



2019 MASSACHUSETTS ALL HAZARDS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CONFERENCE

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

June 18 & 19, 2019 | Marlborough, MA

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

| Time | Session | Room |
|---------------|--|----------------|
| 8:00 – 8:30 | Opening and Welcoming Remarks <i>Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security</i> <i>Director Samantha Phillips, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency</i> | Royal Ballroom |
| 8:30 – 10:15 | Under Pressure: The Merrimack Valley Gas Emergency Response <i>A Panel Presentation</i> | Royal Ballroom |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | Break | |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | Governor Charlie Baker, Commonwealth of Massachusetts | Royal Ballroom |
| 11:00 – 12:00 | Multi-Jurisdictional Crisis Response <i>Timothy A. Gallagher, Special Agent in Charge (Ret.), Federal Bureau of Investigation; Managing Director, Kroll</i> | Royal Ballroom |
| 12:00 – 12:30 | Lunch | Royal Ballroom |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Climate Change and Massachusetts: A Primer On What's Happening & What's Expected | Marlborough |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Health and Medical Coordinating Coalitions in Massachusetts | Princess |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Overview of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) | Seminar |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Sharks at Our Bathing Beaches "We're gonna need a bigger...boat!" | Southborough |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Navigating the Complexities of Tribal Emergency Management | Sterling |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Building Resiliency: Emergency Preparedness and Vulnerable Populations | Westborough |
| 1:30 – 1:45 | Break | |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Planning, Preparing and Practicing for Sea Level Rise | Marlborough |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Highway Operations: Practicing Preparedness Everyday | Princess |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Overview: Recovery Resource Center | Seminar |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Electric Utilities: The Life Cycle of a Major Storm | Southborough |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Using GIS to Enhance Resilience and Emergency Preparedness: Drinking and Waste Water Sector | Sterling |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Delivering Effective Communications for Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Emergencies | Westborough |
| 2:45 – 3:00 | Break | |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | Rethinking Public Information and Warning in a 24-Hour News Cycle | Marlborough |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | State & Local Drone Programs – Answering Your Questions on Myths & Realities | Princess |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | Roles and Responsibilities of the FEMA Public Assistance Applicant | Seminar |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | Pre-disaster Debris Planning | Southborough |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | The Who, What, Where, When and How of Including Animals in Your Emergency Plan | Sterling |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | Merging Americans with Disabilities Act Obligations with Emergency Planning | Westborough |



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Breakout Sessions

| Room | Session 1 12:30 - 1:30 | 1:30 - 1:45 | Session 2 1:45 - 2:45 | 2:45 - 3:00 | Session 3 3:00 - 4:30 |
|---------------------|--|--------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| Marlborough | Climate Change and Massachusetts: A Primer On What's Happening & What's Expected | Transition / Break | Planning, Preparing and Practicing for Sea Level Rise | Transition / Break | Rethinking Public Information and Warning in a 24-Hour News Cycle |
| Princess | Health and Medical Coordinating Coalitions in Massachusetts | | Highway Operations: Practicing Preparedness Everyday | | State & Local Drone Programs – Answering Your Questions on Myths & Realities |
| Seminar | Overview of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact | | Overview: Recovery Resource Center | | Roles and Responsibilities of the FEMA Public Assistance Applicant |
| Southborough | Sharks at Our Bathing Beaches “We’re gonna need a bigger...boat!” | | Electric Utilities: The Life Cycle of a Major Storm | | Pre-disaster Debris Planning |
| Sterling | Navigating the Complexities of Tribal Emergency Management | | Using GIS to Enhance Resilience and Emergency Preparedness: Drinking and Waste Water Sector | | The Who, What, Where, When, and How of Including Animals in Your Emergency Plan: Best practices and Real Practices |
| Westborough | Building Resiliency: Emergency Preparedness and Vulnerable Populations | | Delivering Effective Communications for Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Emergencies | | Merging Americans with Disabilities Act Obligations with Emergency Planning |



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Opening & Welcoming Remarks

Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

Time: 8:00 – 8:15 am

Room: Royal Ballroom

Director Samantha Phillips, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Time: 8:15 – 8:30 am

Room: Royal Ballroom

Governor Charlie Baker, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Time: 10:30 – 11:00 am

