

# EMA News & Views



County of Lycoming Emergency Management Agency

Volume 21, Issue 1

Winter 2021

## **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 25, 2021 at 7:00 pm**

*at*

**VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING:  
EMAIL WILL BE SENT OUT ON  
MARCH 24TH WITH INFORMATION**

**TOPIC: NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE UPDATE-2021**

### **MEETING TOPIC DETAILS**

Our speaker for this meeting will be Jonathan Guseman. He is the Warning Coordination Meteorologist with the National Weather Service – State College.

The topic will be National Weather Service Update – 2021 . The program will include review of new webpages and weather forecast/monitoring tools available as well as the Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador program.

An e-mail will be sent out on March 24th with a link and password to the Zoom meeting along with a bridge conference call number if you are not able to get into Zoom. If you do not receive this e-mail by March 25th, please call our office and we will make sure to get you the information links.



### **IN THIS NEWSLETTER...**

Notes from the EMC	2
Vaccine Sites	3
EMC Recognition	4
Volunteers We've Lost	4
Digital Declutter	5
Digital Declutter Checklist	6
Lycoming ACS Update	7
Vacant EMC Positions	8
Welcome Administrative Assistant	8
Wireless Emergency Alerts	9
Training Opportunities	10
Quarterly Training Schedule	11
We Want to Hear From You, Contact Us	11

## NOTES FROM THE EMC

What a year 2021 has been... oh, wait, it's only February! Since we last spoke in December, we've had record snowfall, flooding, and ice storms, all while approaching the one (1) year "anniversary" of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Here is a brief recap of the Lycoming County EMA Office's work over the past 3 months:

- In the fall newsletter, we briefly touched on the drought conditions in Lycoming County. Well, one week in December took care of that... and led to the Christmas Eve/Day Flooding across most of the county. A huge "Thank You" to all of the EMCs that sent reports, gauge readings, and photos into the EMA office/EOC throughout the event. Unfortunately, due to the previous drought conditions, our office was unaware of some issues with the County's Automated Stream Gauge system. We have been able to correct most of the issues, but others will not be able to be fixed until the weather turns warmer. We are also looking into some improvements and enhancements to the system in 2021.
- COVID-19 still continues to be on the forefront of everyone's minds. DPS in conjunction with the PA Dept. of Health has established a Community Based Testing Site in Lycoming County. This testing will be held at the Old Lycoming Township Fire Department from 3/1/2021 through 3/3/2021. More information will be available on our website & social media pages as it becomes available.
- Pennsylvania is currently in Phase 1A of their vaccine distribution plan. Those eligible for vaccination during this phase include: health care personnel (including EMS personnel), long term care facility residents, any persons ages 65 and over, or persons 16-64 with high-risk conditions. As we begin to plan out for Phases 1B, 1C, and 2, we will be looking at locations to hold larger vaccination clinics and the County EMA office may ask for your assistance.
- Reminder... please be checking your municipal EOPs & NARMS and making any necessary updates. Any updates should be submitted to the County EMA office. And, training is still available! Most classes towards PEMA certification (Basic, Advanced, and Professional) are being held virtually at this time. Utilize the TrainPA website to find these offerings.

Stay safe and think spring!!

**Kelle**



Below are COVID-19 vaccine sites in Lycoming County. You need to pre-register to get the vaccine.

#### Geisinger/Jersey Shore Hospital

**Location** [1020 Thompson Street, Jersey Shore PA 17,740](#)  
**Website** <https://www.geisinger.org/covidvax>  
**Phone Number** [570-284-3657](tel:570-284-3657)

#### Weis Pharmacy-14

**Location** [1440 Allegheny Street, Jersey Shore PA 17,740](#)  
**Website** <https://c.ateb.com/3f647956b456425d9c12360db8e4fdb4>  
**Phone Number** [570-398-7757](tel:570-398-7757)

#### UPMC Susquehanna-Williamsport

**Location** [700 High Street, Williamsport PA 17,701](#)  
**Website** <https://www.upmc.com/healthcarevaccine>  
**Phone Number** [1-833-299-4358](tel:1-833-299-4358)

#### River Valley Community Health and Dental Center

**Location** [471 Hepburn Street, Williamsport PA 17701](#)  
**Website** <https://www.rivervalleyhealthanddental.org>  
**Phone Number** [570-567-5400](tel:570-567-5400)

