

Public Safety Newsletter

Christian County Emergency Management
Christian County Citizen Corps



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Back to School Safety

The [National Safety Council](#) has partnered with [First Student](#), the largest provider of student transportation services in North America, to share important [back-to-school safety](#) information. Millions of students will head back to school over the next eight weeks, and tens of thousands of school buses will be on the roads. It's crucial that all motorists understand how to safely share the roads with school buses, pedestrians and bicyclists. It is also a good time for parents and children to talk about how to stay safe at school.

Back-to-school safety encompasses a variety of topics in addition to roadway safety. NSC and First Student have provided fact sheets and a video covering important safety topics regarding:

- Driving tips for all motorists
- Teen driving safety
- Bus safety
- Pedestrian safety
- Bicycling safety
- Backpack safety
- Playground safety
- School bullying awareness and prevention

For more information on back-to-school safety, visit nsc.org/back2school.

Functional Needs Planning

The Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CS EEP) has released its latest video, *Emergency Planning for Populations with Access and Functional Needs*. The video training program is designed to introduce emergency planners to some of the issues associated with inclusive planning and provides suggestions on how to prepare a more comprehensive plan.

<http://www.fema.gov/about/odc/>

2011 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Open

The open application period for the 2011 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program will run from August 15 – September 9, 2011. FEMA's AFG Program provides funding for the essentials that firefighters and first responders need to be safe and effective on the job. If your department or agency has critical needs, AFG can help.

Learn more about AFG and start your application online at <http://www.fema.gov/firegrants>.

JOPLIN TORNADO PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) preliminary survey in Joplin suggest....

The current tornado rating system, the Enhanced Fujita Scale, lacks adequate indicators for estimating the intensity of tornadoes such as the one in Joplin.

Levitan (NIST spokesperson) said there were no direct measurements of the wind speed associated with the May 22 tornado. Weather researchers instead used post-tornado indicators to assess the wind speed.

There were over 8,500 individuals apply to FEMA for assistance from the Joplin Tornado.

"We know what kind of damage is associated with the lower end of the EF scale," Levitan said. "At the high end, it's difficult to make that judgment because the damage could have occurred at lower winds speeds. We hope to find additional indicators not included on the high end of the EF scale."

- The 24-minute warning time was nearly double the national average, reported by the National Weather Service as 13 to 14 minutes.
- Joplin's siren-based warning system was not intended to alert people who were indoors.
- There were no designated public safe rooms or tornado shelters in Joplin
- Most buildings in Joplin did not have basements.

- A large number of residential and nonresidential buildings in Joplin sustained complete loss of function, requiring either major repair or replacement.

- Critical and high-occupancy buildings in Joplin did not perform better than buildings of similar construction type in lower-risk categories in terms of loss of function or damage.

- Buildings with reinforced concrete frames and steel frames that were surveyed also suffered total loss of function and major damage to the envelope and interior; however, the structural frame remained largely intact.

- Most other buildings, including those constructed with pre-cast concrete, metal, concrete and brick masonry, and wood-frame, suffered partial or complete collapse.

Levitan said it was important for the research team to come to Joplin immediately after the tornado to assess the damage.

"In some ways, the world is our laboratory," he said. "In the field of wind engineering, we can use wind tunnels, computer simulations and analytical tools to study wind effect, but at the end of the day, the real world is our ultimate laboratory."



Over \$1.5 Million Approved For Crisis Counseling

COLUMBIA, Mo. -The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved an Immediate Services Program (ISP) grant for more than \$1.5 million to the Missouri Department of Mental Health for crisis counseling services for survivors of the recent severe storms, flooding and tornadoes.

Crisis counseling helps disaster survivors deal with the normal stress brought on by an abnormal situation. Common reactions to a disaster may include nightmares, difficulty sleeping, feelings of being overwhelmed, hopelessness, increased anger or aggression, domestic violence, frustration, and feelings of powerlessness. These feelings can be exhibited by people of all ages. Children and the elderly are particularly vulnerable to post-disaster stress.

Crisis counseling is available for those who live and work in disaster-affected counties. Those who need help may call one of the Access Crisis Intervention (ACI) hotline numbers below. Lines are open 24 hours, daily.

