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 25, 2015 - 7:00 pm

YOUR MUNICIPAL EOC!

TOPIC: Communications Exercise, Testing Radio, Fax, and Email Communications

MEETING TOPIC DETAILS
This quarterly meeting will be slightly different from those held in the past. This meeting will be a communications exercise to test the communications between our new alternate EOC and each municipality’s EOC. You will NOT report to the County EOC., you will participate from YOUR EOC.

Prior to the exercise, instructions and a questionnaire will be mailed to each EMC. On June 25th, at 7:00 pm, roll call will be done via radio to each municipality.

After the roll call, you will be asked to answer the questions from the questionnaire via radio, fax, or email from your EOC.

Lycoming County EMA is excited to have this exercise and we hope to have every municipality participate!

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38th ANNUAL APPRECIATION BANQUET

On March 26, 2015, Lycoming County Department of Public Safety held the 38th Annual Appreciation Dinner at the Holiday Inn in Williamsport.

The guest speaker was Mr. Richard Flinn, the newly appointed director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. Director Flinn spoke about a few changes within the Commonwealth and PEMA. He also told about his appointment by Governor Wolf and the great things which are expected to happen within the coming years.

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!

PEMA Director
Richard Flinn

Lycoming County Commissioner
Tony Mussare
Severe Weather Risk NEW Outlooks

Pre-2015
3 Tier Risks

SLGT = Slight Risk

MDT = Moderate Risk

HIGH = High Risk

2015
Expand to 5 Tier Risks

MRGL = Marginal

SLGT = Slight

ENH= Enhanced

MDT = Moderate Risk

HIGH = High Risk
Anhydrous Ammonia Class Held at Nisbet Fire Station

Sponsored by Lycoming County Department of Public Safety, Nisbet fire station hosted an Anhydrous Ammonia class on May 6, 2015. The class was attended by fifty-one (51) emergency responders and public safety officials.

Presenting that evening was David B. Binder, Director of Quality, Safety & Regulatory Affairs and lead Hazmat trainer for Tanner Industries, Inc. of Southampton, PA. David has been involved in the ammonia industry and safety training since 1992. He has facilitated safety and emergency response training programs throughout the world for industry, fire departments and emergency response personnel and management. David is involved in many leadership positions in various organizations such as the National Association of Chemical Distributors, World Food Logistics Organization, National TRANSCAER Task Group, American Water Works Association, Compressed Gas Association and the Philadelphia LEPC.

David lead the group in a very engaging evening discussing the uses of the Anhydrous Ammonia, physical / chemical properties, routes of exposure, health effect and first aid; both bulk and non-bulk packaging containers, markings / placards/ labels, industrial processes and how to trouble shoot problems. He also spoke about the different types of releases and the role of the weather and how that affects the release, response and community safety. Participants also learned about defensive / offensive response techniques.

Lycoming County Department of Public Safety offers many training opportunities for our emergency responders and community. We strongly encourage your attendance at these trainings. As part of our ongoing initiative to bring you the trainings you require for continued safety and response, we need to hear from you. Please contact our EMA Training & Operations Coordinator, Kelle Robinson, at 570-433-4461.

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

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

Warmer weather has arrived in Lycoming County! Please keep an eye to the sky for severe storms and heavy rainfall. I spent several hours watching the Weather Channel over the Memorial Day weekend following the record rainfall in Texas. The historic flooding in Texas and surrounding states should serve as a reminder to us that it could happen here. Please take a few moments and review your personal and your community’s severe weather awareness and flood readiness plans, to include your elected officials. This is an excellent time to put information concerning severe weather readiness and individual preparation on your local web site or in your newsletter. As a further motivator for the plan review and public information actions, June 1st is also the start of Hurricane Season.

I thank you for your support of several EMA related training programs to include the SkyWarn program and the second HAM IN A DAY program to support the ACS team. DPS is also sponsoring Radiological Team refresher training in June.

Staff is planning for the June County-level Quarterly Training. Watch for further details and please participate.

On a closing note, PLEASE ensure you forward copies of your certification or training certificates to the DPS Office. Many of these programs are available on-line for your convenience.

