



RIEMA NEWS



VOLUME IV, ISSUE VII

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010

Director- Major General Robert T. Bray

Executive Director- J. David Smith

EARL-y Warning



*By J. David Smith
Executive Director*

Living in a coastal state provides Rhode Islanders and our visitors with many opportunities for beautiful scenery, great seafood, relaxing days at the beach, off-shore fishing and well; you get the picture, everything New England. There is also a responsibility to be prepared for the fickle nature of New England weather which can bring nor'easters, pop-up thunderstorms, and even hurricanes across our shores.

Just at the time that I began to write the September RIEMA newsletter story we all received an Earl-y warning. Hurricane Earl became what forecasters called a monster Category 5 storm that was impressive not only for the wind speeds but also for the size of the convection which spread across hundreds of miles. The September newsletter was important because it announced National Preparedness Month with the intent of stressing the importance of emergency preparedness. It is right there in our RIEMA mission statement, "...to reduce the loss of life and property in natural and man-made incidents by utilizing and all-hazards approach to prevention, preparedness, response and recovery..."

The mission statement continues; "through strategic partnerships, innovative programs, and coordination of state, regional and federal resources." Although the newsletter was not completed because of the preparations needed in anticipation of Hurricane Earl, we point out that it is sometimes better to live the experience rather

than read about it. Hurricane Earl grabbed our attention with a storm track that was consistent across many different computer models and with little margin for error. The projected track took Earl only 75 miles or so southeast of "The Islands" but at the 48 hour delta we still saw a category 3-4 storm that could turn slightly with significant consequence.

Governor Carcieri assembled the department directors and other members of the policy team. Decisions were made in the interest of health, safety, and welfare of everyone in Rhode Island. Some beaches were closed and campgrounds evacuated. Pre-deployment of the Rhode Island National Guard under state active duty status sent hundreds of personnel to the cities and towns to assist local first responders. The Rhode Island State Police and other members of the Department of Public Safety were deployed in storm ready roles. The Urban Search & Rescue Team assets and personnel were activated once the State Declaration of Emergency was signed by the Governor.

Members of the Governor's senior staff, legal team and the RI Attorney General's Office crafted, reviewed, and recommended language that resulted in a pre-landfall request for a Presidential Declaration of Disaster under the Stafford Act. The State Emergency Operations Center and every member of the Rhode Island Emergency Management team did what they do best. They morphed into the Incident Command System, defined operational periods and wrote Incident Action Plans for each period. Through the leader

Continued from previous page

ship of our new Regional Administrator Mr. Don Boyce, FEMA deployed staff from the regional office in support of our state. An IMAT team was also deployed to provide support to all facets of our agency and response.

Earl was in many ways a perfect storm. An impressive, almost textbook major hurricane that weakened faster than any forecasters predicted and passed by our shore harmlessly; just in time to clear out for a perfect sunny weekend. Next time we may not be so lucky with a storm but there is no luck to preparedness. Partners at all levels and across all borders of departments, communities and states worked harmoniously. On behalf of RIEMA I want to thank all of the participants and residents who listened to the alert and warning messages, took them seriously and acted in a way that made us all better prepared. Social media continues to play a larger role as we always have a need to provide the public with life-saving information. The information has to be distributed with the confidence that it will reach the intended target audience and quickly. E-mail we have learned has become passé in favor of text messaging. FEMA has recommitted to an initiative known as IPAWS or Integrated Public Alert and Warning System. FEMA writes, "IPAWS is the nation's next-generation infrastructure of alert and warning networks expanding upon the traditional audio-only radio and television Emergency Alert System..." The intent is to get the message to more people over more layers of social media for the preservation of life and property.

According to FEMA current research shows that the reach of radio and TV is less than 40% of the populace during a workday. During the overnight fewer than 12% of the public are watching television and only 5% are listening to the radio. One of the studies shows that the Internet has a 62% usage rate with each person averaging 108 minutes per day.

A Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) is being established for use across all methods and technologies of communication networks. RIEMA is a source of funding for communities as they enhance legacy systems such as Reverse 9-1-1 and other brands that ultimately will support the IPAWS business strategy.

