

Inside IEMA

Monthly Newsletter



Illinois Emergency Management Agency

December 2018

Message From Acting Director William P. Robertson

Floods, tornadoes, blizzards, earthquakes and other disasters can happen at any time, anywhere. These events highlight the importance of being prepared for all types of emergencies. As the New Year begins, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) is encouraging people to 'Resolve to be Ready' for emergencies in 2019. The agency will offer support throughout the year to help people attain the goal of being better prepared to provide peace of mind not only for themselves, but for their families as well.

One of the first steps toward emergency preparedness is having an emergency supply kit stocked with basic survival items that are critical during an emergency, such as:

- One gallon of water per person per day (a minimum of a three-day supply)
- At least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- First aid kit
- Battery-operated radio, flashlight and extra batteries
- Items for children, seniors, pets, and household members with health or medical needs



Disasters often occur with little notice, while you are at home, work, school or on vacation, so it's also important to have multiple ways to receive critical information 24/7, such as through NOAA all-hazards weather alert radios, Wireless Emergency Alerts enabled on most smartphones, mobile device apps, TV, radio and the Internet.

IEMA maintains the Ready Illinois website (www.Ready.Illinois.gov), a one-stop location for preparedness information on a variety of hazards. In addition to information on how to prepare for emergencies, the Ready Illinois website also provides guidance on what to do during and after a disaster. Preparedness information is also available through the Ready Illinois Facebook (www.facebook.com/ReadyIllinois) and Twitter (twitter.com/ReadyIllinois) pages.

On behalf of the staff at IEMA, we wish you and yours a very happy New Year and we look forward to working with you in 2019.



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Destructive December

On December 1, Governor Bruce Rauner activated the State Emergency Operations Center in Springfield to respond to severe storms, including reports of tornadoes, in central Illinois. The hardest hit area was in the city of Taylorville and neighboring Hewittville. The National Weather Service (NWS) in Lincoln reports this tornado was on the ground for more than 12-miles with wind speeds of up to 155 miles per hour, classifying it as an EF-3 tornado. The December 2018 storm now holds the record for the most tornadoes in one day in Illinois.

The state of Illinois continues to seek ways to support recovery efforts in Christian County. On December 18, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) conducted a damage assessment in Christian County. It was determined that Christian County met the requirements for an SBA disaster declaration. With this declaration, low-interest loans are now available to homeowners, renters and businesses in Christian County, as well as the contiguous counties of Macon, Montgomery and Sangamon. A Disaster Loan Outreach Center will open at the Taylorville Fire Department from Jan 3 – Jan 17 to provide loan program information, answer loan and recovery related questions, and help you submit your disaster loan application.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is Feb. 19, 2019. The deadline to return economic injury applications is Sept. 23, 2019. Businesses and individuals may also obtain information and loan applications by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-

877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing), or by emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications can also be downloaded at www.sba.gov. Completed applications should be

returned to the center or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

During the response phase of this emergency operation, several state agencies participated in a Multi-Agency Resource Center (MARC) and were able to assist 172 households and an estimated 481 residents get back on their feet. Additional services are available to Christian County residents through the Christian County CEFS office or the American Red Cross.

Unfortunately, victims of disasters need to watch out for scam artists, who are ready to take advantage of others' misfortune. Residents should be wary of door-to-door solicitors who hand out flyers and promise to speed up the insurance or building permit process. Law enforcement warn residents to never pay for work that has not been done, and avoid request for large cash deposits or advance payments. Ask to see state or local permits or licenses of anyone approaching you about services related to the disaster. When possible, use established local contractors recommended by people you know and trust. Get receipts for all repair payments including cash. Do not make a check payable to a person other than the owner or the company name. Learn more about disaster scams at ready.illinois.gov.



Winter is Here!

The Updated Winter Weather Preparedness Guide is now available online.

