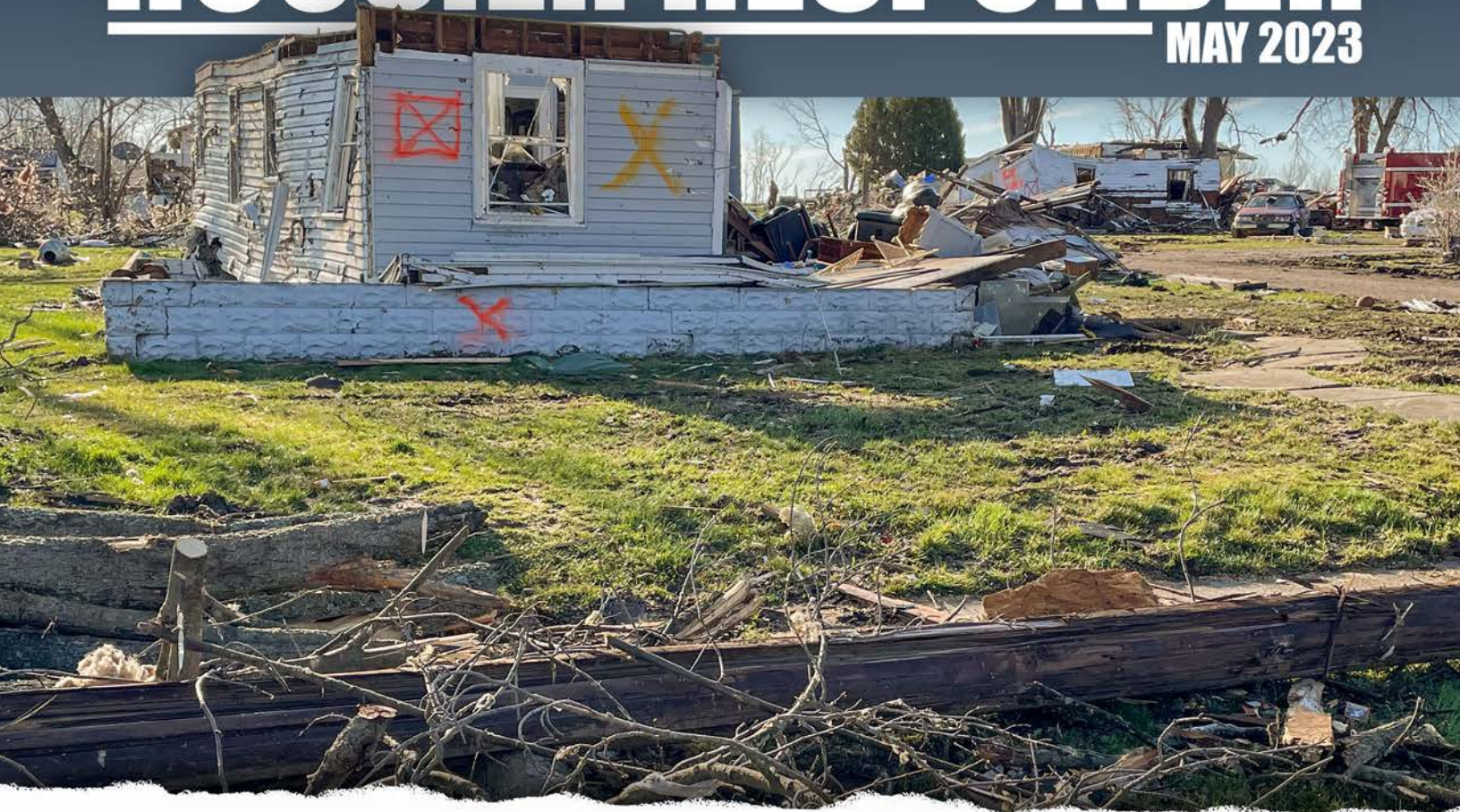


THE HOOSIER RESPONDER

MAY 2023



[AFTER THE STORM]

Federal, state and local officials collaborate on recovery efforts.

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- IDHS Partners with Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Public Safety Preparedness
- A Legislative Update on Bills Affecting IDHS Stakeholders
- Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy Director John Shafer Introduces Himself
- FDIC International Wrap-Up
- Planning for the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse
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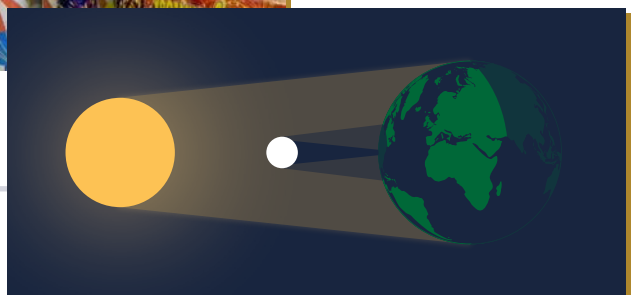
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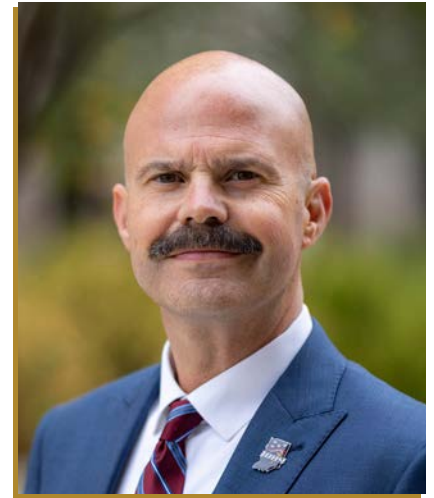
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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

A quote by the great American author Ralph Waldo Emerson states:
“All great successes are the triumph of persistence.”

Hoosiers in 12 counties impacted by the March 31/April 1 tornado outbreak have displayed such persistence each day as they work to recover from the storm that killed five people and damaged more than 1,000 homes. The true toll of the tornadoes continues to come into view; however, dozens of FEMA and IDHS staff remain on the ground to help residents and communities recover and rebuild.



On April 15, President Joe Biden declared the incident a national disaster, opening the door for federal assistance from FEMA. Since that date, nearly 250 FEMA personnel have been on the ground working with emergency managers and elected officials, sometimes going door to door to ensure nobody is without services. Disaster recovery centers have opened in Sullivan, Morgan and Johnson counties, with roving centers visiting all other impacted counties on a rotation.

FEMA and IDHS personnel are working daily with each county to ensure damage assessments are complete. This is the time when relationships with local first responders are so important. IDHS is persistent in communicating directly with emergency managers, who are intent on restoring their own communities. In one county, the local EMA director also lost his home in the tornado. Imagine the persistence it takes to put your community first while still trying to put your own life back together.

FEMA relies on IDHS to provide the guidance necessary to identify each need for every unique community. This effort heavily depends on trust and communication between the state and its local partners, which is just as important with FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration. Furthermore, our volunteer organizations (COADS and VOADS) have played a pivotal role in filling the immediate needs of Hoosiers during this time.