October is National Cyber Security Awareness month and we need to look no further than page one of any paper, blog, or other media outlet to find examples of real threat to our lives and safety. The crippling effects to business and the safety of our children in the face of sexual predators online are only some of the reasons why everyone is called upon to review products, software and the personal nature of technology. The damage caused by cyber attacks can steal your profile, damage your credit, take down your business, infiltrate health records, and disrupt government support and programs. Police departments have invested millions in Rhode Island alone and trained personnel to investigate financial crimes by electronic means, track down and arrest sexual predators, and learn best practices about how to keep your business safe from attack. The Rhode Island Infraguard Chapter is one place that you can turn to for guidance support and a new kind of network. Everyone is encouraged to consider Infraguard as a means to learn the latest safety trends, identify new or old threats, and be part of a team that is better prepared.

As always, see you next month.

Small Business Conference Thursday, October 7, 2010

Research shows that 40% of small businesses fail following a natural or manmade disaster. With the right information, tools and guidance, we can all be ready. This conference will teach small business owners how to create a disaster plan for all hazards. The theme will be "If I only knew then what I am learning today". Many businesses suffered from a lack of proper planning when the Great Flood took place. RIEMA would like to offer this training at no charge to the small business community in cooperation with all the Chambers of Commerce in RI. This conference is open to any small business owner. To register contact Steve Kass at 462-7127.

**8:30 – 12 noon at the Radisson Airport Hotel,
2081 Post Road in Warwick, RI**

Governor Says “Thank You”



Although Hurricane Earl eventually only gave Rhode Island a passing glance, we should not overlook the importance of the successful coordinated effort of state, local and federal agencies in preparing for the storm.

Unlike other weather systems, hurricanes and tropical weather systems are very unpredictable and it is difficult to know the track before a storm is upon us. Up until the Friday morning of Earl's expected approach, the track of the storm was still in question. As the old adage goes, “you hope for the best and prepare for the worst.” Although we cannot change the path of a hurricane, we can do everything in our power to prepare Rhode Islanders for the pending storm. Continual and informative communication with the public, through the media, the Internet, and the network of local emergency agencies, kept the public up to date on the latest weather information and how to protect against a major storm.

Our emergency preparedness has improved greatly over the past few years, and that is a credit to the staff of the Emergency Management Agency, led by Director Smith, and the coordinated effort between state, local and federal agencies.

I extend my appreciation and thanks to the many state, local and federal officials who made sure Rhode Island was prepared for the impending storm. Being prepared for any emergency is critical to the success of the response, and Rhode Island's emergency preparedness is top notch.

Governor Donald L. Carcieri

Statistics for the Year 1910 What a Difference a Century Makes!

The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.

Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.

There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower!

The average US wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour.

The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.

A dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.

More than 95 percent of all births took place at HOME. Ninety percent of all “doctors” had no college education.

Sugar cost four cents a pound.

Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.

Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.

Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo.

Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering into their country for any reason.

The Five leading causes of death were: 1. Pneumonia and influenza 2. Tuberculosis 3. Diarrhea 4. Heart disease 5. Stroke

The American flag had 45 stars. The population of Las Vegas, Nevada, was only 30! Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented yet.

Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write and Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at the local corner drugstores.

There were about 230 reported murders in the entire U.S.A.

Fuel for this car was sold in drug stores only.



1910 Ford Model R

Why FRAC...

What's the Big Deal About Credentials?

Notice the different types of the 'articles' in the possession of the man involved with this security breach. All these items were probably tossed into the back of an open car or truck and stolen by this individual, or carelessly disposed of and retrieved by this individual. He managed to fool security and gain access to a cabinet level official's offices. Imagine the severity of this type of breach in our security, at State government level...access to military posts, military armament and your personal items, photos and banking records. Read the article and please pay attention to those who walk our corridors and may not have or display proper ID badges. Let's protect ourselves and use the security rules to our advantage!

"A New Jersey man who slipped past security Jan. 2 at the Department of Health and Human Services by pretending to be a U.S. Secret Service Agent was sentenced to three years' probation Wednesday by U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly.