Room: Royal Ballroom

Plenary Sessions

Under Pressure: The Merrimack Valley Gas Emergency Response

Speakers: Christine Packard, Deputy Director, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
Mike Main, Regional Manager, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
Dan Rivera, Mayor, City of Lawrence
Brian Moriarty, Fire Chief, City of Lawrence
Patrick Keefe, Police Chief, Town of Andover
Andrew Maylor, Town Manager (fmr), North Andover

Time: 8:30 – 10:15 am

Room: Royal Ballroom

On September 13th, 2018 the communities of Lawrence, Andover, and North Andover experienced a catastrophic failure of natural gas lines being worked on, resulting in an overwhelming amount of fires and emergency responses situations. Hear from the community leaders that responded to the Merrimack Valley Gas Explosions as they recall their experiences and share their insights from the first few hours of the event through the months long recovery process. Panel members will give firsthand accounts of their experiences and share their stories to help us better prepare for future emergencies.

Multi-Jurisdictional Crisis Response

Speaker: Timothy A. Gallagher, Special Agent in Charge (Ret.), Federal Bureau of Investigation; Managing Director, Kroll

Time: 11:00 – 12:00 pm

Room: Royal Ballroom

Utilizing lessons learned from the September 2016 bombing events, in the New York metropolitan area, Timothy A. Gallagher, retired Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's Newark Field Office, will discuss preparing for and successfully resolving multi-jurisdictional criminal incidents.

Break Out Sessions

Climate Change and Massachusetts: A Primer On What's Happening & What's Expected

Presenter: Andy Nash, Meteorologist-in-Charge, NOAA/National Weather Service
Ellen Mecray, Eastern Region Director, NOAA Climate Services Institute
Sarah White, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
Mathew Barlow, Professor of Environmental Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, UMass Lowell

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Marlborough

A panel of experts on the weather and climate of Massachusetts will discuss the latest information on climate change and how it is expected to further impact the state. The panel will also present ongoing mitigation efforts and future mitigation challenges.

Health and Medical Coordinating Coalitions in Massachusetts

Presenters: Kerry Evans, Preparedness and Response Manager, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Chrystal LaPine, Acting Program Manager, Region 5 Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Princess

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health Office of Preparedness and Emergency Management (OPEM) will present their current healthcare coalition model under the CDC/ASPR cooperative agreement, offering a state-level perspective on the coalition design processes and requirements, and a regional perspective on how that translates into "boots on the ground" coalition creation and transition.

Region 5 Health and Medical Coordinating Coalitions (HMCC) will provide their perspective on critical elements and best practices for coalition building and management, including: stakeholder engagement, leadership development, recruiting new members, "messaging" the coalition, negotiating turf concerns, efforts to bridge the health/medical and emergency management fields, and visions for sustainability and growth moving forward.

Overview of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact

Presenters: Jaci Hamel, Operations Unit Supervisor, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
Richard LaTour, Planning Unit Supervisor, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
Tracy Rogers, Deputy Team Leader, Northwest Incident Management Team

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Seminar

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) is a State-to-State mutual aid system that facilitates the sharing of services, personnel and equipment across state lines during times of disaster and emergency. MEMA's EMAC Coordinator will provide an overview of EMAC. Through a question and answer session, panelists will share their experience deploying through EMAC to other states during disaster events.

Sharks at Our Bathing Beaches “We’re gonna need a bigger...boat!”

Presenters: Anthony Pike, Fire Chief, Orleans Fire Rescue

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Southborough

Orleans Massachusetts has one of the most unique public safety challenges on the east coast. Great White sharks on the entire stretch of their bathing beach to be specific. For the past 6 years Orleans has developed one of the most progressive and enhanced beach safety programs on the east coast. Chief Pike will chronicle what Orleans has done and their endeavors to make the residents and visitors safe.

Navigating the Complexities of Tribal Emergency Management

Presenters: Nelson Andrews, Jr., Emergency Management Director, Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Sterling

No two towns/state/provinces are exactly alike in emergency management. Listen as Mr. Andrews examines the similarities, difference and common goal approach of interlacing the dynamics between Tribal, State, and Local Emergency Management.

