2018 flood recovery update
Thirty days have passed since President Trump signed Indiana’s disaster declaration for the 2018 flooding, which impacted Hoosiers across the state. Partnerships between federal, state and local agencies, as well as volunteer organizations, are continuing to move the recovery process forward.
Focus on school safety continues

Throughout May, IDHS had the opportunity to discuss improving school safety in Indiana with several different stakeholders, including students, teachers, administrators and law enforcement officials.

On May 10, members of the IDHS executive team visited with fifth graders from Hamilton Southeastern Schools in Fishers to talk about improving safety in their mobile classrooms. These students took the initiative to reach out to IDHS in the wake of recent school shootings.

The team listened to the students’ ideas, answered questions and provided solutions to improve safety. Ideas from the students varied from increasing the height of and adding barbed wire to the fences to installing trapdoors in the floor of their mobile classrooms to allow them to easily hide under in the event of a school shooting.

On May 15, Indiana State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson also spoke about school safety to teachers, administrators and law enforcement officials at the Indiana School Safety Specialist Academy in Indianapolis. Greeson spoke about balancing fire codes with other school safety considerations. The Academy provides training on best practices, as well as the development and implementation of school safety practices.

Fire codes are in place to reduce the risk in the event of a fire, and may, at times, affect what schools can do to improve security in their buildings. Greeson spoke on many different factors that school safety officials should consider when trying to balance improving safety in terms of an active shooter or other situation while still maintaining fire code compliance.

IDHS, Greeson and other school safety officials are working diligently on establishing recommendations on all aspects of school safety to report to Governor Holcomb by Aug. 1.
ICYMI: celebrating EMS professionals

From May 20-26, IDHS joined the national celebration of emergency medical professionals for the 2018 EMS Week. Below is one of the hard-working first responders of Indiana. To see more profiles featured during EMS Week, visit dhs.in.gov/4106.htm

Name: Angela Webb

Job Title: EMS System Manager for Deaconess Health System/Paramedic at AMR-Evansville

Years of Service: 10

Why did you decide to go into EMS? I grew up with a brother who has spina bifida. Trips to the hospital by ambulance were routine for him. I was always intrigued with the way they cared for him on the ambulance and the way they treated me. I knew from the time I was a small child that someday I would be the one “fixing people, in the big truck.” That is the line I used to always say to my mom when I was little!

What’s your favorite part about your job/why are you passionate about EMS? As a system coordinator, I enjoy helping to grow EMS systems in my community and educating providers. I truly have a passion to give EMS providers the tools they need to be confident, professional providers. As a paramedic, my passion is being the calm in the storm, so to say. I like having the privilege of holding a scared patient’s hand, giving encouraging words or being able to look into their eyes and assure them that I am doing everything I can to help them or their loved one.

What piece of advice do you wish you would’ve known at the beginning of your career? I wish I would have been told to take care of myself mentally, physically and emotionally as much as I do for my patients. I have had to learn that the hard way. As EMS providers, we give so much to our patients and community but forget to care for ourselves.

2018 Indiana legislative recap

Several pieces of legislation were passed and signed during the 2018 session that may affect the daily business of IDHS partners around the state. Below is a short synopsis of that legislation. For more information, the enrolled acts can be found online at https://iga.in.gov/.

HEA 1119
This Act amended the Physicians Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST) language to allow a physician’s assistant or advanced nurse practitioner to be authorizing providers in addition to physicians.

POST is an advanced medical directive that allows patients with a terminal illness to dictate what, if any, resuscitation that they want performed in the event of a cardiac arrest event. The Act also permits additional providers to honor a POST form such as dentists and home health aides.

HEA 1180
This Act permits EMTs to draw up epinephrine in a syringe for administration versus having a pre-filled auto-injector (Epi-Pen). The epinephrine is a vital drug in the treatment of severe allergic reaction, but the Epi-Pen costs have skyrocketed in recent years. The EMS Commission must set up guidelines on how this will be enacted.

HEA 1193
This Act creates a summer study session to investigate a public safety memorial for persons injured in the line of duty. The Committee that initially reviewed approval for police and fire wanted the proposal to be fully investigated, and the committee also stressed that they wanted it to include all public safety from law enforcement, fire and EMS.

