

EMA News & Views



County of Lycoming Emergency Management Agency

Volume 16, Issue 2

Spring 2016

COUNTY OF LYCOMING EMA QUARTERLY TRAINING

(Emergency Management Coordinators serving the municipalities of Lycoming County)

The next County of Lycoming EMA Quarterly Training will be held on:

THURSDAY - June 23, 2016 - 6:30 pm

At

LYCOMING COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
542 COUNTY FARM ROAD, SUITE 101
MONTOURSVILLE, PA 17754



TOPIC: Incident Command System (ICS) Refresher

Instructor: Mark Nalesnik

MEETING TOPIC DETAILS

For the next EMA Quarterly Training we will be offering an Incident Command System (ICS) Refresher course. This course is designed to provide emergency and private sector responders with the information needed to use and implement the Incident Command System.

This course is also designed to meet the needs of fire officers and managers with the responsibilities to use, deploy, implement and function within a departmental ICS.

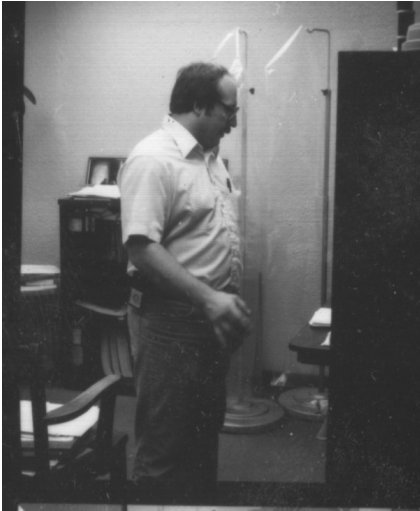
This program addresses the need of the incident management systems, gives an overview of the structure and expandability of ICS, and an understanding of the command skills needed by departmental officers/managers to effectively use ICS.

Preregistration is required. You can register by calling Kelle Robinson at 570-433-4461.

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FAREWELL FEARLESS LEADER!



After over 40 years of service to Lycoming County, Richard Knecht is retiring! Richard started his career within the County in 1976 as one of the very first Telecommunicators for the new 9-1-1 system. After thirteen years in the 9-1-1 center, he took the position of Operations and Training Supervisor in Emergency Management. In 2007 took his current position as Lycoming County's Emergency Management Coordinator.

As part of his duties as County EMA Coordinator, Richard sits on the North Central Task Force board.

Richard is very dedicated to ensuring a good working relationship with the seven counties which make up this Task Force. He is part of several committees within the Task Force and was instrumental in obtaining many of the resources available to all of the counties within the Task Force.

Richard is also required to attend quarterly trainings offered by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA). At the state's recent Emergency Management Conference held at the Seven Springs Resort, Richard was recognized by PEMA for his outstanding years of service and he was presented a plaque by Richard Flinn, PEMA Director, and Fred Boylstein, PEMA Central Area Director.

Please join us in wishing Richard a Happy Retirement and thank him for his years of service to Lycoming County and it's citizens.

Happy Retirement Richard!



Richard being recognized at the State EM Conference. Here he is pictured with Richard Flinn and Fred Boylstein.

Please join us in Celebrating Richard Knecht's Retirement



After 40 Years of Employment

OPEN HOUSE

Friday, June 10, 2016

WE ARE!! HAVING IT FROM 12:30 PM TO 2:30 PM!!

WE ARE!! HAVING IT IN THE EOC!!

WE ARE!! AT LYSOCK COMPLEX!!

WE ARE!! 542 COUNTY FARM ROAD!!

WE ARE!! SUITE 101, MONTOURSVILLE!!

WE ARE!! HAPPY FOR RICHARD!!

WE ARE!! HAVING LIGHT REFRESHMENTS!!

WE ARE!! HOPING YOU COME JOIN US!!

WE ARE!! PENN STATE!!



EMA PROUD!!



WELCOME DAN!

Lycoming County Department of Public Safety is happy to announce the addition of Dan Dorman as the new Lycoming County Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC)/EMA Manager. With the retirement of Richard Knecht on June 10, 2016, Dan will be assuming the duties of County EMC on June 11, 2016.