Building Resiliency: Emergency Preparedness and Vulnerable Populations

Presenters: Cheryl Anne Snyder, MS, EP Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Brookline Health Department
Sophie Gordon, Emergency Preparedness Buddies Coordinator, Brookline Health Department

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Westborough

Hurricane Katrina. Superstorm Sandy. The 1995 Chicago Heatwave. The most vulnerable people in a disaster are overwhelmingly older adults, many of whom live alone.

The Emergency Preparedness Buddies program is designed specifically to help elder residents, as well as adults with access and/or functional needs, become better prepared for emergencies.

Administered by the Brookline Department of Public Health and funded through Metro Boston Homeland Security Region grants, the program offers one-on-one preparedness coaching, as well as group sessions presented on-site at senior living and other housing locations for vulnerable populations throughout the Town.

Coordinators from Emergency Preparedness Buddies will share best practices and lessons learned from this unique program, and discuss how you can help vulnerable populations in your own jurisdiction become more resilient.

Planning, Preparing and Practicing for Sea Level Rise

Presenters: Stephen Estes-Smargiassi, Director of Planning and Sustainability, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

Time: 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Room: Marlborough

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), like other water utilities, has critical sewerage infrastructure facilities in low lying areas that are susceptible to severe storms and rising sea levels from climate change.

This presentation will provide an overview of MWRA's efforts to evaluate the expected impacts of sea level rise, develop and implement short and long term adaptation measures, and regularly practice emergency response actions to be prepared to provide continuous service under all circumstances.

Highway Operations: Practicing Preparedness Everyday

Presenters: Kristen Pennucci, Coordinator of Training and Development, Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Timothy Morin, Coordinator of Emergency Services, Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Edward Gincauskis, Coordinator of Emergency Preparedness, Massachusetts Department of Transportation

Time: 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Room: Princess

Members of the Highway Operation Center's (HOC) management team will present on how the HOC, as a critical part of the MassDOT organization and the Highway Division, is in the unique position of practicing all-hazards preparedness and response through its daily transportation operations activities.

This presentation will provide an overview of how daily functional responsibilities and relationships prepares the organization to support a comprehensive approach to emergency response and recovery at MassDOT and throughout the Commonwealth. The presentation will highlight how Highway Division functions, assets, networks, systems and people work every day to provide a public safety service, support continuity of operations and the mobility of people, goods and services under normal operating conditions and under emergency stressor conditions.

Overview: Recovery Resource Center

Presenters: Thad Leugemors, Mitigation and Recovery Section Chief, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
Paula Krumsiek, Disaster Recovery Program Coordinator, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
Jim Wiggs, Emergency Management Director, City of Westfield

Time: 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Room: Seminar

The Recovery Resource Center (RRC) works collaboratively with local officials and the American Red Cross to support disaster survivors. This overview will lay out the process for requesting RRC assistance, what to expect, who will be there, and when to have an RRC in a local community affected by a disaster.

Electric Utilities: The Life Cycle of a Major Storm

Presenters: Glen Aichinger, Director, Emergency Planning, National Grid
Jacklyn Ulban, Manager, Business Resiliency & Compliance, Unitil
Stephen Parenteau, Electric Emergency Planning, National Grid
Daniel Piche, Manager, Emergency Preparedness, Eversource

Time: 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Room: Southborough

This session will detail the “life cycle” (Prepare, Respond, Recovery, and Mitigation) of a major storm event from a utility perspective. The panel is made up of members from each major Massachusetts utility (National Grid; Eversource, Unitil), and will discuss how utilities “Prepare” utilizing weather forecasting to determine resource amounts and preparation activities, “Respond” to public safety and conduct damage assessment, and “Recover” detailing logistical strategies and restoration prioritization. The session will end with Mitigation strategies and best practices in the industry such as After Action Reports and System Hardening techniques such as vegetation management and/or system upgrades.

Using GIS to Enhance Resilience and Emergency Preparedness: Drinking and Waste Water Sector

Presenters: Kristin L. Divris, Water Utility Resilience Program Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Juliet Swigor, GIS Regional Program Lead, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Time: 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Room: Sterling

This presentation is an overview of the State's developing and use of GIS in emergency planning for Drinking & Waste Water events.

