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 - March 27, 2014 - 6:30 pm

APPRECIATION DINNER
HOLIDAY INN - WILLIAMSPORT
100 PINE STREET, WILLIAMSPORT, PA  17701

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:  THOMAS MINTON, GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

MEETING TOPIC DETAILS
Our keynote speaker for the Annual Appreciation Dinner is Thomas Minton, Head of the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security.

Mr. Minton will present Pennsylvania: Hometown and Homeland Security”. This presentation will include the homeland security mission and how local items can affect National Security and other events of global significance.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER...
New Municipal EMC 2
EOP Promulgations 2
Vacant EMC Positions 2
Turn Around... Don’t Drown 3
Natural Gas Well Explosion 4
Notes From the Director 5
Natural Gas Activity 5
Upcoming EMA Classes 6
Be a Force of Nature 7
The New Lycoming County Alternate EOC 8
Elected Officials Seminar 9
County ACS Amateur Radio Update 9
Quarterly Training Schedule 10
We Want to Hear From You 10
Contact Us 10
NEW MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

After several years without an Emergency Management Coordinator, McNett Township appoints Ray Miller.

Please join Lycoming County EMA in welcoming Ray to the Emergency Management community.

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.

CUMMINGS TOWNSHIP
DUBOISTOWN BOROUGH

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

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN PROMULGATIONS

Did your municipality have a change in the majority of the elected body? If so, the PEMA Directive states that a municipal Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) must be adopted by a majority of the elected body. If you have had a majority change since your EOP was originally Promulgated, you will need to have your plan adopted again with a new Promulgation. This would be a good time to update your EOP using the EOP guidelines set forth in the PEMA Directive 2007-1. Please contact the County EMA office if you have any questions or need assistance with your EOP.
TURN AROUND... DON’T’ DROWN

More deaths occur due to flooding each year than from any other thunderstorm or hurricane related hazard. Many of these casualties are a result of careless or unsuspecting motorists who attempt to navigate flooded roads. The National Weather Service now warns anyone who comes to a flooded roadway, “Turn around... don’t drown!” TM

Follow these safety rules:

- If flooding occurs, get to higher ground. Stay away from flood-prone areas, including dips, low spots, valleys, ditches, washes, etc.

- Avoid flooded areas or those with rapid water flow. Do not attempt to cross a flowing stream. It takes only six inches of fast flowing water to sweep you off your feet.

- Don’t allow children to play near high water, storm drains or ditches. Hidden dangers could lie beneath the water.

- Flooded roads could have significant damage hidden by floodwaters. NEVER drive through floodwaters or on flooded roads. If your vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground. Water only two feet deep can float away most automobiles.

- Do not camp or park your vehicle along streams and washes, particularly when threatening conditions exist.

- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.

- Monitor NOAA Weather Radio or your local media for vital weather related information.

More information on flood safety is available through the National Weather Service, [www.noaa.gov/floods.htm](http://www.noaa.gov/floods.htm), or the Federal Alliance For Safe Homes, [www.flash.org](http://www.flash.org). Call our toll-free help desk at 1-877-221SAFE or email flash@flash.org.
NATURAL GAS WELL EXPLOSION
GREENE COUNTY, PA

On February 11, 2014 one worker was injured and another was killed after a natural gas well explosion and fire in southwestern Pennsylvania, within miles of the West Virginia border.

Chevron spokesman, Trip Oliver, says the fire was reported at about 6:45 am at the Lanco 7H well Dunkard Township, near Bobtown. That’s about 50 miles south of Pittsburgh. Oliver says one person is reported hospitalized and another was killed by the explosion.

Oliver says Chevron personnel immediately responded to the fire and called in assistance from Wild Well Control.

Ambulance and emergency medical crews were summoned to the scene and state police reportedly set up a half-mile perimeter.