Frederick J. Nickerson, 47, flashed a badge to security guards and was not turned away until he was found making calls from his cell phone from the sixth-floor office suite of Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, who was not present, authorities said. He entered a plea agreement with prosecutors, who dropped a charge that Nickerson also faked his way into Metropolitan Police Department headquarters on Dec. 31 by claiming to be a Beverly Hills cop.

In court papers, U.S. authorities said a witness recognized Nickerson's face from photographs that had been circulated in the building as someone banned from the facility, and then recognized his voice from phone calls made by him late last year to HHS in which he made "irrational demands to see the secretary and other people in charge." Nickerson also was turned away from FEMA Jan. 2 after posing as a Coast Guard officer, court papers said, while state prosecutors in Massachusetts said he previously pleaded guilty to trying to pose as a state police trooper to

attend a U2 concert in September.

Nickerson had been jailed without bond since his arrest Jan. 6. He remains in custody because a D.C. Superior Court judge has revoked his probation for a previous, unrelated offense, according to the office of U.S. Attorney for the District Ronald C. Machen Jr. Mr. Nickerson was convicted in 2009 in three cases of simple assault, stalking and destruction of property. In his federal plea agreement, Nickerson agreed to turn over the following items in his possession:

- Pentagon Force Protection Agency visitor stickers
- All National Disaster Medical System identification cards
- All Department of Defense Geneva Conventions identity cards and replicas
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health identification cards
- National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician cards
- D.C. Department of Health Emergency Medical Technician Certificate
- Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency card
- American Heart Association Healthcare Provider card
- Onondaga County EMS Identification card
- Metropolitan Boston EMS Council Regional EMS Coordinator identification card
- American Heart Association Advanced Cardiac Life Support card
- Massachusetts Registered Health Officer License
- Massachusetts Emergency Medical Specialist badge
- EMS Official Business Placard
- Anthrax Briefing to Federal Agencies (dated 11/5/01)
- "10-90 Gold NBC Response Plan" book
- FEMA blue jacket
- Public Health Service Emergency Operations blue jacket

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- Hawaiian Island Emergency Medical Services black jacket
- Syracuse NY EMS orange jacket
- U.S. Secret Service green hat
- U.S. Army Chem/Bio/Nuclear training disk
- Beverly Hills Police hat
- Metropolitan Police Department blank citation forms
- D.C. Diplomatic License Plate, No. "DPL 751"
- Norfolk County Sheriff's Office blue shirt
- White House Airlift Operations blue shirt
- U.S. Public Health Service camouflage jacket
- RAF Police yellow jacket
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Public Health Service identification card
- U.S. Coast Guard MSD hat
- Sail Boston 92 EMS hat
- "Managing Hazardous Materials Incidents" notebook, volume II
- New Jersey EMT shield
- Blank Triage tags
- All emergency response and disaster field guides and manuals
- "Biological Warfare Improved Response Program" book
- Department of State Diplomatic Security Service pin
- United States Marshal pin
- D.C. Fire & EMS blue shirt
- "Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies" Congressional Assessment (11/19/09)
- "Committee on Homeland Security Business Opportunities Manual" (March 2009)
- IFPA-Fletch Conference folder and contents
- Baltimore City Hazardous Materials Special Forces shirt
- "White House" folder and contents
- D.C. Department of Corrections identification card
- Eastern Ambulance badge
- Braintree Fire Department badge
- Boston Fire Department badge
- Bay State Ambulance badge
- Handcuffs
- Massachusetts EMS badge
- Metropolitan Police Department Official Business placard.
- Metropolitan Police Department Reserve Corps license plate
- Metropolitan Police Department Pullover Jacket
- United States Secret Service Binder
- Roll of Police Tape
- Special Police Patch
- Chicago Police Patch
- U.S.V.I. Police Patch
- Ontario Police Patch
- Toronto Police Patch
- U.N. Security Patch
- Sheriffs County Patch
- Toronto Auxiliary Brassard

Source: <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DailyBrief/>

Rhode Island Long Term Recovery Group is in High Gear

WARWICK, R.I.—Newly elected Rhode Island Disaster Long Term Recovery Group (RIDLTRG) Chairman Paul Salera said today he is hopeful the organization will be able to complete the job of helping flood survivors who cannot recover on their own within 12-18 months.