Delivering Effective Communications for Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Emergencies

Presenter: Jonathan O’Dell, ALB Assistive Technology and Training Specialist, Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Time: 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Room: Westborough

Using national incidence statistics published by leading medical institutions, it is estimated that 1.3 million Massachusetts residents live with some form of hearing loss. While there is more awareness of different communication modalities than ever before, there is still much to be done to include hard of hearing, late deafened and deaf individuals in disaster planning and recovery efforts. This presentation will leave First Responders and Emergency Management officials with tools and resources you can put to immediate use in your communities.

Rethinking Public Information and Warning in a 24-Hour News Cycle

Presenter: Michael Cassidy, Fire Chief & Emergency Management Director, Holliston Fire Department

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Room: Marlborough

The core capability of Public Information and Warning spans all five mission areas of Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response and Recovery. Managing the message is not just about naming a PIO and sending out a few posts on social media. This presentation will take a closer look at how practitioners from a variety of disciplines can deliver coordinated, prompt, reliable, and actionable information to the whole community through the use of clear, consistent, accessible, and culturally and linguistically appropriate methods. It will take a closer look at the need to effectively relay information regarding any threat or hazard, as well as actions being taken and the assistance being made available in the fast-paced lifestyles of these ever-changing times.

State & Local Drone Programs – Answering Your Questions on Myths & Realities

Presenters: David Clemons, Director of Operations, Massachusetts Department of Fire Services

Michael George, Sergeant, Massachusetts State Police

Gregory Priest, Firefighter, Plainville Fire Department

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Room: Princess

This panel presentation will give a brief overview of state and local drone programs. It will address some of the myths and realities of active programs, followed by a moderated discussion with questions and answers from the audience.

Roles and Responsibilities of the FEMA Public Assistance Applicant

Presenters: Lorraine Eddy, Recovery Program Coordinator, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Andrew Poliferno, Recovery Program Coordinator, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Room: Seminar

This session will provide a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Applicant. Identifying appropriate personnel and staffing who will assist the State and FEMA is critical, specifically with identifying and reporting damages, providing project information, as well as project review and approval.

Pre-disaster Debris Planning

Presenters: John Fischer, Solid Waste Disaster Lead Planner; Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Sarah Eig, Regional Emergency Management Planner, Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Room: Southborough

Disasters create debris. Having a plan for the types of debris generated, how it will be managed, planning for where it will be transported for sorting, staging and final disposal is complicated. MassDEP will present on the general debris management framework, lessons learned and guidance available.

Boston MOEM will present on their recently developed debris program for the metropolitan area. This program will include the methodology of site assessments and implementing training and exercise plans.

The Who, What, Where, When, and How of Including Animals in Your Emergency Plan: Best Practices and Real Practices

Presenters: David Schwarz, Veterinary Services Team Leader, State of Massachusetts Animal Response Team
Holly Rogers, President, Cape Cod Disaster Animal Response Team

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Room: Sterling

This session will illustrate the steps involved in and necessity of including animals in an emergency plan. The discussion will also chronicle the well-established teams of Massachusetts.

Merging Americans with Disabilities Act Obligations with Emergency Planning

Presenter: Jeffrey L. Dougan, Assistant Director for Community Services, Massachusetts Office on Disability

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Room: Westborough

This will be an overview of the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) obligations and considerations for Emergency Planning, Communication Considerations, Accommodations, Service Animals, Transportation, Shelter Site Accessibility and Personal Emergency Preparedness Planning.