For residents of Jasper, McDonald and Newton counties
1-800-247-0661

For residents of Stone and Taney counties
1-800-494-7355

National Flood Insurance Program

Flood insurance from the NFIP puts you in control. Homeowners, business owners, and renters can all buy flood insurance, as long as their community participates in the NFIP.

Flood insurance claims are paid even if a disaster is not declared by the President. Claims are paid promptly, so flood victims can recover quickly. If you file a flood insurance claim, you may also request an advance partial payment for your immediate needs.

Flood insurance reimburses you for covered losses. Homeowners can buy up to \$250,000 of coverage; businesses, up to \$500,000. Separate contents coverage is available, so renters can also buy protection.

When it comes to flood insurance, do you have feelings like these?

"Who needs flood insurance? If my home or business is ever flooded, disaster assistance will bail me out."

"Flood insurance is too expensive."

"We are not going to be flooded. This area has never been flooded."

"Who needs flood insurance? If my home or business is ever flooded, disaster assistance will bail me out."

THE FACTS ARE:

- Before most forms of federal disaster assistance can be offered, the President must declare a major disaster.
- The most common form of federal disaster assistance is a loan, which must be paid back with interest.
- The average Individuals and Households Program award for Presidential disaster declarations related to flooding in 2008 was less than \$4,000.

- To qualify for federal home repair assistance, your home must have relatively minor damage that can be repaired quickly.

- You do not qualify for federal rental assistance unless your home has been heavily damaged or destroyed.

"Flood insurance is too expensive."

THE FACTS ARE:

- The monthly payment on a \$50,000 disaster home loan at 4 percent interest is \$303 for 20 years.
- The average premium for federally backed flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is \$550 a year.
- The cost of a Preferred Risk Policy starts as low as \$119 a year.

"We are not going to be flooded. This area has never been flooded."

THE FACTS ARE:

- Floods are the most common, and most costly, natural disaster.
- In the past several years, about 60 percent of all declared disasters involved flooding.
- In areas with the greatest risk of flooding, Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs), a building has a 26 percent chance of being flooded during a 30-year mortgage.
- On average, 25 to 30 percent of all flood insurance claims paid by the NFIP are for property outside of SFHAs.

The risk of flooding is real.
Do not gamble any longer

1-800-427-4661

FEMA Independent Study Courses

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute offers many online courses for you to learn more about emergency preparedness, mitigation, the emergency management system, and the disaster response process.

All the course materials are available over the internet to all who are interested. Official enrollment in the course, which includes scoring the final exam, receiving a certificate, and maintaining student records is, however, limited to United States (US) residents and to those individuals outside the US with valid US Postal Service deliverable address including APOs and FPOs.

The EMI Independent Study program consists of self-paced courses designed for both the general public and people who have emergency management responsibilities. They are offered free-of-charge to all who qualify for enrollment, and college credit can be obtained through a for-fee service after successful completion of a course.

<http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslst.asp>

National Preparedness Month 2011

This September: A Time to Remember. A Time to Prepare

National Preparedness Month is the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) annual campaign to encourage Americans to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, schools, organizations, businesses, and communities.

<http://www.ready.gov/>





Community Service Gives CERTs Chance to Shine

Benefiting Community and CERT Programs through Service .

Despite the small challenges, using CERTs for community service has enormous benefits for the community and for CERT programs. According to the many CERT coordinators, CERT community service:

- **It Spreads the message of emergency preparedness.** Community members talking with other community members is a very effective way to get out the word. The benefit is in bringing awareness to the community by us being out there and making them aware of the potential disasters that could affect us. By us being out there, people start wondering and asking questions.
- **It Builds community.** CERT community service builds social capital...and will assist in creating a more resilient community.
- **Promotes CERT team-building.** After doing community service together, you feel more comfortable with your team and see familiar faces when there is a real emergency.
- **Keeps people engaged in CERT program** between trainings and emergencies. Community service work helps keep the team active. They get to practice the things we've learned, such as the incident com-

mand structure, and they get to give back to their community. If you don't utilize them for small things, you're not going to get them for the big things, either.