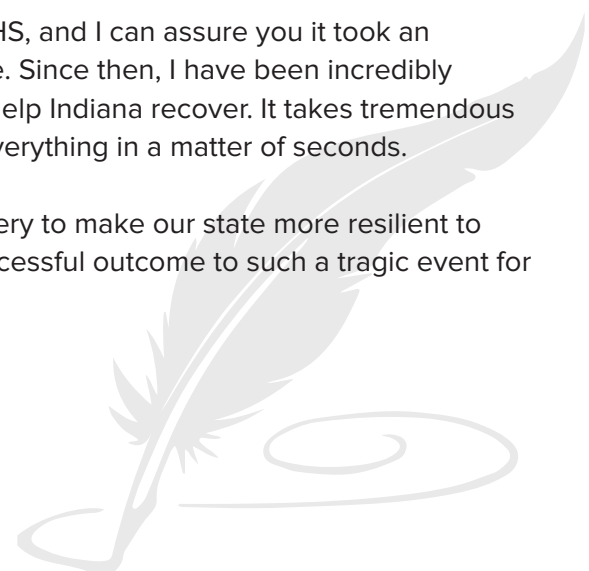
It takes patience and persistence to recover from a natural disaster.

This is the first national disaster declaration under my tenure with IDHS, and I can assure you it took an enormous amount of work and preparation to obtain federal assistance. Since then, I have been incredibly impressed and thankful for the contributions of FEMA and others to help Indiana recover. It takes tremendous teamwork to step up and support people, including some who lost everything in a matter of seconds.

IDHS will incorporate every lesson learned during this disaster recovery to make our state more resilient to future disasters. Doing so will help provide some semblance of a successful outcome to such a tragic event for many Indiana communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Thacker'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Joel Thacker
Executive Director





IDHS PARTNERS WITH INDIANAPOLIS MOTOR SPEEDWAY ON PUBLIC SAFETY PREPAREDNESS

As the world’s largest, single-day sporting event, safety is the top priority for those in charge of the Indianapolis 500 race.

The Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS) routinely updates multiple emergency action plans and trains employees on active shooter situations. Since 2016, IMS has conducted an annual tabletop exercise, with the most recent exercise facilitated by the IDHS Exercise Section.

IMS Senior Director of Safety and Security Mike Bates started the exercise between IMS and numerous public safety partners after he came to the position following a 30-year career in law enforcement.

“When I first got there, I knew from the public safety side that they would know how to handle all types of situations, but I learned quickly that it’s not just about law enforcement and public safety entities — it’s also about what management internally needs to do. People should be asking, ‘What should I do while this is going on?’” he said.

This year marks the third time IDHS Exercise Section has been the lead organizer and planner of the tabletop exercise, bringing together various government agencies, safety and security partners and various entities that own and manage the race events.

“The Indianapolis 500 is a huge spectacle and brings people from all over. There are a lot of agencies and organizations



involved, and also a lot of fans, so public safety is very important,” said IDHS State Exercise Officer Ashley Baldwin. “The exercise is to practice IMS’ plans, policies and procedures to make sure they work the way they are supposed to. It also helps other organizations work and train together so they are more prepared and know each other before an incident, to have relationships before the race to ensure a smoother response and recovery in the event of an incident.”



Preparation for the exercise took place across several months, and Bates said he appreciated working with a partner like IDHS. He and his team travel frequently with the IndyCar Series, so IDHS handled much of the planning and coordination leading up to the exercise. In addition to the exercise, IDHS also provides a variety of services to support the Indianapolis 500 each year, such as providing barriers, lighting and a K-9 support station.

“We are a [SEAR 2 event](#), which is important to us and gets us a lot of support,” Bates said, noting that IMS works with dozens of federal

agencies. “Then you throw in the state and locals, so it’s a lot. I always say we check our egos at the door, and that’s why we work so well together in all phases. It comes down to partnerships.”

IDHS Exercise Program Manager Jess Kindig served as the facilitator for the exercise. She said the role of a facilitator in any exercise is to dive deeply into what the host agency wants, which includes the types of conversations to have and which agencies to include. Tabletop exercises are discussion-based and have the potential to get off-topic, but having a good

relationship with the host agency, like with IMS, helps the facilitator know when the conversation needs to be redirected, she said.

“IMS was very specific on what they wanted from this exercise. Through the planning process, we got to know each other well, so I could tell what they wanted. Sometimes clients want a 20,000-foot view, but IMS wanted to take it a bit further: ‘If *this*, then what?’ and play out how to perform their roles,” Kindig said.

This year’s scenario emphasized public messaging and making decisions about the status of the race. It also focused on IMS’ internal decisions and processes, more than gauging what external partners’ actions would be.

“The value is tremendous,” Bates said. “It gets our people thinking. A lot of our people don’t have the background or contact with public safety, so it is good to get all those people in the same room



to discuss how to respond. Public safety doesn't need to know as much as we do since they are highly trained already, but how do we communicate to *our* people?"

Marion County Emergency Management Director Jake Spence agreed this year's exercise fostered more discussion with IMS staff about aspects of public safety response that may not have been realized before. Balancing the desire for the event to continue while still completing public safety missions can be challenging, but helpful, to discuss ahead of time.

"With each year and each exercise we do, it highlights the proactive relationship IMS takes with their public safety partners. The private/public partnership for special events can sometimes be challenging, but for the most part we are able to work through those fairly easily because of the relationships that have been cultivated," Spence said.



ABOVE THE TRACK: ELEVATOR SAFETY AT IMS

Thousands of fans use elevators at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway to get to and from their seats for major events such as the Indianapolis 500. Like all elevators in Indiana, these lift devices are regulated and undergo regular safety inspections. IDHS inspects the elevators at the speedway annually and put all 28 through their paces during four days in March. Inspectors checked the fire service logs, control room equipment such as the electronics panel, various signage and the equipment inside and outside the elevators, including multiple safety checks while riding on top of the elevators.

SEE YOU AT THE TRACK, I-BEAM TEAM!

Every year the I-BEAM team supports a unique mission at the Indianapolis 500. The team sets up its air-conditioned tents to serve as a K-9 cooling station for the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department.

"These tents are just pumping out cold air for the K-9s. They need a break from being outside in the Memorial Day heat. The officers bring the dogs in just to cool off for a bit before they go back out and do their jobs," said IDHS Chief Inspector and head of the I-BEAM team Matt Cronley.

I-BEAM team members will be stationed with the tents 24-7 until the race is complete.

Learn more about what I-BEAM does at the track with this video!



THE I-BEAM TEAM IS ANOTHER RESOURCE IN THE STATE OF INDIANA'S ARSENAL

When a major disaster happens in Indiana, county emergency response personnel know they must work quickly and efficiently to save lives and property. But the race is not over when the immediate threat passes. The next step is to keep that quick pace going to facilitate the recovery.



Some events may qualify for a state disaster declaration or a federal disaster declaration, which means there is a brief period to survey the damage and get those numbers to federal officials. That means it is an all-hands-on-deck scenario. Indiana has a resource at hand to speed up the damage assessment process.

The Indiana Building Emergency Assessment and Monitoring (I-BEAM) Team has a roster of trained and qualified volunteers ready to go. This group is made up of engineers, architects and more.

“We respond to a lot of rapid damage assessments. Not just for Indiana, we could be used throughout the nation or even the world,” said IDHS Chief Inspector and head of the I-BEAM team Matt Cronley.

“We are really well-equipped, better than just about anybody in the country, that we know of, for emergency response. We have a lot of equipment that we can deploy easily.”

That equipment includes air-conditioned tents that can be set up in a matter of minutes and act as a command center for response teams. These tents are helpful in major disaster areas where large buildings to coordinate a major emergency response may not be available.