#### RITE AID STORE #04415

**Location** [14 FIFTH STREET, WILLIAMSPORT PA 17.701](#)  
**Website** <https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/covid-qualifier>  
**Phone Number** [570-321-9350](tel:570-321-9350)

#### RITE AID STORE #11036

**Location** [1913 EAST 3RD STREET, WILLIAMSPORT PA 17.701](#)  
**Website** <https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/covid-qualifier>  
**Phone Number** [570-323-0402](tel:570-323-0402)

#### Weis Pharmacy-9

**Location** [305 River Avenue, Williamsport PA 17,701](#)  
**Website** <https://c.ateb.com/3f647956b456425d9c12360db8e4fdb4>  
**Phone** [570-322-5597](tel:570-322-5597)

#### Lycoming County State Health Center

**Location** [1000 Commerce Park Drive, Williamsport PA 17,701](#)  
**Website** <http://www.lyco.org/Public-Safety/Emergency-Management-Agency/Citizens-Corps-Council/Participants/PA-Department-of-Health>  
**Phone Number** [570-327-3440](tel:570-327-3440)

#### Weis Pharmacy-52

**Location** [1916 Lycoming Creek Road, Williamsport PA 17,701](#)  
**Website** <https://c.ateb.com/3f647956b456425d9c12360db8e4fdb4>  
**Phone Number** [570-326-5144](tel:570-326-5144)

#### Weis Pharmacy-37

**Location** [801 Loyalsock Ave., Montoursville PA 17,754](#)  
**Website** <https://c.ateb.com/3f647956b456425d9c12360db8e4fdb4>  
**Phone Number** [570-368-5599](tel:570-368-5599)

#### Weis Pharmacy #177

**Location** [1272 E Penn St, Muncy, Pennsylvania, 17756](#)  
**Website** <https://c.ateb.com/3f647956b456425d9c12360db8e4fdb4>  
**Call** [1-570-546-7228](tel:1-570-546-7228)





## EMC Years of Service Recognition



20 Years  
Paul Stitzer Appointed 1/31/2001

10 Years  
Linda Hopkins Appointed 4/5/2011



### **IN MEMORY OF VOLUNTEERS WE HAVE LOST THIS YEAR**



Vera Doughty, EMC, Jordan Township

Thank you for your service to the County.



STOP | THINK | CONNECT™

## DO A DIGITAL DECLUTTER THIS SPRING

A few easy, actionable tips will help you stay cyber safe and protect your personal data and identity. [The National Cyber Security Alliance](#) (NCSA) and [Better Business Bureau](#) (BBB) are encouraging all consumers freshen up their online lives by conducting a thorough cleaning of their cyber clutter. With preventing identity theft a top safety concern for Americans, NCSA and BBB encourage everyone to make “digital spring cleaning” an annual ritual to help protect valuable personal data.

Refreshing your online life is a relatively simple process. NCSA and BBB have identified the top trouble-free tips everyone should follow this spring and all year round.



### KEEP A CLEAN MACHINE

Ensure all software on internet-connected devices – including PCs, smartphones and tablets – is up to date to reduce risk of infection from malware.



### LOCK DOWN YOUR LOGIN

Your usernames and passphrase are not enough to protect key accounts like email, banking and social media. Begin your spring cleaning by fortifying your online accounts and enabling the strongest authentication tools available, such as biometrics, security keys or a unique one-time code through an app on your mobile device.



### DECLUTTER YOUR MOBILE LIFE

Most of us have apps we no longer use and some that need updating. Delete unused apps and keep others current, including the operating system on your mobile devices.



### DO A DIGITAL FILE PURGE

Perform a good, thorough review of your online files. Tend to digital records, PCs, phones and any device with storage just as you do for paper files. Get started by doing the following:

- Clean up your email: Save only those emails you really need and unsubscribe to email you no longer need/want to receive.
- Back it up: Copy important data to a secure cloud site or another computer/drive where it can be safely stored. Passphrase protect backup drives. Always back up your files before getting rid of a device, too.



### OWN YOUR ONLINE PRESENCE

Review the privacy and security settings on websites you use to ensure they're at your comfort level for sharing. It's OK to limit how and with whom you share information.



## DIGITAL DECLUTTER CHECKLIST

### KEEP A CLEAN MACHINE

*Make sure that all web-connected devices are squeaky clean.*

- Update software on all internet-connected devices** to reduce risks from malware and infections.
- Clean up your mobile life** by deleting unused apps, keeping others current and reviewing app permissions.

