



Preparedness Quarterly

January 2010

The Preparedness Quarterly is Back!!

The Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) will again be publishing the Michigan Citizen Corps newsletter, "Preparedness Quarterly." The newsletter will be published four times per year in March, June, September, and December.

Deadlines will be February 12, May 14, August 13, and November 12, or the second Friday of the month. This is a great venue to showcase your council, team or volunteer activities. Please submit articles and photos to citizencorps@michigan.gov

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Two Michigan Citizen Corps Councils Win National Recognition

By: Sgt. Kevin Sweeney, MSP/EMHSD

Two Michigan Citizen Corps Councils were recently recognized for their achievements at the 2009 National Conference on Community Preparedness (NCCP) held in Arlington, VA on August 11, 2009.

Congratulations to Detroit/Wayne County Citizen Corps Council on having been selected to receive a National Citizen Corps Achievement Award HONORABLE MENTION in the category of "Preparing Community Organizations."

Congratulations to Farmington Hills/Farmington Citizen Corps Council on having been selected for a FIRST PLACE finish for the National Citizen Corps Achievement Award in the category of "Preparing the Public."

The Detroit/Wayne County Citizen Corps was selected for the outstanding efforts of the Arab/Chaldean Disaster Preparedness Advisory Committee. This committee was created to promote preparedness in southeastern Michigan, specifically within the Arab and Chaldean populations.

The Farmington Hills/Farmington Citizen Corps Council was selected for their outstanding activities and efforts in preparing the public. These activities included hosting multiple preparedness activities and offering numerous trainings in their jurisdiction.

Congratulations to the Farmington Hills/Farmington and Detroit/Wayne County Citizen Corps Councils!

Citizen Corps Initiatives



Program Contact

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FEMA Facebook

Citizen Corps regularly contributes to the FEMA Facebook page to provide disaster preparedness information to the general public and information on how citizens can get involved in preparing their communities. For more information visit <http://www.facebook.com/FEMA>.

Congratulations to Farmington Hills/ Farmington Citizen Corps Council on having been selected for a FIRST PLACE finish with the National Citizen Corps Achievement Award in the category of "Preparing the Public."

Second Annual CERT Games Held in Lansing

By: Sgt. Kevin Sweeney, MSP/EMHSD

The second annual CERT games were held at the Michigan State Police Training Academy May 15-16, 2009. A total of six teams from around the state competed in the games. Teams were divided into two divisions, east and west. The three teams competing in the east division were Dearborn, Ann Arbor Team #1, and Ann Arbor Team #2. The three teams competing in the west division were Lansing, Kalamazoo County, and Kent County CERT. For state bragging rights, the east division prevailed in the combined score.

Places were as follows:

West Division

1. Lansing CERT
2. Kalamazoo County CERT
3. Kent County CERT

East Division

1. Dearborn
2. Ann Arbor Team #1
3. Ann Arbor Team #2

It was a closely contested event again this year with the City of Dearborn prevailing as the overall champion. The two Ann Arbor teams came in a close second and third. The games were a great success and many thanks to those who helped judge, volunteer, and most importantly to those who took time out of their busy schedules to compete!

I hope to see even more teams next year.



2009 Citizen Corps National Survey Results

An excerpt from the Ready Campaign

FEMA recently released, "Personal Preparedness in America: Findings from the 2009 Citizen Corps National Survey" that offers comprehensive data on the public's thoughts, perceptions, and behaviors related to preparedness and community safety for multiple types of hazards.

Results from the national survey indicate 30 percent of Americans have not prepared because they think emergency responders will help them and over 60 percent expect to rely on emergency responders in the first 72 hours following a disaster.

While government will execute its functions, communications to the public should convey a more realistic understanding of emergency response capacity and emphasize the importance of self-reliance. Messaging should speak to a shared responsibility and stress that everyone has a role to play in preparedness and response.

More information regarding the survey can be found at: <http://www.citizencorps.gov/ready/2009findings.shtm>.

"A ready nation is one where communities are prepared for the types of emergencies they are most likely to encounter. It's one where federal, state, local, and tribal governments are working in harmony with local communities, the private sector, and with individuals."

*DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano
September 29, 2009*

Huron Township CERT Update

Submitted by: Dan Spangler, Huron Twp. CERT Coordinator

The Huron Township CERT team was formed in November of 2007. We are located in New Boston, Southwest Wayne County. We operate under the authority of the Huron Township Fire Department. We strive for National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliance and operate strictly under the Incident Command System (ICS) mandates. To date, we have run four CERT academies with a total output of 76 trained CERT members. Another academy will start in January 2010. Our CERT academies are taught by a cadre of fire department personnel, subject matter professionals, and other staff. We currently have eight team members who are "Train the Trainer" certified.

