

EMA News & Views



County of Lycoming Emergency Management Agency

Volume 21, Issue 3

Fall 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 - September 23, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Appreciation Dinner

at

**HOLIDAY INN - WILLIAMSPORT
100 PINE SREET, WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Karina Reed, Intelligence Analyst Supervisor, PaCIC

MEETING TOPIC DETAILS

The Pennsylvania State Police, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, established the Pennsylvania Criminal Intelligence Center (PaCIC) July of 2003 in an effort to provide law enforcement agencies throughout the Commonwealth with one central point of contact for their information needs. Through the PaCIC, trained analysts provide state police members and federal, state, and municipal law enforcement officers with access to intelligence information, investigative data, and public source information 24 hours a day, seven days per week. Analysts also provide investigative support by analyzing complex information and collating it into intelligence summaries, organization charts, link analysis, time event analysis, and other manageable, professional products. The PaCIC is an attempt to provide law enforcement officers a central point of contact for information needed during traffic stops, investigative detentions, and other law enforcement encounters and investigations.

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NOTES FROM THE EMC

With Summer winding down, I hope you all were able to get out and enjoy it!

Here are a few things we've been working on and reminders for the coming weeks:

- Peak hurricane season is upon us! Active weather has brought plenty of rain to Lycoming County already over the past few weeks, and there is a potential for more on the horizon. Be prepared for any storms that may bring large amounts of rain to your municipality, as it may cause problems/issues. If you encounter any damages from storms, please be sure to report them to the EMA office as soon as possible. As always, if you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us!
- For those of you who are participants in the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (SSES) exercises, we have been granted full exercise credit for the 2020 exercise, and will not be required to fulfill any demonstrations for that year. Now, we move forward with planning for the 2022 exercise. More information to follow on dates/times, but expect it to be in mid/late October 2022.
- Community Outreach events have started back up again, and our department wants to be a part of yours! If your municipality is hosting an event and would like us to participate, please reach out. All of the Department of Public Safety divisions would be more than willing to provide materials or set up a table at your event.
- Please be sure to be updating your municipality's Emergency Operations Plan. Most importantly, the Notification & Resource Manual portion. It benefits you as the EMC to up to date information about who to contact from your municipality, surrounding areas, etc. if there is a disaster. The County EMA Office also needs to have a copy of your updated plan. If you need assistance with your plan, please contact our office, and we can assist you.



Stay safe and we'll see you on September 23rd!!

Kelle

Are you ReadyPA?

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

How can parents and students Be Ready?

Before

- Stay away from traffic while you are waiting for the bus.
- Always walk at least 10 feet in front of the bus when crossing so the bus driver can see you.
- Wait until the school bus has stopped all traffic before stepping out onto the road.
- Never cross the street behind the school bus.

During

- When the school bus is moving, always stay in your seat and sit facing forward.
- Keep school bus aisles open. If there is an emergency, listen to the driver and follow instructions.
- Always obey your school bus driver's instructions.
- Never play with emergency exits.

PENALTIES

More than 700 Pennsylvania drivers are convicted for passing a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing every year.

If you are convicted of violating Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law, you will receive all of the following penalties:

- 60-Day Driver's License Suspension
- Five (5) points on your driving record
- \$250 Fine



<p>You MUST STOP on roadways with ridged/grooved dividers.</p>	<p>You MUST STOP at an intersection, whether it is or is not marked with a stop sign. All traffic MUST stop.</p>	<p>You MUST STOP on roadways with painted lines.</p>
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On Saturday 06/05/2021, over 150 runners participated in the World's End Ultra-Marathon, which includes both 100K and 50K trail runs. The race is held at Worlds End State Park, Forksville, Sullivan County. On the weekend of 08/14-15/2021, over 150 runners traveled to Little Pine State Park in the Pine Creek Valley for the Eastern States 100, a 100 mile trail run. 25-40 amateur radio operators provided communications between 11 (Worlds End) & 16 (Eastern States) aid stations and the command posts. Radio communications included reporting bib numbers of participants as they passed through each check point, relaying aid station supply needs as well as relaying medical personnel assistance requests should a participant be injured.

Both races utilize Amateur Radio for Communications under the direction of Communications Director Travis Best – W3TMB.

Lycoming ACS members volunteering their time at the races included Travis Best - W3TMB, Cliff Allen - AC3EU, Dale Brendle - N3ZIO, Bob Brown - KB3IPZ, Rich Caschera - N3IRC, Jon Morgan - N3JRM, John Mummert – WJ3OM, Tim Frnk - N3QWF and Mike Torluccio - N3XXH.

ACS member Paul Stitzer – KB3YES assisted by conducting traffic control where the race course crosses SR 44 near the village of Ramsey.