Dan has been employed with Lycoming County since 1991. He began his career with the County in the Department of Public Safety as the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Training Coordinator. A few years later, he was promoted to EMS Program Manager. In 2001, he left Public Safety for a position as the Support and Services Manager with the County's Resource Management Services.

Mr. Dorman is a graduate of Lycoming College. He is currently serving as the Assistant Fire Chief for the Hughesville Volunteer Fire Department and he is a Township Supervisor for Penn Township. Dan is also an Instructor for Bucks County Community College. He teaches Rescue and EVOC classes throughout the area.

Dan and his wife Brenda have been married for 25 years. They are the proud parents of two boys, Josh and Jarett. Josh is a Paramedic at Susquehanna Health and Jarett is graduating from High School on June 3rd. The family enjoys camping together and raising Irish Setters.

Please join the Department of Public Safety in welcoming Dan back to our family! We are excited to have him in his new position as Lycoming County EMA Manager!

Notes from the Director...

It is a time of change at the Department of Public Safety. First and foremost, I wish to extend a THANK YOU to Richard A. Knecht for his years of service in the realm of Public Safety to the County of Lycoming. His effort to coordinate emergency management activities with the North Central Task Force neighboring counties has been most noteworthy. We all wish him a happy and prosperous retirement!!

Daniel N. Dorman will officially replace Richard Knecht as the County's EMC on June 11, 2016. Dan has a varied background of Fire/Rescue/EMS and Emergency Management experience. Please take time to meet and greet Dan Dorman in his new role.

As a County, we were very fortunate in the late winter and early spring of 2016. No major blizzards, crippling ice storms or spring floods occurred. Despite this welcome pause from severe weather, please do not let your guard down! Keep in mind the Atlantic Coast Tropical Storm Season opened on June 1.

Training and readiness go together hand-in-hand. I do wish to thank all who attend SKYWARN training this year at DPS; the National Weather Service does appreciate your reports and observations.

THANKS!

John @ DPS

COGAN HOUSE TWP. IS STORM READY!

Cogan House Township, under the guidance of their Emergency Management Coordinator, Iva Mae Guillaume, has once again, been designated as a StormReady community! Cogan House Township was originally designated as StormReady on September 10, 2010. Mrs. Guillaume recently completed the renewal application for the Township to continue as a StormReady community until September 12, 2019.

StormReady is a program offered by the National Weather Service (NWS) with a focus on building community resilience in the face of extreme weather events. Thanks to Iva Mae for her continued efforts to ensure the readiness and safety of the citizens within Cogan House Township and Lycoming County.



StormReady Renewal Certification

Having fulfilled and maintained all requirements as set forth by the National *StormReady* Program for:

- Communication
- National Weather Service Information Reception
- Hydrometeorology Monitoring
- Local Warning Dissemination
- Community Preparedness
- Administration

Cogan House Township in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania
is hereby renewed as a *StormReady* Community



Barbara M. Watson, Meteorologist-In-Charge
National Weather Service Forecast Office
State College, Pennsylvania

Original *StormReady* Certification Date: 09/12/2010
Renewal Valid Through: 09/12/2019

Summer Travel Safety Tips

During the summer months, many families embark on vacation getaways. Summer travel and readying the car for trips can be the most stressful part of the vacation. Travelers offers some packing and driving tips for families hitting the road for vacation this summer.



74% of Americans taking a summer vacation plan to drive[†]



Don't overload

When packing, the car can get filled quickly. Spread out the load so the weight is evenly distributed.



Be a prepared parent

Pack snacks, extra clothes and entertaining items that will keep your little ones in the back seat happy.



Keep a clear view

When packing your vehicle, make sure you maintain a proper line of sight with your mirrors and windows.



Ready the roof rack

Know your rack's weight limit by checking the user's manual. Recognize the height of your vehicle after packing to prevent damage or accidents.

In 2011 alone, over 3,000 people were killed in distracted driving crashes.[‡]



Know the route

Familiarize yourself with the route before leaving for your trip. Relying solely upon GPS can lead to dangerous last minute turns and lane changes.