- **Provides human resources to stretched fire and law enforcement staff.** There are lots of situations where you don't necessarily need people with a badge. About 85% of those situations can be managed by trained volunteers if they have the right tools. People want to help.
- **Exposes the community to CERT.** We need for them to know who we are, that we're here, and that we can help them in an emergency.
- **Helps with recruitment.** The big thing is they're promoting the message of preparedness and volunteerism when a CERT group goes into a school or a parade. They're letting other citizens know that if you'd like to come and help, we'd love to have you. It's making our state more prepared.

CERT Online Training

Introduction to Community Emergency Response Teams

IS-317 was recently updated and is an interactive web-based course that is great for learning basic concepts of CERT training.

It serves as an introduction to CERT for those wanting to complete training or as a refresher for current team members. The IS-317 can be taken by anyone interested in CERT. However, to become a CERT volunteer, one must complete the classroom training offered by a local government agency such as the emergency management agency, fire or police department.

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/IS317>

Search and Rescue Tutorial

This tutorial allows CERT-trained individuals to review and refresh their skills in sizeup and search and rescue techniques.

Teams can use the tutorial as a group refresher activity. Those who are not yet CERT members can also use the tutorial for background on the CERT basic training.

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/SandR/default.htm>



Close One Door and Open Another

In basic skills training, new fire-fighters are often instructed to be sure to chock open any doors they pass through so that the door won't lock or close behind them, making egress difficult. Although this line of thought has a great deal of merit under certain conditions, a more complete definition is required before we send firefighters out with their helmets full of wedges. Perhaps a better way to explain our interest in doors is that we need to maintain control of all doors through which we pass. We choose to accomplish this control in different ways, based on our needs.

There are a number of doors we typically need to control in the open position for various reasons--most commonly, exterior doors providing ingress and egress where the opening will not adversely affect fire behavior. You can control these doors by a variety of means, including door chocks, hinge-control devices, or rope/webbing. Keeping these doors open will help firefighters and civilians to find them more easily and will facilitate hose stretches and equipment deployment.

Firefighters must also effectively control a penthouse door and a roof access scuttle. These openings should be rendered incapable of closing once the roof team accesses them. Removing the door or hatch, if possible, is often the best way to do this. If you cannot remove the door, rack or twist the door, render the latch mechanism inoperable, block the hinges, or employ any type of "prop device."

Ventilation tactics may also involve door control. In this scenario, the door may be fully opened for natural or forced ventilation. Using the rope/webbing or door chock method often works well for exterior doors or those in the ventilation stairwell. For overhead doors, firefighters have long been advised to use a hook to prop open a garage door. That method will work; however, a simple vise grip on the track will also control the opening and will not tempt a passing firefighter to grab a tool to take into the building.



Although there are many times and places we want to control a door in the open position, we must also be aware that sometimes we need to control a door and close it behind us for the sake of firefighter and civilian safety. These instances may include fires where the attack line has not made any progress and providing increased air flow would further hamper suppression efforts. In occupancies with fire doors in the public hallway, keeping the doors closed, where possible, will help maintain tenable conditions for firefighters searching and civilians attempting to make egress. The same holds true for stairway doors. Civilians may need access to exit doors, but the automatic closers should be allowed to operate and close the door after use. In other instances, firefighters may designate a stairwell for transport of personnel and equipment. In such a scenario, identify doors that lock on the stairwell side. Use latch straps to prevent firefighters from becoming locked out of upper floors.

Perhaps the most common scenario for closing a door through which firefighters pass is during primary search activity. The place to begin a primary search on the fire floor is the point closest to the seat of the fire, where viable victims may be found. This position puts searching firefighters in a dangerous situation even when they are supported by a hand-line attacking the seat of the fire. Other than a hose-line, the best protection for the search team may be to put a door between them and the fire. When forcing a door adjacent to the fire, searching firefighters should enter and deploy a latch strap or similar device that will allow the door to close but prevent the latch from catching. The protection of the door will



provide the best conditions possible this close to the seat of the fire. With the door to the adjacent room closed, the search team must rely on the firefighters on the attack line to make progress, or at least hold the fire in check while the search is conducted.