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|---------------|--|----------------|
| 8:00 – 8:30 | Opening & Welcoming Remarks <i>Director Samantha Phillips, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency</i> <i>Regional Administrator W. Russell Webster, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I</i> | Royal Ballroom |
| 8:30 – 9:00 | FEMA's Strategic Plan <i>Peter T. Gaynor, Acting Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency</i> | Royal Ballroom |
| 9:00 – 10:00 | The Impact of Hurricane Florence in North Carolina: How it Changed Recovery Philosophy <i>Michael A. Sprayberry, Director, North Carolina Emergency Management Agency</i> | Royal Ballroom |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | Break | |
| 10:15 – 11:15 | Water Impacts from Recent U.S. Landfalling Tropical Cyclones <i>Kenneth Graham, Director, National Hurricane Center</i> | Royal Ballroom |
| 11:15 – 11:45 | Massachusetts Hurricanes: A National Weather Service Informational Primer | Royal Ballroom |
| 11:45 – 12:30 | Lunch | |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Rethinking Public Information and Warning in a 24-Hour News Cycle | Marlborough |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Emergency Manager's Guide to Crowdsourcing for Situational Awareness | Princess |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Introduction to the New Web-Based HURREVAC | Seminar |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Team Rubicon Overview & Capabilities | Southborough |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | A Holistic Approach to Community Resilience | Sterling |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Commonwealth Wide Bulk Oil & Hazardous Materials Transportation Study | Westborough |
| 1:30 – 1:45 | Break | |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Emergency Dispensing Site: Lessons Learned from the Meningitis-B Outbreak at UMass | Marlborough |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Chemical Safety, Climate Change Resiliency & Community Partnerships | Princess |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Using GIS to Enhance Resilience and Emergency Preparedness | Seminar |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Overview: Recovery Resource Center | Southborough |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Creating Community Champions to Help Create a Culture of Preparedness | Sterling |
| 1:45 – 2:30 | GIS and Emergency Management | Westborough |
| 2:45 – 3:00 | Break | |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | Fentanyl Awareness and Response | Marlborough |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | Who in My Community Should be Tier II Reporters? | Princess |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | Pre-disaster Debris Planning | Seminar |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | Post-flood Responsibilities of Local Officials & National Flood Insurance Program | Southborough |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | Official National Weather Service SKYWARN Spotter Training | Sterling |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | State Director's Town Hall Forum *Pre-Registration is Required. | Westborough |



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| Marlborough | Rethinking Public Information and Warning in a 24-Hour News Cycle | Transition / Break | Emergency Dispensing Site: Lessons learned from the 2017-18 Meningitis-B outbreak response at the University of Massachusetts Amherst Campus | Transition / Break | Fentanyl Awareness and Response |
| Princess | The Power of the Crowd: Emergency Manager's Guide to Crowdsourcing for Situational Awareness | | Chemical Safety, Climate Change Resiliency & Community Partnerships | | Who in My Community Should Be Tier II Reporters? |
| Seminar | Introduction to the New Web-Based HURREVAC | | Using GIS to Enhance Resilience and Emergency Preparedness: Drinking and Waste Water Sector | | Pre-disaster Debris Planning |
| Southborough | Team Rubicon Overview & Capabilities | | Overview: Recovery Resource Center | | Post-Flood Responsibilities of Local Officials The Value of the National Flood Insurance Program in Building Community Resiliency |
| Sterling | Navigating Get Ready, Be Safe, Stay Healthy: A Holistic Approach to Community Resilience | | Ignite Community Change: Creating Community Champions to Help Create a Culture of Preparedness | | Official National Weather Service (NWS) SKYWARN Spotter Training |
| Westborough | Commonwealth Wide Bulk Oil & Hazardous Materials Transportation Study | | GIS and Emergency Management <i>(Sessions Concludes at 2:30)</i> | | State Director's Town Hall Forum <i>(Pre-Registration is Required)</i> |



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Opening & Welcoming Remarks

Director Samantha Phillips, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Time: 8:00 – 8:15 am

Room: Royal Ballroom

Regional Administrator W. Russell Webster, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I

Time: 8:15 – 8:30 am

Room: Royal Ballroom

Plenary Sessions

FEMA's Strategic Plan

Speaker: Peter T. Gaynor, Acting Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Time: 8:30 am – 9:00 am

Room: Royal Ballroom

When disasters strike, FEMA cannot succeed alone in the mission of helping people. We must all work in coordination with our partners and stakeholders to ensure that response and recovery is federally coordinated, state managed, and locally executed. FEMA's strategic plan and implementation of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act both strive to help prepare our nation and streamline programs for better and faster recovery efforts.