Secure your pets

Unsecured pets can become a distraction. Secure your pets appropriately and never let them run about the vehicle.



Cruise carefully

Cruise control can be a helpful tool, but be careful when using it on long trips, as it can make it easier for drivers to lose focus on the road.



Take a break

When travelling long distances, it's important to take frequent breaks to help maintain focus and avoid fatigue.

[†] TripAdvisor, Inc. <http://ir.tripadvisor.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=764664>

[‡] NHTSA: <http://www.distraction.gov>

UPCOMING EMA CLASSES

Classes listed below with an (*) are required for one or more of the certification levels for municipal Emergency Management Coordinators. **Attendees must register on-line or through the County EMA office.** Contact Kelle Robinson with any questions concerning these classes.

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM REFRESHERS COURSE (2 Offerings)

Thursday, June 23, 2016 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Lycoming County EMA Office

OR

Tuesday, July 12, 2016 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Lycoming County EMA Office

RAIL CAR INCIDENT RESPONSE COURSE

*Wednesday, September 28, 2016 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Willing Hand Hose Company
821 Broad St., Montoursville*

Other Training Resources:

PEMA TRAINING CALENDAR:

<http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=5051&&mode=2>

PEMA (ON-LINE) TRAINING:

https://www.centrelearn.com/login_pa.asp

FEMA (EMI) (ON-LINE) TRAINING:

<http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>



VACANT EMC POSITIONS

In accordance with Title 35, all municipalities in the Commonwealth must have an Emergency Management Coordinator. Currently, the following municipalities do not:

ARMSTRONG TOWNSHIP

MCHENRY TOWNSHIP

PINE TOWNSHIP

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

If you or anyone you know would be interested in this position, please contact the Lycoming County EMA office at 570-433-4461.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR EMCs

For the next edition in the series of “Getting to Know Our EMCs”, we will be featuring Mr. Denny Buttorff. Mr. Buttorff is the Emergency Management Coordinator for Jersey Shore Borough, Piatt Township, and Porter Township, as well as Mayor of Jersey Shore Borough, where one of his great joys is performing weddings for many couples in the Borough.



Mr. Buttorff is a life long resident of Lycoming County with the exception of more than 21 years of military service. He graduated from Jersey Shore Area School District, followed by the George Washington School of Medicine as an Independent Duty Hospital Corpsman. Denny is also a graduate from Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical School and conducted research and development for biological and chemical decontamination for the Department of Defense. He is a member of many area organizations including the West Branch Emergency Management Association, the Masonic Blue Lodge, the Jersey Shore Chamber of Commerce, and the Lycoming County Radiological Team.

Mr. Buttorff holds the Basic, Advanced, and Professional levels of PEMA certification. In 2015, Denny retired from instructing EMT classes, PA State Fire Academy courses, and many other training courses within the area. He continues his work as an Authorized Lay Worship Leader at the Grace Lutheran and St. James Lutheran Churches.

Denny and his wife, Ruth, have been married for 43 years. They are the proud parents of one son and two daughters. Ruth retired a year ago from her position as a Reading Teacher Aid.

Lycoming County EMA would like to thank Mr. Denny Buttorff for his many years of service within the county and his community.

SPRING EXERCISE HELD AT DPS

Even though the state did not have their annual Spring Weather exercise this year, Lycoming County Department of Public Safety still held a Spring Exercise in our EOC at the Lysock Complex. The exercise consisted of a scenario that was taken from an actual event that took place just outside of our County in Montour County.

The scenario was that an unmanned JLENS blimp broke free from its tether at a military base in Maryland and was heading quickly toward Lycoming County. The 6,700 foot tether the blimp was dragging was taking out power lines and causing widespread destruction as it was losing altitude. The blimp eventually crashed down in a field outside of the Lysock Complex.

Exercise participants were asked to find alternate routes for citizens and rescue personnel as the Federal Government shut down Warrensville Road. EOC staff was tasked with finding shelter for those in need due to the power outages. A hazardous spill was also dealt with as a result of the blimp's tether.

The exercise was a great success! Thanks to all who participated in this annual event!

