

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## HOMELAND SECURITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



(603)271-2231

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### NH Emergency Preparedness Conference - June 9, 2016

The NH Emergency Preparedness Conference will be held on Thursday, June 9, from 8:15 am to 4:45 pm at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester.

The conference is an annual event that brings together emergency responders from across our state to explore a wide spectrum of emergency management topics using an all hazards approach.

The goal of the NH Emergency Preparedness Conference is to offer a program that provides NH's emergency planners and responders with the opportunity to:

- learn new ideas and practices to meet emergency preparedness challenges,
- hear lessons learned from previous planning, response, mitigation and recovery efforts; and

- connect with key individuals and organizations across the emergency preparedness spectrum.

Now in its 12th year, attendance at the NH Emergency Preparedness Conference has grown to more than 800 participants and 50 exhibitors. The event provides excellent opportunities for training and networking with local experts and practitioners from a variety of industries, including emergency services, all levels of government, health care, social services, business and education.

There is no fee to attend this conference. The agenda and online registration will be available soon. To register, or for more information, go to: <http://www.nhemergencyprepconference.com/>

### NH HSEM Becomes a Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador



(Click the image above.)

New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) joined more than one hundred federal and state agencies across the United States that have partnered with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as part of the Weather-Ready Nation (WRN) Ambassador Program.

The goal of the program is to build a weath-

er-ready nation by improving natural disaster preparedness and resilience in local communities. The devastating impacts of extreme weather events can be greatly reduced by taking advanced action and increasing awareness via educational seminars, trainings and providing preparedness materials.

For more information, sign-up for the Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador™ session at the Emergency Preparedness Conference in June; HSEM's Program Assistant Vanesa Urango will present a conference session providing detailed information about how the program can be used to increase your community's preparedness. For additional details, contact Program Assistant Vanesa Urango at 223-3602.



## America's PrepareAthon! Day of Action - April 30, 2016

HSEM asks individuals, families and organizations in New Hampshire to participate in America's PrepareAthon! Day of Action on April 30 by completing one step toward their all-hazards preparedness: 1) Sign up for NH Alerts; 2) Make a Family Emergency Plan; 3) Build an Emergency Kit; and 4) Complete Emergency Contact Cards. HSEM's emergency preparedness website, [www.ReadyNH.gov](http://www.ReadyNH.gov), provides links, guides, promotional materials and information about hazards in New Hampshire.

HSEM's goal is to build a more resilient state by educating the public about disasters that could happen in New Hampshire and the all-hazards approach to preparedness, that is, the core steps all people and organizations can take to stay safe during any disaster. Individuals and organizations can participate by completing at least one step in their all-hazards preparedness.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has established Saturday, April 30, 2016 as the fifth national America's PrepareAthon! Day of Action. The Day of Action is meant as a call to action for both organizations and individuals to take steps to prepare for future disasters. Held every spring and fall, the program is designed to increase the understanding of hazards most relevant to local communities and to educate the public on mitigation and protective measures they can take before an emergency occurs.

### Ready, HSEM's Emergency Preparedness Chinook, asks 'Are you Ready?'

HSEM's mascot, Ready, the Emergency Preparedness Chinook, asks families and children across New Hampshire if they're ready for the next emergency.



[\(Click the image above.\)](#)

Children need to be involved in emergency preparedness because knowing what to do in an emergency will provide them with reassurance that they are being protected, even during

Anyone who visits HSEM's preparedness website, [www.ReadyNH.gov](http://www.ReadyNH.gov), can find links and materials to help with completing the all-hazards steps to preparedness: 1) Sign up for NH Alerts; 2) Make a Family Emergency Plan; 3) Build an Emergency Kit; and 4) Complete Emergency Contact Cards.

[\(Click the images below.\)](#)

1

2

3

4

dangerous conditions.

Parents should discuss with children the emergencies that might occur and what actions the family would take to protect itself.

To encourage preparedness among families and school-aged children, HSEM provides the Ready suit, activity books, stickers, crayons and the 'Are you Ready?' curriculum.

