDHS ONLINE CALENDAR

Providing training opportunities to emergency responders throughout Indiana is a priority for the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS). These courses are listed on the IDHS Consolidated Training Calendar which is continuously updated as new courses become available.

Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program
November 29 – December 1
Indiana Government Center
South, Room 1 & 2
302 W. Washington St

Indianapolis, IN 46204

PREREQUISITES:
IS-120 An Introduction to Exercises

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
HSEEP is a capabilities based exercise program that includes a cycle, mix, and range of exercise activities of varying degrees of complexity and interaction. The purpose of HSEEP is to build self-sustaining exercise programs and provide a standardized methodology for designing, developing, conducting and

evaluating all exercises.

NOTE: Students will need to bring their laptops for this course. Course materials will be distributed electronically.

To access this calendar visit the IDHS Training Division webpage and click the Consolidated Training Calendar link at www.in.gov/dhs/tngbranch.htm.

INDIANA SAFETY CONFERENCE FOR FIRST RESPONDERS AND SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILIES

On Saturday, November 19, the Autism Society of Indiana will present a day of training for emergency first responders and special needs families. The conference will be from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at St. Luke's United Methodist Church on 100 W 86th Street in Indianapolis.

This training will familiarize people with special needs with first responders who might help them during an emergency, as well as give them an opportunity for hands on exposure to police cars, fire trucks, and ambulances. Molly Lang, Autism Coordinator & Behavior Consultant at Noble of Indiana, will be teaching pedestrian, water/ice, and stranger safety through games, role play, and other activities. There will also be a special needs self-defense demonstration and

training.

Some people with special needs tend to wander. Some may not respond to their name. Some may be too trusting of strangers. And some may be awake at night when the rest of the family is sleeping. Whatever the issues may be, keeping your loved one safe can be a challenge. This safety training will help teach you how to keep your special needs loved one safe by giving you helpful tips, information, and a chance to talk with emergency response personnel

The two-hour session is designed to help first responders improve the way they communicate and interact with people with special needs. The workshop will cover classic characteristics of Autism and the unique needs of people

on the Autism Spectrum.

The workshop will include a video developed specifically for first responders and a question and answer session. The workshop will be presented by Brian Ketzner, a Family Mentor for the Indiana Resource Center for Autism (IRCA) at the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community (IIDC). He is a parent of a child with Autism and his training has been used as a standard for the required training for First Responder certification/recertification in Indiana.

This workshop is \$30 per person. To register, visit <http://fifthfreedom.org/u/c3>. For questions or more information, contact info@inautism.org.

APPLICATION PERIOD FOR NFA CLASSES IS OPEN

The application period for the second semester of National Fire Academy resident classes is currently open and runs through December 15. The second semester of classes includes all classes scheduled between April 1 and September 30, 2012.

The United States Fire Administration's National Fire Academy works to enhance the ability of fire and emergency

services to deal more effectively with fire and related emergencies. Courses are held at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland and throughout the nation in cooperation with state and local fire training organizations, local colleges, and universities.

Any person with substantial involvement in fire prevention and control, emergency medical

services, fire-related emergency management activities, or allied professions is eligible to apply for National Fire Academy courses. Applications will not be accepted if postmarked before October 15 or after December 15. For more information about applying for National Fire Academy courses, review the document titled "Eight Tips for Completing a Successful NFA Application" at www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa.

IDHS SUPPORTS MAUMEE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

Arvin Copeland, the Director of the Division of Response and Recovery at the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, spoke at the Maumee River Basin Commission meeting in Auburn, Indiana on October 6, 2011. During the event, Copeland congratulated the organization for its success over the last 25 years and commended the positive working relationship between the

Maumee River Basin Commission and IDHS.

The Maumee River Basin Commission works closely with the Division of Response and Recovery in acquiring flood properties in the six county areas. They provide assistance in the areas of flood



mitigation project planning and administration, flood mitigation assistance grant writing, flood map modernization, water quality improvement grant writing, erosion and sediment control, flood insurance, floodplain

[\(Continued on page 7\)](#)

FIRE SPOTLIGHT: South Bend Fire Chief Howard Buchanon Named Fire Chief of the Year

South Bend Fire Chief Howard Buchanon was named 2011 Indiana Fire Chief of the Year at the 2011 Indiana Emergency Response Conference in Indianapolis. Buchanon has served with the South Bend Fire Department for 38 years in a variety of positions including firefighter, Captain, Haz-Mat team leader, Assistant Chief, and currently Chief.

"Just for me to get it in front of all the fire chiefs in the whole state of Indiana, I was just like, 'Wow,' I can't believe this is true," said Buchanon about receiving the award. "I'm really humbled about it."

For more information about the Indiana Emergency Response Conference, visit <http://indianaerc.com>.



2011 Indiana Fire Chief of the Year—Howard Buchanon

DEVELOPMENT TEAM TO UPDATE WEBEOC SYSTEM

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security has created a WebEOC Development Team to support, foster, and provide updates for the WebEOC system. The Web Emergency Operations Center is a crisis information management system that provides county emergency management agency directors and other applicable individuals with a resource to manage local incidents through simultaneous information sharing.