THANKS!

John

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**NATURAL GAS ACTIVITY**

Natural Gas Activity within Lycoming County as of May 1, 2015:

- **Named Wells**—1482
- **Addressed Wells**—1444
- **Permitted Wells**—1323
- **Spudded Wells**—907
- **Wells within 1/2 mile interface zone**—602
- **Compressor/meter/interconnect Stations**—52
- **Water impoundments and withdraw sites**—100
- **Active drill rigs**—3

**13 Operators (Top 3 of addressed well pads)**

1. Anadarko - 117
2. Range - 56
3. Exco - 53

**31 Municipalities (Top 3 with activity)**

1. Cummings - 59
2. Cogan House - 59
3. Penn - 25

Please contact Craig Konkle if you need any additional information concerning Energy Development within Lycoming County.
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.

RADIOLOGICAL RESPONSE TEAM REFRESHER

Wednesday, June 10, 2015  6:30 pm - 10:30 pm, Lycoming County EMA Office

THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA OPERATIONS

Saturday, June 20, 2015  8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Old Lycoming Township VFD

GROUND LADDER REFRESHER

Monday, June 22, 2015  6:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Old Lycoming Township VFD

RURAL FIRE GROUND WATER MOVEMENT (Must attend all 3 days)

Tuesday, June 23, 2015  6:30 pm-10:30 pm, Citizens Hose Co. Jersey Shore
Thursday, June 25, 2015  6:30 pm-10:30 pm, Citizens Hose Co. Jersey Shore
Saturday, July 11, 2015  8:00 am-4:00 pm, Citizens Hose Co. Jersey Shore

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
On April 23, 2015, a full scale exercise led by Lycoming County Department of Public Safety included fifteen (15) different agencies. Included were private sector security professionals, law enforcement representatives from Federal, State, Local and county agencies, Public Safety personnel, Williamsport Bureau of Fire, Susquehanna Health EMS personnel, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Williamsport Area School District and Lonza, a Title III SARA site chemical facility. This exercise allowed participants to respond to a real time emergency and institute a Unified Command Structure. Together they faced critical decisions, interoperability issues and the integration of the necessary local assets to bring the incident to a safe resolution and closure.

This exercise allowed participants to evaluate current response plans and capabilities for coordinated response utilizing the Incident Command System (ICS) as well as Unified Command response to an active shooter / hostage situation. Top concerns were shared as well as the actions they would take, questions they would ask during this type of incident and the expected outcome of their actions taken.

This type of training exercise is part of ongoing efforts by the Department of Public Safety to promote information sharing, improve readiness and enhance infrastructure protection and resilience.
GETTING TO KNOW OUR EMCs

For the next edition in the series of “Getting to Know Our EMCs”, we will be featuring Mr. James Pfleegor. Jim was appointed EMC for Susquehanna Township in 1985. He holds the PEMA Professional level of Certification in Emergency Management.

Along with being a municipal EMC, Jim is also a telecommunicator with the Lycoming County 9-1-1 Center. In the center he is a PEMA Certified Dispatcher, a Communications Training officer, and a PA State Police Certified CLEAN Operator. He was also voted the Lycoming County EMS Council’s Dispatcher of the Year in 2004. Jim has been with the County for more than 30 years.

Mr. Pfleegor is also the Chief of the Nisbet Volunteer Fire Company. He has been chief there since 1991. In 1997 & 1998, he served as the Communications Chairman for the Lycoming County Fire Advisory Board.

Jim and his wife Bobbi, are the proud parents of a 14-year-old son, Brenton. Brenton is on the South Williamsport Baseball team and, following in his Father’s footsteps, he recently joined the Nesbit Volunteer Fire Company.

Lycoming County would like to thank Mr. James Pfleegor for his many years of continued service to his community and the county.

Public Safety Holds Weather Exercise

On March 25th, the Department of Public Safety held their annual Weather Exercise at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in the Lysock Complex. At this exercise, the EOC staff responds to mock weather related scenarios to prepare for the different types of real life weather related emergencies we see in our area.