Salera credited the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency with providing comprehensive recovery tools enabling formation of the group. FEMA and RIEMA voluntary agency

liaisons enlisted the help of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and Church World Service to train 47 already experienced, local case managers in the unique aspects of disaster recovery. Those case managers will work directly with disaster survivors who may already have had contact with their helpers before the disaster, Salera said.

"Without FEMA and RIEMA, this never would have happened. They were cement to put this together," said Salera, who is also division

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director for Westbay Community Action, one of eight Community Action Program agencies in the state, which is providing most of the case managers.

“We’ve seen long term recovery groups form in other disaster areas,” said FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer Craig A. Gilbert. “But the size of the effort seen here may have created an unprecedented recovery model that could serve as a gold standard across the nation.”

The main idea behind RIDLTRG is simple: Strength in numbers. RIDLTRG members number no less than 71 voluntary and faith-based organizations working in Rhode Island to help residents of disaster communities. RIDLTRG formed as a nonprofit subagency of another nonprofit, which allows the disaster recovery group to receive tax-deductible contributions.

With a 360-degree overview, RIDLTRG can marshal the resources of its member agencies and combine them with government grants and other sources of aid available for disaster relief. Member organizations will contribute to a fund to be used to hire a full-time construction/volunteer coordinator to help residents rebuild. A part-time fiduciary (fiscal agent) will monitor the flow of funds such as those generated through the Rhode Island Flood Recovery Fund.

State Coordinating Officer J. David Smith said Rhode Island has never before had a disaster of a magnitude requiring activation of FEMA’s Individual Assistance.

“Many of our volunteer agencies have never had to deal with a disaster of this magnitude,” Smith said. “From zero to where we are today is a credit to the state’s population of wonderful people who are willing to help each other when a crisis occurs.”

RIDLTRG will continue the outreach that started immediately after the floods hit when United Way 211 took telephone calls from flood-stressed residents and directed needs to faith-based groups responding to the disaster. Some 17,000 volun-

teer hours were put in at the outset. Nearly 1,000 residents received help to clean and sanitize their homes.

The months since the disaster has engaged the work of dozens of representatives to form the group, write bylaws and a mission statement, and do community assessments, while at the same time responding to the disaster. But RIDLTRG has now reached maturity as an organization, with the election by its member groups of an executive board.

Besides Salera, the Executive Board consists of Vice Chair Marty Cooper, from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island/NECHAMA; Secretary Karen Izzo, United Way Rhode Island; Fiscal Officer Cristina Amedeo, United Way 211 and The Point; and at-large members Paula McFarland, Rhode Island Community Action Agency; James Jahnz, Catholic Diocese of Providence; and Mark Doescher, Dunn’s Corners Community Church Presbyterian of Westerly. The board meets Wednesdays to consider cases and manage disaster recovery. All interested nonprofit community based organizations or faith-based organizations interested in being a member of RILTRG are welcome to attend. Organizations may call 211 to find out the location for the next meeting and individuals needing assistance may call 211 for a referral to a member agency. Until a permanent location is established, donations may be sent in care of the Westbay Community Action, 311 Doric Ave., Cranston, RI 02910.

Voluntary and faith-based agencies are on the scene of a disaster long before a disaster occurs, continue to operate during a disaster response, and remain on the scene long after federal and state emergency responders return to their routine duties. Disaster recovery officials say that communities who have taken the trouble to form groups such as RIDLTRG already have a head start if another disaster strikes.

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Moves Beyond Mainland

WARWICK, RI— The town of New Shoreham (Block Island) escaped with little impact from the March 2010 floods, but the damage and debris left behind on the mainland served as a reminder to officials on the significance of preparing for the worst.