Our membership encompasses a geographical area that spans from Monroe north to Sterling Heights and from the Detroit River west to Ann Arbor. We conduct monthly meetings/trainings to maintain team unity.

In addition to the basic CERT curriculum, all team members receive CPR and AED training. We have also added periodic training in conjunction with our fire department, including:

- Haz Mat Safety
- Downed Wire Safety
- SkyWarn
- Cold Water Rescue – Ground Operations
- Vehicle Extrication Awareness
- Medical Aircraft LZ
- Radiation Awareness



Team wide trainings have also been offered including:

- Basic Disaster Life Support
- Advanced Disaster Life Support
- ICS 300
- Incident Responder Safety
- Emergency Worker Decontamination
- Reception Decontamination Congregate Care Center

Due to our proximity to the Fermi II nuclear power plant, we have become part of the team that will assist in the operation of the Emergency Worker Decon facility and the Reception Decontamination Congregate Care Center in case of a major event.

Over our two year history, we have been deployed on 23 separate occasions to assist our community and surrounding communities by supplying support at community events, which provides valuable no-cost team building exercises. To date, we have only had one disaster related deployment.

Anyone in our area who wishes to join our team, please visit our web site at www.hurontownshipcert.com.



Boy Scout Camporee 2008

Cold Water Rescue

Congratulations to Detroit/Wayne County Citizen Corps Council on having been selected to receive a National Citizen Corps Achievement Award HONORABLE MENTION in the category of "Preparing Community Organizations."

Dearborn Heights Hosting Winter Disaster Prep Classes

*Published: Saturday, November 21, 2009
Press & Guide*

Dearborn Heights residents have another opportunity to get involved with the city's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program through a new series of evening classes set to begin January 7.

"We're looking forward to another good class," said Dearborn Heights Emergency Manager Bob Ankrapp. "We're already seeing a good bit of interest in this winter's class – we're pleased to see our residents taking an active role in this program. Their involvement plays a big role in helping make Dearborn Heights a safer community."

More than 100 residents have completed the emergency preparedness/response training since the program started in 2005, with many still participating as active members of the city's CERT group.

Dearborn Heights was among the first communities in Southeast Michigan to embrace the program, which originated at the national level through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Citizen Corps.

Since then, nearly 40 other communities throughout the area have adopted the program and have begun training volunteers.

The Dearborn Heights CERT program trains and utilizes volunteer help in responding to local emergencies. The program recruits and educates volunteers about disaster preparedness (based on hazards that could impact the area), and trains them in basic disaster response skills including fire safety and suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster-related medical operations.

Using local classroom training and "live" exercises, CERT members are prepared to deploy quickly within their neighborhoods, providing basic disaster response services until the city's professional emergency staff can arrive.

This is particularly valuable in cases of large-scale incidents, where the demand on professional responders may overwhelm the system, or widespread damage prevents their ability to reach affected areas quickly.

Once professional responders arrive on site, CERT members assist as directed by the professional responders.

The city's CERT members have also taken an active role in numerous community service activities such as festivals and public awareness campaigns.

Registration for the winter 2010 series of classes is limited to 30 participants, and is limited to Dearborn Heights residents and non-residents who work in the city.

The classes will run from 6:30–9 p.m. one evening per week (Thursday evenings) for nine weeks, with the first class taking place on January 7.

Most classes will take place at the Dearborn Heights Justice Center, located on Michigan Avenue near Beech Daly, with a few taking place at the Dearborn Heights Fire Department on Beech Daly near Ford Road.

There is no charge for participating in the classes. Prospective participants must complete and submit an application, which they can receive by contacting Emergency Manager Bob Ankrapp at (313) 277-7717, or e-mail rankrapp@ci.dearborn-heights.mi.us

Additional information (including a downloadable application) can also be found on the CERT page, which is located under the "Public Safety" tab of the city of Dearborn Heights web site at www.ci.dearborn-heights.mi.us.

"We're already seeing a good bit of interest in this winter's class – we're pleased to see our residents taking an active role in this program. Their involvement plays a big role in helping make Dearborn Heights a safer community."

**Dearborn Heights
Emergency Manager
Bob Ankrapp.**

Rockford Police Department – Volunteer Services Unit (VSU)

Submitted by: Sandra Russell, Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Coordinator

Our History

In 2006, the Rockford Police Chief, David Jones, created the Volunteer Services Unit (VSU) staffed by volunteers who could help be eyes and ears for the police officers. This group of volunteers takes their tasks very seriously and work daily and weekly, vigilantly patrolling the city parks and trails helping the police officers keep an eye out for suspicious activity. We also assist citizens in need and perform vacation and vacant property checks, as well as enforce handicap parking violations.