“You could go to an area that has been completely destroyed. There is no safe structure to be in,” Cronley explained, adding that they can bring in generators for power and provide internet access, food, water and first aid.

A photograph of a yellow placard titled "RESTRICTED USE". The placard contains a "Caution" section with handwritten notes: "This structure has been inspected and found to be damaged as described below: WINDOWS BROKEN - MODERATE CONCRETE & BRICK CRACKING WEST ENTRY BLOCKED". It also has fields for "Date" (16 June 2017) and "Time" (0955). A "Caution" note states: "(Caution: Aftershocks since inspection may increase damage and risk.)". There is a section for "Entry, occupancy, and lawful use are restricted as indicated below:" with a checked box for "ENTRY" and a handwritten note "Do not enter the following areas: WEST". Below that, it says "Brief entry allowed for access to contents:" and "Other restrictions:". The "Facility name and address" is handwritten as "HOSPITAL - (Humorities - Social Science Bldg) 14 A STATE WAY Jonesboro AR". At the bottom, it says "Inspector ID / Agency" and "Do Not Remove, Alter, or Cover this Placard until Authorized by Governing Authority".

When the team deploys, it brings the equipment to the field and then goes out with recovery teams to evaluate the buildings and homes in a damaged area. The team determines if these buildings are safe to return to. If not, the data is collected and given to state and federal partners to determine the next steps in the damage assessment process. Other team capabilities include providing staff for operations, logistics, administrative needs, credentialing, briefings and radio equipment.



To continue making this resource available, the I-BEAM team is recruiting new volunteers. The team works with the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in Indiana to generate volunteer architects, but more people are needed and welcomed.

Good volunteer candidates:

- Architects
- Engineers
- Professionals who have a commercial or residential building inspection certification
- Professionals who have a fire inspection certification

When the I-BEAM team is not deployed, the time commitment is minimal. Volunteers need to take a training course and assist with equipment checkup days, if available.

When the I-BEAM team is deployed, it is hard to say what the time commitment will be. If the team is asked to go out of state, team members could be gone for days or weeks (including weekends). There also is the potential to be called in over a holiday.

Interested volunteers can sign up via the form on the [I-BEAM webpage](#).

“We set up our computers and create a map of all the affected areas and map the affected structures. Is the damage minor, major or severe?” Cronley said. “Then we get together with FEMA, the National Guard, local officials, whoever to orchestrate our assets to quickly assess the damage.”

These skills were highlighted in the aftermath of the March 31 storm system. Cronley’s team was out in the field, surveying the damage from the storm, even though the I-BEAM team was not officially deployed.

NEWBORN SAFETY DEVICE GRANT

The Newborn Safety Device Grant will reimburse emergency medical service providers, fire departments, hospitals, local governments and nonprofits up to \$10,000 for purchasing and installing a location to accept infants anonymously. Commonly referred to as baby boxes, these locations provide added protection for newborns by immediately notifying authorities once a baby is left at a location.

To apply, applicants must provide a detailed project description by including a clear and complete explanation of the proposed project, a list of involved stakeholders, the expected timeline and results for the proposed project. The online application and additional information on required documentation are on the IDHS [Grants webpage](#) and must include the required documentation.

IDHS recommends all EMS providers prioritize infant safety during transportation by utilizing approved safety devices and completing regular safety training to maintain best practices. With the Newborn Safety Device Grant, providers have an opportunity to enhance their efforts and provide the best possible care for Indiana’s newborns.

The deadline to apply for a Newborn Safety Device Grant is May 31, 2023.

HOUSE BILL 1001

State Budget

Passed and signed into law. Invests more than \$30 million for the Hub and Spoke Fire Training system and addresses the EMS workforce issues outlined by the Governor's Public Health Commission.

HOUSE BILL 1222 (IDHS AGENCY BILL)

Regional Public Safety Training Fund

This bill was merged into House Bill 1001 and signed. It combines the current Fire Training Infrastructure Fund and the Homeland Security Fund into the Regional Public Safety Training Fund.

HOUSE BILL 1016

Police and Fire Merit Systems

Passed and signed into law. States that a fire protection district or fire protection territory can establish a merit system.

HOUSE BILL 1025

Firefighter Discipline

Passed and signed into law. States that a fire department of a fire protection district or fire protection territory is subject to certain disciplinary and due process requirements.

HOUSE BILL 1321

Public Safety Training

Passed and signed into law. Ensures firefighters and EMS professionals receive mental health and wellness resources during initial and continuous training.

HOUSE BILL 1219

PFAS Biomonitoring Pilot Program

Passed and signed into law. Establishes the PFAS biomonitoring pilot program under the Indiana Department of Homeland Security to collect and analyze blood samples of individuals who were previously, or are currently, firefighters.

HOUSE BILL 1341

PFAS-Free Firefighter Gear

Passed and signed into law. States that after June 30, 2024, an Indiana fire department may not purchase firefighting gear unless it contains a permanently affixed label indicating if the firefighting gear contains PFAS chemicals.

SENATE BILL 43

Residency of 911 Operators

Passed and signed into law. States that a public safety agency may not establish or maintain residency requirements for a public safety telecommunicator employed by a public safety agency.

SENATE BILL 316

Computer and Emergency Dispatch Systems

Passed and signed into law. Requires the statewide 911 Board to conduct a feasibility study on potential ways in which the computer-aided dispatch (CAD) systems used by public safety answering points (PSAPs) in Indiana could be made interoperable to facilitate the dispatch of EMS resources based on the closest and most appropriate EMS resource to respond to an emergency.

GET SHAKIN', INDIANA!

Earthquakes in the Hoosier state may sound far-fetched, but quakes are not an unrealistic event. Indiana is near two major seismic zones: the Wabash Valley Seismic Zone and the New Madrid Seismic Zone. Both zones have recorded past earthquake activity. Scientists believe incidents similar to the 1811–1812 New Madrid earthquakes will impact Indiana again, so preparedness is vital.

Remembering to Drop, Cover and Hold On when an earthquake begins is important, but staying safe is possible if that process cannot be followed.

WHEN AN EARTHQUAKE STRIKES

- Take shelter under sturdy furniture and hold onto it. The furniture will help protect against any falling debris.
- Cover your head and neck with your arms.
- If outside, stay away from power lines, tall buildings, falling rocks or anything that could collapse.
- If in a vehicle, drive slowly to a location away from buildings, overpasses, underpasses and utility wires.
- If in a building or enclosed structure, never go outside.

GET SHAKIN'

STUDENT VIDEO CONTEST

To encourage Hoosier students to take an active role in learning how to prepare for and react during an earthquake, IDHS is launching the 2023 *Get Shakin'* Student Video Contest.

The top submissions will win their class or group a Raspberry Shake® RS3D seismograph to use for a year to track worldwide seismic activity. One grand prize winner will receive an “Indiana

Earthquake Day” event. To enter, classes and groups from public schools, charter and private schools that are eligible for federal funding can submit student-produced videos focused on earthquake preparedness and/or safety. A panel of IDHS judges will choose a winner. More information on this contest, including how to submit a video, is on the [IDHS website](#).

The contest is open now. Video entries will be accepted until Aug. 31, 2023. Additional information about the video contest and earthquake safety is on the [Get Shakin' webpage](#).

DOWNLOAD THE RULES



EMS UPDATES

EMS Week this year is May 21-27.