Visit the Ready Illinois website at

https://www2.illinois.gov/iema/preparedness/documents/winter_storm_preparedness_guidebook.pdf

Galvin to Serve as Chairman of NCSWIC



In July 2010, the National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (NCSWIC) was established to support Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (SWIC) from the 56 states and territories, by developing products and services to assist them with leveraging their relationships, professional knowledge, and experience with public safety partners involved in interoperable communications at all levels of government.

Joe Galvin, Illinois' Statewide Interoperability Coordinator, was elected Chairman of the National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators during the recent NCSWIC in-person meetings. Galvin has been a valuable leader in driving NCSWIC's initiatives forward to improve public safety emergency communications. Galvin also serves as co-chair of the Joint SAFECOM-SCSWIC Technology Policy Committee.

Central to the NCSWIC purpose is the promotion and coordination of activities designed to ensure the highest level of public safety communications across the nation. This direct approach improves interoperability and advances long-term emergency communications initiatives. SWICs strive to enhance

the response capabilities of public safety responders by coordinating and collaborating with federal, state, local, and tribal public safety agencies and non-governmental organizations.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Emergency Communications Division (ECD), the lead coordination office for NCSWIC, recognizes the critical role SWICs serve in organizing and executing interoperability efforts. On November 16, 2018, the President of the United States signed the CISA Act of 2018, establishing CISA and transforming the National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD) into a DHS operational component, elevating the criticality of work done in support of federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial stakeholders. This elevation of the emergency communications mission space is an opportunity to build on the work SWICs have done for years. CISA Director Christopher Krebs looks forward to enhancing CISA's relationship with the SWICs and working actively with Joe Galvin and NCSWIC to promote critical emergency communications priorities.



2019 Monthly Preparedness Topics

January 2019	Radon Awareness Month
February 2019	Earthquake Preparedness Month
March 2019	Severe Weather Preparedness Month
April 2019	Recovery Preparedness Month
May 2019	Wildfire Safety Month
June 2019	Pet Preparedness Month
July 2019	Youth Preparedness Month
August 2019	School & Campus Preparedness
September 2019	National Preparedness Month
October 2019	Cyber Security Awareness Month
November 2019	Winter Weather Preparedness Month
December 2019	Holiday Safety

inside IEMA info corner

MONTHLY FEATURE

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Disasters can strike quickly and without warning. It can force you to evacuate your neighborhood or confine you to your home. You can play a vital role in your community's disaster recovery effort.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program is a grassroots initiative that helps communities prepare for and respond to disasters by educating and training civilian volunteers in basic disaster response skills. CERT offers a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations. This training includes fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. The program harnesses the power of volunteers by equipping them with the necessary tools to protect their families, neighbors and communities in any emergency situation.

In Illinois, the management of both the CERT and Citizen Corps program has recently transitioned from IEMA to the Serve Illinois Commission, the

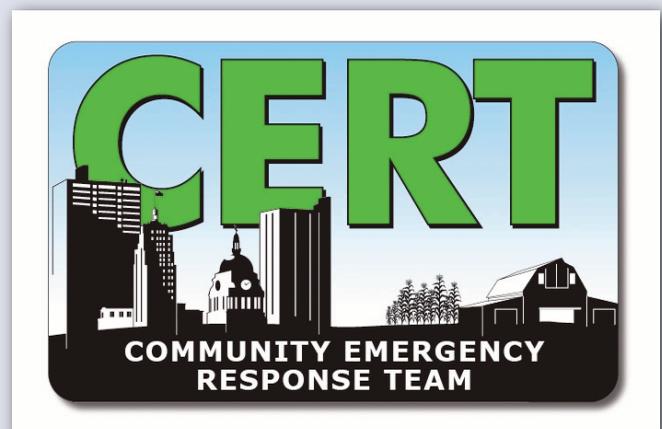
Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service. Michelle Hanneken, Volunteer Programs Manager, will once again manage the program. At this time, Michelle is working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to re-enroll local CERT and Citizen Corps programs in the new website, FEMA Citizen Responder Programs, at <https://community.fema.gov/Register>. The Illinois CERT train-the-trainer course curriculum is also being updated and will once again be offered in 2019. Finally, a fresh look at the state program requirements is also occurring and updates are expected.