Any adverse change in the fire must be immediately reported to the search team. The members on the attack line must be sure not to withdraw from their position without waiting for the search team. Likewise, the searching firefighters should proactively locate a secondary means of egress from the room in case the hallway becomes cut off. If another search team moves down the hallway while the first team is searching, it will come across the latch strap deployed across the doorknob. This will serve as an indicator that firefighters are in the room. After searching the room, firefighters may reenter the

hallway to move to their next objective. Leave the latch strap hanging from the doorknob to indicate that the room has been searched.

When operating on the fire ground, all members must be aware of the need to control certain doors in the open position to aid egress or ventilation or facilitate a hose stretch. In other circumstances, firefighters may need to control doors in the closed position to provide protection while conducting a primary search or seeking refuge from severe fire conditions.

<http://www.fireengineering.com>

Around the Water? Officer Safety Tips

Recently, swift moving water has claimed the lives of a deputy in Wyoming and a state water patrol officer in Missouri. Deputy Brian Gross, 29, of the Converse County (Wyo.) Sheriff's Office was one of several officers involved in the rescue of a distraught female who had intentionally gone into a river. His body was recovered on Sunday, July 31.

In Missouri, extensive efforts were made to recover Missouri Patrol Trooper Fred Guthrie, 46, and his five-year K-9 partner, Reed, who were missing and presumed drowned after Guthrie's truck was found near flood waters in Holt County.

Water can be a very perilous environment for law enforcement officers for a



variety of reasons. LawOfficer.com reached out to Sgt. Gerrard Callahan of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, for some officer safety pointers.

"You've got to remember that fast-moving water is capable of carving out rock," said Callahan. "It's a force you can't win against. Have respect for it."

He went on to say, "Moving current and fixed objects is where the danger lies. That's a big part of what officers need to know. It can be a very dangerous environment.

Sometimes waiting for more qualified and better equipped and trained personnel may be the right move."

"Know your limits. That's a problem we have in this line of work. Sometimes taking a step back is the right thing to do. It's hard, especially if you have witnesses on scene. I've seen many officers perform rescues where they go above and beyond the

call of duty.

The biggest thing we teach people is that they aren't lifeguards. It's important to remember that when you encounter a victim in the water, they're panicked and they can pull you down also."

Callahan has these tips for officers who may find themselves faced with a potential water rescue.

"Think reach, throw, row and go," he said.

- *Reach* for them but put a barrier between like a stick, pole or paddle. You can let go if you have to.

- *Throw* something to them that floats.

- *Row* out to them if possible.

- *Go* get help from those that have the equipment and training.

Callahan likened water rescue decisions to the decisions made in any critical incident. "You have to determine your best options and be aware of the risks," he said.

"If you decide to engage in a rescue, get as much gear off as you can. Get rid of your belt, boots, vest and you really want to go out with some type of flotation like a life vest or raft," Callahan said. "Keep this between you and the victim when you reach them. It gives them something to grab onto and keeps the rescuer safe."

If you enter the water with a rope, don't secure yourself to it. "I've seen officers tether themselves to a line, which is not recommended. You want to be able to release yourself if needed.

Fast moving water can drive you under and pin you to the bottom," he said. "If you find yourself being swept away by fast

moving water, Callahan has this advice: "Try to float and point your feet down river to help bounce off objects. Keep your feet on the surface and pointed upwards to avoid snags," Callahan said. "Watch out for strainers like large trees and start paddling ahead of time to avoid them. Keep an eye out for a slow-moving eddy, and use it to swim out and get yourself to shore."

Bottom line: Know your limitations, assess the entirety of the situation, and don't let impulse cause you to become a victim.

Safety Tip: Why You Need a Rescue Knife

If you need to cut someone free from an accident or get to them through a car window, you'll need a proper tool on your person immediately....not in the cruiser at the top of the culvert.

A rescue knife has a 3" 4" blade that's partially serrated (for cutting all materials) and blunt-tipped (for cutting clothing without cutting the victim), and has a carbide tip or plunger (for breaking car windows).

Cops do cut people free of seat belts, and your baton will not break most car windows., victims have died as cops tried. Carry your rescue knife!

What items should I have in my CERT kit?

Answer: It's critical that all CERT members wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and have essential items in their CERT kit. In addition to the PPE, all of the recommended kit items below are also specified in the CERT Basic Training Participant Manual.

