

EMA News & Views



County of Lycoming Emergency Management Agency

Volume 18, Issue 3

Summer 2018

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 - September 27, 2018 - 5:30 pm

At

**TRADE & TRANSIT CENTER II
144 WEST THIRD STREET
WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SUMMIT

MEETING TOPIC DETAILS

For the next EMA quarterly training, the Lycoming County Board of Commissioners in Cooperation with the Lycoming County Department of Public Safety will be hosting an Emergency Medical Services Summit. This Summit will address the concerns and challenges facing the delivery of EMS in Lycoming County and to facilitate dialog between local elected officials, Emergency Medical Service Agencies and Fire Departments.

Statewide subject matter experts will present as well as a panel discussion for questions and answers.

Please RSVP to: 570-433-4461 prior to September 24th, dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 pm.

Don't be late and hope to see you there!

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Flooding Event 21-27 July 2018 & 10-14 August 2018

Starting on July 21, 2018 Lycoming County experienced some very wet weather. Lycoming County experienced three separate rain events that brought flooding and mudslides to parts of our area. It seems to have become common but the rain was concentrated to localized areas rather than a countywide event like a tropical storm. Fortunately most of the damages were limited to roads and



Route 87, Barbours

bridges and mostly to the eastern part the county. Each storm seemed to come just short of catastrophic flooding. We were at a point where even a heavy thunderstorm would be enough to cause flooding in some areas. Many municipalities were repairing the same roads multiple times. The greatest amount of damages were sustained from July 21-27, 2018 & August 10-14,



Bridge at Big Bear, Lower Barbours Rd.

2018. Governor Tom Wolf declared an Emergency Disaster Declaration for the state on August 17, 2018, which has prompted applying for a federal declaration.

The Lycoming County EMA office has been collecting damage reports to assist the state in meeting the

Flooding Event 21-27 July 2018 & 10-14 August 2018 (Continued)



Pond Road, Muncy Township

damage threshold to request federal funding. Lycoming County has far exceeded the threshold amount to obtain Public Assistance for the damages reported for the July 21-27 & August 10-14 storms. Dates are being set up for FEMA team members to conduct eligibility inspection tours of heavily affected roads and infrastructure.

We would like to thank all our Emergency Management Coordinators', river/stream gauge volunteers, and municipal officials for all your hard work and dedication during these flooding events. We would not be able to maintain our situational awareness or keep our residents safe without you!

Article written by: Dan Dorman & Paula Young



Green Bridge, Montoursville



Narber Fry Road, Muncy Twp.

West Branch EMA attends Cogan House Festival

On August 25 & 26, 2018, the West Branch EMA attended the Cogan House Festival. Travis Best, Nathiel (his little boy), Denny Buttorff (all three pictured below), Iva Mae Guillaume, and Anna Paulhamus were there with the WBEMA IMU 6-45. They had an attendance of about 250 people, of which they were able to let tour the IMU and handed out lollipops, sunglasses, sun screen, children's coloring books of preparing for an emergency, plus preparing for emergency for the house and families. Travis and Nathiel were operating HAM Radio, while Denny and Iva Mae were operating radios and computers. Anna assisted in any way she could but did a really good job helping with the computers.



Welcome Paula Young to the Lycoming County EMA office! You may have seen her the front desk when you came into the office.

Paula joined the Public Safety office two years ago and has assisted with exercises and attended a hand full of quarterly meetings. Most recently, she assisted in the EOC with the flooding events that happen at the end of July and the beginning of August.

She has also received her County Basic Certification from PEMA and is finishing up classes to receive her County Advanced Certification.

Please join us in welcoming Paula to the EMA team.



Notes from the Director...

A BIG THANK YOU to all the first responders and emergency management personnel who contributed immeasurably to the safety of the thousands of people visiting the County during the 2018 Little League World Series and the related events. I personally wish to thank those who assisted in the County's EOC to support the public safety program. The EOC had liaison officers from PEMA, the PA Army National Guard, UPMC Susquehanna Health, and the National Weather Service along with the County DPS/IS staff.

September is the peak of the Atlantic Hurricane Season! We have been fortunate thus far this year in central PA not to be directly impacted by a named tropical storm or hurricane, HOWEVER, The recent historic rainfall that fell across central Pennsylvania resulted in both July and August being the wettest months on record for the Williamsport area. The repeated rainfall events resulted in multiple rounds of flash flooding. To assist with our mission of preparedness, the Department of Public Safety asks that you please conduct outreach programs and public education to your residents concerning severe weather awareness and flooding.

