

Government Services Center
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West Chester PA 19380

Public Safety Training Campus
137 Modena Road
Coatesville, PA 19320



The Responder

An informational source for the Emergency Responders of Chester County

September 2015

The kids are back to school, the days are getting shorter and Chester County’s Restaurant Festival is right around the corner. All these things can mean only one thing to the Department of Emergency Services...It is **National Preparedness Month!** The theme of this year’s NPM is “Don’t Wait. Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan Today.” September brings the start of a new school year and a new routine that students and adults must adapt to. This is the perfect time to review any emergency plan or emergency contact list that you have made in the past to make sure your phone numbers are up to date.

**DON'T WAIT. COMMUNICATE.
MAKE YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN TODAY.**



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH!



AMERICA'S
PrepareAthon!



If you don't have an emergency plan, you can find a downloadable template on Ready.gov under the “Make A Plan” tab on the top toolbar. Make it easy for yourself and your family members to communicate during a disaster or emergency event by establishing your plan. Make sure all members included in your plan understand their role and responsibilities. Be sure to brief your “out of state contact” on your emergency plan, what they are responsible for, and update them on drills or changes. Remember to include your pets in your emergency plan. If you need further information on how to plan for your pet, please visit Ready.gov or www.aspc.org and click on “Pet Care.”



Be informed. Make a plan. Build a Kit.

Planning for disasters and emergencies can be overwhelming due to the fact that there are so many aspects to take into consideration. To alleviate the stress of having to think of every disaster or emergency at one time, the READY campaign assigned a theme to each week during National Preparedness Month. For example, week 1 (September 1-5th) will center on Floods. The plan you make for Floods could differ from the emergency plan you make for a Power Outage.

Set aside some time and use each week to put together a plan for each theme. After you devise your plan, engage family members in building a kit. All family members should be aware of what goes in the kit, should they face an emergency situation without the builder being present.

More details on what your kit should include and where you should store it can be found on the Ready.gov website. If you choose to take part in National Preparedness Month this September, then you are taking an active role in safeguarding yourself and loved ones during an emergency situation.

Week	Dates	Theme
1	September 1-5 th	Flood
2	September 6-12 th	Wildfire
3	September 13-19 th	Hurricane
4	September 20-26 th	Power Outage
5	September 27-30 th	National PrepareAthon! Day (September 30th)



From the Director....

Project Updates & Monthly Stats

August 2015 Stats

24,332	9-1-1, VoIP, 10 Digit Calls
802	Fire Incidents
3,272	EMS Incidents
1 minute 32 seconds	Fire/EMS Average Dispatch
29,738	Police Incidents
1 minute 34 seconds	Average Police Dispatch
98%	Average of Quality Reviews

Computer-Aided-Dispatch System (CADS):

- The CAD has been fully configured and is ready for system freeze. Intergraph is on site the first week of September to fully configure Mobile for the Public Safety.
- The county has chosen to utilize a commercial data service for the mobile data network. This change in direction has caused a delay in the cutover for the CAD system. The County will replace all vehicle radio modems with a public safety grade commercial data modem. The County will pay for commercial data service on all County owned Mobile Data Computers (MDCs). Agencies will be responsible for commercial data service on all Company owned MDCs.
- The schedule for CAD and Mobile Data is awaiting contracting documents with AT&T. Once a schedule for Mobile Data is finalized we will work with Intergraph to revise the CAD schedule. While we are waiting for the schedule to be finalized we are developing plans to maintain data in both PRC CAD and Intergraph CAD, as well as how to collect customized fire department responses for inclusion in the Intergraph CAD at cutover.

Voice Radio Project:

- Functional Acceptance Testing has been completed. All 55 test elements were exactly as expected from the test plan thus confirming that the system infrastructure was installed as specified in the design. We did find two infrastructure equipment issues, a power supply and a GPS receiver, but both were immediately resolved and the test elements were completed exactly according to plan. Other minor punch list items include labeling of some cables and aesthetics of shelter buildings.
- Coverage Acceptance Testing will take place beginning 1 September and last most of the month. Cutover is scheduled for 4 January 2016 with all emergency responders operational on the system scheduled by 21 April 2016.
- We are 30 months (79%) into the 38 month Implementation Phase. About 91% of the project implementation tasks have been completed. So far we have spent \$28,347,676 (63%) of the \$45,000,000 total project budget.

