

# EMA News & Views



County of Lycoming Emergency Management Agency

Volume 22, Issue 1

Spring 2022

## 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 24, 2022**

**APPRECIATION DINNER**

*at*

**South Williamsport United Methodist Church  
409 Main Street, South Williamsport, PA**

**TOPIC: PEMA State Meteorologist**

### MEETING TOPIC DETAILS

Jeff Jumper has worked as the PEMA state meteorologist since 2015. Previously, he worked a decade as a broadcast meteorologist at TV stations across the country, including right here in Williamsport for WBRE. He has been volunteering as a firefighter and EMT since the 1998. He holds a B.S. in Meteorology from Penn State and an M.S. in Emergency Management from Millersville. Jeff is also an adjunct faculty member for Millersville and Jefferson Universities. He takes pride in his work to help better prepare PEMA and its stakeholders for weather hazards through forecasts, outreach, partnerships, and training.

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## **NOTES FROM THE EMC**

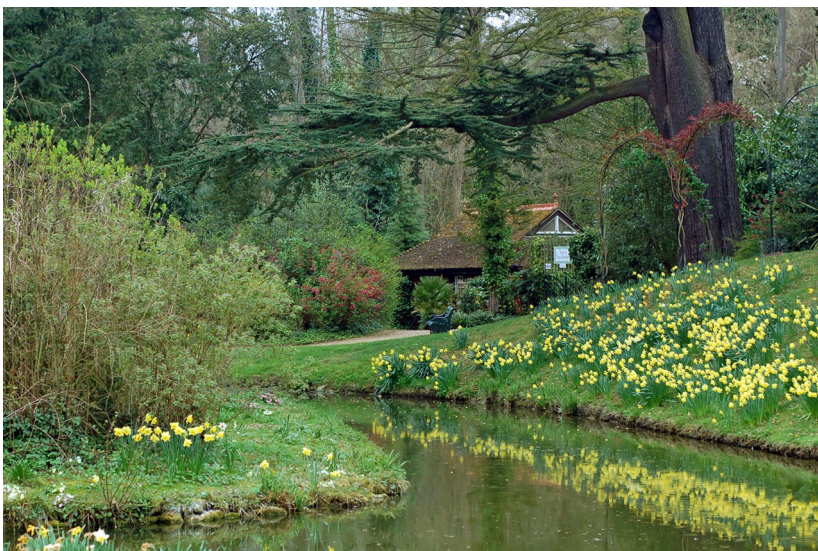
With winter winding down, we are looking forward to spring and summer here at the Lycoming County Department of Public Safety. We hope you will be able to join us for some of the trainings and exercises we have planned!

As we all know, flooding is the #1 disaster risk in Lycoming County and no two floods are ever the same, so we need to do everything we can to be prepared for them. On April 5, 2022, the County will be holding our annual Spring Weather Exercise, and from 1300-1400 will be the municipal EMC portion. For anyone willing and able to participate, we will have a short communications exercise for EMCs to test telephone, email, & paging capabilities. We will contact all EMCs on that day as part of our exercise and we hope to hear from all of you as well. A reminder will be sent out as we get closer to the date.

The state is looking to put out a new training directive at some point here in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2022. For those who have started their Basic or Advanced certifications (and if anyone is looking at finishing their Professional), please work on completing that as soon as you can. Usually they will give EMCs up to 6 months to complete certifications under the old directive if you have already started. Don't wait to get it done!!

Thank you for your continued dedication to the residents of your municipalities, and I look forward to seeing all of you at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>!

*Kelle*





Lycoming ACS is looking for members. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator or are involved in CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) please consider joining. Lycoming ACS utilizes Amateur Radio, Citizens Band as well as FRS (Family Radio Service) equipment. Our purpose is to assist Lycoming County Emergency Management by providing alternate means of radio communications should that be necessary. We train and check our radio equipment on a regular basis by contacting other ACS units as well as PEMA assets in Harrisburg and around the state / region.