Other Amateur Radio operators included but were not limited to Stan Boler – AB3BL (Montour Co), Isaac Bragunier – W3IRB (Lycoming Co), Dylan Feeny – KC3PYM (Luzerne Co), Bob Folmar – KB3VS (Luzerne Co), David Brown – KB3IPY (Lycoming Co), Doug Evans – K3DRE (Dauphin Co), Zach Bare – W3ZTB (Dauphin Co), Paul Calvert – KB3OXJ (Lycoming Co), Sue Swank-Caschera – KC3QZC (Lycoming Co), John Diliberto – AB3ZI (Luzerne Co.).



AS-4 Browns Run Crew

The crew of AS-4 Browns Run takes a brief photo break before the runners start to arrive.



AS-4 Browns Run N3ZIO(2)
Dale Brendle N3ZIO & Bill Welter set up at AS-4 Browns Run. Photo by Bob Brown

Between the 2 races, radio operators volunteered over 750 hours of time to make sure that the races went smoothly and safely.



Continued



AS-11 Algerine
John Diliberto AB3ZI from Luzerne County at AS-11 Algerine.
Photo by John Mummert

In the Amateur Radio world, Amateurs refer to those who have passed away as a “Silent Key”. For those not familiar with the term, “key” refers to a telegraph key, which is used to transmit Morse Code.

Unfortunately, for this edition of the newsletter, I have two “Silent Key” reports. Larry Wertman – W3LGW passed away on 06/02/2021. Larry was a member of the Disaster Communications Service (Former version of Auxiliary Communications Service) back in the early days. Larry was responsible for SKYWARN and was a long time net control for SKYWARN up until his passing. Larry was active in Emergency Management and Emergency Services for close to five decades.

Herman “Herm” Hess – W3WKM passed away on 06/08/2021. Herm was a long time member of Lycoming ACS.

Please keep the family and friends of Larry and Herm in your thoughts.

Are you ReadyPA?

TIP SHEET

Did You Know?



of teens use a cellphone regularly, making it the most common method for cyber bullying.



of kids have been bullied online. 1 in 4 has had it happen more than once.

Kids ages 8-18 spend about 7 hours and 38 minutes per day online.



Know Your Terms: Cyber Bullying

Cyber bullying can take many forms.

Sending mean messages or threats to someone's email account or cell phone.



Spreading rumors online or through texts.

Posting hurtful or threatening messages on social networking sites or web pages.



Stealing someone's account information to break into their account and send damaging messages.



5 Cyber Safety Tips

ZIP IT



Keep your personal stuff private including the names of your family members, school, telephone number, and address. Turn off your GPS location services and your device's camera when not using them.

BLOCK IT



Be careful who you friend online. Just because someone with mutual friends wants to add you on a website or app, does not mean they are trustworthy.

CHECK IT



Think twice before you post or say anything online. Only do or say things online that you would do or say in real life; once it is in cyberspace, it is out there forever.

FLAG IT



If you see something inappropriate, tell an adult you trust. Do not stand for bullying — online or off.

LOCK IT



Use strong passwords with eight characters or more that also has numbers, letters, AND symbols. Use privacy settings on social networking sites.

PEMA CERTIFICATION RECEIVED

At the end of last year and earlier this year, local EMC's and Lycoming County Department of Public Safety staff members received their PEMA Certifications.

Tim Lupold, Muncy Borough EMC, and Sam Aungst, former Old Lycoming EMC, earned their Local Basic Certification. Carla Miller, Emergency Management Specialist: Planning, earned her County Professional Certification. Lastly, Logan Laidacker, Communications Training Coordinator, earned his County Basic Certification.

Please join us in congratulating Tim, Sam, Carla, and Logan on this great accomplishment!



Phishing

Phishing is a form of social engineering that uses email or malicious websites to solicit personal information or to get you to download malicious software by posing as a trustworthy entity.

Types of Phishing

- **Spearphishing:** Phishing targeted at an individual by including key information about them
- **Whaling:** Phishing targeted at a high-profile individual to steal sensitive and high-value information
- **Vishing:** Phishing via voice communication to entice the victim to engage in conversation and build trust
- **Smishing:** Phishing via text messages to get the victim to click on a link, download files and applications, or begin a conversation

Protecting Infrastructure

- ☐ **Secure user accounts on high-value services:** Require strong passwords using a password manager and multi-factor authentication (MFA).
- ☐ **Transition on-premises email servers to a cloud-based email server:** Add advanced protection services (e.g., Microsoft Enhanced Account Protection and Google Advanced Protection service).
- ☐ **Segment your email server from other critical assets:** If your server is infected it won't harm other systems.
- ☐ **Conduct Phishing Campaign Assessment (PCA):** Determine the susceptibility of personnel to phishing attacks.



Signs of Phishing

- Suspicious sender's address that may imitate a legitimate business
- Generic greetings and signature and a lack of contact information in the signature block
- Spoofed hyperlinks and websites that do not match the text when hovering over them
- Misspelling, poor grammar or sentence structure, and inconsistent formatting
- Suspicious attachments or requests to download and open an attachment

Text-to-911

Text-to-9-1-1 is a service that allows the public to send a text message to 9-1-1.

