EMA Appreciation Week Feb. 24-28

Indiana Gov. Eric J. Holcomb proclaimed Feb. 24-28 as EMA Appreciation Week in Indiana. The week’s theme of "Safeguarding the Hoosier Homeland" highlights the many tasks emergency management personnel handle on a regular basis. Throughout the week, IDHS will highlight EMAs from across the state on social media.

EMAs also are encouraged to check out the social media toolkit on the [IDHS website](#) for example social media posts to use during the week. Thank you for all that you do for your communities!

EMA/LEPCs interface and overlap: common membership issues

Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) and EMA Advisory Councils frequently have members in common. Local EMA directors are typically also an LEPC member, and they may even be the chair of the committee. This situation can lead to blurred lines of responsibilities between the two organizations, creating the need to highlight the legal requirements for separate control, finances and meetings.

- **Separate control** - The two groups must be separately controlled due to the legal requirements.

- **Separate finances** - Finances also are different for the two agencies. The local EMA's budget is part of the local unit of government's budget while the LEPC's finances are derived from the Indiana Local Emergency Planning and Right to Know Fund.

- **Separate meetings** - Frequently, given the common memberships, meetings will be scheduled on the same night for both entities. One group's meeting must be held and adjourned before matters of the other entity may be dealt with.

While these guidelines strictly differentiate the two groups, local EMAs and LEPCs can still work together to help assure that the
**Travel Status Map.** The map reports the date of the last change, which can give the impression that counties are not updating the map in a timely manner, especially if the bar for a change is high within the county. Regularly resetting the county status to "Normal" will help residents understand they have the most up-to-date information when making any traveling decisions.

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**Upcoming Deadlines**

**February**

- 28 - HIRA information due in WebEOC

**March**

- 1 - LEPC annual roster updates must be submitted
- 1 - LEPC Annual Fiscal Report and Auditor’s Report must be submitted
- 1 - LEPC Bylaws, signed and dated, must be submitted
- 4 - Monthly radio net check

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**America Saves Week webinar**

**REGISTRATION**

To register for the webinar, please visit the America Saves Week website.

**FEMA**

FEMA’s Individual and Community Preparedness Division is hosting an *Emergencies and Disasters: Save for the Unexpected* webinar during America Saves Week from 1-1:45 p.m. EST on Feb. 26.

The 45-minute webinar is designed to provide financial tools and resources for individuals, communities and community organizations. The webinar will include strategies the public can take to save for unexpected events. Please consider participating in and sharing this webinar with other community stakeholders. Register online [here](#).

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