

# Inside IEMA

Monthly Newsletter



Illinois Emergency Management Agency

March 2019

## Message from the Director

This past month I had the privilege of meeting several county emergency managers as we worked together to stave off flood waters in our communities, and address ways the state can assist as these communities moved to the recovery phase of this event. Floods are unlike any disaster you will ever encounter. On many occasions you can see this disaster coming, which helps in the planning aspect of this disaster, but more times than not the sustained fight can be a drain on your time and resources.

Our team has been proactive: reaching out to communities to check on planning and available resources, pre-positioning equipment and supplies, and even researching the resources used during previous floods (2008) to ensure the State has the necessary resources on-hand to assist our communities.

All disasters start and end locally. These six words are critically important in any disaster. I want to take a moment to underscore the importance of the county Emergency Management office. As individuals and businesses begin to assess damage from flooding or other storms, it is crucial that county emergency management officials have the most complete picture of the impact of damage. This data is provided to IEMA who ultimately passes the information along to FEMA. This is how we qualify for federal funds. If you are unaware of how to get ahold of your county emergency management office, you can find a listing online.

In April, IEMA and our local partners will kickoff a month-long awareness campaign aimed at helping residents be better positioned to efficiently recover from any disaster. You can learn more about Recovery Preparedness Month in this edition of Inside IEMA.

As always, you can learn more about how to prepare home, business and community for any disaster by visit [www.ready.illinois.gov](http://www.ready.illinois.gov). You can also gather quick tips by following the Illinois Emergency Management Agency on Facebook and Twitter.



## In this issue

2019 Illinois Flood Fight.....	2
Meet IEMA's New Chief of Staff .....	3
IEMA Accomplishments .....	3
Funding Opportunities .....	4
Severe Weather Radio Giveaway .....	4
Illinois Hosts Security Culture Workshop.....	5
FEMA Releases New Exercise Starter Kits .....	6
IEMA Summit Proposals .....	6
April Training Dates .....	7
April is Recovery Preparedness Month .....	10

# 2019 Illinois Flood Fight

Gov. JB Pritzker and Acting IEMA Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau recently toured flooded areas of Winnebago and Stephenson counties, underscoring the state's commitment to help communities in need.

"These are some of the highest river levels this area has seen in more than three decades, and I commend local emergency managers, law enforcement, fire and the volunteer organizations that have come together to keep people safe," said Gov. JB Pritzker. "Here in Winnebago and Stephenson counties, we see how much good happens when neighbors help neighbors. For downstream communities that will be impacted by flooding in the days and weeks to come, I know that many groups are already preparing to help their neighbors."



*Governor Pritzker and IEMA Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau receive briefings from Lt. Pete Dal Pra with the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office (top right) and Stephenson County EMA Director Robert Baker (bottom right) on flood fight operations in northern Illinois.*



IEMA Deputy Director Scott Swinford also visited with Rock Island County officials to discuss on-going flood plans and preparations. While many communities just finished fighting back floodwaters from the Rock River, Rock Island County is preparing for an inundation from the Mississippi River.



**Deputy Director Scott Swinford and IEMA Field Operations Manager Brian Brackemyer discuss available resources with Rock Island County officials as they prepare for floodwaters from the Mississippi River.**

Additional outreach has occurred in Ogle, Lee, Whiteside, Henry and Pike counties, just to name a few. Region 6 Coordinator Bob Flemming recently met with officials along the Sny Levee to discuss plans to address the possibility of elevated river levels.

The State of Illinois continues to monitor fluctuating river levels up and down our state. On Wednesday, March 13, Gov. Pritzker directed the Illinois Emergency Management Agency to move the activation level of the State Emergency Operations Center to a Level 2 in order to expedite any state assistance or resource requests from local governments as they fight to protect their communities from rising floodwaters.



**IEMA Regional Coordinator Bob Flemming discusses action plans and projected crests with members of the Sny Levee District.**

As river levels continue to rise throughout our state, residents are urged to listen for updates and instructions from their local emergency management officials. Residents in river communities should be prepared to evacuate if instructed by local officials. For more information on what to do before, during and after a flood, visit [www.ready.illinois.gov](http://www.ready.illinois.gov).