This year the exercise consisted of two scenarios. One scenario was heavy snow squalls hitting our area causing white-out conditions which lead to vehicle accidents and power outages. The second scenario was flooding in the area creating the need for evacuations and alternate communications within several areas of the county.

The EOC staff members, consisting of employees from several County offices, were able to respond effectively to the different scenarios to ensure the safety of the public. Public Safety would like to thank everyone for their participation to make this exercise a great success!
On April 15, 2015, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf toured the Energy Technology Education Center (ETEC) in support of postsecondary education that meets the needs of regional and statewide employers. “Our citizens must have access to the education and training that jobs require, particularly as we continue to grow our energy industry” Governor Wolf said.

ETEC, a training site for current and prospective gas industry employees and emergency response crews, is a collaboration among Penn College, Lycoming County, and industry partners.

Photos show Lycoming County Public Safety employee, Craig Konkle, welcoming Governor Tom Wolf to the ETEC site and giving him a tour of the facility. Lycoming County Commissioners, as well as other County employees, were also present for the event.
SAFE BOATING TIPS
from the National Safe Boating Council

Boat Responsibly and Wear It!
The National Safe Boating Council would like to remind you to “Boat Responsibly and Wear It!” “Boat Responsibly” by being alert and careful when taking out your boat, making sure you are prepared and always remember to “Wear It!” Wear your life jacket every time you are on the water. An accident can happen very quickly and unexpectedly so you must be geared up in order to help yourself and your passengers on board. According to the most recent U.S. Coast Guard statistics, over two-thirds of fatal accident victims drowned.

Out of those who drowned, approximately 90% were not wearing a life jacket. There are so many different types of life jackets today that are smaller and more comfortable; it’s much easier to “Wear it!” at all times. Life jackets are part of the gear stylish and knowledgeable boaters wear. Be a role model! Develop the Life Jacket habit!

Know the Navigation Rules (Nautical Rules of the Road)
Knowing the nautical rules of the road is important for all boaters. Knowing what to do when meeting, crossing or overtaking another boat can prevent costly damage to your boat, personal injury or even loss of life. Whenever you believe there is a threat of collision you should slow down, stop or steer away from the situation in question. Maintaining a proper lookout and a safe speed are all a part of the navigation rules and should be an important part of boat operation.

Stay Sober While Boating
It’s dangerous to operate a boat when drinking. Operating a boat under the influence of alcohol or drugs is illegal in all states and is a violation of Federal law. An operator with a blood alcohol content about .08 (equivalent to consuming five beers in one hour for the average 180-lb male) is ten times more likely to die in a boating accident than an operator with zero blood alcohol level.

Be Aware of Carbon Monoxide
All boat engines produce Carbon Monoxide (CO)—an odorless, colorless, poisonous gas that can kill you in a matter of minutes. Boaters are killed every year because of improper cabin ventilation, poorly maintained equipment, and careless behavior. You do not have to be inside the boat to be at risk. Boaters have died from exposure on the swim platforms of their boats and in other areas where CO exhaust may accumulate or be emitted. Be aware of the early symptoms (irritated eyes, headache, nausea, weakness, and dizziness). Use CO detectors on your boat and stay off the swim platform when the engine (or generators) are running.

Take a Safe Boating Course
Seventy percent of recreational boating accidents are caused by operator factors—such as failure to pay attention, carelessness, recklessness, inexperience, excessive speed, and failure to watch for hazards. Boating safety courses are available, inexpensive, and quick—a great way for you to learn safety and the rules of the road.

Get Your Boat Checked

For more information on boating safety, please visit the National Safe Boating Council at www.safeboatingcouncil.org. The National Safe Boating Council wishes you safe and enjoyable boating and reminds you to “Boat Responsibly and Wear It!”
COUNTY HOSTS PENN COLLEGE EXERCISE

On April 27th and 29th, Lycoming County Department of Public Safety hosted an exercise conducted by Penn College students in the Emergency Management program. The exercise was held at the County’s alternate Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at our third Street Plaza facility in downtown Williamsport.