Training Facility:

- Last month we hosted 890 people at 45 events in the Academic Building. Last month we hosted 890 people at 45 events in the Academic Building. Last month we hosted training sessions in the Tactical Village for a YTD total of 22.
- Manns Woodward expects to have construction bid documents for the Law Enforcement Firing Range completed in September and will be on the Sunshine agenda for October.

Commissioner Farrell Presents Service Award to Russ Kilmer, Deputy Chief Fire Marshal (FM102)

Employees of DES, fellow volunteers and friends of Russ Kilmer all gathered Thursday, August 25 at the Public Safety Training Campus to celebrate Russ' 26 year long career with the Chester County Fire Marshal's Office.

Russ has investigated fires throughout the County day and night and even in storms. The Fire Marshal's Office has investigated 8,741 fires since 1989 when Russ started with the office.

Notably, in Chester County's recent past, Russ had been called upon to help investigate the Coatesville arson spree as well as arsons in Kennett Square and West Grove.



Pictured above: Chester County Commissioner Terence Farrell and Russ Kilmer, Deputy Chief Fire Marshal

Thank you for your service.



REGISTER: <http://destraining.chesco.org>



CERT Course

September 24—November 7, 2015

CERT Basic Training is designed to prepare you to help yourself and to help others in the event of a catastrophic disaster. Because emergency services personnel will not be able to help everyone immediately, you can make a difference by using your CERT training to save lives and protect property.

There is no cost for attendance at this course. You must attend all days and participate in all modules to receive your certificate.

Registration ends on September 15, 2015

Class is limited to 30 participants.

More Information: Heather Morgan hmorgan@chesco.org or (610) 344-5540

Safe Schools: August Activities

Child Reunification with Downingtown Area School District

This past month, DASD held their annual Safety Summit. Upon request by the district, Chrissy DePaolantonio, Safe Schools Planning Coordinator from DES attended the summit and presented material regarding the process of reuniting students with parents/guardians should a school evacuation take place.

Keeping students safe is the number one priority of the district. To lessen an already stressful situation, setting up predetermined locations to transfer students to during a building evacuation in the long run will reduce logistical challenges. Facilities throughout Chester County agreed to take students if an emergency evacuation was to take place. Emergency Services and Chester County Intermediate Unit have coordinated their efforts and now have a deployable team that will be accountable for the lead of operational tasks and the initial setup of an evacuation.

As a result of the summit, it was determined that school representatives must be the face to the parents and community during an incident. The Department of Emergency Services will continue towards engaging schools in the ever evolving landscape of emergency response and preparedness in our school systems.

1st Annual Child Care Symposium

The 1st annual Child Care Symposium was held on August 7th at Calvary Chapel in Lionville. As the Safe Schools Planning Coordinator, focus is normally on K-12 schools; emergency planning is something that must be done in all facilities or homes that care for children. Having all the child care centers come together was valuable to all participants.

As the morning began, we handed out preparedness information not only to help personal preparedness but to help each child care center become prepared. We discussed the importance of emergency planning for all types of disasters, from bad weather to intruders in the building along with communication with parents during an emergency. It is very important to plan for everyone in your facility or home including children with special needs. Information was given about what to do during a radiological emergency and who to turn to for help.

The last presentation was from the Health Department talking about different programs readily available if any child care center was interested, from 'prevention of the stomach bug' to 'changing diapers correctly', to 'learning to brush your teeth'. This information was helpful to the attendees knowing these programs are available to them. The symposium ended with information sharing about how each facility can help others during a light lunch.