This week allows Indiana EMS to thank and recognize the hard-working and dedicated EMS providers who serve our communities. These brave men and women work tirelessly to ensure that emergency medical care is available when needed, often putting their lives on the line to help others.

Emergency medical services play a critical role in our communities, and IDHS is grateful for their dedication and commitment. They are often the first responders on the scene of an emergency, providing life-saving interventions and transporting patients to hospitals for further treatment. IDHS thanks our EMS providers for their service and for being there during some of the most vulnerable moments people experience.

Registration is open for this year's Emergency Medical Services for Children's (EMSC) Day Webinar on May 24, 2023. This year's topic is "The Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC): Where Emergency Care for Kids Begins."

This 60-minute webinar will highlight the role of pediatric emergency care coordinators (PECCs), also known as pediatric champions, in EMS agencies. National pediatric EMS experts will explain the role PECCs play in prehospital pediatric readiness efforts and highlight how PECCs can work with EMS clinicians and community partners to improve the care of acutely ill and injured children. Attendees will learn about local, regional and state-level activities that support and sustain the PECC role and hear directly from a PECC about the impact on the care of children in their community. A 30-minute Q&A session will follow the presentation.

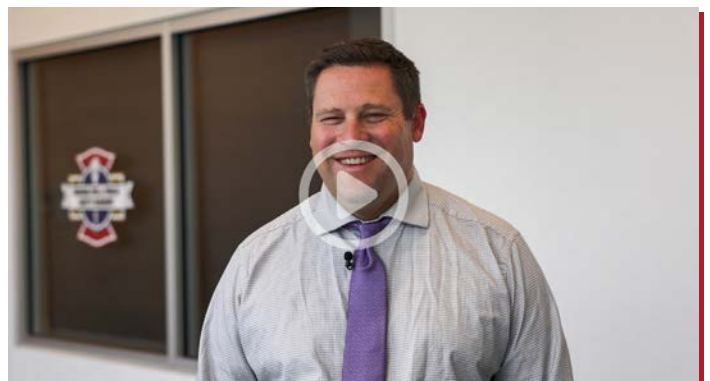
EMSC Day Webinar
May 24, 2023
6-7:30 p.m.

Registration is free and open to all. For those planning to attend the session live on May 24, 1.5 Live Commission on Accreditation for Prehospital Continuing Education (CAPCE) credits will be available through Prodigy EMS.

LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF: JOHN SHAFER

Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy Director John Shafer has been on the job for three months now. His goal is to cross the state to get to know as many Hoosier firefighters as he can.

If you have not met Shafer yet, he is taking a moment to introduce himself now. Shafer explains his firefighting background and lays out his plans for the future of the Academy and how you can take part in shaping firefighter training.



TORNADOES
FLOODING
EARTHQUAKES
HOUSE FIRES
DISASTERS
FOLLOW
NO SCHEDULE



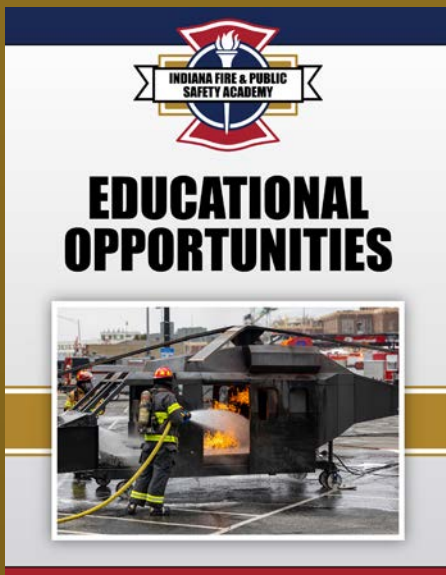
FIRE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy wants to provide firefighters with an easier way to find upcoming training opportunities, state-sponsored or not. There is a new location on the IDHS website where class advertisements (flyers) are available: <https://on.in.gov/training-flyers>

This resource does not replace registration on Acadis; instead, it serves as a quick and simple way to find upcoming training opportunities by collecting training flyers from around the state. Not all class flyers are state-sponsored, and the Academy does not endorse instructors or methods taught in non-Academy courses that are shared. But local agencies are welcome to share their flyers. Learn more about how to share flyers on the [Educational Opportunities](#) page.

Subscribe to the Educational Opportunities email list to be notified of updates to the training flyers collection.

SUBSCRIBE NOW



HAZMAT HAPPENINGS

Hazmat has rescheduled and confirmed new dates for the LEPC workshop training sessions, which will focus on the LEPC Plan Module and GIS features in Tier II Manager LEPC accounts.

Dates and locations:

DISTRICT 7

May 23, 2023 - 10 a.m.
1600 W. County Road 225 S., Greencastle, IN

DISTRICT 6

May 25, 2023 - 10 a.m.
224 W. Water St., Portland, IN

DISTRICT 3

May 31, 2023 - 10 a.m.
220 W. Van Buren St., Columbia City, IN

DISTRICT 2

June 2, 2023 - 10 a.m.
1222 S. Michigan St., South Bend, IN

DISTRICT 9

June 7, 2023 - 10 a.m.
245 Atwood St., Corydon, IN

DISTRICT 5

June 12, 2023 - 10 a.m.
3901 Meadows Dr., Indianapolis, IN

DISTRICT 10

June 14, 2023 - 10 a.m.
101 NE 4th St., Washington, IN

If you have any questions, please email indianalepc@dhs.in.gov.

Check out this video of IDHS at FDIC!



2023 FDIC INTERNATIONAL WRAP-UP

THANK YOU FOR VISITING THE IDHS BOOTH

IDHS is celebrating a successful showing at the 2023 FDIC International. Thousands of people visited the conference and exposition hall, many of which stopped by the IDHS booth. Representatives say it was a pleasure to make connections with visitors from Indiana and around the world.

If you missed the IDHS booth this year, set a reminder to stop by next year!



2023 FDIC International by the numbers:

- More than 34,000 fire industry professionals visited the expo hall and attended the training and classroom sessions.
- 40% of the attendees did not attend FDIC 2022.
- 37% of attendees hold an EMS certification.
- 75 countries were represented, including Ecuador, Mexico, China, United Kingdom, Brazil and Japan.





[A LONG ROAD AHEAD]

Indiana recovers from deadly spring tornadoes.

Sullivan, Ind., Mayor Clint Lamb describes what happened on the night of March 31 as a life-altering event.

“I know I’ll forever be changed, and my community will too.”

An EF-3 tornado with winds up to 165 mph hit the city that night.

In the days leading up to March 31, meteorologists were spreading the news that a severe storm system, capable of producing tornadoes, was heading for Indiana. Making conditions even more concerning was the fact that this storm system was going to hit at night, while most people are sleeping.

Families were told to shelter in a safe place as conditions grew favorable for tornadoes; first responders were already gathering, ready to help people at a moment’s notice; and local and state decision-makers were on alert for the potential impact. The State Emergency

Operations Center (EOC) activated to prepare for the storms and help gather information and distribute resources.

Lamb had been watching a movie in his home with his wife and daughter when the power went out and his phone alarm sounded.

“We heard a warning tone on the phone that I had never heard before. It was a screech that you could tell this was a different kind of alarm,” said Lamb.

He immediately got his family into the basement of his house. They were not in the direct path of the storm, but the wind and rain still shook and rattled his house.