## Meet IEMA's New Chief of Staff

Declan Binniger is the newest member of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency leadership team.

Binniger comes to IEMA with a stellar record, working in both the private and public sector. Binniger spent over five years as an Assistant State's Attorney in Cook County and over four years as a litigation and regulatory attorney working with Fortune 100 and startup companies.

His experience working with the legislative and executive branches of Illinois government will be a tremendous asset to the Agency.

Prior to his work in the private sector, Binniger served as a Captain in the United States Army JAG Corps on active duty.

Binniger is admitted to practice law in the States of Illinois and Wisconsin, and is



admitted to the bar in the Central District of Illinois and Supreme Court of the United States.

Binniger is a graduate of George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

Declan lives in Sangamon County with his wife, Jeanne, and their three kids.

Welcome aboard Declan!

### What's the best piece of advice you've ever received?

Do what you can, when you can, with what you have.

### What are three interesting facts about you?

- I was born in California;
- I spent my formative years in Irish bars learning and playing Irish music;
- I can speak German

### If you didn't have to sleep, what would you do with the extra time?

Read more stories to my three kids

### What are some small things that make your day better?

Family; 'found' time in my schedule; bakeries

## IEMA Accomplishments

Congrats to the IEMA Division of Nuclear Safety on its Certificate of Accreditation of Analytical Performance for the IEMA Radiochemistry Laboratory! Through its participation in a performance-based evaluation program, the IEMA Radiochemistry Laboratory achieved its goal of becoming accredited by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to analyze samples containing radionuclides commonly encountered in medical, commercial, and military activities (e.g., plutonium, uranium, americium, cesium, strontium, cobalt) in various matrices (e.g., soil, water, vegetation, air

filters). The purpose of this DOE program is to increase laboratory readiness for a national emergency. Thanks to this achievement, IEMA can now readily integrate into a DOE-led laboratory response.

"Your dedication, attention to detail and extraordinary abilities made this possible," said Lance Wilson in congratulating his staff on this tremendous accomplishment.

# Funding Opportunities

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency will be notified by FEMA no later than April 16, 2019 of two grant opportunities for non-profit organizations in Illinois.

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Urban Area Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP-UASI) will provide a total of \$50,000,000 nationally to eligible 501(c)(3) organizations who are deemed at high-risk of a potential terrorist attack and are located in one of the FFY 2019 UASI-eligible urban areas. The designated urban area for Illinois is Cook County.

IEMA, as the State Administrative Agency, will issue these competitive grants, up to \$150,000, to applicants that are approved by FEMA. The period of performance is 36 months.

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Statewide Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP-S) will provide a total of \$10,000,000 nationally to eligible 501(c)(3) organizations who are deemed at high-risk of a potential terrorist attack located outside of Cook County.

IEMA, as the State Administrative Agency, will issue these competitive grants, up to \$100,000, to applicants that are approved by FEMA. The period of performance is 36 months.

Both the NSGP-UASI and NSGP-S funds must be used for target-hardening activities, which can be accomplished through the purchase or installation of security equipment on real property (including buildings and improvements) owned or leased by the nonprofit organization. Security enhancements must be for the locations that the non-profit occupies at the time of the application, and the projects must be fully completed during the three-year performance period.

To learn more about this funding opportunity, eligible applicants should visit the IEMA website after April 16, 2019 and download the Notice of Funding Opportunity and Fact Sheet. Additional information about the grant programs are located on the Federal Emergency Management Agency website.

# Severe Weather Radio Giveaway

On Tuesday, March 12, IEMA teamed up with the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association (IESMA) to give away 100 weather radios as part of Severe Weather Preparedness Month activities. This giveaway coincided with the anniversary of the 2006 tornadoes that tore a path of destruction through central Illinois and devastated parts of the Capital City.



Illinois ranks fifth in the United States for the most tornadoes per square mile. Lightning is to blame for 106 deaths in Illinois since 1960. Fourteen people died as a result of driving across flooded roads in 2015, 11 of whom perished during the major flood in late December. NOAA weather radios are equipped with Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) technology which allows you to program

your radio to receive alerts for your county or area. In an effort to ensure these devices were used immediately, emergency management professionals were on-hand to program each radio.