Crews at the scene reported that intense flames kept them from getting too close to the well. Air monitoring continues at the site.
Notes from the Director…

The Department of Public Safety is continuing to work on many projects to include:
- Microwave system replacement
- 9-1-1 work station replacements
A regional 9-1-1 PSAP/Center shared services study

The Alternate EOC Center, constructed in Third Street Plaza in Williamsport, is now operational. This allows the County’s Department of Public Safety flexibility to operate and expand the EOC from our existing walls. This location also provides additional space for disaster response and disaster recovery teams and agencies.

DPS hosted an Emergency Management Seminar for Elected Officials during February. Twenty-one Lycoming County municipalities participated. Now is an excellent time to meet with your local officials to discuss any needed updates to your EOP, any Local EOC needs, and future training opportunities.

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

NATURAL GAS ACTIVITY

The Natural Gas Industry continues to grow in the Central Pennsylvania area. Below are some statistics for Natural Gas Activity within Lycoming County as of March 1, 2014:

- Named Wells—1318
- Addressed Wells—1310
- Permitted Wells—1198
- Spudded Wells—821
- Wells within 1/2 mile interface zone—602
- Compressor/meter/interconnect Stations—43
- Water impoundments and withdraw sites—61
- Active drill rigs—5

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.

*DAMAGE ASSESSMENT COURSE
*Tuesday, March 11, 2014  6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Lycoming County EMA Office

SKYWARN SPOTTER TRAINING
*Thursday, April 3, 2014  2:30 pm - 4:00 pm, Lycoming County EMA Office
*Thursday, April 3, 2014  6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, Lycoming County EMA Office

HAZ-MAT AWARENESS LEVEL REFRESHER
*Thursday, April 17, 2014  6:30 pm - 10:30 pm,
Eldred Twp. Fire Dept., 5556 Warrensville Road, Montoursville

RADIOLOGICAL RESPONSE TEAM REFRESHER
*Wednesday, April 9, 2014  6:00 pm - 10:00pm, Lycoming County EMA Office

RECOVERY FROM DISASTER (G-270.4) (Must attend both days)
*Saturday, April 26, 2014  8:30 am - 4:30pm, Lycoming County EMA Office
*Sunday, April 27, 2014  8:30 am - 4:30pm, Lycoming County EMA Office

*NIMS/CS-400 (Must attend both days)
*Saturday, May 17, 2014  8:30 am - 4:30pm, Lycoming County EMA Office
*Sunday, May 18, 2014  8:30 am - 4:30pm, Lycoming County EMA Office

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:
BE A FORCE OF NATURE

Each year, people in this country are killed or seriously injured by all types of extreme weather, despite advance warning. In 2012, there were more than 450 fatalities and nearly 2,600 injuries due to extreme weather, such as tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, extreme heat, and wildfires.

NOAA’s Weather-Ready Nation initiative is about building community resilience in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather and water events. As part of the Weather-Ready Nation initiative, NOAA, along with partners such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), wants to motivate individuals and communities to take actions that will prepare them in the event of a weather disaster and to share their preparedness steps with others. These actions can save lives anywhere - at home, in schools, and in the workplace before tornadoes, hurricanes, and other extreme types of weather strike.

However, NOAA and its partners can’t do it alone. A key member of the team is the public. That is why we are encouraging everyone to do their part. We ask everyone to “Be a Force of Nature”.

Be a Force of Nature by knowing your risk, taking action and being an example in your community.

KNOW YOUR RISK

Hurricanes, droughts, tornadoes, snowstorms, flooding – severe weather impacts every part of the country. The first step to becoming weather-ready is to understand the type of hazardous weather that can affect where you live and work, and how the weather could impact you and your family.

What you can do:
Bookmark weather.gov to get the latest forecast information.
Follow the National Weather Service on Facebook and Twitter.
Read the State of the Climate reports to discover historical trends.

Be Force of Nature by making sure that you and your family are prepared for severe weather. This includes creating a disaster supply kit and making sure that you can receive emergency messages.