HEA 1230
This Act covered a variety of school safety issues in the special session. Additional training/resources for cyberbullying and human trafficking were mandated. Charter schools are

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required to have safety plans. The Act also makes additional funding available through the common school fund with the Indiana Treasurer. The school corporation and charter school safety program is established to allow coalitions for purchasing of school safety programs. A school safety advance program will allow schools to obtain money for improvements to the school. The Act also permits schools to barricade doors for up to 3 minutes after an unplanned fire alarm in order for the school to investigate for an active shooter incident. The Act provided up to $5 million to be added to the Secured School Safety Fund from the general fund for FY 18-19 applications.

**SEA 13**
This Act added probation and corrections officers to those who may administer naloxone (Narcan) for an overdose.

**SEA 100**
This Act permits fire departments to perform vehicle carbon monoxide testing as a safety precaution for residents, with a specific process and form to document the testing.

**SEA 393**
This Act outlines the application elements for a Class 1 or Class 2 structure that utilizes advanced structural components and requires that the city, town or county building commissioner to notify the 911 center within 90 days of issuance of a building permit for said structures. The Act prohibits the Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission and/or local jurisdictions from requiring the installation of a fire sprinkler system in a Class 2 structure. The Act also mandates the Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission adopt rules to replace or update the Indiana Residential Code by Jan. 1, 2020.

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**2019 federal grant programs**

Four grant opportunities are currently open for applications.

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security encourages partners to submit their applications for funding by the following dates:

**2019 Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) due June 11**

**2019 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) due June 22**

**2019 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) due June 22**

**2019 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Program (HMEP) due July 13**

If intending to apply for any of these funding opportunities, please note that applicants must have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM).

Applicants who do not have current access to these systems should consider taking immediate action to obtain a DUNS number and then to register immediately in SAM. It may take four weeks or more after submitting the SAM registration before registration is active.

More information on a DUNS number and SAM can be found in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) of each grant, found at the links to the left. Please also remember that applicants must have an account with the Indiana Grants Management System (iGMS) to apply for the SHSP, EMPG and HMEP grants. A new user account can be requested by filling out the form located at https://www.in.gov/dhs/files/New%20iGMS%20user.pdf.

Any questions or requests for assistance may be directed to grants@dhs.in.gov.

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Do you follow?

Keep up to date by following IDHS on Facebook and Twitter today!
Spread the word on fireworks safety

With summer festivities and Independence Day events coming up soon, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) has some safety tips and information to consider for the approaching months. IDHS urges public safety professionals to spread the message of firework safety within their communities.

Fireworks are an important and fun part of Hoosier celebrations. More injuries involving the misuse and mishandling of fireworks are reported on Independence Day than on any other day during the course of the year.

Throughout the state of Indiana, there were approximately 238 unduplicated cases of firework-related injuries that were reported to the Indiana State Department of Health in 2017. Of the cases, 94 occurred on July 4, 2017, representing 39.5 percent of all reported cases. The malfunction and mishandling of fireworks accounted for roughly 57 percent of reported fireworks injuries.

“Hoosiers love celebrating our nation’s history and freedom, and we need to encourage them to do so sensibly by always keeping safety in mind,” said Indiana Fire Marshal Jim Greeson. “Areas such as mulch, grass or structures can be dangerous if exposed to any sort of sparks, but these areas are often not on the minds of Hoosiers celebrating. The more Hoosiers hear the message, the more safety will be in the forefront of their mind.”

The Indiana State Department of Health releases an annual Indiana Firework-Related Injury Report that covers all firework injuries and deaths reported to all hospitals, medical facilities and private medical practices within the state of Indiana. For more information, please consult the 2017 Indiana Firework-Related Injury Report at https://www.in.gov/isdh/files/ISDH_FireworksReport_2017.pdf.

To best prepare those within the community on fireworks safety, be sure agency social media outlets are up-to-date with the most frequent information regarding injuries, policies and safety measures. Feel free to use the following information to promote public safety.