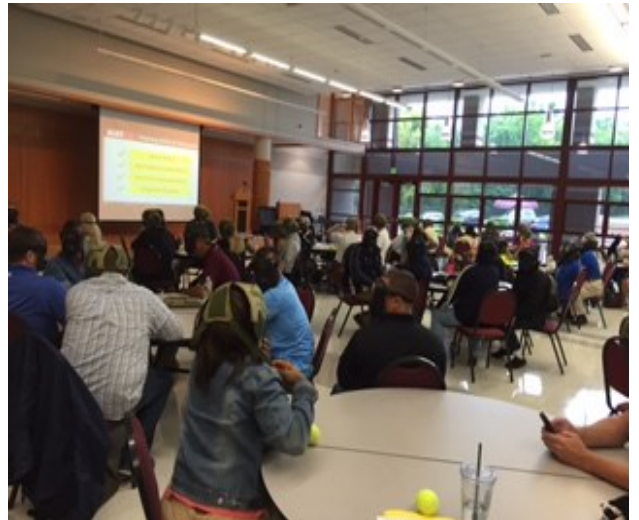
ALICE Train the Trainer Event at TCHS-Brandywine Campus

A mix of school personnel and law enforcement from all over Chester County were among those who attended a two-day Active Shooter Training Instructor Course known as ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) on August 10-11 at the TCHS – Brandywine Campus in Chester County.

Chester County Department of Emergency Services in coordination with the Chester County Intermediate Unit (CCIU) hosted the training course and invited participants from all across the county. The training covered lessons learned and the correlation between Columbine, Virginia Tech and Sandy Hook Elementary School as these studies indicate the need to change how to respond to an active shooter event. The training concluded with attendees donning protective gear and participating in intense mock active shooter drills.

The training provides the school staff with additional tools in case of an incident that will increase survivability. This program will greatly empower each and every employee. Additionally, training will increase personal awareness and employees will be able to translate this information especially those in K-12 schools.

The course was developed to teach proactive, survival strategies in violent intruder or active shooter situations and to help save lives by providing training that will bridge the gap between the time the violent act begins and when law enforcement arrives. The training brought up things the school and staff can do to prevent a shooter from entering the classroom and things that can be planned and practiced for the worst situation. The schools wants to be proactive to ensure parents that school personnel are going to protect the children to the best of their ability. Understanding that the options are not designed to select one and stick with it, rather you can go with the most survivable options. The options may change from lockdown, to countering, to evacuation in the same event.



This training is to address complacency and to educate employees. There is recognition of the need for the training in our communities. There is not one singular strategy to address all variables. The ALICE training was developed to heighten everyone's ability to survive or help others survive.



September 2015 EMS Updates:

ALS Protocols & PA EMS Education Standard Operating Procedures

The 2015 Advanced Life Support protocols have been released from the Pennsylvania Department of Health Bureau of EMS. These can be downloaded from the Pennsylvania Department of Health website. Go to www.health.state.pa.us. Then click on the "My Health" tab, select Emergency Medical Services and then select EMS Statewide Protocols. ALS practitioners are encouraged to study the protocols and review the changes to the protocols related to this update. They take effect September 1, 2015 and it is mandatory for every provider at the paramedic level and above to attend a protocol update class. There are three options available to complete this: attend a session offered by DES staff at the Public Safety Training Campus, attend a session offered by your agency medical director, or attend an online course through LMS.

The newest protocol to the 2015 Statewide ALS Protocols is Protocol 4091 Volume Control Transport Ventilator Management. Additional changes to the protocols include the use of push dose bolus vasopressor therapy, transportation destinations for STEMI and Stroke patients, external cooling methods after ROSC, the termination of resuscitation guideline, agitated delirium, a revision to the medical command contact protocol and a standardized protocol medication list that is used during ambulance equipment checks and ambulance licensure inspections.