With a hazard mitigation plan set to expire in May 2011, New Shoreham officials tapped the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for hazard mitigation planning assistance.

Hazard mitigation planning is a process for assessing risks and vulnerabilities associated with natural disasters and strategizing to develop long-term plans for protecting people and property.

“Luckily, we survived the spring floods,” said New Shoreham Town Manager, Nancy Dodge. “However, at the time, we did recognize that with 365 ponds, a high water table and a dam we need to be paying attention to our infrastructure and need to pay attention to our hazard mitigation plan long before it gets to a precarious state.”

FEMA responded with a face-to-face meeting with officials on the island.

The meeting is one piece of an extensive technical assistance and outreach process coordinated by RIEMA and FEMA in response to the spring 2010 floods.

After touring Block Island’s critical facilities and attending the local Hurricane Preparedness meeting FEMA mitigation specialists provided New Shoreham with technical assistance on the hazard mitigation plan update.

“For a small town like ours, located 12 miles from the mainland, our ability to take advantage of technical assistance is somewhat limited,” Dodge said. “Anytime we have an organization with the willingness, knowledge and expertise to provide us with assistance here on the island - we welcome it.”

Following the disaster, planners reached out to the state’s 39 communities and provided support in the form of face-to-face meetings, public meet-

ing participation, courtesy reviews and mapping assistance.

That technical assistance support continues today.

“We are here to complete the mission: to provide hazard mitigation planning support to Rhode Island communities,” said FEMA Region I Regional Administrator, Don R. Boyce.

Under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2K), state, tribal and local governments are required to develop a hazard mitigation plan as a condition of receiving various disaster assistance, including Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

Approval of New Shoreham’s plan also enables the city/town to gain credit under the Community Rating System (CRS), an incentive program that encourages floodplain management activities that exceed National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements. Jurisdictions receive discounted premium rates if they meet three CRS goals: reducing flood losses, facilitating an accurate insurance rating, and promoting the awareness of flood insurance.

“Having an updated, FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan in place is imperative,” said RIEMA Executive Director, J. David Smith. “We will continue to work tirelessly with Rhode Island’s cities and towns to provide them with the support that they need to get these plans updated and approved.”



New Shoreham, RI, August 16, 2010-- FEMA mitigation community planner Barbara Ellis provides New Shoreham Town Administrator Assistant Shirlyne Gober and New Shoreham grant writer Heidi Tarbox with technical assistance on the town’s hazard mitigation plan. Photo: Patricia Resende Medeiros/FEMA

FEMA Supports Rhode Island Cities with Mitigation Planning

WARWICK, RI—The close collaboration between the city of Pawtucket and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has helped prepare the city for possible future disasters.

FEMA Hazard Mitigation and Planning experts continue to reach out proactively to Rhode Island planners and emergency managers including Pawtucket officials and provide them with technical assistance on updating their community's hazard mitigation plan, which may have lapsed or expired.

"Dealing with floods, that is something you don't do all the time in Rhode Island," said Robert Howe, city of Pawtucket emergency manager.

"Any time you have FEMA in the house that is a good thing.

"Even if a problem cannot be fixed by FEMA, they will point you in the right direction and I find that comforting."

Having a hazard mitigation plan in place may prevent or minimize loss of life and property. A well thought out plan also increases a community's eligibility for three hazard mitigation programs, including FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

The city of Pawtucket, along with all Rhode Island cities and towns, is required under federal law to make comprehensive updates to its Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan every five years. Approval of a community's mitigation plan enables the community to gain credit under the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) program, which provides discounts on National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) premiums.

At the onset of the presidentially declared disaster on March 29, 2010, in Rhode Island, FEMA Mitigation Planning Specialists began reaching out to communities to offer technical assistance. As of July 7, 2010, specialists have consulted with the Narragansett Indian Tribe and all 39 communities in the Ocean State on their plans.

After hearing how FEMA assisted a neighboring community, city officials in Pawtucket asked the agency for its support.

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Mitigation planners met with Pawtucket's grants management assistant, city planner and emergency manager to provide guidance on the city's mitigation plan.