To arrange a visit from Ready, borrow the Ready suit or obtain materials, contact your assigned HSEM Field Representative or Public Information Officer Michael Todd at [Michael.Todd@dos.nh.gov](mailto:Michael.Todd@dos.nh.gov), or 223-3641.



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## An Alert Public is Critical to Keeping Our Nation Safe

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's "If You See Something, Say Something™" (S4) campaign is a simple and effective program that raises public awareness for indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime and emphasizes the importance of reporting suspicious activity to the proper local law enforcement authorities.

An important part of the S4 campaign is the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reports Initiative and the critical role that the public performs in reporting suspicious activity. Suspicious activities are behaviors and indicators that, when viewed in the totality of the circumstances, may reasonably indicate terrorism-related criminal activity. First Amendment activities should not be reported as suspicious activity, unless the facts and circumstances supporting the behavior observed are reasonably indicative of criminal activity associated with terrorism. Race, ethnicity, national origin or religious affiliation should not be considered as factors that create suspicion.

Please report any suspicious activities to the New Hampshire Information & Analysis Center (NHIAC) Tips Hotline at 603-223-3860, local law enforcement or 911.

### Report activity that would arouse suspicion in a reasonable person, including:

- Eliciting Information
- Testing of Security
- Recruiting
- Photography/Videotaping
- Observations/Surveillance
- Materials Acquisition/Storage
- Acquisition of Expertise
- Weapons Discovery
- Breach/Attempted Intrusion
- Misrepresentation
- Sabotage/Tampering/Vandalism
- Cyberattack
- Expressed or Implied Threat

## Online Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) Training Offered

The Nationwide Suspicious Activity Report Initiative (NSI) is designed to increase the effectiveness of state, local and tribal law enforcement and public safety professionals and other frontline partners in identifying, reporting, evaluating and sharing pre-incident terrorism indicators to prevent acts of terrorism.

To increase the effectiveness of this multifaceted approach, the NSI has developed training programs for frontline officers and hometown security partners regarding documented and verified behaviors and indicators that, when viewed in the totality of circumstances, may indicate terrorism-related criminal activity.

Both the SAR Line Officer Training and the sec-

tor-specific SAR Hometown Security Partners Training discuss how to report identified suspicious activity to the proper authorities while protecting privacy, civil rights and civil liberties. Suspicious Activity Reporting Training is available at [http://nsi.ncirc.gov/training\\_online.aspx](http://nsi.ncirc.gov/training_online.aspx) for:

- Law Enforcement
- Private Sector Security
- Fire/EMS
- Maritime
- Probation/Parole/Corrections
- Public Safety Telecommunications
- Emergency Management
- Public Health and Healthcare Partners

## Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI) Supports Community Leaders, Decision Makers

The New Hampshire Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI) is a holistic strategy designed to provide awareness and combat drug distribution and abuse. The DMI

obtains data from various sources, including public health, law enforcement and emergency medical services, and provides monthly products for stakeholders



as well as situational awareness releases as needed.

This initiative directly supports community leaders and decision makers by establishing an intelligence capacity that enables public safety and public health experts to better understand trends, implications and threats from illicit drug activity.

The New Hampshire DMI contributes to combating New Hampshire's heroin problem by serving as a centralized hub for data collection, analysis and information sharing. The DMI is responsible for data collection and analysis aimed at providing a more comprehensive statewide picture of the heroin problem and information sharing to all stakeholders, including public safety officials, public health experts, policy and

decision makers. This includes sharing information within New Hampshire, regionally and nationally to stay ahead of trends occurring in other regions.

The New Hampshire DMI Monthly Unclassified bulletin includes statistics and trends related to opioid related emergency admissions, heroin and prescription opiate treatment admissions, EMS Narcan administration and drug overdose deaths, as well as other drug related situational awareness items.

Anyone with inquiries about the DMI program or wishing to receive the monthly DMI bulletin is asked to contact the New Hampshire Information & Analysis Center at (603) 223-3859 or [NH.IAC@dos.nh.gov](mailto:NH.IAC@dos.nh.gov).