The Impact of Hurricane Florence in North Carolina: Challenges Faced and How it Changed Recovery Philosophy

Speaker: Michael A. Sprayberry, Director, North Carolina Emergency Management

Time: 9:00 – 10:00 am

Room: Royal Ballroom

During this presentation, North Carolina's Director of the Division of Emergency Management and the Office of Recovery and Resiliency, Michael A. Sprayberry, will discuss the preparation, response and subsequent recovery for Hurricane Florence. Topics will include, among others, Search and Rescue, Mass Care, Evacuation Operations, & the deployment of National Guard and Title X Troops. The Director will also review implementation of all available Recovery programs as well as the establishment of the Office of Recovery and Resiliency.

Water Impacts from Recent U.S. Landfalling Tropical Cyclones

Speakers: Kenneth Graham, Director, National Hurricane Center

Time: 10:15 – 11:15 am

Room: Royal Ballroom

Although it is often assumed that greatest risk from hurricanes is high winds, it is actually water that is responsible for 90% of the fatalities. Hazards extend far beyond the beachfront and immediate coastline. Understanding risks will provide emergency managers a better understanding when making important decisions prior to landfall. Improved hazard guidance and risk communication based on social and behavioral science to modernize the tropical predictions for actionable lead-times for storm surge and all other threats.

Massachusetts Hurricanes: A National Weather Service Informational Primer

Speaker: Andy Nash, Meteorologist-in-Charge, National Weather Service

Time: 11:15 – 11:45 am

Room: Royal Ballroom

The presentation will discuss the potential impacts from storm surge, winds, flooding rains that would accompany a land falling hurricane in Massachusetts. Examples of forecast information for the various aspects of a hurricane that would be provided via briefings and NWS websites will also be explained.

Break Out Sessions

Rethinking Public Information and Warning in a 24-Hour News Cycle

Presenter: Michael Cassidy, Fire Chief, Holliston Fire Department

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Marlborough

The core capability of Public Information and Warning spans all five mission areas of Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response and Recovery. Managing the message is not just about naming a PIO and sending out a few posts on social media. This presentation will take a closer look at how practitioners from a variety of disciplines can deliver coordinated, prompt, reliable, and actionable information to the whole community through the use of clear, consistent, accessible, and culturally and linguistically appropriate methods. It will take a closer look at the need to effectively relay information regarding any threat or hazard, as well as actions being taken and the assistance being made available in the fast-paced lifestyles of these ever-changing times.

The Power of the Crowd: Emergency Manager's Guide to Crowdsourcing for Situational Awareness

Presenters: Emily Martuscello, Continuous Improvement Advisor, Federal Emergency Management Agency
Justin Kates, Director of Emergency Management, City of Nashua, New Hampshire

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Princess

“Help we are trapped in our home and can’t get through to 911” was an all too common tweet during a historic 2017 Hurricane Season. While first responder organizations were overwhelmed, Digital Volunteer Networks spontaneously formed and organized to collect, analyze, validate, visualize, map, and amplify information from survivors through the internet. These “Heroes in Pajamas” never left their homes while taking information and turning it into interactive real time maps, situation reports, and building a common operating picture.

Harnessing the power of Crowdsourcing and digital volunteers increases the capacity to understand the needs of survivors and direct resources

Introduction to the New Web-Based HURREVAC

Presenters: Paul Morey, Hurricane Program Manager, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Seminar

The National Hurricane Program is transitioning to a web-based version of the HURREVAC decision support tool for government emergency managers. The Introduction to Web-Based HURREVAC session will provide information on the development process and the advantages of the web-based version, discuss features and functionality new to the web version, provide a demonstration of the user interface, and discuss the schedule and process for transition from the desktop software to the web-based version.

Team Rubicon Overview & Capabilities

Presenters: Scott Gobar, Interim State Administrator, Team Rubicon

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Southborough

Team Rubicon is an international non-governmental, non-profit disaster response organization that unites the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders to rapidly provide relief to communities in need. Founded in 2010 with the expressed goal of quickly responding to large-scale disasters, Team Rubicon has deployed thousands of volunteers across the United States and world to provide relief to communities in need.

In this presentation leadership from Team Rubicon will illustrate the Team’s wide range of capabilities and rapid ability to serve communities in need.

