



HSEM UPDATE



St. Clair County Office of Emergency Management Homeland Security
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St. Clair County, MI

12/21/2017

Issue 73

We wish every one of you a very
Merry Christmas and a Happy and
Healthy New Year!



Congratulations on your retirement Chief Jefferson!
We wish you the very best!

Attention School Personnel, EMS Providers, Fire Service, and Law Enforcement

This Course is For You:



Understanding and Planning for School Bomb Incident (AWR-132)

This four-hour awareness level course provides participants with the language and tools required to effectively assess school bomb incident response plans and guide recommendations. The course identifies the factors involved in school bomb threats; critical response actions based on scenario types; the primary components of an improvised explosive device; and critical components of a school bomb related response plan. This class is for the following disciplines:

- School Personnel
- Emergency Medical Services
- Fire Service
- Law Enforcement

If you have a MI-Train Account, please go to the website at mi.train.org.

- Enter you login name and password and select the Login button
- At the top right of the page, in the box that says Search by Keyword or Course ID, type 1052736 and then select the magnifying glass
- Click the course title **Understanding and Planning for School Bomb Incident (AWR-132)**
- Select the registration tab
- Select the register button associated with the proper session
- You will receive a message you have registered for the course

If you don't have a MI Train account or have any questions, please contact Nikki Falk at 810.989.6329 or via email at nfalk@stclaircounty.org



“We can’t help everyone, but everyone can help someone.”

Ronald Reagan

This quote from Ronald Reagan is so true. Many think that, well first, that it will never happen to them, and second, that it won’t happen in their area, and 3rd if it does happen there will be some 1st Responder to help. This is just not realistic. It can happen to anyone at any time in any place and if it is something big all resources will be taxed and may not be able to respond in a timely manner.

It could be weather related, a crime of some sort, or a traffic accident to name a few. Some examples recently include the church shooting in Texas, this could never happen in church of all places, or the crazed gunman in Las Vegas, shooting up a concert where people gathered to have fun and listen to music, or the vehicles that drove into a crowd just walking down a sidewalk, or maybe a thunderstorm that just unleashed a massive tornado without warning. In Joplin, MO that is exactly what happened and without notice it completely demolished their entire town.

One answer that we have developed is a Community Emergency Ready Team. Anyone can go through this training. We are offering a Law Enforcement Citizens Academy, a Fire/EMS Citizens Academy, and an Emergency Management Citizens Academy. Once you have gone through the Academy Training of your choice, you may choose to keep the information you learned to yourself or become a team member. If this something you would be interested in call 810-989-6965 or email emergencymangement@stclaircounty.org





GOAL FOR DECEMBER: Be prepared to give first aid while waiting for an ambulance.

An emergency can happen at any time and any place. Many public places have a first aid kit, oxygen, or an AED (automated external defibrillator) to treat people. These items can only save lives if someone knows how to use them. Actions you take in the first few minutes after an injury or other medical incident may save someone's life. For more information check out: <http://do1thing.com/>

Tasks:

- Know what to do while waiting for an ambulance to arrive.
- Make or buy first aid kits for your home and car.
- Take training in first aid, CPR, AED, and/or pet first aid.

Pilgrim Lutheran Ready Congregation Project

As part of the Ready Congregation campaign, members of Pilgrim Lutheran Church were given literature packets on emergency preparedness for the home as part of Emergency Preparedness month in September. The Pilgrim Lutheran Men's Club took this packet of information and then took it upon themselves to create emergency preparedness buckets for members of our church. So far around 20 of the kits have been made and distributed to various households. The Men's Club will continue to make and distribute the kits as needed for the members of the church.



Winter Safety Tips

PREPARING FOR A WINTER STORM

At home:

- Keep handy a battery-powered flashlight, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio and portable radio, extra food (canned or dried food is best), can opener, and bottled water (at least 3 gallons per person). Fully charge all mobile and home telephones.
- Make sure each member of the household has a warm coat, gloves, hat and water-resistant boots. Ensure extra blankets and heavy clothes are available.
- Keep on hand items for infant, elderly or disabled family members.
- Keep on hand items for your pets. Animals feel the effects of wind chill. Be sure to have suitable shelter with food and water.
- Be aware of potential fire and carbon monoxide hazards if you plan to use an emergency heating source such as a fireplace, wood stove or space heater. (See Heat Sources Safety page later in this packet)

Outside:

- Avoid overexertion, such as shoveling heavy snow, pushing a car, or walking in deep snow. Sweating could lead to chill and hypothermia, and abnormally low body temperatures. Cold weather also puts extra strain on the heart, so the elderly and those with heart conditions should be especially cautious when out in the cold.
- Walk carefully on snowy, icy sidewalks.
- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight warm clothing in layers, with a waterproof outer layer. Wear a wool hat, mittens.
- Keep your clothes dry. Change wet socks and clothing quickly to prevent loss of body heat.
- Understand the hazards of wind chill. As wind speed increases, heat is carried away from a person's body more rapidly which could lead to severe hypothermia.

Automotive Preparedness:

- Be sure the vehicle is winterized by late fall. This includes having the proper mix of antifreeze and water in the cooling system, topping off the windshield washing solution, and checking the tire treads. Have a mechanic check the belts, hoses, tires, battery, and coolant.
- Keep the fuel tank near full, as low fuel levels can cause condensation to form, degrading fuel quality and possibly causing the fuel line to freeze. Additionally, gas stations may be closed during a severe winter storm, so it is wise to fill up if storm warnings are being broadcasted.
- Prepare an Auto Emergency Preparedness kit. Your car should always be equipped with emergency supplies. Keep the following items stored in a portable container:
 - A small battery powered radio (AM is sufficient) and extra batteries
 - Flashlight with extra batteries
 - Cellular phone / Phone book and phone list / Cell phone charger or spare battery pack
 - Windshield scraper
 - Jumper cables
 - Fire extinguisher
 - Maps / GPS Unit
 - Blanket and extra clothes
 - Flares
 - Bottled water and non-perishable high energy foods.
 - First aid kit
 - Tire repair kit and pump
 - Tow chain or rope and Shovel
 - De-icer and extra antifreeze
 - "Call Police" or other "Help" sign

Just a reminder of some of the programs we offer.

And as always these programs are free and we will come to your venue within the County to deliver the message.

Ready Community

Community Emergency Ready Team

Ready Congregation

Ready Business

Ready Neighborhood

Many Preparedness Videos

Digital Volunteer Support Team

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Warning Information Notification System (WINS)

Pet Therapy Dog Team

Kids for Safety

Safety Town

Youth Readiness Council (YRC)

STEP (Student Tools for Emergency Planning)

Hazardous Materials Team

Survival Rival (Jeopardy style game on preparedness)

Weather Spotters

Warning Information Notification System (WINS)

CAAT (Critical Asset Assessment Team)

And as always we are looking for volunteers to be part of most of the programs listed above. To volunteer contact emergency management at 810-989-6965



Or visit our website at: www.bereadystclaircounty.org