For the exercise, each student was given a role within the EOC which included an EOC Manager, Public Information Officer, Operations Chief, Logistics Chief, and Liaison. The students were given a hazardous weather scenario which included a tornado touching down in the Northern part of the County. The tornado effected a school, hospital, residential power, and the water/sewer systems. The students were asked to establish a mass care shelter and help with temporary power for the hospital. They also had to coordinate a Search and Rescue Team for the students and faculty that were unaccounted for at the school.

County Emergency Management personnel were on hand to assist the students with any questions they had about EOC operations and give guidance if needed. However, even though this is the first year the College has offered the Emergency Management program to the students, they were very well informed about how the EOC operates and the roles they were fulfilling within the EOC.

Lycoming County looks forward to hosting more Penn College student exercises and events in the future. We would like to thank Professor David Bjorkman for allowing us the opportunity to assist with the instruction of these students. A big thank you goes out to all the students who participated! With these students as our future EMA members, we will most certainly be in good hands!
A WWCI Hazardous Materials Technician course was held at the Energy Technology Education Center at Penn College. This five (5) day course began on May 18th and ran through May 22nd. This class is designed to help prepare responders to be in charge of a hazmat incident, to organize and direct an effective response, to develop the responders’ ability to pre-plan for hazmat emergencies, improve the capability of their internal response organization and to inform responders of the regulatory requirements governing management of hazmat incidents. This course also complies with OSHA regulations. Course was paid for with Act 13 funds.

**Anhydrous Ammonia Warnings**

Recently a contaminated propane cylinder was reported to the Communications Center by a county resident. Now that it’s time for summer cookouts, this causes heightened awareness of the concern over the possible dangers lurking in recycled propane tanks. The small tanks have become vessels to store deadly anhydrous ammonia, which is an ingredient used in the manufacturing of illegal methamphetamine.

Meth manufacturers empty out the propane in the tanks and then refill them with the lethal gas. The ammonia is corrosive and may weaken the tank. Many of these weakened tanks end up back in circulation, where they can explode once filled with propane.

Propane vendors have been trained to spot any suspicious tanks and alert their local fire department if one is found. You can also contact the 9-1-1 Center for assistance. The tele communicators can assist you in contacting PSP, DEP or a local hazmat clean-up contractor.

Consumers should also be aware of the signs that a tank has been contaminated - a blue-green stain around the tank’s valve is a sign of its possible use for meth manufacturing.

*If You See Something – Say Something!!!*
AMATEUR RADIO CLASS HELD

On April 4, 2015, Lycoming County Department of Public Safety held a Basic HAM Operations Class. This four (4) hour training session was designed for those that are new to HAMS or HAMS that have been away from their radio for some time and needed to brush up on their skills.

The day was hosted by the Lycoming County Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) Team. There were 14 HAM operators in attendance from 3 different counties. At the end of the day, our ACS team had one new member and some new contacts from within neighboring counties.

Thanks to all who participated in this informative day!

HEAT WAVE SAFETY

In recent years, excessive heat has caused more deaths than all other weather events, including flooding. A heat wave is a prolonged period of excessive heat, generally 10 degrees or more above average, often combined with excessive humidity.

During a heat wave:
- Listen to NOAA Weather Radio for critical updates for the National Weather Service.
- Never leave children or pets alone in enclosed vehicles.
- Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids even if you do not feel thirsty. Avoid drinks with caffeine or alcohol.
- Eat small meals and eat more often.
- Avoid extreme temperature changes.
- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothing. Avoid dark colors because they absorb the sun’s rays.
- Slow down, stay indoors and avoid strenuous exercise during the hottest part of the day.
- Postpone outdoor games and activities.
- Use a buddy system when working in excessive heat.
- Take frequent breaks if you must work outdoors.
- Check on family, friends, and neighbors who do not have air conditioning, who spend much of their time alone or who are more likely to be affected by the heat.
- Check your animals frequently to ensure that they are not suffering from the heat.

Information from the American Red Cross at www.redcross.org.
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

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2015 Quarterly Training

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 25</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>YOUR MUNICIPAL EOC</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 24</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>County EMA Office</td>
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<td>December 10</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
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