Navigating Get Ready, Be Safe, Stay Healthy: A Holistic Approach to Community Resilience

Presenters: Nancy B. Smith, Program Manager, Office of Public Health Preparedness/Boston Public Health Commission

Stacey Kokaram, MPH, Director, Office of Public Health Preparedness/Boston Public Health Commission

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Sterling

Get Ready, Be Safe, Stay Healthy (RSH) is the community preparedness program developed in 2013 by the Boston Public Health Commission's (BPHC) Office of Public Health Preparedness (OPHP). RSH builds on traditional emergency preparedness models and focuses on building public health and health resilience in our communities.

During this session, attendees will learn about the core concepts of the RSH program as well as the key messages that are shared throughout the content. Presenters will walk through the development of the program, discuss best practices for implementing a similar program, and share educational content and resources that have been developed.

Commonwealth Wide Bulk Oil & Hazardous Materials Transportation Study

Presenters: Nick Child, Emergency Planning & Preparedness Officer, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Elise DeCola, Principal, Nuka Research

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room: Westborough

A presentation on a comprehensive statewide oil and hazardous material transport study intended to help local, state, and federal emergency responders with actual data on what is moving through their community. It is intended to support planning, training, and equipment purchases for most likely transport scenarios.

Emergency Dispensing Site: Lessons Learned from the 2017-2018 Meningitis-B outbreak Response at University of Massachusetts Amherst

Presenters: Robert Laford, Assistant Director for Emergency Management and Business Continuity, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Time: 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Room: Marlborough

Fall 2017 semester UMass Amherst experienced a declared outbreak of Meningitis-B on its campus requiring a strategic, multi-discipline response including a mass vaccination program. This program discusses the experiences of the campus Emergency Management staff and how planning and partnerships made for a successful response.

Chemical Safety, Climate Change Resiliency & Community Partnerships

Presenters: Tiffany Skogstrom, MPH Outreach and Chemical Policy Analyst, Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance

Richard E. Ferreira, Director, Taunton Emergency Management Agency

Time: 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Room: Princess

Heat waves, flooding, intense storms, power outages and other climate change weather events pose a significant threat to communities where large toxic chemical users reside when critical infrastructure and services fail or are damaged.

The Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) will demonstrate an online mapping tool to identify toxics users in relation to climate change-related vulnerability factors such as flood, hurricane, and environmental justice zones.

Taunton Emergency Management agency will discuss the importance and value of building strong community partnerships between businesses and local government as part of emergency preparedness planning.

Using GIS to Enhance Resilience and Emergency Preparedness: Drinking and Waste Water Sector

Presenters: Kristin L. Divris, Water Utility Resilience Program Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Juliet Swigor, GIS Regional Program Lead, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Time: 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Room: Seminar

This presentation is an overview of the State's developing and use of GIS in emergency planning for Drinking & Waste Water events.

Overview: Recovery Resource Center

Presenters: Thad Leugemors, Mitigation and Recovery Section Chief, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Paula Krumsiek, Disaster Recovery Program Coordinator, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Jim Wiggs, Emergency Management Director, City of Westfield

Time: 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Room: Southborough

The Recovery Resource Center (RRC) works collaboratively with local officials and the American Red Cross to support disaster survivors. This overview will lay out the process for requesting RRC assistance, what to expect, who will be there, and when to have an RRC in a local community affected by a disaster.

Ignite Community Change: Creating Community Champions to Help Create a Culture of Preparedness

Presenters: Sara Varela, Regional Preparedness Liaison/Contractor, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I
Arlene Magoon, Individual and Community Preparedness Specialist, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I

Time: 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Room: Sterling

Emergency preparedness is everyone's responsibility. And yet, we know in New England our local emergency managers have many other duties and may struggle to prioritize preparedness outreach in their community. Let's all get involved in making preparedness a part of our local culture. Find (or be) the spark and engage community members, volunteers, youth, CERT teams, Community Organizations Active in Disasters COADs, Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters VOADs and your local emergency manager to lead a community preparedness campaign.

Come learn about all the free individual preparedness tools FEMA has to offer to help you launch a community preparedness campaign among your friends, family, neighbors, or community wide. We'll give an overview of FEMA's Individual and Community Preparedness menu of choices such as Prepareathon, Until Help Arrives, youth engagement strategies, connecting your CERT team with these activities, and accessing technical assistance directly from FEMA to support your local efforts. Anyone can lead a community preparedness campaign. Lead one in your community this year, come find out how!