We also assist with radio communications during events such as the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station events and the Little League World

Series. We also provide communications at several trail runs in the area including the Worlds End Ultra-Marathon, Eastern States 100 & the Black Forest 100 by manning Aid Stations along the routes and transmitting runner and emergency information to the Command Post. Interested persons can reach out to Carla Miller at EMA for more information at [Cmiller@lyco.org](mailto:Cmiller@lyco.org) or (570) 329-4724.

Lycoming ACS was busier in 2021 than 2020. The totals for 2021 are as follows:

|                  |                    |                      |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Travel hours 148 | Training Hours 377 | Mission hours 340    |
| Meeting hours 33 | Admin hours 180    | Miles traveled 4,500 |

Thanks to all of the ACS members who contributed during our training sessions and missions during 2021. We hope to assist Lycoming County EMA in 2022 during their training and exercises and stand by to assist during emergencies when needed.

## 3G Network Is Going Away

If you have an older mobile device, you may not be able to make or receive calls and texts, including calls to 911, or use data services at some point this year. Mobile carriers such as AT&T, T-Mobile/Sprint and Verizon are updating the technology that mobile devices use to operate. Older devices work on a "3G" or "4G" network. Mobile carriers are shutting down their 3G networks, which rely on older technology, to make room for more advanced network services, including 5G.

People who are holding on to an older phone just for emergencies are especially at risk. If the phone uses the older technology, they may not be able to call for help by dialing 911.

### **What To Know:**

- Devices affected may include more than just mobile phones such as medical devices, tablets, home security systems and more.
- You can't always tell whether your device is affected by the name or logo.
- According to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), many carriers, such as Cricket, Boost, Straight Talk, and several Lifeline mobile service providers are also affected.

### **What To Do:**

- Find out if your device(s) is affected: Your best bet is to call your carrier to find out.
- Find out when your carrier will be switching to 5G: Visit the [FCC website](#).



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**Additional Items to Consider Adding to an Emergency Supply Kit:**

- Prescription medications and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food, water and supplies for your pet
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a portable waterproof container
- Cash and change
- Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Fire Extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies, personal hygiene items and hand sanitizer
- Mess kits, Paper cups, plates and disposable utensils, paper towels
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children



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**Emergency  
Supply List**



**FEMA**

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)



## PEMA CERTIFICATION RECEIVED

William Miller, Regional EMS Field Coordinator and Lycoming County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staff member, earned his Basic Level Certification in October of 2021. William was presented his plaque by our County EMA Manager, Kelle Robinson at the December Quarterly Training Meeting.



Mark Calderini, Williamsport Bureau of Fire, earned his Local Basic Level Certification in October of 2021. Mark was presented his plaque by our EMA Manager, Kelle Robinson at the December Quarterly Training Meeting.

Jeff (Hutch) Hutchins, Director of the Department of Public Safety and Lycoming County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staff member, earned his Basic Level Certification in November of 2021. Hutch was presented his plaque by our County EMA Manager, Kelle Robinson at the December Quarterly Training Meeting.



Please join us in congratulating William, Mark, and Hutch on this great accomplishment!



# National Weather Service



## FLOOD SAFETY FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

### BEFORE A FLOOD

- ✓ Stay informed: Visit [weather.gov](http://weather.gov) or tune into your local news for the latest forecast.
- ✓ Determine whether your home, school or work is in an area likely to flood.
- ✓ Learn which roadways are likely to flood and find an alternative route so you can avoid them.
- ✓ Create a communications plan so your family will know how to connect during an emergency.
- ✓ Assemble an emergency kit.
- ✓ Prepare for possible evacuation. Pack your bags and include items for your pets so you are ready to leave at a moment's notice.
- ✓ Charge all essential electronics.
- ✓ Be Proactive: Leave before the flooding starts to avoid getting stranded.



### DURING A FLOOD

- ✓ Stay informed: Tune into your local news for updates on flooding in progress.
- ✓ Get to higher ground if you are in an area that is subject to flooding.
- ✓ Follow evacuation orders and heed warning signs.
- ✓ If you have time before you evacuate, disconnect utilities and appliances.
- ✓ Avoid floodwaters: It is NEVER safe to drive or walk through them.