The USGS either has or will be making some changes on their stream flow gauges in the County. They have moved the Camp Susque stream gauge (listed as #USGS 01550000 Lycoming Creek near Trout Run) from the old flood prone gauge house to a facility at the Camp Susque Bridge. Effective 1 October 2018, the USGS has announced it will discontinue discharge (CFS flow) reporting for two gauges: Muncy Creek near Muncy and Lycoming Creek near Williamsport. Both of these gauges should still post water level data however.

I have had multiple inquiries as to the rainfall data displayed on the County's watershed rainfall reporting page on the DPS web site. Several of the gauges listed, Oregon Hill, Tivoli, and Masten as examples, are not County gauges but PEMA gauges no longer in operation or reporting to IFLOWS/NWS per the NWS. We are attempting to modify the page on our web site to update data. Please be patient.

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

PEMA CERTIFICATIONS RECEIVED

Todd Heckman, Chief for the Williamsport Bureau of Fire, earned his Professional Level Certification earlier this year. Todd was presented his plaque by our County EMA Manager, Dan Dorman at the 41st Annual Lycoming County Department of Public Safety Appreciation Dinner.



Carla Miller, Regional EMS Field Coordinator for the LTS EMS Council and Lycoming County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staff member, earned her Basic Level Certification in August of this year. She was presented her plaque by Dan Dorman at a Department of Public Safety staff meeting.

Please join us in congratulating Todd and Carla on their great accomplishment!

VACANT EMC POSITIONS

In accordance with Title 35, all municipalities in the Commonwealth must have an Emergency Management Coordinator. Currently, the following do not. If you or anyone you know would be interested in this position, please contact the Lycoming County EMA office at 570-433-4461.

BRADY TOWNSHIP
MCHENRY TOWNSHIP
MCNETT TOWNSHIP

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.

LEGAL CONCEPTS FOR FIRE POLICE

Thursday, September 6, 2018 6:30pm- 10:30pm, Hepburn Twp. VFC, 615 State Rt. 973 Hwy

Tuesday, September 18, 2018 6:30pm- 10:30pm, Hepburn Twp. VFC, 615 State Rt. 973 Hwy

Tuesday, September 25, 2018 6:30pm- 10:30pm, Hepburn Twp. VFC, 615 State Rt. 973 Hwy

Thursday, September 27, 2018 6:30pm- 10:30pm, Hepburn Twp. VFC, 615 State Rt. 973 Hwy

NATURAL GAS VEHICLE SAFETY FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

Saturday, September 8, 2018 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Independent (SW) FC, 306 Clark St

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO RAILROAD INCIDENTS

Thursday, October 18, 2018 6:30 pm- 9:30 pm, Nisbet VFC, 166 W Village Dr

NATURAL GAS/PROPANE/CO SEMINAR

Monday, October 22, 2018 7:00pm - 10:00pm, Loyalsock VFC, 715 Northway Rd

COMMUNICATION OVERVIEW FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

Thursday, October 25, 2018 6:30pm-9:30pm, Nisbet VFC, 166 W Village Dr

EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATIONS REFRESHER

Saturday, November 3, 2018 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Independent (SW) FC, 306 Clark St.

ELECTRICAL EMERGENCIES

Thursday, November 8, 2018 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Nisbet VFC, 166 Village Dr

CLANDESTINE DRUG LAB AWARENESS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

Monday, November 12, 2018 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Loyalsock VFC, 715 Northway Rd

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>



Are you ReadyPA?

ACTION SHEET

What is in your Pet Preparedness Kit

A significant number of families have pets and they need to be ready for a disaster too. Below are items to have ready to go in your pet emergency kit.

What Goes in Your Pet Emergency Kit:



PET EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Be prepared. Protect your pets.

1. GET A RESCUE ALERT STICKER.



These stickers are placed on a front-facing window, and will alert rescue workers of the presence of pets inside your home.

2. PUT TOGETHER AN EMERGENCY PET SUPPLY KIT



3. HAVE A LIST OF PET FRIENDLY HOTELS AND SHELTERS

Many emergency shelters during a disaster will not allow pets. Have a list of pet-friendly hotels along your evacuation route, or the contact information for a pet shelter you can drop your pet off at.



4. KEEP IDENTIFICATION ON YOUR PET AND AN EXTRA COPY IN THE EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT.



Micro Micro chipping your pet is extremely beneficial to reuniting you with them in the event you are separated.