This feature should only be used if it is absolutely necessary and a voice call can not be made.

Just as in a voice call, the 9-1-1 Telecommunicator will continue to ask more questions about your emergency – confirming your location, the people involved, and any other details that are important to responders.

Typing questions and answers back and forth with a 9-1-1 Telecommunicator takes a considerable amount of time, so please be patient and be as clear and concise as possible with your answers. For this reason, a voice call is preferred.

Text-to-9-1-1 may be most helpful in these emergency situations:

- By individuals who have speech or hearing impairments, or who are having a medical emergency that renders them incapable of speech;
- Instances when making noise may endanger the caller, such as a home invasion/ robbery, or instances of domestic violence or an abduction.

Text-to-9-1-1 is an important tool to enhance communications with the public in an emergency, but it has many limitations. It's important to keep these things in mind:

- A text or data plan is required to place a text to 9-1-1.
- Text-to-9-1-1 conversations cannot include more than one person. Do not send your emergency text to anyone other than 9-1-1.
- Do not use abbreviations or emojis.
- Voice calls are real-time communication, Text-to-9-1-1 is not. As with all text messages, text messages to 9-1-1 may take longer to receive, may get out of order, or may not be received at all.
- 9-1-1 call takers will not be able to hear any background noise that could help them assist you during the emergency. Location information will be limited to the cell tower that your cell phone is communicating through. A 9-1-1 Telecommunicator won't automatically know where you are.

How to Send a 9-1-1 Text Message:

- Step 1: Create a new text message or conversation
- Step 2: Type 9-1-1 in the "To" or "Recipient" field (no dashes)
- Step 3: State your location: Include the address and municipality (township or borough), if you have no address provide the nearest intersection
- Step 4: Describe the situation: Include what type of emergency help is needed
- Step 5: Send the text message



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.

Truck company Operations I

September 7, 9, 2021 1800-2200

September 12, 2021 0800-1600

Classes held at Independent Hose Co #1, Jersey Shore

Registration deadline: August 28, 2021

G-271 Hazardous Weather and Flooding Preparedness

September 8-9, 2021, Mercer County Dept of Public Safety

September 21-22, 2021, Penn State University Technology Center

October 12-13, 2021, Susquehanna County Offices

October 26-27, 2021, Chester County Public Safety Training Campus

Registration in TRAIN PA

Pump Operations I

September 7, 8, 2021 1800-2200

September 11, 2021 0800-1600

Classes held at Hepburn Township VFC

Registration Deadline: August 28, 2021

Railway Safety & Emergency Response Training

September 8-10, 2021 4 hour classes repeated multiple times

Classes held at Norfolk Southern offices in Harrisburg

Registration: www.transcaer.com/events.aspx

Vehicle Rescue Awareness & Operations

October 3, 10, 17, 2021 0800-1600

October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2021 1800-2200

Classes held at Independent Hose Co #1, Jersey Shore

Registration deadline: September 23, 2021

Vehicle Technical Rescuer at the Awareness & Operations Level

October 31, 2021 0800-1600

Classes held at Independent Hose Co #1, Jersey Shore

Registration deadline: October 21, 2021

Fire Police Review

October 23-24, 2021 0800-1700

Classes held at Independent Fire Co, South Williamsport

Registration deadline: October 13, 2021

Highway Safety for Emergency Response Personnel

November 7, 2021 0800-1200

Classes held at Independent Fire Co, South Williamsport

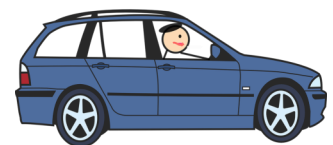
Registration deadline: October 28, 2021

Driver Safety Awareness

November 7, 2021 1300-1500

Classes held at Independent Fire Co, South Williamsport

Registration deadline: October 28, 2021



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

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.

Introduction to the Fire Service

September 15, 16, 2021 1830-2230
September 18, 2021 0800-1600
Classes held at Hughesville VFC
Registration deadline: September 6, 2021

Rope/High Angle Rescue I

September 18, 19, 2021 0800-1600
Classes held at Duboistown VFC
Registration deadline: September 8, 2021

Fire Ground Support

September 22, 23, 29, 30, 2021 1830-2230
September 25, October 2, 2021 0800-1600
Classes held at Hughesville VFC
Registration Deadline: September 13, 2021

Talen Radiological Monitoring/Decontamination Team Training

November 10, 2021 1800-2000
Classes held at Lycoming County Department of Public Safety
Registration deadline: November 1, 2021



Additional Online Training Resources:

[PEMA Training and Exercises](#)

[TRAIN PA](#)

[FEMA Emergency Management Institute](#)



EMA training questions can be directed to Paula Young.

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