### Seabrook Station Evaluated Exercise

On April 5, the State of New Hampshire participated in the final, evaluated exercise of the 2016 Seabrook Station Exercise Cycle, completing the exercise cycle that started in September 2015. Private, local, state and federal partners and Seabrook Station staff participated. Every two years, each nuclear power plant in the United States is required to conduct radiological emergency preparedness exercises, which involve the surrounding states.

Seabrook Station is one nuclear power unit that generates 1,244 million watts of electricity—enough to power the annual needs of 1.2 million families. The 10 mile radius around Seabrook Station is referred to as the Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) and in New Hampshire, encompasses 17 towns, all in Rockingham County; including Brentwood, East Kingston, Exeter, Greenland, Hampton, Hampton Falls, Kensington, Kingston, New Castle, Newfields, Newton, North

Hampton, Portsmouth, Rye, Seabrook, South Hampton and Stratham. There are also six Massachusetts towns in the Seabrook EPZ. The three host communities, Dover, Rochester and Manchester, also participated.

During the evaluated exercise, representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) program evaluate the performance of the State of New Hampshire and local communities for their compliance to REP evaluation criteria. This is to ensure that the entire Offsite Response Organization maintains capacity and capability to respond to an incident at a nuclear power plant and protect public health and safety.

The next evaluated exercise for Seabrook Station will occur in spring 2018. For more information, contact Technological Hazards Chief Diane Becker at [Diane.Becker@dos.nh.gov](mailto:Diane.Becker@dos.nh.gov).

### HSEM Implements New Radiological Equipment

The Radiological Instrumentation Maintenance and Calibration (RIMC) shop is implementing new radiological equipment for Emergency Operations Centers in the Seabrook Station Emergency Planning Zone. The new equipment, Radiation Monitoring Devices Model Radalert 100X from International Medcom, Inc., will be used for monitoring background radiation. The

devices are more user-friendly than the current analog survey meters. RIMC staff hope to have the new equipment deployed by July 1, 2016.

For more information, contact Greg Kaylor at [Gregory.Kaylor@dos.nh.gov](mailto:Gregory.Kaylor@dos.nh.gov)



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## What is WebEOC?

The WebEOC Program is the database software that the State of New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) uses as the state's crisis management software. WebEOC is currently used by 48 states, the federal government and a variety of private entities. WebEOC allows for the ability to interface with other WebEOC users for information sharing purposes, although each organization may utilize WebEOC differently.

Within the State of New Hampshire, WebEOC has multiple uses. Its primary purpose is to provide situational awareness, as well as assist with disaster management during critical incidents in the state. During an incident, WebEOC's main purpose is to provide community leaders, first responders and decision makers with accurate, real time information as the incident is occurring so they can make informed decisions without having to be within the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).

When different stakeholders share information with the SEOC, that information can be made available

to WebEOC users. Communities may utilize WebEOC for a special event or critical incident that is occurring within their area. It is also important to keep in mind that if a critical incident is occurring, HSEM should be contacted and made aware of the situation.

If there is a power outage, WebEOC has multiple backups. As long as internet connectivity is available to the servers, WebEOC should be accessible during a disaster. WebEOC is also mobile friendly which allows it to be used when traditional internet capabilities are not available.

HSEM is always looking to expand the use of WebEOC. If there is a problem that you think WebEOC could solve, please contact HSEM. Classes are offered monthly at the State EOC and can also be brought into the field and taught at a location closer to you thus allowing more personnel to participate. If you have any questions, please contact your assigned HSEM Field Representative or WebEOC Coordinator Craig Beaulac at [Craig.Beaulac@dos.nh.gov](mailto:Craig.Beaulac@dos.nh.gov).

## Hazard Mitigation Funding Opportunity Available

The fiscal year 2016 Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program application period opened Tuesday, March 15, 2016. The program consists of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program and the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program.

If you have a potential hazard mitigation project, please submit a Letter of Intent to HSEM. The Letter of Intent can be found on our Resource Center at the following web page: [https://apps.nh.gov/blogs/hsem/?page\\_id=1199](https://apps.nh.gov/blogs/hsem/?page_id=1199). If you have any questions, please contact your assigned HSEM Field Representative or Beth Peck, State Hazard Mitigation Officer at [Elizabeth.Peck@dos.nh.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Peck@dos.nh.gov).