Additionally, the Pennsylvania Department of Health Bureau of EMS released the updated 2015 PA EMS Education Standard Operating Procedures. These were designed to assist individuals interested in EMS within Pennsylvania, from candidates pursuing initial basic level information, certified providers of EMS in all levels and areas, along with accredited EMS educational institutes and continuing education sponsors. Information can also be found here as it relates to credentialing for EMSVO and EMS Instructor statuses as well as how to troubleshoot problems with the PA EMS Registry and LMS accounts. This document can be found at <http://www.health.pa.gov> and selecting Emergency Medical Services, EMS in PA, and then EMS Education Information.

Lastly, please check the <http://destraining.chesco.org/> for various EMS courses and classes being held through the end of the year at the Public Safety Training Campus.

Attention EMS Providers

As a reminder please make sure you have submitted all of your continuing education certificates and current CPR cards to Field Services at least 90 days prior to your expiration date. All documentation should be sent to Heather Gulsby-Steiner via email hgulsbysteiner@chesco.org or fax (610) 344-5063. Heather can be reached at 610-344-5009 with any additional questions.

Does ReadyChesCo Alert You?

Sign up for Chester County's Notification System

Your Source For Emergency Information

By opting in to the Chester County notification system, you will be informed before, during and after incidents that could impact your safety.

**READY
ChesCo
.org**

VISTA 2025 – CHESTER COUNTY’S TEN-YEAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

In October, 2014 Chester County introduced VISTA 2025, an economic development strategy created through a public-private partnership that will guide Chester County’s economic development efforts over the next ten years. Throughout 2014, more than 50 county government officials, key business leaders, educators and non-profit executives contributed to the initiative.



The result is a strategy that balances **progress with preservation** – the two overwhelming elements that VISTA 2025 researchers found to be important to Chester County citizens, business leaders and other stakeholders. VISTA 2025 is encouraging economic growth while maintaining the “sense of place” that makes Chester County so attractive to residents and businesses.

Hazmat Team Trains at the Tactical Village

This month, the County Hazmat Team trained at the Public Safety Training Campus in the tactical village. The tactical village provided the team the opportunity to utilize a variety of detection equipment to determine a hazardous materials issue and take steps to mitigate the incident in a “real world” scenario based training evolution. Utilizing the box trailer, 55 gallon drums, and a leaking drum inside the trailer the team was able to create a challenging scenario. The scenario centered around drums of fuel oil alongside a drum of fuming sulfuric acid; with reports of one of the drums leaking. Not knowing which drum was leaking posed the challenge of selecting the proper protective equipment to investigate the leak. Once it was determined that the fuel oil was not leaking and flammability was not an issue, the team had to switch PPE to deal with the acid leak. The team was able to mitigate the problem while ensuring the safety of the team and the area surrounding the incident scene.



Prop of the Month

The Public Safety Training Campus consists of an Academic Building and the Tactical Village. The Tactical Village includes a number of training props, an administrative pavilion, Burn Building, and Drill Tower/Scenario Building. This month we are highlighting the Drill Tower/Scenario Building.

Drill Tower/Scenario Building

The Drill Tower/Scenario Building is five stories tall and includes both residential and commercial mock ups. Rappelling training can be done from each of the floors, as well as the roof for high angle rope rescue training. Live fire training is available in this building via four propane fired props. These props include a living room, bedroom, kitchen, and industrial gas storage. This building is also equipped with a smoke generator and sound system for law enforcement and search and rescue training.

Additionally, the drill tower is equipped with a number of forcible entry training doors that can be used during scenario based training.



For more information, or to request space for your next training, please visit the “Public Safety Training Campus” page on the DES website at www.chesco.org/des.



Pictured Above: Front View of Drill Tower/Scenario Building



Pictured left and top right are images from the SWAT demo during the official opening of the Tactical Village on May 15, 2015.

Pictured bottom left and bottom right are Images from the Radnor Fire Company which took place on Sunday, August 23, 2015.



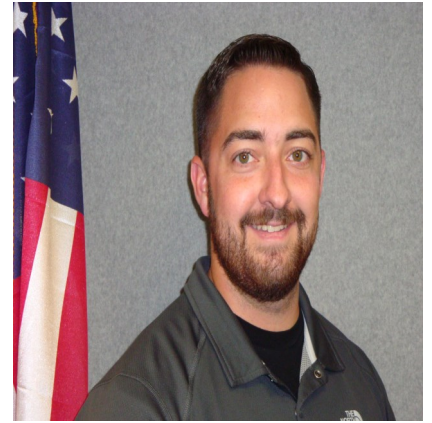
Check back next month for our featured "Prop of the Month."