Obtain a NOAA Weather Radio.
Learn about Wireless Emergency Alerts.

Create a disaster supply kit.

Be an example

Be a positive influence on your community by sharing your weather preparedness story. Be a Force of Nature by letting your friends and family know what you did to become weather-ready.

What you can do:
1. Tweet that you’re prepared with the hashtag #ImaForce
2. Share your preparedness story on Facebook.
Make sure you have a Family Emergency Plan.

Information from www.nws.noaa.gov
THE NEW LYCOMING COUNTY ALTERNATE EOC

The construction of the new Lycoming County alternate Emergency Operations Center is now complete. The alternate EOC is located in the Third Street Plaza across from the Lycoming County Courthouse.

The new EOC offers a larger area for EOC activations and trainings. Computers will be located at each station within the EOC, eliminating the need to set-up laptops as currently done.

Separate areas are designated for the Planning Section, EOC Manager, Flash Flood Coordinator Section, Public Information Officer (PIO), Radio Communications, Amateur Radio, and Operations/Logistics sections. All areas are in a secured section of the building with access via an ID card using a contactless reader.

Installation of computers, telephones, and copier/printer/fax equipment is scheduled to be completed by April 15, 2014.

Lycoming County EMA will be scheduling a tour of the new EOC for local Emergency Management Coordinators during an upcoming County EMA quarterly training.
LYCOMING COUNTY HOLDS ELECTED OFFICIALS SEMINAR

On February 19, 2014, the Lycoming County Department of Public Safety held an Elected Officials Seminar for area officials. Instructor for the seminar was Kevin Crave, PEMA Central Area.

Two sessions were offered with a total of 40 attendees from 21 Lycoming County municipalities, state officials, county officials, and officials from neighboring counties.

The seminar gave an overview of the responsibilities of elected officials during an emergency incident (such as a flood) within their municipality. Roles of a Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and the importance of an up-to-date Emergency Operations Plan were just some of the topics covered during the seminar.

If officials from your municipality were unable to attend the seminar this year, please watch our training announcements for an offering of this seminar again in 2015.

Thank you to all officials who took the time to attend this very important seminar. We look forward to seeing more officials in 2015!

COUNTY ACS AMATEUR RADIO UPDATE

The county ACS Team has been working very hard at several projects lately. On March 1, 2014 (20) twenty individuals gathered in Lysock View to participate in the “Ham-In-A-Day Program”. This was initiated by our ACS Team to provide a forum for recruitment of new members and to provide day long training for the end result of obtaining an the FCC Amateur Radio License for those attending. Thank you to MCM Consulting Group for their support and for co-sponsoring the program.. Thirteen (13) participants obtained the Technician Level License and (2) obtained the General Level License. Our own Craig Konkle and Richard Knecht were among those that obtained the Technician Level License through the FCC. Congratulations to both of them.

Recently the North Central Task Force (NCTF) presented the (7) seven counties within the regional task force with a cache of amateur radio supplies and equipment. The amount of items presented equates to several thousand dollars for each of the seven counties. On March 8, 2014 at Lysock View starting at 0830 a training will be provided by the NCTF. It will include a ‘hands-on” review of the cache as well as live demonstrations of the new equipment. This day of activities is part of a regional approach to ACS/Amateur Radio fostered by the NCTF. More information will be provided in future publications of the EMA Newsletter.
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTY EMA STAFF</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richard Knecht,</td>
<td>570-329-4732</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rknecht@lyco.org">rknecht@lyco.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMA Manager</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Konkle,</td>
<td>570-329-4724</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ckonkle@lyco.org">ckonkle@lyco.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Development Emergency Response Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelle Robinson,</td>
<td>570-329-4723</td>
<td><a href="mailto:krobinson@lyco.org">krobinson@lyco.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training &amp; Operations Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tommie Smith</td>
<td>570-329-4722</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tsmith@lyco.org">tsmith@lyco.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>