For more information about what to do before, during and after a storm, please visit [www.Ready.Illinois.gov](http://www.Ready.Illinois.gov). There you will find a *Severe Weather Preparedness Guide*, developed by IEMA and NWS, which provides tips on how to prepare for all weather emergencies.

# Illinois Hosts Security Culture Workshop

IEMA's Division of Nuclear Safety co-sponsored a radioactive material security culture workshop with the World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS) at Loyola University's Water Tower Campus in Chicago on March 6 and 7.

Radioactive materials play an important role in medical, research and commercial facilities. These facilities implement security systems to protect the radioactive materials; however, a facility's security culture can make or break the security system. Security culture is a term used to describe the beliefs and behaviors people exhibit in relation to security. It is one of the most challenging aspects and underlying vulnerabilities in the practical implementation of security.

Subject matter experts from WINS, the US Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration, Chicago Police Department, DOE's Argonne National Laboratory, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and the regulated community addressed the role of security culture in a facility's security system. IEMA's Gibb Vinson provided an

overview on current IEMA regulations and security threats. IEMA's Gary Forsee spoke on security compliance and lessons learned. IEMA personnel facilitated and participated in multiple tabletop and panel discussions highlighting experiences from security inspections of these types of facilities.

The workshop also explored how to develop self-assessment tools and metrics to measure the effectiveness of security and employee awareness. Proper disposition of radioactive materials and alternative, non-radioisotopic technologies were also discussed as possible options.

For more information on radioactive material security or security culture, please contact Gibb Vinson at (217) 785-9928 or by email at [Gibb.Vinson@illinois.gov](mailto:Gibb.Vinson@illinois.gov).



IEMA's Gibb Vinson and Gary Forsee deliver remarks at the 2019 Security Culture Workshop in Chicago.

# FEMA Releases New Exercise Starter Kits

FEMA's National Exercise Division released new Exercise Starter Kits to provide tools for state, local, tribal, territorial, non-governmental, and private sector partners to conduct table top exercises.

Exercises are a key component in "Building a Culture of Preparedness," empowering communities and individuals to become more resilient against the threats and hazards that Americans face.

The new Exercise Starter Kits contain a situation manual, facilitator guide and briefing slides with scene-setting videos. Each kit includes sample scenarios and discussion questions that can be tailored to specific threats, as well as jurisdiction or organization specific resources, operational plans, and procedures to support desired exercise objectives.

The kits are structured around scenario modules to support a four to six-hour tabletop exercise for four to 50 participants. Tabletop exercises with higher complexity can be constructed by incorporating additional components to drive a more technical and quickly evolving scenario.



# FEMA

The new Exercise Starter Kits are designed to examine the nine Principal's Strategic Priorities that guide the 2019-2020 National Exercise Program Cycle: [Operational Coordination and Communications](#), [Cybersecurity](#), [Stabilization and Restoration of Critical Lifelines](#), [National Security Emergencies](#), [Public Health Emergencies](#), [Community Recovery and Economic Resilience](#), [Mass Care and Housing](#), [Continuity](#), and [School Safety and Security](#). For more information on the NEP, visit <https://www.fema.gov/NEP>.

The Exercise Starter Kits are available at: <https://preptoolkit.fema.gov/web/em-toolkits> and require an approved Preptoolkit account. Stakeholders can register by creating a username and password for system access. For more information on how to register, visit <https://preptoolkit.fema.gov/user-guide> and select Registration and Sign-In.

## Call for Presentations 2019 IEMA Training Summit

People interested in presenting a general or breakout session at the 2019 IEMA Training Summit are encouraged to submit a proposal by May 1. This year, the summit will be held Sept. 3-5 at the Bank of Springfield Center in Springfield.

The summit planning committee is seeking presentations on timely topics that are relevant to participants from various response and recovery disciplines, including emergency management, fire services, law enforcement, military, public health, public works, voluntary organizations, local or state government, the private sector and other professionals dedicated to serving the public before, during and after emergencies.

General and breakout sessions will last one hour, including a question and answer period.