GIS and Emergency Management

Presenter: Desiree Kocis, GIS Coordinator, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Time: 1:45 – 2:30 pm

Room: Westborough

Geographic Information System (GIS) is a framework for gathering, managing and analyzing data. Rooted in geography, GIS integrates many types of data and is useful tool in planning, response and decision making during and in anticipation of planned and unplanned events.

Fentanyl Awareness and Response

Presenter: David DiGregorio, Director, Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Division, Massachusetts Department of Fire Services

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Room: Marlborough

The presentation will discuss fentanyl and its analogues, methods used to obtain these products in this country and the issues they are causing for first responders in Massachusetts as well as nationally. The discussion will also include a closer look at response capabilities, detection, and identification.

Who in My Community Should Be Tier II Reporters?

Presenters: Robert Czerwinski, Fire Chief & Emergency Management Director, Pittsfield Fire Department
Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm
Room: Princess

Are you unsure on who in your community is required to file the mandated Environmental Protection Agency's EPCRA Tier II reports? The annual March 1 deadline has passed and all reports should be on file with the local fire department, LEPCs, and the Massachusetts State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). Your LEPC serves as the local clearinghouse to provide essential "Right-to-Know" information to inquisitive community members, but you can't report what you don't know! This quick overview is intended to heighten awareness on who should be filing Tier II reports and where the information is available.

Pre-disaster Debris Planning

Presenters: John Fischer, Solid Waste Disaster Lead Planner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Sarah Eig, Regional Emergency Management Planner, Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management
Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm
Room: Seminar

Disasters create debris. Having a plan for the types of debris generated, how it will be managed, planning for where it will be transported for sorting, staging and final disposal is complicated. MassDEP will present on the general debris management framework, lessons learned and guidance available.

Boston MOEM will present on their recently developed debris program for the metropolitan area. This program will include the methodology of site assessments and implementing training and exercise plans.

Post-Flood Responsibilities of Local Officials

The Value of the National Flood Insurance Program in Building Community Resiliency

Presenters: Joy Duperault, CFM, State NFIP Coordinator & Deputy Hazard Mitigation Officer, Flood Hazard Management Program, Department of Conservation & Recreation
Richard Nicklas, Floodplain Management & Insurance Branch Chief, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I
Time: 3:00 – 4:30
Room: Southborough

In this dual session MA DCR will cover the basic steps that local officials can take to make their post-flood work less stressful, including pre-planning and assessment, development of public materials, substantial damage determination, and working with FEMA and handling flood insurance questions from citizens.

FEMA will present on flood loss avoidance and compliance issues; updates on specific NFIP programs and initiatives; and FEMA's focus on substantial damage/improvement practices for reduction of flood losses.

Official National Weather Service SKYWARN Spotter Training

Presenters: Glenn Field, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service, Norton
Robert Macedo, Director of System Integration, Dell EMC

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Room: Sterling

The National Weather Service (NWS) relies on trained spotters to be its eyes and ears on the ground – to report severe weather meeting various criteria in real time. This can be crucial for saving lives and helping us warn (or not warn) downstream communities. Radar and other technology are important, but it is most effective when combined with observations from trained spotters – the human/techno mix of information. For every severe thunderstorm watch we have, we receive several reports of funnel clouds that are well-intentioned but wrong.

This course will explain the cloud features associated with severe weather and discuss what warrants reporting to NWS. We also touch on snowfall measuring and other wintertime reporting procedures. At the conclusion of the course, you will receive a spotter ID card with an 800# to call in on – you will be an official weather spotter! (It should also be noted that if emergency managers and town officials are trained, this counts toward the requirements for receiving recognition as a “StormReady” community – a separate NWS program.)

State Director's Town Hall Forum

Presenters: Samantha Phillips, Director, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Room: Westborough

This forum will give Appointed Municipal Emergency Management Directors the opportunity to meet the new Director of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and hear her thoughts on where we are and where we plan to go as Massachusetts improves its readiness and resiliency. It is also your chance to offer your thoughts as well and hear her response. Please join us for a constructive conversation with our new State Director.

Pre-Registration is Required. Registration Instructions Will Be Announced on Day 1 of the Conference.