### MAKE SURE YOU'RE SECURE

*Enhancing the security of your online accounts is a must and a fast, simple way to be safer online.*

- Lock down your login:** Your usernames and passphrases are not enough to protect key accounts like email, banking and social media. Strengthen online accounts and use strong authentication tools whenever offered.
- Secure your router** by making sure it has a strong passphrase and does not broadcast who you are through its name, such as "the Jones Family" or "123 Elm Street."
- Make your passphrase a sentence** that is at least 12 characters long. Focus on positive phrases that you like to think about and are easy to remember. On many sites, you can even use spaces.
- Make unique passphrases** for important accounts like email, finance and healthcare.
- Write down your new passphrases and store them in a safe place away from your computer.**
- Check to ensure all devices are password, passcode, fingerprint or eye-scan protected.**

### DIGITAL FILE PURGE AND PROTECTION

*Be sure to properly dispose of sensitive materials – such as hard drives and memory cards – at a community shredding event. Check [bbb.org/secure-your-id-day](http://bbb.org/secure-your-id-day) to see if there is a BBB "Secure Your ID Day" event in your area.*

- Clean out your old email and empty deleted folders.** If you need to keep old messages, move them to an archive.
- Delete or archive older files and outdated financial statements.**
- Unsubscribe to newsletters, email alerts and updates you no longer read.**
- Update your online photo album** by deleting or backing up old or less flattering photos.
- Update online relationships** by reviewing friends on social networks and all contacts lists to make sure everyone still belongs.
- Copy important data to a secure cloud site or other drive where it can be safely stored.**
- Password protect back-up drives and keep them in a different location off the network.**
- Permanently delete all old files.**

### CLEAN UP YOUR ONLINE REPUTATION

*Make sure your online reputation shines.*

- Own your online presence** by reviewing the privacy and security settings on websites you use to be sure they are set at your comfort level for sharing.
- Clean up your social media presence** by deleting old photos, etc. that are embarrassing or no longer represent who you are.
- Update your "online self"** by reviewing your personal information and updating it where needed.

## LYCOMING COUNTY ACS UPDATE

Lycoming County ACS (Auxiliary Communications Services) conducted a "Ham In A Day" course on Thursday 01/14/2021 in the Chapel at the County Farm Complex. The class included seven students.

The class is designed as a review session for those studying for their Technician Class amateur Radio License from the FCC (Federal Communications Commission). At the conclusion of the course, the test was administered to the seven students, all of whom passed and received their Technician Class amateur Radio licenses.

Congratulations to:

Paula Young – KC3QYX  
Kelle Robinson– KC3QYY  
Charles Featherman – KC3QZA  
Jeffrey Hutchins– KC3QZB  
Susan Swank-Caschera – KC3QZC  
Irvin Temple– KC3QZD  
Carla Miller – KC3RBZ.

Thanks to ACS members Bob Brown – KB3IPZ, John Mummert – WJ3OM, Cliff Allen – AC3EU, Dale Brendle –N3ZIO, Richard Caschera – N3IRC for acting as instructors for the course. ACS members Travis Best – W3TMB, Bob Brown, John Mummert & Cliff Allen acted as VE's (Volunteer Examiners) under the Laurel VEC (Volunteer Examiner Coordinator) / Bald Eagle Repeater Association Team banner.

The final activity totals for Lycoming ACS for 2020 were as follows:

Travel hours: 72  
Training Hours: 526  
Mission Hours: 245  
Meeting hours: 6  
Admin hours: 162  
Miles traveled: 1,649

Submitted by: Bob Brown, ACS Team Leader



## **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  
Cogan House Township  
Gamble Township  
Jordan Township  
McHenry Township  
Moreland Township  
Upper Fairfield Township**



## **WELCOME NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

The staff of Lycoming County EMA welcomes Becky Steppe as our new EMA Administrative Assistant.

Please welcome Becky to our emergency management community when you see her at our next meeting.



## FEMA FACT SHEET

## Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)

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### What are Wireless Emergency Alerts?