### AFTER A FLOOD

- ✓ Stay informed: Tune into your local news for updates on affected areas and the safety of your drinking water.
- ✓ Avoid floodwaters: Standing water can hide chemicals that can make you sick, power lines that can cause electrocution and sharp debris that can seriously harm you.
- ✓ Avoid disaster areas: Your presence may hamper emergency operations.
- ✓ Heed road closure and cautionary signs.
- ✓ Wait for the "all-clear" before returning to an area that was impacted by flooding.
- ✓ Contact your family and loved ones to let them know you are okay.



Image from the FEMA Photo Library

For more information, visit [weather.gov/safety/flood](http://weather.gov/safety/flood)

## YEARS OF SERVICE PINS RECEIVED

Linda Hopkins was appointed as EMC of Mill Creek Township on April 5, 2011. Linda was presented her 10 years of service pin by our County EMA Manager, Kelle Robinson at the December Quarterly Training Meeting.

Denny Buttorff was appointed as EMC of Porter Township on November 29, 2001. Denny was presented his 20 years of service pin by our EMA Manager, Kelle Robinson at the December Quarterly Training Meeting.

Please join us in congratulating Linda and Denny on this great achievement!





# National Weather Service

## SEVERE THUNDERSTORM RISK CATEGORIES

|   |                             |   |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
|   | Thunderstorms<br>(No Label) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ No Severe Thunderstorms Expected, Lightning/Flooding threats exist with all thunderstorms, Winds to 40 mph, Small hail.</li> </ul>   |
| 1 | MARGINAL<br>(MRGL)          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Isolated severe thunderstorms possible, Limited in duration and / or intensity. Winds 40 - 60 mph. Low tornado risk.</li> </ul>  |
| 2 | SLIGHT<br>(SLGT)            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Scattered severe thunderstorms possible.</li> <li>✓ Short-lived and / or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible. One or two tornadoes.</li> <li>✓ Reports of strong wind damage</li> <li>✓ Hail - 1", Isolated - 2"</li> </ul> |
| 3 | ENHANCED<br>(ENH)           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Numerous severe thunderstorms possible</li> <li>✓ More persistent and / or widespread.</li> <li>✓ A few tornadoes. Several reports of strong wind damage.</li> <li>✓ Damaging hail - 1 - 2"</li> </ul>                                   |
| 4 | MODERATE<br>(MOD)           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Widespread severe thunderstorms likely</li> <li>✓ Long-lived, widespread and intense.</li> <li>✓ Strong tornadoes.</li> <li>✓ Widespread wind damage</li> <li>✓ Destructive hail - 2"+</li> </ul>  |
| 5 | HIGH<br>(HIGH)              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Widespread severe thunderstorms expected.</li> <li>✓ Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense.</li> <li>✓ Tornado Outbreak.</li> <li>✓ Derecho</li> </ul>  |

Developed by the Storm Prediction Center (SPC)



## THUNDERSTORMS WATCH VS. WARNING

### Severe Thunderstorm Watch: **Be Prepared!**

Severe thunderstorms are possible in and near the watch area. Stay informed and be ready to act if a severe thunderstorm warning is issued. Watches are issued by the Storm Prediction Center ([spc.noaa.gov](http://spc.noaa.gov)) for counties where severe thunderstorms may occur. The watch area is typically large, covering numerous counties or even states.

### Severe Thunderstorm Warning: **Take Action!**

A severe thunderstorm has been indicated by radar or reported by a spotter producing hail one inch or larger in diameter and/or winds exceeding 58 mph. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property. Take shelter in a substantial building. Severe thunderstorms can produce tornadoes with little or no advance warning.