Place veterinarian, kennel, vaccination records, etc. in waterproof bags.

In case you can't get home due to an emergency or illness, make sure your pets are taken care of. Cut out the card below and carry it in your wallet, purse, backpack, or leave it in your car to inform first responders or others pets at home that need cared for.

Pet Emergency Card

I have an animal at home!



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____



List: Pet Names, Specie, Age, Medical Condition:

Pet #1: _____

Pet #2: _____

Pet #3: _____

Pet #4: _____

Pet #5: _____

Emergency Contact Information:

Name: _____ Ph: _____

Name: _____ Ph: _____

WHAT'S IN YOUR BLIND ZONE?

What are you missing when you glance in your rear-view mirror?
AAA's research found that there is plenty of room to hide some precious things.
Rear-view camera systems increase rear blind-zone visibility an average of 46 percent.



The triangle represents the rear blind zone that is not visible using your rear-view mirror or turning to look over your right shoulder. The lightly shaded area near the car is visible using a back-up camera.



For more information, Please visit NEWSROOM.AAA.COM

AAA © 2014

Car Care Checklist



Oil Change Many motorists believe their cars' oil should be changed every 3,000 miles, however most late-model vehicles now can go 5,000 to 7,000 miles between oil changes. Check your owner's manual and get on a routine to good car care.



Tires Check tire pressures and tread depth. Check the pressure on all the tires—including the spare—with a quality gauge when the tires are cold. Be sure to look for recommended pressure on the driver's door jamb and NOT the tire wall!



Battery Ensure the battery cable connections are tight, and the terminals are free from corrosion. If the battery is more than three years old, it's a good idea to have it tested to determine how much life it has left.



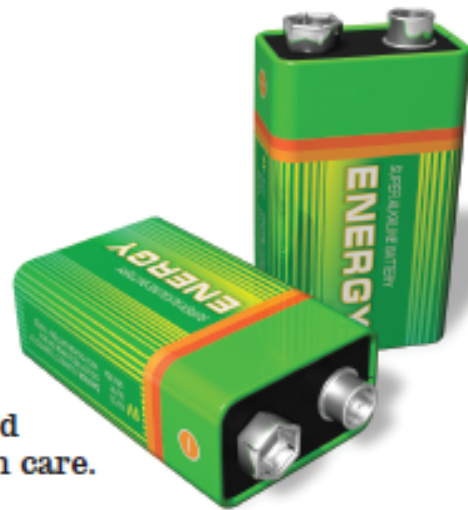
Wiper Blades Wiper blades should completely clear the glass with each swipe. Make sure the windshield washer reservoir is filled.



When in doubt, visit www.AAA.com/repair

9-volt Battery Safety

9-volt batteries power our smoke alarms, household items and toys. They can be found in most homes. But these batteries can be a fire hazard if not stored safely or disposed of with care.



The problem

- » 9-volt batteries can be dangerous. The positive and negative posts are close together. If a metal object touches the two posts of a 9-volt battery, it can cause a short circuit. This can make enough heat to start a fire.
- » It is unsafe to store 9-volt batteries in a drawer near paper clips, coins, pens, or other batteries. Do not store common household items such as steel wool, aluminum foil, and keys near 9-volt batteries. If these items touch the two posts, there is a greater risk of a fire starting.
- » Weak batteries may have enough charge to cause a fire. Some fires have started in trash when 9-volt batteries were thrown away with other metal items.

Storing 9-volt batteries

- » Keep batteries in original packaging until you are ready to use them. If loose, keep the posts covered with masking, duct, or electrical tape. Prevent the posts from coming in contact with metal objects.
- » Keep them someplace safe where they won't be tossed around.
- » Store batteries standing up.
- » 9-volt batteries should not be stored loose in a drawer. Do not store them in containers with other batteries.

Disposal

- » 9-volt batteries should not be thrown away with trash. They can come in contact with other batteries or pieces of metal.
- » 9-volt batteries can be taken to a collection site for household hazardous waste.
- » To be safe, cover the positive and negative posts with masking, duct, or electrical tape before getting rid of batteries.
- » Some states do not allow any type of battery to be disposed of with trash. Check with your city or town for the best way to get rid of batteries.

9-VOLT BATTERY STORAGE

Keep batteries in original packaging until you are ready to use them. If loose, keep the posts covered with masking, duct, or electrical tape. Prevent the posts from coming in contact with metal objects.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

2018 QUARTERLY TRAINING

September 27	5:30 pm	Thursday	Trade & Transit Center II
December 14	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

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