Proposals should be submitted via Survey Monkey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2019SummitCFP>.

### Sponsor, Exhibitor Registration Also Open

The IEMA Training Summit offers many opportunities for businesses and organizations to attain visibility and interact with participants through several sponsorship levels and exhibitor booths. Each year, the summit draws approximately 1,000 participants.

To secure a sponsorship or exhibitor booth, contact Julie Pfeifer at [julie.pfeifer@illinois.gov](mailto:julie.pfeifer@illinois.gov).



# April 2019 Training Schedule



On March 3, 2019, IEMA Region 3 (Lisa Anderson) and IEMA Region 4 (Wendell Brewer) teamed up to offer the G0775 EOC Management and Operations Course.

This course describes the role, design, and functions of Emergency Operations Centers and their relationships as components of a multi-agency coordination system. The course contains disaster-related examples, activities and case studies that relate to EOC's and multi-agency coordination systems at the local, state and federal levels of government.

## ICS 300/400

**Location:** Camp Lincoln  
1301 N MacArthur Blvd.  
Springfield IL 62702

**Date:** 04/08/19 – 04/11/19

### **Course Description:**

**ICS 300** - This 16 hour course provides training for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System (ICS). Describes how the National Incident Management System Command and Management component supports the management of expanding incidents, describes the Incident/Event Management process for supervisors and expanding incidents as prescribed by the ICS, implement the Incident Management process on a simulated Type 3 incident and develops an Incident Action Plan for a simulated incident.

**ICS 400** - This 16 hour course provides training for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System (ICS). Explains how major incidents engender special management challenges, describes the circumstances in which an Area Command is established and describes the circumstances in which Multi-Agency Coordination Systems are established.

**Registration:** Contact SSG Keith Albaugh at 217-761-1120 or [keith.albaugh@illinois.gov](mailto:keith.albaugh@illinois.gov)

## AWR 136 and MGT 384 The EOC's Role in Community Cybersecurity

**Location:** John A. Logan College  
700 Logan College Drive  
Carterville IL 62918

**Date:** 04/11/19 – 04/12/19

**Course Description:** The EOC's Role in Community Cybersecurity provides an awareness of how cyber events can impact communities. Throughout the course participants will learn the roles and responsibilities needed to detect, prevent and respond to a cybersecurity incident. With examples participants will understand how the EOC and community would plan for and manage information needed for a cyber event. The attendees will also see how cyber can be used to affect, disrupt and/or complicate emergency responses.

### **Registration:**

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

*(continued on page 8)*

(continued from page 7)

## **Disaster Assistance Process**

**Location:** State Regional Office-Marion  
2309 W Main Street  
Marion IL 62959

**Date:** 04/16/19 – 04/17/19

**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/OnlineRegistration/classes.asp>

## **EOC Mgt and Ops (G775)**

**Location:** Menard County EMA  
19072 State Highway 123  
Petersburg IL 62675

**Date:** 04/16/19

**Course Description:** This course has been revised by integrating the ICS EOC Interface course. This two-day course is designed to examine the role, design, and functions of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and their relationships as components of a multi-agency coordination system. The course provides training about staffing and organization, information, systems, communications and equipment needs at the EOC, activating and deactivating the EOC, EOC operations and EOC testing, training and exercising. Participants will have the opportunity to apply what they have learned during group activities.

This course will also focus on the coordination between the Incident Command System (ICS) and the decision making procedures taking place in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). By taking the time to look at the strengths and weaknesses of these two elements, local officials will have the opportunity to develop an ICS/EOC action plan for their community's local emergency response personnel. An overview of both the ICS and the EOC are presented.

**Registration:**

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

## **Leadership in Today's World**

**Location:** Grundy County EOC  
1320 Union Street  
Morris IL 60450

**Date:** 04/17/19

**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/OnlineRegistration/classes.asp>

(continued on page 9)

# TRAINING



## Volunteer and Donations Management

**Location:** Taylorville Fire Department  
202 N Main Street  
Taylorville IL

**Date:** 04/17/19

**Course Description:** This course is an updated version of the course formerly known as Developing Volunteer Resources. This one-day course is designed to provide the knowledge and skill set necessary to develop and execute an effective volunteer and donations management program over time.