The WebEOC Development Team has been working to address and correct all issues within the system to ensure it operates to the highest capacity possible. A quarterly development schedule has been developed to work on these technical issues in a timely manner. Additionally, the team reviewed accounts to set policy for users and gave permission to county EMA directors to see any changes they made on their own boards.

“WebEOC has proven to be an invaluable resource for IDHS and our state since its implementation in 2008,” said IDHS Director of Emergency Response and Recovery Arvin Copeland. “The WebEOC Development Team will allow us to work with the users and make changes to improve the functionality of the system.”

The first update will be on December 1. Questions regarding WebEOC should be directed to WebEOC@dhs.in.gov. ▀

PERRY COUNTY RECEIVES ‘STORMREADY’ DESIGNATION

The National Weather Service (NWS) recently recognized Perry County for its preparedness efforts by designating it a StormReady County. Perry County received this honor due to its advanced planning, education, and awareness efforts in the community.



(L-R) Joe Sullivan (WCM, NWS Louisville), Terry Hight (District 10 Coordinator, IDHS), Barbara Ewing (Tell City Mayor), Tom Hauser (Perry Co. Commissioner), Bill Amos (Perry Co. Commissioner), Steve Hauser (Perry Co. EMA Director), John Gordon (MIC, NWS Louisville)

county agencies to achieve the StormReady status.

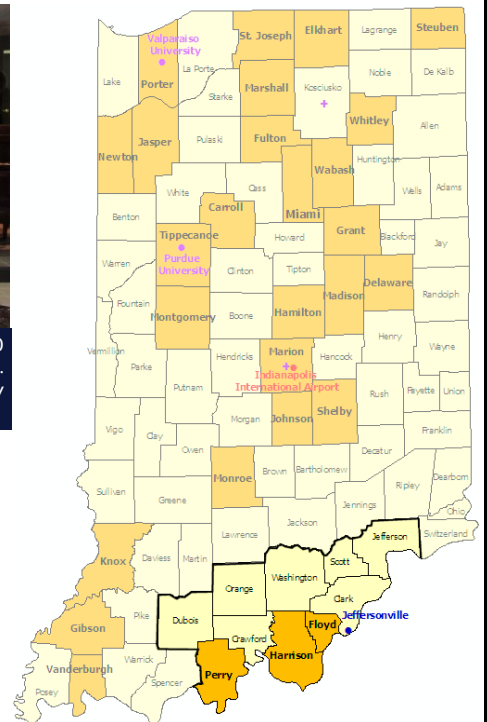
There are currently 32 StormReady sites in Indiana: 23 counties, 1 community, 1 commercial site, 2 universities, and 2 other supporters.

Information about the StormReady program can be found at

www.StormReady.noaa.gov. ▀

Officials from the town of Tell City joined Perry County Emergency Management Director Steve Hauser to accept the award from the national weather service. With this, the county was given road signs and documentation noting the designation.

Tell City Mayor Barbara Ewing was on hand for the ceremony and noted the importance of cooperation between city and



The above map shows all the StormReady sites in Indiana. Perry County Received their StormReady designation on October 5, 2011.

MAUMEE RIVER BASIN COMISSION (CONTINUED)

ordinances, inventories of flood prone properties, storm water and erosion control ordinances, soil and water conservation, and public information programs.

soil and water conservation and related resource management through a coordinated and comprehensive planning and implementing approach.”

departments have taken.

For more information on the Maumee River Basin Commission, visit www.mrbc.org.

The Maumee River Basin’s mission is “To provide regional leadership and promotion of flood control,

Copeland also spoke about the Mitigation program and the specific actions that the two

GREAT CENTRAL US SHAKEOUT WINS PREPAREDNESS AWARD

The Great Central United States ShakeOut was recently awarded the “Outstanding Drill, Exercise, or Event” award at the 2011 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Individual and Community Preparedness Awards. Originally called the Citizen Corps Achievement Awards, the 2011 awards were opened to include the public and non-profits.

The 2011 Great Central US ShakeOut included more than 3 million people in 11 states in the central United States. Indiana led the way with more than 600,000 Hoosiers “shaking out” on April 19 at school, home, and the workplace. ShakeOut was planned

and coordinated by the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium and its member and associate states, FEMA, the U.S. Geological Survey, and dozens of other partners.

The 2012 Great Central United States ShakeOut will be held on February 7, 2012. Hoosiers are encouraged to visit www.shakeout.org/centralus to find information and to register for the 2012 Great Central United States ShakeOut.

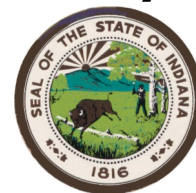


Indiana Department of Homeland Security



Leadership for a Safe and Secure Indiana

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Please direct any questions or comments to the

IDHS Public Information Office at 317.234.4214 or pio@dhs.in.gov.