The CERT basic PPE

- Helmet
- Goggles
- N95 Mask
- Gloves (work gloves and non-latex exam gloves)
- Heavy shoes or boot

A good CERT kit should contain:

- Nylon or canvas bag with shoulder strap
- Water
- Meals and snacks that can be eaten with minimal preparation
- Water purification tablets
- **Flashlight or miner's lamp**
- Batteries and extra bulbs
- Spare flashlight
- Light sticks (12-hour if possible)
- Pea-less whistle
- Utility knife
- Note pads
- Markers:
 - Thin point
 - Thick point
- Pens
- Duct tape
- Masking tape (2-inch)
- Scissors (Emergency Medical Technician shears)
- Non-sparking crescent wrench or other gas shutoff tool
- First aid pouch containing:
 - 4-by 4-inch gauze dressings
 - Abdominal pads (4)
 - Triangular bandages (4)
 - Band-Aids
 - Roller bandage
 - personal medications



Christian County CERT volunteered over 3,000 hours to the Joplin effort!

I am interested in CERT... What if I have concerns about my age or physical ability

All CERT participants have different levels of physical ability and strength. Each person needs to be realistic about any limitations **he or she may have. It's important for both the CERT member's personal safety and for the success of the mission.** However, regardless of physical ability, there is a role for every person in CERT.

During CERT basic training in the classroom, anyone who has a concern about a particular skill, such as lifting a person who has been injured, should let the instructor know. The hands-on portion of the classroom training is a great opportunity for each participant to observe the skills in practice and to confirm their own capability to perform the activity safely.

Remember that rescuer safety is #1 priority for CERT members.

After you've completed the basic training, you'll see that CERT activities before, during, and after a disaster will require a broad range of skills. Many of these activities do not require significant physical abilities.

- Non-disaster-related team activities may include promoting emergency preparedness in your community, developing and maintaining a Web site for your program, helping with special events, or other administrative assistance to the CERT program

coordinator.

- During disaster response, individuals who have physical limitations may handle critical assignments at the team's command post, such as assisting with planning and documenting the team's activities, registering team members as they arrive, tracking supplies and equipment, or managing radio communications for the team leader.
- Following a disaster, CERT members are needed to help with documentation and after-action evaluation of the CERT's response.

These are just a few examples of how people of all abilities can help ensure the safety and security of their neighborhoods and workplaces. We want everyone who wants to be involved to have an opportunity to take the training, learn the skills, and participate in CERT.





Who has to take NIMS and ICS training?

A: All emergency services-related disciplines such as EMS, hospitals, public health, fire service, law enforcement, public works/utilities, skilled support personnel, and other emergency management response, support, elected officials and volunteer personnel.

Q. To whom does NIMS apply?

A: NIMS is applicable to State, tribal and local governments, private sector organizations, critical infrastructure owners and operators, nongovernmental organizations and other organizations with an active role in emergency management and incident response. Elected and appointed officials, who are responsible for jurisdictional policy decisions, must also have a clear understanding of their emergency management roles and responsibilities to better serve their constituency.

National Incident Management System: FAQ's

Q. To whom does NIMS apply?

A: NIMS is applicable to State, tribal and local governments, private sector organizations, critical infrastructure owners and operators, nongovernmental organizations and other organizations with an active role in emergency management and incident response. Elected and appointed officials, who are responsible for jurisdictional policy decisions, must also have a clear understanding of their emergency management roles and responsibilities to better serve their constituency.

Q. What if my department is not NIMS compliant?

A: **"All future federal preparedness grants will be contingent upon NIMS compliance by the end of FY2006," according to www.fema.gov. "To be considered NIMS-compliant, the recipient of the funds must have adopted and/or implemented the FY2005 thru FY2011 compliance activities." Included in this group are grants from:**

- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Department of Justice (DOJ)
- U.S. Fire Administration (USFA)
- Department of Education (DOE)



FY2005 and FY2006 were incremental years as far as NIMS compliance is concerned. However, FY2007—which ends on Sept. 30, 2007—is **"the big one."** By this date, any first responder agency that has not fully implemented the NIMS to DHS' satisfaction is in serious trouble.