When meeting with communities across the nation, FEMA mitigation representatives identified four processes that are repeatedly left out of hazard mitigation plans: planning process, mitigation strategy, risk assessment and plan maintenance.

Planning process—as part of the planning process, the community reviews and analyzes the previously approved plan's method and schedule for monitoring and updating the plan.

- Mitigation strategy—inclusion of completed, deleted or deferred mitigation actions as a benchmark for progress and, if activities are unchanged, why no changes were made.
- Plan maintenance—requires a description on how the community was kept involved during the plan maintenance process and is intended to be forward-thinking and emphasize future community involvement.
- Risk assessment—includes identifying and profiling hazards and assessing vulnerabilities.

In meeting with officials in Rhode Island, FEMA planners emphasized the need for communities to include these four processes in their mitigation plans.

Pawtucket planning and emergency management officials found FEMA's guidance valuable.

"We are going to include anything and everything suggested by FEMA in our plan," said Jennifer Kilsey, grants management assistant in the city of Pawtucket's Department of Planning and Redevelopment. "We can take FEMA's suggestions and piggyback it onto what we currently have."

Flyer Created by CCRI



The floods this past March and April have shown us how important it is to prepare for a disaster. Hurricane season is still here, and the near miss of Hurricane Earl reminds us that a disaster can strike at anytime. So CCRI's **Emergency Disaster Management Program** is teaming up with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to get the word out to prepare for a disaster. Understanding what disasters might strike your community is a good start. In Rhode Island we have had many different types of disasters such as ice storms, blizzards, floods and hurricanes, but we need to be prepared for all types of disasters.

Are you prepared?

Have a plan • Make a disaster kit • Get involved

- ➔ For more information on how to prepare for a disaster, create a kit or volunteer to help during a disaster, please visit the following Web sites.



Federal Emergency Management Agency
Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency
Ready.Gov
Citizens Corps
Rhode Island Red Cross

www.fema.gov
www.riema.ri.gov
www.ready.gov
www.citizencorps.gov
www.riredcross.org

- ➔ If you are interested in becoming a disaster volunteer, please contact Jess Mata, disaster response coordinator, at:



Serve Rhode Island
655 Broad St., Suite 202
Providence, RI 02909
401-331-2298, ext. 112
E-mail: jmatta@ServeRhodeIsland.org

- ➔ For more information on CCRI's **Emergency Disaster Management Certificate Program** contact:



Joseph Arsenault
Program Coordinator
Emergency Disaster Management Program
Community College of Rhode Island
Office 401-333-7186
E-mail: jarsenault3@ccri.edu



COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF RHODE ISLAND

Our thanks to:

Joseph Arsenault

Program Coordinator

Emergency Disaster Management Program

Community College of Rhode Island

For creating this flyer that will be posted around all the campuses for National Preparedness month.

Special thanks to marketing and communications for the great graphics.

October RIAEM Meeting

The October meeting of the RIAEM will be held Wednesday October 13, 2010 @ 9:00 at the comfort Inn 2 George Street, Pawtucket. A buffet breakfast will be served Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, sausage, toast, coffee. Please RSVP Bob Howe pawtucket EMA by October 1st so he can have a head count.



These bus shelter billboards created by Serve RI.

EOP Revision Continues

RIEMA continues the process of revising the State Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). On October 8, 2010, an ESF #4-Firefighting partners meeting will be held at RIEMA. Representatives from RIEMA, Rhode Island Department of State Fire Marshal, RI Department of Environmental Management, RI National Guard, RI State Police, FBI, ATF, Fire Mutual Aid Committee and TSA have been invited to attend this important meeting to discuss revising ESF #4.

On October 6, 2010, an ESF #7-Logistics Management and Resource Support partners meeting will be held at RIEMA. Representatives from RIEMA, RI National Guard, US Coast Guard, RI State Police, RI BHDDH, RI Department of Corrections, RI Department of Human Services, RI State Sheriff, RI Department of Administration, Salvation Army, RI Red Cross and NEDRIX have been invited to attend this important meeting to discuss the revision of ESF #7.