**Registration:**

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

## IPRA Overview Course

**Location:** Illinois Emergency Management Agency  
2200 South Dirksen Parkway  
Springfield IL 62703

**Date:** 04/23/19

**Course Description:** This course focusses on the Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Program. The Illinois Plan for Radiological Accidents (IPRA), Radiological Emergency Assessment Center (REAC), Radiological Response Group (RRG), roles and responsibilities, agency capabilities and federal requirements will be discussed.

**Registration:**

<https://public.iema.state.il.us/iema/Training/OnlineRegistration/classes.asp> **(Open to IEMA staff only)**

## Emergency Operations Plan Development and Review

**Location:** Signal Hill Fire Department

**Date:** 04/23/19 – 04/24/19

**Course Description:** This course focuses on the local jurisdiction's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) according to 29 Illinois Administrative Code 301 (ESDA Rules). During the course, students will review and discuss the required elements of the Basic Plan, Functional Annexes, Hazard Specific Annexes, and the EOP review process. Students will review the Plan Development and Review Document (PDR), the ESDA Rules, and Comprehensive Planning Guidance-101 document from FEMA. The class is designed to aid EMA/ESDA Coordinators in writing the jurisdictional EOP; but will also benefit other agencies by describing their potential roles and responsibilities in the jurisdictional EOP as it is being developed, completed, and used in disasters.

**Registration:**

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

## Essential Tools for Managers

**Location:** IEMA Training Facility  
4800 Rodger Street  
Springfield IL 62703

**Date:** 04/26/19

**Course Description:** The skills and tools needed for any manager include the ability to cultivate productive work relationships, provide appropriate feedback, communicate expectations effectively, resolve conflict, and manage stress. The role of the manager isn't limited to ensuring the job duties are done right; it also requires the manager to do the right things concerning the employees.

**Registration:**

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



# April is Recovery Preparedness Month

Mother Nature does not discriminate when it comes to severe weather. Countless residents throughout our state have experienced the challenges of rebuilding their lives after a disaster or other emergency. In these stressful situations, having access to personal finance, insurance, medical and other records is critical for starting the recovery process.

“As severe weather and river flooding threatens our communities, it’s important for all Illinoisans to take action now, before a disaster,” said Alicia Tate-Nadeau, Acting Director of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA). “When a disaster strikes, your immediate focus will be on the safety of your loved ones. Building a culture of preparedness **today**, provides the priceless peace of mind that is needed as you begin the daunting task of rebuilding following a disaster.”

During Recovery Preparedness Month, IEMA and local emergency management officials will provide guidance to Illinois residents on how to quickly and efficiently recover from disasters such as floods, fire, earthquakes or severe weather.

Here are five simple acts that can help you recover from any disaster:

- **Get Organized.** Secure and organize financial and critical personal, household, and medical information. Having these items in a safe place can expedite insurance claims and other emergency expenses.
- **Savings.** Saving is the best financial defense against disasters. A little bit at a time can go a long way. A rainy day fund can help you invest in your family’s safety.
- **Insurance.** Obtain property (homeowners or renters), health, and life insurance if you do not have them.
- **Inventory.** Make an inventory of your possessions using photographs and/or videos of your belongings.
- **Communication.** Your family may not be together when a disaster strikes. Develop a Family Communication Plan. This will outline how you will contact one another when a disaster strikes.

You can learn more about Disaster Recovery Month at [www.ready.illinois.gov](http://www.ready.illinois.gov).

## Don't Miss Important IEMA Information

Did you know - IEMA’s website enables you to receive the latest news from IEMA as soon as it is posted. You can subscribe to the RSS feed for IEMA press releases at <http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/PressReleases.aspx>.

You will need a third-party RSS reader/aggregator software. There are many options to choose from ranging from web-based to mobile apps. If you are

using Microsoft Exchange, you can simply right click on the “RSS Feeds” folder and select “Add a new RSS Feed,” then insert the address of the RSS feed.

Some browsers will have a “subscribe” link at the top of the page automatically. Clicking this link will add the subscription to a “Feeds” section of your browser’s favorites or bookmarks.

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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