Welcome Caleb Meute to the Emergency Management Division

Caleb will be serving as an emergency planning coordinator. Having grown up in southern Chester County in the Avon Grove School District, Caleb is very excited to be able to return to his hometown region to work with the DES team.

In 2012, Caleb graduated from Millersville University with his Bachelor of Science Degree in Meteorology. Two years later, he moved north to New Hampshire to work for the Mount Washington Observatory, which is home to some of the most extreme weather on the planet. While being employed by the observatory as a Weather Observer and Education Specialist, he appeared on the weather channel and several other TV and radio stations.

With his meteorology background and experience, he is very eager to coordinate with the National Weather Service and keep Chester County prepared and well-informed on approaching weather systems.



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Are you or someone you know looking for an exciting career in Emergency Services? Here are the current job openings...



Chief Fire Marshal

The Fire Services division has an opening for a Chief Fire Marshal who will be responsible for supporting the Chester County fire service and law enforcement community with a full range of fire marshal services. This position is responsible for conducting thorough and accurate fire investigations; conducts fire extinguisher training at offices; coordinates department plans for Fire Prevention Week; instruct and prepare various educational segments for the community on fire safety through education of the existing codes, laws, and regulations.

Assistant Fire Marshal

Fire Services is hiring for a Part Time Assistant Fire Marshal. This position will be responsible for assisting the County Fire Marshal, who is charged with prevention, control, and investigation of fires.

To View the Full Job Description or for More Information on How to Apply Visit:

<http://www.chesco.org/jobs>

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL



TECHNICIAN



SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

GOOD FELLOWSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE

MONDAY EVENINGS, WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, EVERY OTHER SUNDAY DAYTIME

REGISTRATION CLOSING DATE: SEPTEMBER 7, 2015

(PT15006)

OCTOBER 13, 2015

CHESTER COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CAMPUS

TUESDAY EVENINGS, THURSDAY EVENINGS, EVERY OTHER SATURDAY DAYTIME

REGISTRATION CLOSING DATE: OCTOBER 6, 2015

(PT15007)

JANUARY 18, 2016

GOOD FELLOWSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE

MONDAY EVENINGS, WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, EVERY OTHER SATURDAY DAYTIME

REGISTRATION CLOSING DATE: JANUARY 11, 2016

(PT16001)

FEBRUARY 23, 2016

CHESTER COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CAMPUS

TUESDAY EVENINGS, THURSDAY EVENINGS, EVERY OTHER SUNDAY DAYTIME

REGISTRATION CLOSING DATE: FEBRUARY 16, 2016

(PT16002)

MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION AT:

WWW.GOODFELLOWSHIP.ORG

EMS EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

Sunday, OCTOBER 25, 2015

Location: Chester County Hospital Mira Room

7:30am-3:00pm



Nurses and Pre-hospital providers

FREE!!!

Nursing CEU pending/EMS CEUs provided

Lunch provided

Registration: 7:30am

Topics include

Suicide among pre-hospital providers-Darren Ensinger, MSN, BM, RN, CCRN, CFRN, CPEN, PHRN

Burns assessment and treatment- Herbert N. Schiffer, DO Crozer Medical Command physician

Cardiology Basics: Compressions during CPR, ROSC, Oxygen Toxicity-Fran Hildwine, BS, NR-P

Facial Injuries (JEMS article)-Robert Girardeau, BS, NRP, FP-C

Community Paramedicine: An emerging trend-Will Emmons, MSN, NR-P

Pediatric assessments-Terri Bugiazet, BSN, CEN, CPEN, PHRN

RSVP to Kerri Barrett at Kerri.Barrett@uphs.upenn.edu with your name and organization