To ensure your program is receiving updated information, contact Michelle at michelle.j.hanneken@illinois.gov. Those jurisdictions that do not currently have a Citizen Corps or CERT program are also encouraged to contact Michelle to explore what opportunities may exist.

IEMA and Serve Illinois look forward implementing programs and partnership opportunities to improve the state's individual and community preparedness activities.



2012 Prairie State CERT Challenge



Statewide Radon Poster and Video Contests Now Accepting Entries

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the American Lung Association in Illinois (ALAIL) are joining forces in January to increase public awareness of radon risks and ways to reduce radon exposure. Radon gas is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that is recognized as the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. It's estimated nearly 1,200 people in Illinois develop radon-related lung cancer each year.

IEMA and ALAIL announced today the continuation of statewide contest that encourages students to use their creative talents to promote radon awareness. The American Lung Association is now accepting submissions for the annual radon poster and video contests.

The Illinois Radon Poster Contest is open to students ages 9-14. Entries are due by March 1. Prizes include \$200 for first place, \$150 for second place and \$100 for third place. For more information about the poster contest, visit <https://www.lung.org/local-content/illinois/documents/2019-illinois-radon-poster.pdf>.

High school students can also compete for prizes by participating in the Illinois Radon Video Contest. This contest requires for students to produce a creative 30-second YouTube video about radon. Videos can be created by an individual student, group of students or classroom. Student prizes include \$1,000 for first place, \$750 for second place, \$500 for third place and

\$250 for seven honorable mention videos. New this year, the winning video may appear on the big screen in local movie theaters across the state.

The top 10 videos will also be entered into a 'most views' contest to develop students' marketing and outreach skills. Winners will be provided a link to share with their friends. The video with the most views will receive an additional \$300. Additionally, the schools of the top three winners will receive \$300, \$200 and \$100 for first, second and third places, respectively.

All videos, entry forms and release forms must be submitted by March 8. Details about the video contest are available on the American Lung Association in Illinois (ALAIL) website at <https://www.lung.org/local-content/illinois/documents/2019-illinois-radon-video-official-rules.pdf>.

All contest prizes are funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Both contests are sponsored by IEMA, ALAIL and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5.

The top posters and videos from the 2018 contests can be viewed on IEMA's radon website at www.radon.illinois.gov. The website also includes information about radon and lists of licensed measurement and mitigation professionals. Information is also available through IEMA's Radon Hotline at 800-325-1245.

Call for Presentations 2019 IEMA Training Summit

IEMA currently is seeking proposals for presentations at the 2019 IEMA Summit, which will be held Sept. 3-5 at the Bank of Springfield Center (formerly known as the Prairie Capital Convention Center) in Springfield.

- All proposals must be submitted by May 3 to be considered.
- Each breakout session will last 60 minutes and should include time for questions and answers.
- All proposals will be submitted via Survey Monkey using this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2019SummitCFP>

January 2018 Training Schedule

Principals of Emergency Management

Location: State Emergency Operations Center, Springfield

Date: 1/8/19

Course Description: This one-day course is designed to be a formal introduction to emergency management. The needs for an emergency management system and the importance of an integrated approach to managing emergencies are examined. Participants formulate the elements of an integrated teamwork system and devise specific actions for improving their own contributions to local emergency management teams. During the course, participants are exposed to the five basic concepts of emergency management: mitigation, prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. The role of the emergency manager and the impact they have on their community is discussed in great detail.

Registration:

<https://public.iema.state.il.us/iema/Training/OnlineReg/classes.asp>

Disaster Assistance Process

Location: North Aurora Police Department, Aurora

Date: 1/23/19

Course Description: Updated version of course formerly known as Damage Assessment. This one-day course is designed to provide participants with an understanding of the damage assessment process and how damage information is used by local and state officials. Participants will learn how to collect, organize, report and analyze damage information. Students are asked to bring a copy of the EOP/local ordinance that would identify any emergency powers available following a local disaster declaration.