A Great Year!!

Rockford Police Department's Volunteer Services Unit (VSU) had a great 2009 with participation in several events. Youth Night at MVP health club saw a great turnout of middle school kids and participation from Rockford Police officers, Michigan State Police troopers, Kent County Sheriff deputies and officers from several area departments. The VSU participated with registration, helping with oversight of the kids, and having fun. The kids appreciated this greatly! Start of Summer Celebration in Rockford saw our volunteers helping patrol the city and traffic control. July 4th fireworks and Harvest Festival are all areas the VSU very much enjoys, helping assist the police officers and the City of Rockford. National Night Out in Rockford was a huge hit as hundreds of people came down to City Hall. The Rockford Police and Fire Departments had a blast learning more about helping to keep safe, and keep crime and "bad guys" away from our area. Blues on the River on Tuesday evenings saw the VSU helping officers work the crowds and acting as a police department presence. Working the White Pine Trail and parks during summer evenings was a great satisfaction as well.

During December, the VSU members assisted at the Annual Citizen Corps Conference at the Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City. The volunteers assisted with registration and helped attendees locate the proper meeting rooms, etc. In addition, the VSU also participated in Shop with a Cop.

A Highlight!

In June, our VSU members had the privilege of attending the Michigan State Police Citizens Police (MSP) Academy in Lansing. This was a wonderful time of learning and experiencing many aspects of what MSP enlisted members go through to become troopers. The MSP men and women are highly trained in numerous fields. We were in awe of the abilities that were demonstrated and this gave each of us a broad appreciation for what the MSP does for Michigan citizens. We were all honored to be part of this time with the MSP.

The Future

All of our 19 current VSU members are looking forward to the future and continuing to expand our knowledge and experience. We enjoy helping the police officers and lending our eyes and ears to them, which in turn keeps our city a safe and wonderful place to live.



Rockford Police Department – Volunteer Services Unit

National Citizen Corps Twitter

Twitter is a microblog that gives FEMA's Community Preparedness Division the opportunity to provide users with specific community preparedness information in a timely manner. Current followers of the Citizen Corps account include local Citizen Corps Councils and partners, the emergency management community, and the general public.

The link to this page is <http://twitter.com/citizencorps>

We want to hear from you!!

Submit your articles and photos to
citizencorps@michigan.gov

The deadline for the next issue is **February 12, 2010**

Visit our Web site at
www.michigan.gov/emhsd



Upcoming Training

2010 State Employees CERT Training:

January 26-27, 2010 (MSP Training Academy, room C6)
March 30-31, 2010
April 27-28, 2010
June 21-22, 2010
July 12-13, 2010
September 20-21, 2010

Unless otherwise noted, all trainings will be held at the Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Training Center (EMHSTC), 7426 Osborn, Lansing. Classes will run from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. both days.

2010 State Employees CERT Train the Trainer Classes

February 23-24, 2010 (MSP Training Academy, Room C6)
June 23-24, 2010
July 14-15, 2010
September 22-23, 2010

Unless otherwise noted, all trainings will be held at the Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Training Center (EMHSTC), 7426 Osborn, Lansing. Classes will run from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. both days.

Course Registration

To register for any of the courses above, please go to www.michigan.gov/emhsd-training. Click on the "MI-Train On-Line Learning Site," then click "Go to MI-Train." Once at the homepage, you will need to either log in or create an account. Once in the system, select the "Search by Course ID" (right hand side of screen). For the basic CERT training, enter Course ID #1018887. For the CERT TTT Course, enter Course ID #1018890.

If you have any questions, please contact Sgt. Kevin Sweeney of the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division at 517-336-6429 or sweeneyk@michigan.gov.

Upcoming Events

1/19/10	CERT Coordinators Conference Call – 2 p.m.
2/8/10	Michigan Citizen-Community Emergency Response Coordinating Council (MCCERC) – 4000 Collins Road, Lansing – 2:00 p.m.
2/15/10	Citizen Corps Coordinators Conference Call – 10:00 a.m.
5/4-6/10	Great Lakes Homeland Security Training Conference and Expo – DeVos Place, Grand Rapids
May/June	Citizens Police Academy – MSP Training Academy, 7426 Canal Rd., Lansing
June/July	CERT Games – location to be determined

The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and/or policies of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.