Lamb said his first thought was of his kids. He had four kids that were not home that night. Cell phone reception was already a problem, which meant getting ahold of his kids and first responders was a struggle.

Eventually, he was able to confirm his family was safe, but Lamb knew he had to get to City Hall.

“When the storm calmed down, I said, ‘I have to get out of here to go help.’”

Local officials knew they had an emergency scenario on their hands within minutes, and it was clear that Sullivan needed assistance.

“The whole city was pitch black except City Hall. We just moved into City Hall two months ago because we needed a safer building with generators,” said Lamb. “Even dispatch had gone down. I believe dispatchers had to go out to the cars and get on their radios.”

Homes were destroyed and buildings suffered major damage. Three people lost their lives in Sullivan and 30 more were injured.

“It was like a Hollywood set. It looked staged. The crumpled-up van we saw was surreal. It was so quiet, and it was so still, but the damage had been done,” Lamb said.

Sullivan was not the only place that needed immediate help. Major damage was reported elsewhere in Sullivan County and in Allen, Benton, Clinton, Grant, Howard, Johnson, Lake, Monroe, Morgan, Owen and White counties.

First responders in Owen County found two more victims in McCormick’s Creek State Park, bringing the number of fatalities up to five. Four additional people were injured in Monroe County.

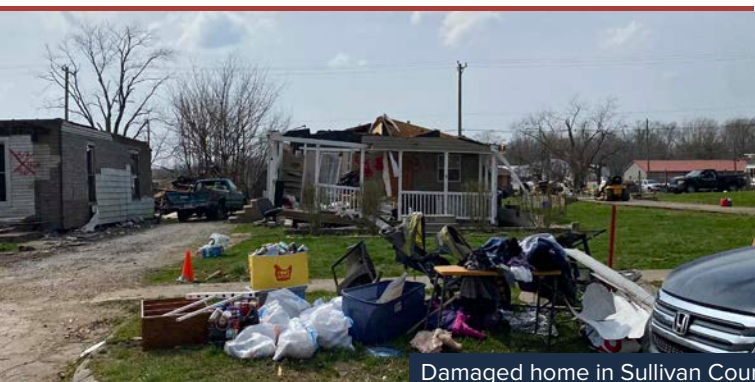
In total, the National Weather Service determined 23 tornadoes hit Indiana that night, making it the fifth-largest tornado event in Indiana history.



Aerial picture of homes destroyed in Sullivan County.

At the state level, IDHS had a team in the EOC monitoring the storm as it rolled through, but as damage reports started coming in, the EOC raised its activation from a Level IV (daily operations) to a Level III (emergency conditions). Additional personnel were called in to staff the EOC as county officials started asking for assistance. Out in the field, emergency responders were going through damaged residences and buildings looking for people who needed help.

“The silver lining, the outpouring of love and support, was something I could never have imagined,” Lamb said. Within hours, Lamb was receiving calls from other mayors, Lieutenant Governor Crouch, Governor Holcomb and U.S. senators – all offering to help in any way they could. He told the story of how the mayor of Angola, Ind., called him ready to send trucks from northern Indiana to Sullivan to help with storm cleanup.



Damaged home in Sullivan County.

Even with all the help, it was clear response and recovery efforts were going to overwhelm local capabilities. One-stop shops were opened to give victims access to state resources to begin the recovery process. In the meantime, IDHS personnel started crossing the state doing rapid damage assessments. These assessments were the basis to bring attention to state and federal officials about what was happening in Indiana.

“Initial visits to Sullivan and Johnson counties revealed such severe damage that I knew we needed to ensure that all IDHS personnel were ready to pivot from blue sky activities to positions of assistance and support,” said IDHS Executive Director Joel Thacker. “As a state, we are really good at the initial response, search and rescue. We needed to lean into the recovery aspect and think about how we are going to help Hoosier survivors with long-term needs.”

Governor Holcomb quickly signed an Executive Order declaring Sullivan and Johnson counties in a State of Emergency and later requested an Expedited Presidential Disaster Declaration from President Biden for 12 counties, which was approved on April 15.

“FEMA sent teams to Indiana immediately after the event to assist with initial damage assessments,



Sullivan Mayor Lamb gathering with damage assessment teams.

helping state and local responders gather the data that would be necessary to inform a federal disaster declaration request,” said FEMA Region 5 Administrator Tom Sivak. “This immediate collection of impact data was important for understanding what happened and the resources needed for recovery.”

“Talk about a lump-in-your-throat moment. No one ever played any political cards. They just wanted to step up and help,” Lamb said.

“Survivors need to know that we are working hard to help them put their lives back together. Some families, in addition to losing property, lost loved ones. We cannot fill that void, but we will stand beside them and provide the support they need to grieve and recover,” Thacker added.



Agricultural buildings damaged in Allen County.

FEMA operated several disaster recovery centers across the state through May to help victims apply for federal assistance.

“Indiana disaster survivors who applied for assistance will receive a letter from FEMA. Read the letter carefully, because it will explain your application status and how to respond. If you disagree with FEMA’s decision, FEMA might just need more information to process your application,” Sivak said.

FEMA has distributed more than \$1.6 million to Indiana storm victims so far. The U.S. Small Business Administration also is making low-interest loans available for storm victims. It has approved more than \$4.4 million.

As time moves on from the night of March 31, Lamb says managing this event is just a part of his role

as mayor, but there are aspects of his job that have changed. There have been a lot of tears shed in his office as he works with the victims.

“You become the hugger-in-chief. You have to listen to the victims. We can’t necessarily make them whole again, but by golly we’ll do our best to help,” he said.

One thing is clear as Lamb looks to the future; “Sullivan will build back better. We’ll be the shining city that people will see made a comeback,” he said.

Aerial picture of storm damage in Grant County.



RECOVERY TIMELINE SO FAR

March 31-April 1

A severe storm system hits Indiana. SEOC activated to Level III.

April 1

Gov. Holcomb signs Executive Order declaring Sullivan and Johnson counties in a State of Emergency. Indiana 211 activated to collect severe storm damage reports.

April 2

Joint FEMA-State rapid damage assessments begin.

April 4

Gov. Holcomb announces one-stop shop locations to help storm victims with state resources.

April 6

Gov. Holcomb requests expedited Presidential Disaster Declaration for tornado relief.

April 10

SEOC returns to normal operations for first time since the incident began.

April 14

Gov. Holcomb updates expedited Presidential Disaster Declaration request to include Allen, Benton, Clinton, Grant, Howard, Johnson, Lake, Monroe, Morgan, Owen, Sullivan and White counties.

April 15

President Biden approves Indiana Disaster Declaration opening federal funds up to help victims recover.

April 17

FEMA allows Indiana storm victims to apply for relief on DisasterAssistance.gov.

April 19

FEMA and state partners go door to door in affected neighborhoods to help residents apply for assistance.

April 20

The SBA offers loans for victims affected by the storms.

April 24

Disaster Unemployment Assistance becomes available for storm victims.

April 26

FEMA-supported disaster recovery centers open across the state.

HOW TO APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE

FEMA

Survivors can apply by going online at DisasterAssistance.gov, calling 800-621-3362 or using the [FEMA mobile app](#). The helpline is open and available from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Eastern Time in most languages.