<http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/>



Christian County starts Medical Reserve Corps

Christian County Health Department and the C.C. Emergency Management Office have been to improve disaster preparedness and response within our county. Christian County is in the process of registering as a Medical Reserve Corps in order to enhance our coordinated response to a public health emergency

As a Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteer, you could be called upon to assist with public health efforts in times of special need or disaster, e.g. during a major communicable disease outbreak, an earthquake, flood, or an act of terrorism. MRCs bring volunteers together to supplement existing local emergency plans and resources.



MRC volunteers include medical and public health professionals such as physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, veterinarians, and epidemiologists. Many community members—interpreters, chaplains, office workers, legal advisors, and others—can fill key support positions.

MRC units are community-based and function as a way to locally organize and utilize volunteers who want to donate their time and expertise to prepare for and respond to emergencies and promote

healthy living throughout the year. MRC volunteers supplement existing emergency and public health resources.

You Never Know When Your Community Might Need You

The success of our response to a large-scale public health event, such as a pandemic or bioterrorism attack, depends on how quickly and effectively we can mobilize MRC volunteers. MRC units throughout the state actively improve and protect **their community's public health.**



Medical Reserve Corps Mission Statement

“The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a county-wide, civilian, volunteer program that helps build the public health infrastructure of communities in Christian County. The Medical Reserve Corps, a division of the Christian County Citizen Corps, is organized and trained to address a wide range of challenges from public health education to disaster response.”

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

The Christian County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a force of dedicated volunteers who stand ready to support the community in the event of a public health emergency. The MRC is comprised of medical and public health professionals who, along with interested community members, volunteer their skills, expertise and time to support ongoing public health initiatives and assist during emergencies throughout the county.

How do I get involved?

If you are a professional medical person with a license, contact the Christian County Health Department at 581-7285

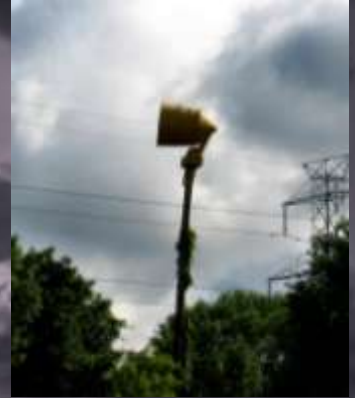
If you are not a medical professional and want to help, call the Emergency Management Office at 581-2126



A storm is coming... Will you know it

Traditionally, people have relied on Outdoor Warning Sirens to alert them of approaching storms and tornados.

In today's age, this is not the best option for residents to rely on.



A better way to receive warnings!

An **All-Hazards Radio** that gets it's information directly from the National Weather Service.

Advantages of the All-Hazards Radio:

- Battery operated, in case the power goes out.
- Programmed for your county only.
- Easily heard indoors.
- Accessories can be added for people with visual or hearing impairments
- Warnings come directly from the National Weather Service

The problem with Outdoor Warning Sirens:

- They were originally designed for people outdoors.
- **Effective range of a siren is only 1 mile, less if your "up-wind"**
- They are mechanical and have a high failure rate. They are outdoors, subject to all the elements, including lightning, wind, birds, etc.
- **Subject to someone physically "activating" them. At night responders may have to be woke in the middle of the night, travel to the siren site and manually turn them on!**



Several Different Types of Radios

S.A.M.E. Technology: Look for radios that offer Specific Area Messaging Encoding. This allows the user to program in codes for the specific counties that they want. If you only want to hear **Christian County Warnings, that's all you'll hear. But, you will get all types of warnings; tornado, severe thunderstorm, flood, etc.**

Some models offer more options for receiving alerts. The more expensive models let you program it to only receive certain types of alerts as well as receiving alerts for the specific counties that you want. So, if you want to only receive tornado warnings for Christian County, you can do that.

This feature offers the user the convenience of being alerted only to warnings in the area he /she selects, so they are less likely to be turned off because the user is annoyed by too many messages not applicable to them.

Today's All-Hazard Radios were formally known as "Weather Alert Radios".

Since we face not only natural hazards, but man-made hazards as well, the radios have evolved to keep up with the changing threats. All-Hazard Radios can also be used by Emergency Management personnel to alert you of various other types of emergencies such as: chemical spills, terrorist threats and other types of emergencies that may threaten the residents.

TSA begins testing new screening procedures for children

The Transportation Security Administration has begun testing less-invasive screening procedures for younger children passing through airport checkpoints at six airports.