After a tornado, watch out for dangerous debris, such as sharp metal, glass, or downed power lines.. Photo: NOAA

For more information, visit [weather.gov/safety/thunderstorm](http://weather.gov/safety/thunderstorm)



## 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.

### **Wildland Firefighter Training**

March 1, 3, 8, 2022 1800-2200  
March 12, 26, 2022 0800-1600  
Classes held at Duboistown Fire Department  
Registration deadline: February 25, 2022

### **Advanced Fire Police**

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2022 1830-2230  
Classes held at Independent Fire Company (South Williamsport)  
Registration deadline: February 21, 2022

### **Basic Vehicle Rescue: Operations**

March 3, 7, 10, 2022 1830-2230  
March 12, 2022 0800-1700  
Classes held at Old Lycoming Township VFC  
Registration Deadline: February 21, 2022

### **ICS-300**

March 8, 10, 2022 1800-2200  
March 12, 13, 2022 0800-1600  
Classes held at Hughesville VFC  
Registration deadline: March 1, 2022

### **Understanding Autism: Strategies and Tactics for First Responders**

March 13, 2022 1300-1530  
Class held at Mansfield University Allen Hall  
Sponsored by Laurel Mountain K9 Search & Rescue

### **Electric Vehicle Safety for Emergency Responders**

March 13, 2022 0800-1500  
Class held at Independent Fire Company (South Williamsport)  
Registration deadline: March 3, 2022

### **Vehicle Rescue Awareness**

March 15, 17, 22, 24, 29, 31, 2022 1830-2230  
Classes held at Clinton Township VFC  
Registration deadline: March 5, 2022

### **ICS-400**

March 19, 20, 2022 0800-1600  
Class held at Hughesville VFC  
Registration deadline: March 9, 2022

### **Truck Company Operation I**

March 19, 20, 2022 0800-1600  
Class held at Muncy Area VFC  
Registration deadline: March 9, 2022

### **Hazardous Materials Operations Level**

March 22, 24, 2022 1830-2230  
March 26, 27, 2022 0800-1600  
Classes held at Old Lycoming Township VFC  
Registration deadline: March 12, 2022



EMA training questions can be directed to:

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

## 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.

### **Airbag Implications**

March 28, 2022 1800-2200  
Class held at Independent Fire Company (South Williamsport)  
Registration deadline: March 18, 2022

### **Hazardous Materials Awareness Annual Refresher**

March 30, 2022 1830-2030  
Classes held at Independent Fire Company (South Williamsport)  
Registration deadline: March 20, 2022

### **Aerial Apparatus Practices**

April 2, 3, 2022 0800-1600  
Classes held at Muncy Area VFC  
Registration Deadline: March 23, 2022

### **Driver Safety Awareness**

April 3, 2022 1300-1500  
Class held at Independent Fire Company (South Williamsport)  
Registration deadline: March 24, 2022

### **Highway Safety For Emergency Response Personnel**

April 3, 2022 0800-1200  
Class held at Independent Fire Company (South Williamsport)  
Registration Deadline: March 24, 2022

### **Interior Firefighting: No Live Fire Exercises**

April 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 2022 1830-2230  
April 9, 23, 2022 0800-1600  
Classes held at Old Lycoming Township VFC  
Registration deadline: March 26, 2022

### **Solar Panel Awareness for the Fire Service**

April 11, 2022 1800-2200  
Class held at Independent Fire Company (South Williamsport)  
Registration deadline: April 1, 2022

### **Responding to Utility Emergencies: Electrical**

April 18, 2022 1800-2200  
Class held at Independent Fire Company (South Williamsport)  
Registration deadline: April 8, 2022

### **Hazardous Materials Operations Annual Refresher**

April 20, 21, 2022 1830-2130  
Class held at Hughesville VFC  
Registration deadline: April 10, 2022

### **Responding to Utility Emergencies: Natural Gas**

April 25, 2022 1800-2200  
Class held at Independent Fire Company (South Williamsport)  
Registration deadline: April 15, 2022

### **Highway Incident Scene Safety and Management**

May 3, 10, 24, 31, June 7, 2022 1830-2230  
Classes held at Independent Fire Company (South Williamsport)  
Registration deadline: April 23, 2022

### **MGT 403: Access and Functional Needs Preparedness Planning for Rural Communities**

May 5, 2022 0800-1700  
Class held at Old Lycoming Township VFC  
Registration deadline: April 21, 2022



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

[PEMA Training and Exercises](#)

[TRAIN PA](#)

[FEMA Emergency Management Institute](#)