The disaster declaration includes Individual Assistance to households in Allen, Benton, Clinton, Grant, Howard, Johnson, Lake, Monroe, Morgan, Owen, Sullivan and White counties. Assistance for uninsured losses may include temporary lodging, basic home repairs and other disaster-related expenses.

If you have homeowners or renters insurance, you should file a claim as soon as possible. FEMA cannot duplicate benefits for losses covered by insurance. FEMA assistance cannot replace all losses, but if your policy does not cover all your disaster expenses, you may be eligible for federal assistance.

SBA

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is offering low-interest disaster loans to businesses and residents in Indiana.

Businesses and private nonprofit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace disaster-damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets.

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace disaster-damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 in loans to repair or replace disaster-damaged or destroyed personal property.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela/s/> and should apply under SBA declaration #17881.

Department of Workforce Development

Indiana residents who could not work as a direct result of the March 31-April 1, 2023, severe weather and tornadoes may be eligible for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA). FEMA funds DUA, but the Indiana Department of Workforce Development administers the program.

Learn more about the DUA eligibility criteria at in.gov/dwd/indiana-unemployment/individuals/dua/. Applications for DUA must be filed by **May 22, 2023**. First, individuals must file a regular claim for Unemployment Insurance benefits by visiting the Uplink Claimant Self-Service System at uplink.in.gov/CSS/CSSLogin.htm. If applicants are denied regular Unemployment Insurance benefits, they then can apply for DUA.

TORNADO SAFETY INFORMATION

It is important to know the differences between a Tornado Watch, a Tornado Warning and a Tornado Emergency.

During a **Tornado Watch**, weather conditions could lead to the formation of severe storms and tornadoes. At this time, it is important to **BE PREPARED**. Know your safe location. Be ready to act quickly if a warning is issued or you suspect a tornado is approaching. When a tornado watch is issued, make sure the following items are stored in your safe place:

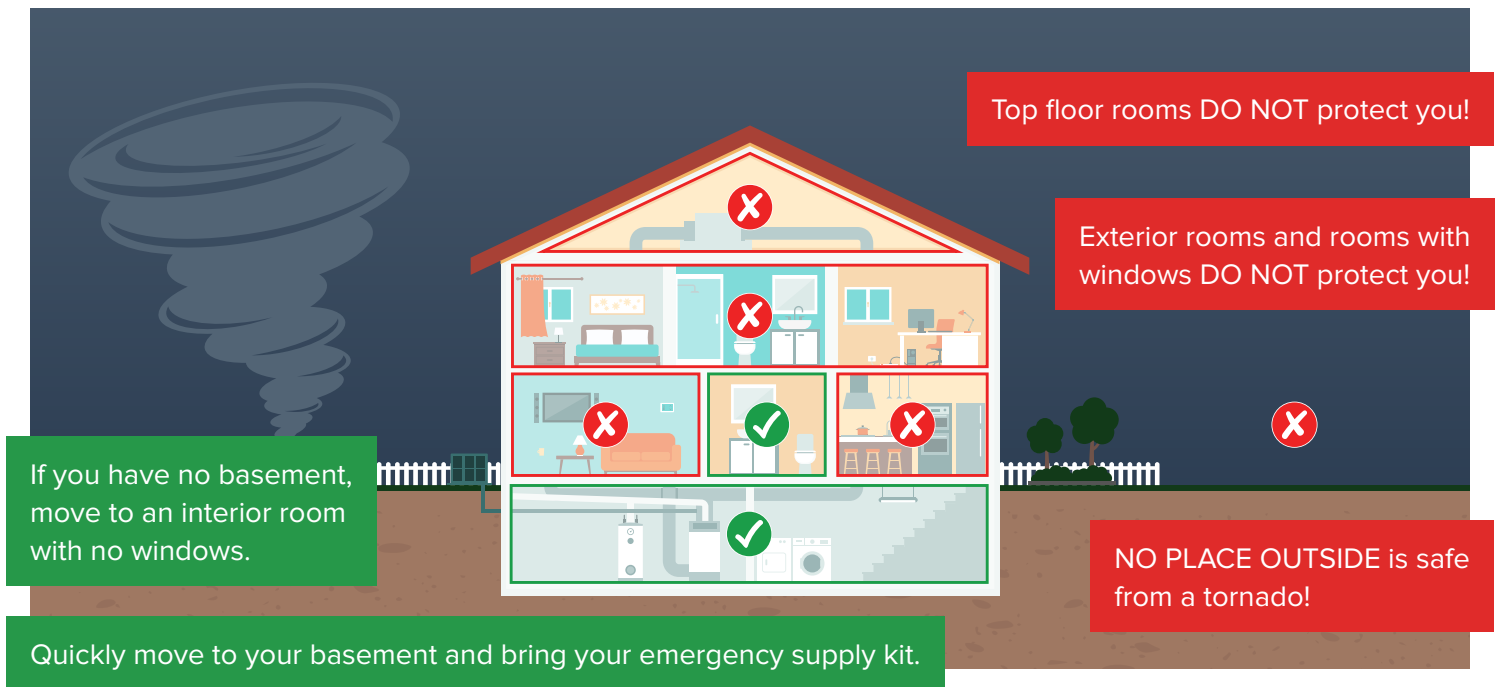
- Helmets, pillows or even a mattress to protect your head from falling and flying debris.
- Shoes to protect your feet from broken glass and other sharp objects.
- A whistle or noise-making device to signal for help after the storm passes.
- Baby formula, diapers and other necessary items for your children.
- Pet carriers, leashes and other pet supplies.

If a **Tornado Warning** has been issued, a tornado has been spotted or indicated by weather radar, meaning a tornado is occurring or expected soon.

TAKE ACTION. There is imminent danger to life and property. Immediately seek refuge in the safest location possible:

- If you have a basement, this is your best option.
- If you do not have a basement, move to the lowest level of your home and to an interior room without windows, like a closet or bathroom.
- Cover your head and neck to protect yourself from falling debris.

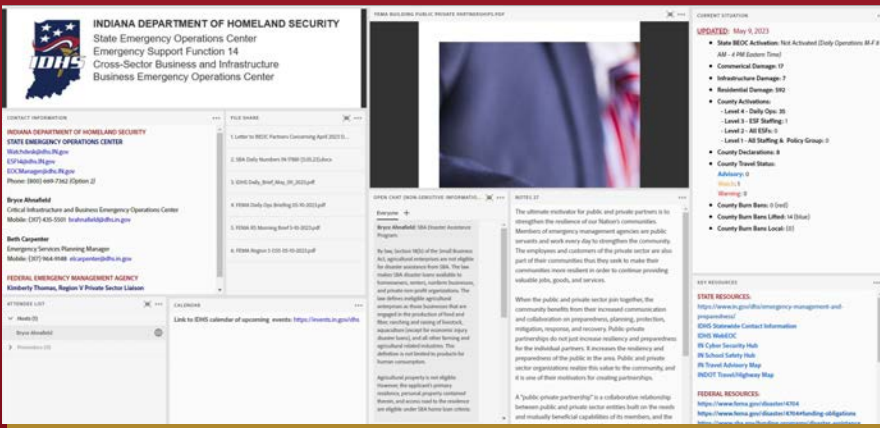
In exceedingly rare situations with a severe threat to human life and catastrophic damage due to a confirmed violent tornado, a **Tornado Emergency** is declared. **TAKE ACTION.** There is imminent danger to life and property and you should immediately seek refuge in the safest location possible following the same tips from above.