The agency had promised kinder, gentler screening processes for children earlier this year after repeated complaints from passengers and YouTube videos of young children being patted down at security checkpoints. It began testing the new procedures,

along with some other new security screening measures, in August at selected airports around the country.



The six airports testing the new child-screening procedures at checkpoints include Boston Logan International, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International, Miami International, Orlando International, Houston and Denver International.



The pilot program for child screening, said TSA on its Web site, is aimed reducing the frequency of pat-downs for passengers 12 and under by giving officers additional options for resolving alarms.

Screeners will rely on greater use of explosives trace detection for children, said the agency. TSA screeners, said the agency, will determine if a child is 12 or under.

<http://www.gsnmagazine.com>

Fire District Information

The following is a short list of what the Fire District should be doing to help out EMA and what information we need from you

- NIMS training! Yes it is a requirement
- Create a list (physical location) of spotter posts and get us that list
- Get a copy of the EOP – read it
- Know the levels of EOC response and who should be responding to the EOC
- Get us department rosters and keep current. List of officers and their 24 hour contacts, e-mail addresses. Department mailing addresses.
- Participate in LEPC meetings
- Make sure everyone has an ID tag We need to hear from the Chief/ Assistant Chief before issuing ID tag.
- Sign County Mutual Aid Agreement
- Sign Region D Mutual Aid Agreement
- **Participate in County Chief's Association Meetings**
- Participate in Tornado Drill Day
- Test Sirens Regularly
- Know what CERT people are capable of
- Fill out the IRIS database for us. (E-mail, phone and text messaging system.)
- Fill out Hazardous Materials reporting form when responding to a haz-mat spill. All Spills have to be reported to LEPC (state law)
- Report Storm damage to the EMA office

National Terrorism Advisory System

The National Terrorism Advisory System, or NTAS, replaces the color-coded Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS). This new system will more effectively communicate information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed information to the public, government agencies, first responders, airports and other transportation hubs, and the private sector.

It recognizes that Americans all share responsibility for the **nation's security, and should always** be aware of the heightened risk of terrorist attack in the United States and what they should do.

These alerts will include a clear statement that there is an imminent threat or elevated threat. Using available information, the alerts will provide a concise summary of the potential threat, information about actions being taken to ensure public safety, and recommended steps that individuals, communities, businesses and governments can take to help prevent, mitigate or respond to the threat.

Imminent Threat Alert

Warns of a credible, specific, and impending terrorist threat against the United States.

Elevated Threat Alert

Warns of a credible terrorist threat against the United States.



In memory of the 9/11 tragedy and the heroism of those Emergency Services Personnel, and in honor of the men and women who currently serve our communities, Responder Life, a not-for-profit ministry, is coordinating a weekend just for First Responders and their families in Branson.

Weekend events will include a dynamic conference hosted by Responder Life, where they will be sharing resources designed to bring inspiration and joy to your professional experience and personal life through faith and family focused workshops. A movie night at IMAX theater for a showing of Fireproof and a play day FREE of charge at The Midwest's Best Theme Park-Silver Dollar City featuring 30 rides and attractions, live shows, one of the country's grandest craft festivals (National Harvest Festival) and a very special 9/11 Tribute Service! Plus, special lodging, food, show and attraction discounts throughout the Branson area.

Responder Life and the Branson community would be honored if you would join us for this special weekend and give us a chance to say THANK YOU for the tremendous sacrifices you make daily to serve us! There's no purchase necessary, just complete the following form for the options that best suit your family during the weekend.

Itinerary

Saturday, September 10th
Responder Life Insider Conference
IMAX evening showing of the movie Fireproof

Sunday, September 11th
FREE tickets to Silver Dollar City for First Responders & Families
9/11 Tribute and Worship Service in Echo Hollow - 11am (weather permitting)

Entire Weekend
Special lodging, food and ticket discounts for First Responders



Call 800-268-4014 for ticket information
www.branson.com/responderlife

EMA Office to track NIMS Training

In anticipation of the Federal Government requiring us to prove that we are NIMS compliant, the Emergency Management office recently purchased a software system to track training in the county.

Initially, Departments will need to send us a spreadsheet with the names of all personnel, hire dates, employment levels, etc.