### **Allowable activities in support of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program objectives are:**

- Local hazard mitigation plans
- Cost effective and sustainable hazard mitigation projects such as: climate resilient mitigation activities, including aquifer storage and recovery, floodplain and stream restoration, culvert upgrades and flood diversion and storage

### **Allowable activities in support of the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program objectives are:**

- Flood hazard mitigation planning
- Cost effective and sustainable hazard mitigation projects such as: property acquisition and demolition, structure elevation and mitigation reconstruction



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## TRI-MEWeb To Replace Paper Reports

Online reporting for the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) will soon be available. TRI-MEWeb, the online reporting system, uses the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Central Data Exchange and eliminates the need for New Hampshire facilities to send paper copies of their Form R to the State after submitting it electronically to the EPA.

The TRI-MEWeb system works by simultaneously transmitting reports to participating states via the National Environmental Information Exchange Net-

work (i.e., Exchange Network). Reports filed using TRI-MEweb represent a facility's official submission to both the EPA and the State. Once the reports are submitted, the State will have access to the data through a password-protected account.

New Hampshire is among 49 other states to have joined the online electronic reporting system.

If you have questions, please contact Sarah Osborne, Tier II Coordinator at [NHTIER2@dos.nh.gov](mailto:NHTIER2@dos.nh.gov).

## Tier II Reporting

The 2015 Tier II reporting deadline has passed and, to date, HSEM has received 1,481 reports. Tier II reports were developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help facilities provide state and local officials and the public with information on

the general hazard types and locations of hazardous chemicals present at facilities during the previous calendar year.

If you have questions, please contact Sarah Osborne, Tier II Coordinator at [NHTIER2@dos.nh.gov](mailto:NHTIER2@dos.nh.gov).

## Funding for Local Exercises Available

The State Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) provides funding to local emergency management officials for the coordination and execution of workshops, table-top exercises and functional exercises. HSEEP Grants are currently available.

During the first quarter of 2016, HSEEP funded table-top exercises were held at the University of New Hampshire, in the towns of Acworth, Brentwood and Sandwich and with the Epping and Winnisquam School Administrative Units. These exercises reviewed response components of Emergency Operations Plans pertaining to active shooters, active threat and structural damage from a severe weather incident.

HSEEP also funded training and exercise planning workshops hosted by the Central New Hampshire Hazmat Team, Southeastern New Hampshire Hazmat Team and the New Hampshire Tactical Officers Association. These workshops covered topics including preparations for a radiation deployment exercise, guides to standard operating procedures development and discussions of training and exercise plans.

If your municipality or organization would like assistance with planning an exercise, please contact your assigned HSEM Field Representative or the HSEM Exercise Training Officer at [exercisetraining@dos.nh.gov](mailto:exercisetraining@dos.nh.gov).

## Second Annual School Resource Officer Conference and Workshop

The second annual School Resource Officer Conference and Workshop will take place on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at the New Hampshire Fire Academy, 98 Smokey Bear Blvd Concord, NH from 8am-4pm. Hosted by NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management, this conference and workshop is designed

for School Resource Officers and any law enforcement agencies that have a role in school safety and security. The registration deadline is Monday, April 18, 2016. For more information or to register, please contact HSEM's School Readiness Program at [schoolreadiness@dos.nh.gov](mailto:schoolreadiness@dos.nh.gov).



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## Updated Overtime & Backfill Form for Exercise Reimbursement

An updated overtime and backfill form must be completed in order to receive reimbursement for exercise and training overtime and backfill that has been approved for grant reimbursement by HSEM or the New Hampshire Fire Academy. The updated form is identified on the top with "Effective for Eligible Events 10/1/14 or later".

Using the updated form is the quickest means of receiving reimbursement for approved exercises and

trainings and will help avoid delays caused by using the old form. The new form has been included in all reimbursement packets from both HSEM and the NH Fire Academy.

If you have questions, please contact your assigned HSEM Field Representative or the HSEM Exercise Training Officer at [exercisetraining@dos.nh.gov](mailto:exercisetraining@dos.nh.gov).