**Suggested Social Media Posts:**

- **While nearly half of reported injuries occurred due to use of aerial fireworks, firecrackers & sparklers, safety precautions must be taken for all fireworks. Stay safe throughout the holidays and summer months by taking extra precautions when handling fireworks #INFireworksSafety**

- **If an accident occurs, seek medical attention when necessary. 96% people injured by fireworks sought care at an emergency room or urgent care center. Of those seeking treatment, approximately 77% were evaluated and released to go home. #INFireworksSafety**

- **With celebration on most Hoosier’s minds, be sure to keep you and your family safe by drinking responsibly throughout the summer and holidays. Roughly 41 instances of firework-related injuries were recorded with alcohol consumption in the past year. #INFireworksSafety**

- **Never let children handle, play with or light any fireworks without adult supervision. Among the 85 minors injured by fireworks, 70 were injured while in the presence of an adult, but four had no adult supervision. #INFireworksSafety**

- **The most common injury when using fireworks are burns on the hands and fingers (34%). Sparklers, which burn at an extremely high temperature, are one of the most common causes of these burns. Follow instructions, and consider glow sticks for small children #INFireworksSafety**

- **Fireworks can only be purchased by persons 18 or older. They may only be used on your property, on the property of someone who has given permission or at a special discharge location (which aren’t common). For more info visit https://dhs.in.gov/3375.htm. #INFireworksSafety**
2018 public safety training events

IDHS and instructors around the state have many new training opportunities available through the Public Safety Personnel Portal, also known as Acadis. Below are a sampling of upcoming events:

ICS/EOC Interface

Course provides for emergency management and response personnel to develop an ICS/EOC interface

*Training Dates 06/14/2018 - 06/14/2018*

Crisis Management for School-Based Incidents

This eight-hour awareness-level course for school administrators and emergency responders will educate rural law enforcement personnel as well as school administrators and staff to effectively respond to an emergency involving a school building or an entire school system. The training will provide representatives of rural law enforcement departments with a foundation of knowledge and skills that will enable them to progressively establish a school-based emergency response plan and crisis management team through information sharing and training.

*Training Dates 07/17/2018 - 07/17/2018*

Telecommunicator Pursuit

Class instructs telecommunicators on proper dispatch techniques related to vehicle and foot pursuits. Class provides hands on experience in "calling" pursuits and classroom lecture. Class also provides radio and interoperability overview.

*Training Dates 08/01/2018 - 08/01/2018*

Mass Fatalities Planning & Response for Rural Communities

This eight-hour awareness-level, instructor-led course is designed to prepare rural first responders and officials with the basic knowledge, skills and abilities to manage a mass fatality incident impacting their jurisdiction. Target audience includes first responders, coroners/medical examiners, public health officials, and others with responsibilities during a mass fatality incident. Issues addressed include establishing roles and responsibilities, assets management, remains processing and identification, diversity issues and development of a mass fatality plan that affect the construct of a mass fatality response.

*Training Dates 08/07/2018 - 08/07/2018*

EOC Operations & Planning for All Hazards

*Training Dates 08/14/2018 - 08/16/2018*

Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP

This course provides an organized training opportunity for local officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinance. The course will focus on the National Flood Insurance Program and concepts of floodplain management, maps and studies, ordinance administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance.

*Training Dates 08/21/2018 - 08/24/2018*

Readiness: Training Identification & Preparedness Planning

This course teaches participants how to create effective training plans for their agencies and jurisdictions. By evaluating their abilities to meet their emergency operations plan (EOP) using traditional and national preparedness tools, participants can answer the following critical readiness questions.

*Training Dates 09/17/2018 - 09/18/2018*

For more information about these and other available classes, visit the Public Safety Personnel Portal (Acadis) at [https://dhs.in.gov/3731.htm](https://dhs.in.gov/3731.htm).
Mission

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security works 24/7 to protect the people, property and prosperity of Indiana.

Contact

The Hoosier Responder is a publication of The Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Please direct any questions or comments to the IDHS Office of Public Affairs at (317) 234-6713 or pio@dhs.in.gov.

Indiana Department of Homeland Security
302 West Washington Street
Indiana Government Center South
Room E208
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232-3980 or (800) 669-7362