SUSQUEHANNA HEALTH MASS CASUALTY EXERCISE



On April 21, 2016, Susquehanna Health conducted a full scale mass casualty exercise. The scenario for the exercise took place at the Little League Complex during the Little League World Series. The scenario consisted of two drones flying over the LLWS crowd and releasing a substance. A third drone enters a tunnel at Lamade Stadium and explodes. Mass casualties and injuries are reported.

The Lycoming County alternate Emergency Operations Center at Third Street Plaza was opened to support this exercise. County EOC staff was joined by representatives from Susquehanna Health, PA State Police Central Intelligence, FBI, PA Department of Health, Williamsport Bureau of Fire, and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. The EOC staff was evaluated during this exercise by Fred Boylstein, PEMA Central Area Director.

Lycoming County would like to thank Susquehanna Health for overseeing this exercise. Thank you also goes out to all those who participated at our EOC.

39th ANNUAL APPRECIATION BANQUET

On March 31, 2016, Lycoming County Department of Public Safety held the 39th Annual Appreciation Dinner at the Holiday Inn in Williamsport.

The guest speakers were Special Agent Kyle Moore, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Trooper Mike Hutson, PA State Police and FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force. The program for the evening was titled: "The Coming Storm". The program's focus was on a gunman at a small college. The gentlemen spoke of various Active Shooter training programs being offered and of the amount of joint cooperation needed among the various local, state and federal agencies. All in attendance gained a new appreciation for the terror for people involved in an Active Shooter incident.

The Lycoming County Department of Public Safety would like to thank all who attended this year's event. We hope to see everyone next year!



Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Lightning...

...Nature's Most Violent Storms



Introduction

For Americans, preparedness must now account for man-made disasters as well as natural ones. Knowing what to do during an emergency is an important part of being prepared and may make all the difference when seconds count.

Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as making an emergency supply kit and developing an emergency plan, are the same for both a natural or man-made emergency.

This preparedness guide explains thunderstorms and related hazards and suggests life-saving actions **YOU** can take. With this information, **YOU** can recognize severe weather, develop a plan, and be ready to act when threatening weather approaches. Remember, your safety, and the safety of those in your care, is up to **YOU!**

Why Worry About Thunderstorms?

Lightning...

- Causes an average of 55-60 fatalities and 400 injuries each year
- Occurs with all thunderstorms
- Costs more than \$1 billion in insured losses each year

Tornadoes...

- Cause an average of 60-65 fatalities and 1,500 injuries each year
- Can produce wind speeds in excess of 200 mph
- Can be 1 mile wide and stay on the ground over 50 miles

Straight-line Winds...

- Can exceed 125 mph
- Can cause destruction equal to a tornado
- Are extremely dangerous to aviation

Flash Floods and Floods...

- Are the #1 cause of deaths associated with thunderstorms, more than 90 fatalities each year

Hail...

- Can be larger than a softball (5 inches in diameter)
- Causes more than \$1 billion in crop and property damage each year

Continued from page 10

Including Tornado Safety
Information for Schools

A PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

Thunderstorms

A thunderstorm affects a relatively small area when compared to a hurricane or a winter storm. The typical thunderstorm is 15 miles in diameter and lasts an average of 30 minutes. Despite their small size, **ALL** thunderstorms are dangerous! Of the estimated 100,000 thunderstorms that occur each year in the United States, about 10 percent are classified as severe.

What Are Thunderstorms? What Causes Them?

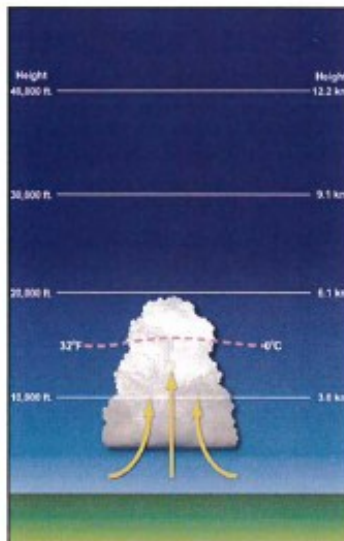
Every Thunderstorm Needs:

- **Moisture**—to form clouds and rain
- **Unstable air**—warm air that can rise rapidly
- **Lift**—caused by cold or warm fronts, sea breezes, mountains, or the sun's heat

*The National Weather Service considers a thunderstorm **severe** if it produces hail at least one inch in diameter, winds of 58 mph or stronger, or a tornado.*

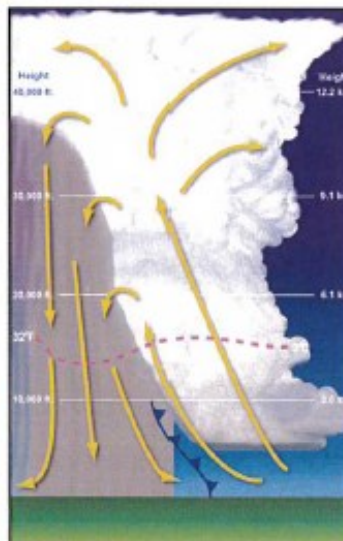
1,800 thunderstorms occur at any moment around the world. That's 16 million a year!

The Thunderstorm Life Cycle



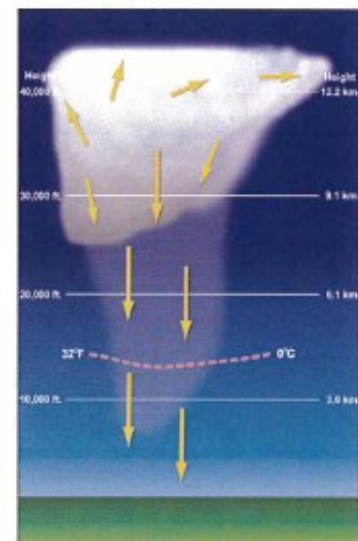
Developing Stage

- Towering cumulus cloud indicates rising air
- Usually little if any rain during this stage
- Lasts about 10 minutes
- Occasional lightning



Mature Stage

- Most likely time for hail, heavy rain, frequent lightning, strong winds, and tornadoes
- Storm occasionally has a black or dark green appearance
- Lasts an average of 10 to 20 minutes but some storms may last much longer



Dissipating Stage

- Downdrafts, downward flowing air, dominate the storm
- Rainfall decreases in intensity
- Can still produce a burst of strong winds
- Lightning remains a danger

WELL SITE INCIDENT INVESTIGATION COURSE

On April 27-28, 2016, the Lycoming County Dept of Public Safety Gas Task Force hosted a WELL SITE INCIDENT INVESTIGATION Course at Pennsylvania College of Technology and a wellsite in Anthony Township.

This course provided the knowledge and competencies required for municipal first responders, private companies and contractors to successfully investigate wellsite incidents within their jurisdiction.

Training in a realistic wellsite setting, participants receive the knowledge critical for conducting onsite investigations. They also build a familiarization with the typical equipment used during drilling, fracturing, snubbing, wireline and coil tubing operations. The course also addresses the investigative techniques required to identify causation of wellsite incidents and environmental releases. Included in this training was the use of drones for investigative purposes. The drones were operated by Data Wing Analytics of San Antonio, TX.

Fifty+ individuals attended the training representing multiple agencies. Some of the agencies that attended were local, state and federal law enforcement, the Dept of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Protection Agency, to name of few.

This training was conducted by Wild Well Control of Houston, TX.



2015 QUARTERLY TRAINING

June 23	7:00 pm	Thursday	County EMA Office
September 22	7:00 pm	Thursday	County EMA Office
December 8	7:00 pm	Thursday	County EMA Office



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!

Just a reminder, this newsletter is written for you, the emergency responder in Lycoming County. If there is something that you wish to see in the newsletter or you have a story that you would like to share, please let us know. We are always looking for ideas for upcoming newsletters!

COUNTY EMA STAFF

Your County EMA staff is proud to serve you, and will always welcome your comments and suggestions to promote a better EMA community. Please contact us at any time.

TELEPHONE: 570-433-4461 (local)
570-329-4061 (local)

EMAIL: ema@lyco.org - for general department email

COUNTY EMA STAFF	PHONE	EMAIL
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