Information sourced from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

BUSINESS EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

A USEFUL TOOL FOR PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS



Private sector companies have the opportunity to stay in tune with state emergency response operations before, during and after an emergency event by logging on to the [Business Emergency Operations Center](#) (BEOC).

The BEOC, launched in September of 2021, allows the public and private sectors to join together

to increase communication and collaboration on preparedness, planning, protection, mitigation, response and recovery. Working together in the BEOC increases the resiliency of the communities and creates a mutually beneficial relationship.

Information shared includes road closures, utility service status,

ongoing response actions, weather, analysis and more.

“BEOC is an underutilized tool. When an emergency occurs, this is the place where private partners can go to get the most up-to-date information from IDHS and share how the event is affecting them. This two-way street means communities will be able to recover faster by pointing out the different ways private sector partners can help and recover,” said IDHS Critical Infrastructure and BEOC Planning Manager Bryce Ahnafeld.

Private sector partners can check this site daily for updates on what IDHS is monitoring across Indiana and find information like statewide contacts, travel advisory maps and federal resources.

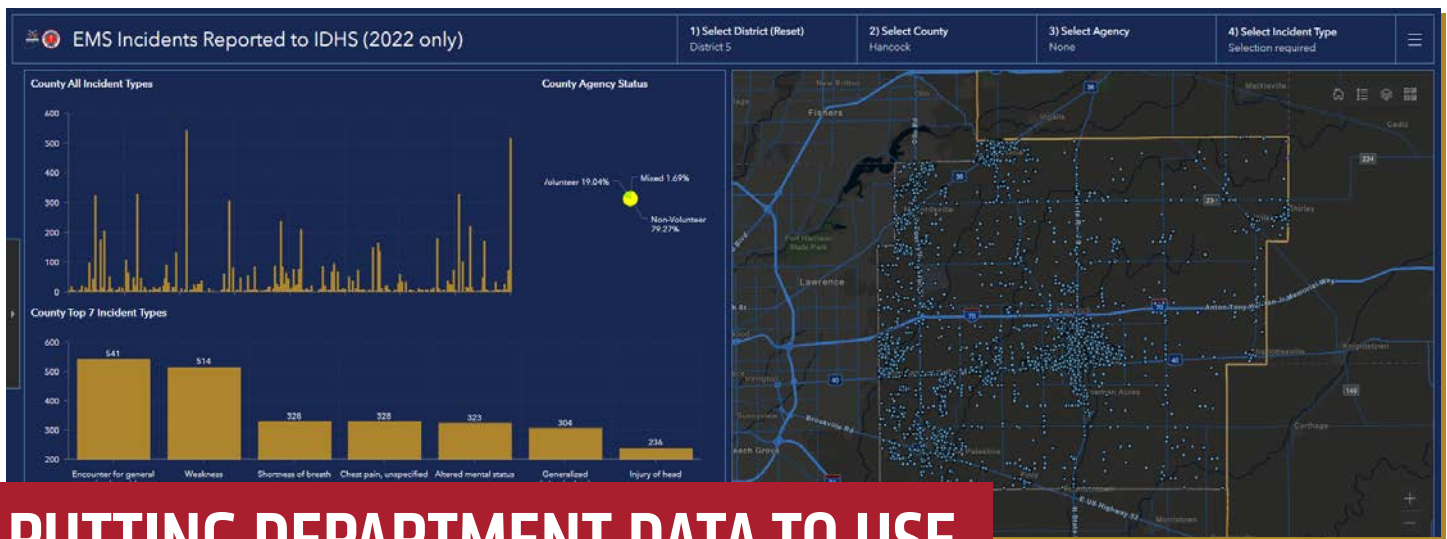


LISTEN TO THE IDHS PODCAST

FEMA Region 5 Administrator Tom Sivak discusses the importance of disaster preparedness, response efforts and collaboration in the latest episode of “Hoosier Homeland.”

Listen online at on.in.gov/hoosier-homeland or subscribe to the podcast using one of the podcast services below:





PUTTING DEPARTMENT DATA TO USE

The Indiana Community Risk Reduction Coalition released an interactive dashboard designed for fire departments and the public to access [fire incident data](#) statewide. Incidents are shown on a map, and statistical figures are available at district, county and local department levels.

Users can filter incident data by year and find the most common incident types and other information by district, county and fire department. The data comes from fire department reports submitted to IDHS through ImageTrend and can be used to discover the risks that local communities face as well as help public safety agencies make data-driven decisions.

“The dashboard is a tool that all fire departments in the state can use to look at data to support their community risk reduction efforts,” said State Fire Marshal Steve Jones. “Community risk

reduction helps to proactively prevent or mitigate the impact of emergency events within our own communities. It provides data to have a much more focused approach to a particular risk. It also helps the fire department engage and network with community partners to help address these risks in our communities and neighborhoods. Community risk reduction is effective, and we are glad to provide this tool to all the fire departments in the state.”

The dashboard started as a way to gather data for a statewide risk assessment for the coalition’s community risk reduction initiative. Coalition members soon recognized the potential to help fire departments understand their data and be able to compare their responses to counties, districts and the state overall.

“The tool will help departments make informed decisions about what programs they should be

doing in their response area, and we hope it also will show those departments who are not reporting that there is value in them reporting their incident data to the state. Then they can take advantage of the platform for their communities,” said Rob Miller, coalition leader and IDHS Code Enforcement assistant section chief.

The coalition also created a second dashboard, which displays [EMS incident data](#). Both dashboards are being provided to start local conversations about community risks, and they will continue to evolve as user feedback is received. Departments are encouraged to submit feedback through a survey link in the dashboards’ menus.

Both dashboards are best viewed on monitors of at least 10 inches.

Learn more about Indiana’s community risk reduction efforts on the [IDHS website](#).



FIREWORKS SAFETY IN INDIANA

Local Fire Chiefs Empowered to Ensure Fireworks Show Safety

Firework shows are a staple of celebrations for many Hoosiers, but they need to be safe, so all public fireworks displays, even those organized by local fire departments, must receive an IDHS permit, per Indiana Code 22-11-14 and 675 Indiana Administrative Code 12-9. Beyond conducting a display, the IDHS permit is also needed to possess and transport the fireworks used in the shows.

Although IDHS permits authorize the use of professional grade fireworks, they are not effective until the local fire chief approves the operator of the show and inspects the display site to determine the display site and plan are safe.

Many Hoosiers ask IDHS to shut down fireworks shows, but that responsibility belongs to the local fire chief. While IDHS handles the permitting, the local fire chief has ultimate authority to approve or deny displays.

In 2022, IDHS issued more than 900 public fireworks display permits, yet display operators neglecting to file for a permit continues to be a common issue. In these cases, Indiana State Fire Marshal Steve Jones recommends the local fire chief take the initiative to contact the shooter and address the situation.

“It’s an ideal time to get eyes on the site before the fireworks display and ensure safety distances are adequate for the audience and that the vegetation in the area is not susceptible for a fire by the fireworks debris,” said Jones. “It also verifies the shooter is a qualified operator and has a certificate of insurance. If they don’t have a permit, it’s as easy as referring them to the [online application](#).”

Fire chiefs should keep their email address updated with their municipality and IDHS to ensure the permit application information goes to the right place in a timely manner. Once chiefs receive notice, they should review the shooter’s resume and inspect the fireworks display site using the [NFPA 1123 Code for Fireworks Display](#).