Registration:

<https://public.iema.state.il.us/iema/Training/OnlineReg/classes.asp>

Leadership in Today's World

Location: State Regional Office Building, Marion

Date: 1/29/19

Course Description: This newly revised one-day course is designed to focus on the participant's ability to lead and influence others in the areas of emergency management by increasing their range of skills in such areas as conflict management, use of power and group dynamics. During the course each participant will have the opportunity to learn about themselves and their style of leadership through the administration of several standardized evaluation instruments. This course will review various leadership styles and how to influence others. Participants will have the opportunity to apply what they have learned during group activities. Replaces Leadership and Influence. Course PowerPoint will be emailed to students ahead of time to either print out and bring with them or download to an electronic device.

Registration:

<https://public.iema.state.il.us/iema/Training/OnlineReg/classes.asp>

Volunteer Reception Center Management

Location: McHenry County Government Center, Woodstock

Date: 1/29/19 – 1/30/19

Course Description: This two-day advanced course will provide local jurisdictions with the skills necessary to effectively manage volunteers that spontaneously arrive following a local disaster and how to effectively set up a Volunteer Reception Center.

Registration:

<https://public.iema.state.il.us/iema/Training/OnlineReg/classes.asp>

2019 Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

Do you know an exceptional Illinois volunteer? Nominate them today for the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards! We all know there are many wonderful volunteers in the public safety community!

The Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service presents the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards. These awards recognize individual volunteers through a statewide award program to highlight the importance of volunteerism and community service in the State of Illinois.

The following awards categories are offered:

- Adult (19-54 years old)
- AmeriCorps Member (member of an Illinois AmeriCorps national service program)
- Business (a for-profit company)
- Senior (55 years old plus)
- Senior Corps Members (55 years old plus that are

members of the national service programs Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Senior Companion Program (SCP))

- Youth (18 years old or younger)

Each of the project categories will have a winner selected in each of the Commission's five service regions across the state (Northeast, Northwest, East Central, West Central and Southern Illinois). Thus, there are a total of 30 awards possible throughout the state!

A panel of judges from across the state, comprised of Governor-appointed Commissioners, will select the award recipients.

Nomination forms will be due February 15, 2019. For more information please visit: www.Serve.Illinois.gov

APPLY TODAY

SERVE ILLINOIS

Governor's Volunteer Service Awards



Nominations due February 15th, 2019

FEMA and National Association of Realtors Partner to Improve Disaster Preparedness

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Association of Realtors (NAR) announced an agreement to work together to educate consumers and homebuyers about disaster preparedness. NAR President Elizabeth Mendenhall and FEMA Administrator Brock Long signed the memorandum of agreement at the 2018 REALTORS® Conference & Expo in Boston, MA.

Insurance is the best way for homeowners, renters and businesses to financially protect themselves from

losses caused by floods, fires and other disasters. This is an opportunity for FEMA and NAR to collaborate on getting out information about emergency preparedness, insurance, and assistance information to the public.

The agreement allows FEMA and NAR to work together to educate and help the nation prepare for disasters better, while it also allows Realtors® to continue supporting the [Realtor Disaster Relief Fund](#).

EM Director Always on Duty

While the December 1 storm system spared Tazewell County of any major damage, the day wasn't without a little drama for seasoned severe weather emergency manager, and current IESMA President, Dawn Cook.

On December 1, close friends and immediate family gathered for an intimate ceremony where Dawn Cook married George Garza. Just as Dawn walked down the aisle to greet her groom, the minister opened with

an ominous warning, "We are gathered here today to celebrate George and Dawn, but in the event the tornado sirens sound, please take cover"

Just remember, George, 'reports from your wife can save your life!'"

Congrats to the newlyweds, Mr. and Mrs. Garza!



Previous issues of Inside IEMA are available at:
<http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>.



State of Illinois
Illinois Emergency Management Agency

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