Then, we will start the massive undertaking of entering the dates of all the training and the completion dates.

Once the data entry is completed, we can provide you with a report that shows who has taken what and what classes need to be taken for a particular personnel to be compliant.



What is FireCorps?



Fire Corps is a locally-driven Citizen Corps program that allows community members to offer their time and talents to their local fire departments. Fire Corps serves as a gateway to information for and about fire department programs and meets a citizen's desire to serve as well as a department's need for support.



Fire Corps is one of five partner programs under Citizen Corps, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's grassroots strategy to bring together government and community leaders to involve citizens in all-hazards emergency preparedness and resilience. Citizen Corps partner programs share the common goal of helping communities prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies of all kinds.

Citizen who aid departments in non-operational activities allow first responders to focus their efforts on being prepared for and responding to the most critical, life-threatening situations. Everyone can do something to support their local fire and emergency service departments.

Here are some things Fire Corps members provide;

- Promote fire safety and prevention in schools and homes
- Assist with public relations
- Organize fundraising initiatives
- Provide administrative and clerical support
- Assist with canteen services at major incidents

In order to participate in the FireCorps, CERT, Medical Reserve Corps or VIPS programs in Christian County, citizens need to attend a 24 hour training course.

The 24 hour CERT course will introduce you to the Citizen Corp as well as train you to take care of yourself and your family in the event of a disaster.

You'll learn First Aid, Triage, light search and rescue, how to lift and move heavy objects off of patients, how to move patients, how to set up a treatment area and a whole host of other things.

You'll also learn about Disaster Psychology, Terrorism Awareness and Fire Suppression.

Once you have completed the CERT course, you will have to complete some paperwork and undergo a background check and be issued an ID tag. Once that is complete, **you'll be a member of the Citizen Corps!**



What is VIPS

Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Program is a national program which provides support and resources for law enforcement agencies interested in developing or enhancing a volunteer program and for community members who wish to volunteer their time and skills with a community law enforcement agency.

VIPS is the official title of the law enforcement volunteer component of Citizen Corps.



VIPS is a partnership between the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. VIPS is the first and only national organization dedicated to law enforcement volunteer programs.

Volunteer Activities

Here are some examples of the types of assignments citizens take on to assist local law enforcement agencies:

- Data Entry
- Traffic Control at parades
- National Night Out
- Informational booths / fairs
- DARE programs
- Distribute information on police services at community events
- Neighborhood Watch program
- Search and rescue activities
- Role-playing and training scenarios for officers



Upcoming Events

Sept 2011 - National Preparedness Month. SEMA joins with FEMA and other partners to promote emergency preparedness at home, work and throughout Missouri communities.

Nov 2011 - Winter Weather Awareness Day. SEMA, the Department of Health and Senior Services and the National Weather Service team up to encourage Missourians to be prepared for the risks associated with winter weather.

February 7, 2012 –The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut. On the 200th anniversary of the last of the Great New Madrid Earthquakes of 1811-12, Missourians will **“Drop, Cover and Hold On”** at 10:15 a.m. to practice earthquake preparedness as part of the drill for central U.S. states.

Upcoming Training

- Red Cross Sheltering Class
 - August 27, 9am to 4pm
 - Union Hill Church of Christ, Nixa
 - RSVP 417.581.2126
- EOC Management And Operations (APS Required Course)
 - August 24-25 Washington Police Department
 - POST approved
- Exercise Design and Evaluation (PDS Course)
 - September 6-8 Holiday Inn, St. Louis
 - POST approved
- Damage Assessment Class
 - September 14, Ozark
- ICS 300 Intermediate Incident Command System
 - September 13-15 Branson Fire sta. 1
 - POST approved
- Advanced Incident Command System
 - October 12-13 Branson Fire sta. 1
 - POST approved
- TRANSCAER Anhydrous Ammonia Training
 - October 15 Springfield
 - POST approved
- Disaster Mental Health and Psychological First Aid
 - October 18 Springfield

Emergency Response Guide Book for Android

Search for chemicals by name, UN Number, CAS number, etc. Has all the data that the NRG book has. Search the Android

Market for “Emergency Response Guidebook”.

Christian County Emergency Management

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