Anyone with an interest in attending these meeting should contact Regional Planning Coordinator Theresa Murray at 462-7336.

October = Cybersecurity Month

“STOP. THINK. CONNECT.”

The Department of Homeland Security has launched the “Stop. Think. Connect.” public cybersecurity awareness campaign which is a national initiative that promotes simple steps the public can take to increase their safety and security online.

“We all share a responsibility to prevent cyber attacks and increase our nation’s resilience to cyber threats,” said DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano. The “Stop. Think. Connect.” campaign will help equip the public with simple information to keep themselves and their families safe and secure on the Internet.”

“Stop. Think. Connect.” is a national public education campaign designed to increase public understanding of cyber threats and how individual citizens can develop safer cyber habits that will help make networks more secure. The campaign fulfills a key element of President Obama’s 2009 Cyberspace Policy Review, which tasked DHS with developing a public awareness campaign to inform Americans about ways to use technology safely.

“Stop. Think. Connect.” includes cyber forums hosted in collaboration with the National Centers of Academic Excellence to bring together diverse groups of community, private and government participants for dialogues on cybersecurity issues; opportunities for members of the public to get involved and help spread the word by leading or hosting campaign activities; and a coalition for public and private sector organizations.

As part of the campaign, the Department has also launched a new “Stop. Think. Connect.” Website, www.dhs.gov/stopthinkconnect, which provides a variety of free, downloadable resources and materials to help the public increase their safety and security online.

“During October, we all have a shared obligation to reaffirm our own commitment to increasing cybersecurity whenever and wherever possible. National Cybersecurity Awareness Month provides a platform for those of us in government, at the federal, state, local, levels, as well as our partners in the private sector, non-profit, aca

demia, and internationally to help further educate all Americans and the global internet community about the importance of cybersecurity,” said Mr. Schmidt. “It is our shared responsibility to create a safe, secure and resilient cyber environment.” The creation of “Stop. Think. Connect.” was the result of an intensive collaborative effort over the past year from the Online Consumer Security and Safety Messaging Convention, an effort organized by the National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA), the Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG), key industry leaders, government agencies, and nonprofits.

National Cybersecurity Awareness Month is a coordinated effort between DHS, the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC), and NCSA to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity and help Americans establish smart cyber habits that will lead to increased protection online.

To learn more about the “Stop. Think. Connect.” campaign and download free online safety tips and resources, visit www.dhs.gov/stopthinkconnect. For information about DHS’s other efforts to protect and safeguard America’s computer systems and networks from attacks, visit www.dhs.gov/cyber.

As always, please refer to www.riema.ri.gov as your “one stop shopping” for Emergency Management.

By Deputy Director Edward Johnson

**Check Our Updated Website For
Our Award Winning STEP Program**

riema.ri.gov/step

Keeping our children safe.

Leaving RIEMA

It is hard to say goodbye to what has been my home for twenty one months; I will be leaving RIEMA to pursue another opportunity with the RI Department of Health. I cannot find enough words to express my appreciation for the support given me in accomplishing my duties as an Accountant. I have been enriched personally and professionally as a result of various relationships forged in the course of my tenure.

The two farewell events held for me, first by the RIEMA Team and the second by General Bray and the National Guard were pleasant surprises and definitely made me feel appreciated. All the gifts that I received would be put to great use.



Thank you once again and bye for now.

Bunmi Okele.

RIEMA is now on Twitter: RhodelslandEMA

October Calender

October 7-8
Land Navigation Course
Camp Fogarty

October 12-17th
IMT Training
Camp Fogarty
Invitation Only

October 18th
Port & Vessel Security for Public Safety
Radisson Airport Hotel
CLASS IS FULL

October 25-26th
ICS 300
Sheraton Airport Hotel
CLASS IS FULL

October 28-29th
ICS 400
Sheraton Airport Hotel

NATIONAL THREAT ADVISORY
ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

NATIONAL AIR TRAVEL ADVISORY
HIGH

High Threat of Terrorist Attacks



Questions?

If you have any questions Regarding this newsletter or any articles that have appeared in it, please contact:

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