- Wireless Emergency Alerts, or WEAs, are free messages sent directly to your cellular phone, warning you about severe weather, AMBER Alerts and threats to safety in your area.
- WEAs are sent to you by your state and local public safety officials, the National Weather Service, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the President.
- WEAs began in 2012 and should already be on your cellular phone or other wireless device.
- WEAs are no more than 360 characters and will provide brief critical information about a threat in your location or an AMBER emergency.
- The WEA notification is designed to get your attention and alert you with a unique sound and vibration.
- WEAs resemble a text message on your cellular phone – but WEAs will not interrupt calls in progress.
- WEA messages allow alerts to be sent to cellular phones in a geographically targeted affected area.
- WEAs are one-way alerts to any cell phones in range of the cell tower, which ensures that authorities cannot collect any data from an individual.
- WEAs are not affected by network congestion.
- Wireless customers will not be charged for the delivery of WEA messages.

### Unique Sound & Vibration

- The unique sound and vibration (Common Audio Attention Signal and Vibration Pattern) you receive when a WEA is sent are prescribed in Part 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations for use in Alert messaging only.
- The unique sound and vibration cadence are particularly helpful to people with visual or hearing disabilities.

### Will I Receive WEAs on My Cell Phone?

- To find out if your phone can receive WEA alerts, contact your wireless provider. All the major providers participate in WEA on a voluntary basis. It will take time for upgrades in infrastructure, coverage and handset technology to allow WEA enhancements to reach all cellular customers.
- Wireless providers are selling devices with WEA capability included but not all handsets now on the market can receive WEAs. To learn how yours is configured, contact your wireless provider or phone manufacturer.
- WEA messages can save lives. Do not ignore these messages! WEAs contain basic information so if you receive a WEA, seek additional information from other sources such as radio or TV.

For more information visit <https://www.fema.gov/ipaws>. Contact the IPAWS Program Management Office at [ipaws@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:ipaws@fema.dhs.gov).

*IPAWS is a national system for local alerting that provides authenticated emergency alert and information messaging to the public through cell phones and internet applications using Wireless Emergency Alerts, and to radio and television via the Emergency Alert System.*



# FEMA

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

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.

### **Basic Fire Police**

March 13, 2021, 0800-1700, Waterville Fire Department  
Registration deadline: March 3, 2021

### **Interior Firefighting: Live Fire Exercises**

March 23, 25, 2021 1830-2230; March 27, 2021 0800-1600  
April 1, 8, 2021 1830-2230; April 3, 10, 2021 0800-1600  
Classes held at the Old Lycoming Township Fire Company  
Registration deadline: March 13, 2021



### **Emergency Vehicle Driver Training**

April, 6, 8, 2021, 1830-2230, Hughesville Fire Department  
April 10, 2021, 0800-1600, Hughesville Fire Department  
Registration deadline: March 27, 2021

### **Firefighter I Testing**

Written test—April 15, 2021, 1830, Lycoming County Public Safety  
Skills Test—April 17, 2021, 0800, CAFCA Training Grounds  
Registration deadline: March 26, 2021

### **Emergency Vehicle Driver Training**

May 22-23, 2021 0800-1700  
Class: Independent Fire Company Driving Location: Eldred Twp Fire Company  
Registration deadline: May 12, 2021

### **G courses available that meet PEMA Certifications**

\*G191 (ICS/EOC Interface Workshop) June 15-17, 2021, ACES Microsoft Teams Link  
\*G290 (Basic Public Info Officer) May 22-23, 2021, Bradford County Zoom  
September 9-10, 2021, Virtual Learning Platform  
G386 (Mass Fatalities) March 3-4, 2021, Bradford County Zoom  
G393 (Mitigation for Emergency Managers) October 19-21, 2021, Virtual Learning Platform  
All registration for these classes is taken through Train PA

### **Additional Online Training Resources:**

[PEMA Training and Exercises](#)

[TRAIN PA](#)

[FEMA Emergency Management Institute](#)



EMA training questions can be directed to Paula Young.

Paula Young  
Emergency Management Specialist: Training  
Lycoming County Department of Public Safety  
Phone: 570-433-4461  
Email: PYoung@lyco.org

## **2021 QUARTERLY TRAINING**

March 25	7:00 pm	Thursday	County EMA Office
June 24	7:00 pm	Thursday	County EMA Office
September 23	6:30 pm	Thursday	Holiday Inn
December 16	7:00 pm	Thursday	County EMA Office



### **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU**

Please tell us what you would like to see in the next EMA News & Views. We want to print your stories and issues important to you.

### **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 any time.

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570-329-4061  
**EMAIL:** [ema@lyco.org](mailto:ema@lyco.org) (general department email)

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