IDHS hazmat and code enforcement personnel are available to field questions about details of the fireworks codes, including the requirement to have a certificate of insurance, and about how to store fireworks properly. For example, display fireworks should not be stored at a fire department or in a trailer in a driveway.

Fire chiefs and their fire marshals are encouraged to take the “Guidelines for Public Fireworks Displays” course offered on the [Acadis Portal](#). It guides departments through the legal requirements for fireworks displays to ensure operators and spectators are safe from hazards. IDHS also offers a checklist and a brief [online video](#) with an overview of the process.

DID YOU KNOW?

All fireworks manufacturers, distributors and sellers in Indiana are required to receive IDHS permits. IDHS inspects these locations as part of the permitting process. In 2022, the agency inspected more than 800 fireworks sales locations. Local building officials often inspect these stores too, since they are considered hazardous locations and most appear for a short time.

In addition to an IDHS permit, a federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) license or permit is required to be able to sell, transport, receive or use display fireworks. The consequences of not following these procedures or having the correct permits can be severe: In July 2020, an Ohio resident died after being struck in the head by a display firework that was sold to him illegally in Indiana. The ATF launched an investigation and charged the seller with two federal crimes, each punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

Help the Public Be Fireworks Safe

Proper fireworks use is paramount to Hoosier safety. Here are some tips and reminders to share with your communities throughout the summer to keep them safe:

Buy the right fireworks

No one can buy display fireworks (1.3g) without first receiving state and federal permits. Remind residents they should apply for an IDHS permit before considering buying fireworks meant for large displays. Cherry bombs, M-80s, M-100s (silver salutes), M-250s, M-1000s or quarter sticks are [illegal](#) and should be reported to law enforcement.

Respect others

Be considerate with fireworks use when in populated areas. Fireworks can negatively affect people with post-traumatic stress disorder and other types of medical conditions. They can also disturb people's sleep and upset pets and wild animals.

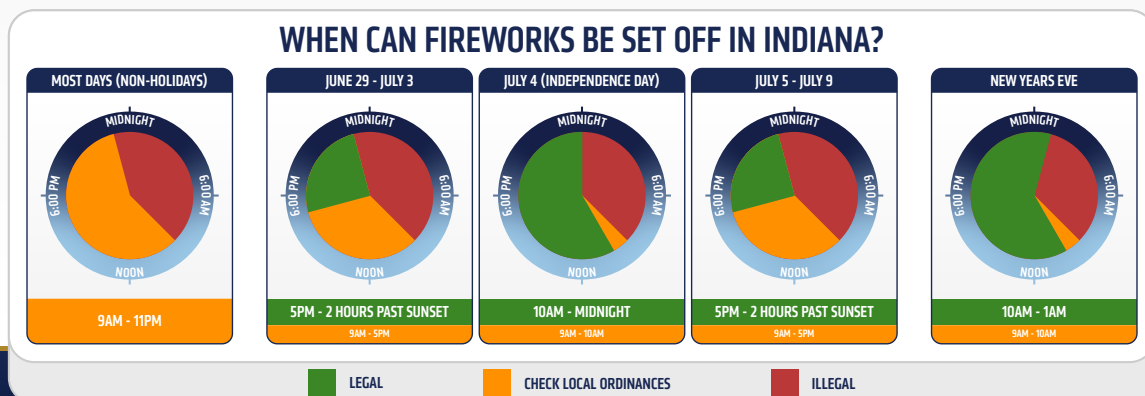
Check local ordinances for hours of use

Fireworks cannot be used all night long anywhere in the state of Indiana. Many municipalities have ordinances restricting fireworks use, and residents should adhere to those. On the other hand, there are times when fireworks use is protected by state statute, meaning that locals cannot be prohibited from using them during the specified hours. See the ["When can fireworks be set off in Indiana?"](#) graphic for guidance.

Be careful with fireworks

Fireworks are combustible or explosive, so give them special attention. Keep a supply of water nearby to douse fireworks. Do not let young children use fireworks. Do not hold lit fireworks in your hands or direct them toward others.

Find more tips to share at <https://on.in.gov/fireworks-safety>.



TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE HEARTLAND

PLANNING FOR THE 2024 TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE



Fans and attendees of big events experience a well-planned spectacle, but they may not comprehend all the planning efforts leading up to the big day. When race fans attend the Indianapolis 500, they probably have no idea about the years' worth of planning it took to make every event start like a well-oiled machine.

Even more preparations are required for an event that happens across a dozen states and involves people from all walks of life. That is the case for the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse, which is predicted to bring hundreds of thousands — maybe millions — of people to Indiana in April 2024. Public safety personnel at all levels are in the midst of a years-long process to prepare for the event.

It may seem perplexing why a naturally occurring event needs an entire planning team, but a deep dive explains all the concerns that must be addressed before the dark sky day occurs.

THE ECLIPSE

April 8 is the big day for the 2024 total solar eclipse. In the U.S., totality will begin in Texas at 1:27 p.m. CDT and will end in Maine at 3:35 p.m. EDT. This eclipse will be visible in 12 U.S. states, and a partial solar eclipse will be visible in all 49 continental states.

The path of totality draws a line through Indiana, starting in Knox County and continuing northeast through Randolph County. Totality means the sun is blocked completely by the moon's shadow.

"We'll be the first to experience it and we'll be ready," Knox County EMA Director John Streeter said at the March planning meeting.

THE IMPACT

With such prime viewing to see the moon block out the sun, people will be coming from out of town and out of state to experience the event. This eclipse will affect millions of people in Indiana, because every county will get a good view of the eclipse, whether it is a partial or a total solar eclipse.

"There are eight Indiana counties that will intersect with the center line of totality. These counties will have the longest periods of totality and the highest demands on local infrastructure and services," said IDHS Director of Emergency Management and Preparedness Mary Moran.

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE PATH THROUGH INDIANA



“It is estimated that 250,000 to 1.5 million out-of-state visitors will come to Indiana in order to see the eclipse, second only to Texas in out-of-state visitors expected,” said Lt. Colonel Terry Hyndman, Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conservation officer.

This means millions more people on Indiana roads, in hotels, in cities and towns. Local and state government officials need to be aware of what is coming and prepare for the extra stress on local infrastructure.

Eclipse superfans started making reservations at DNR parks more than three years ago.

“Our parks have a very organized and methodical method for taking reservations, and as we open different blocks of lodging opportunities (state park inns, cabins, and camping) the reservations fill up very quickly,” Hyndman said, adding that the DNR will not be taking reservations

for shelter houses due to staff being needed elsewhere during the eclipse.

THE PLANNING EFFORTS

Many state agencies and private sector partners started planning efforts for the eclipse years ago. IDHS is bringing everyone to one table to make sure everyone is on the same page and can collaborate efforts.

“We have formed a state planning team with over 140 contributing partners. We are meeting monthly and have been since January of 2022,” Moran said. Moran tasked planning partners to analyze what resources they have and what they may need to make the event run smoothly.

Safety is the biggest topic of discussion among planning participants.

“The safety of our guests is our greatest concern. Getting people onto our properties safely and allowing them to enjoy this once-

in-a-generation event is first and foremost,” Hyndman added. He says logistically getting people in and out of the parks will be the most challenging aspect of the day: “That’s one of the reasons that we’ve been meeting with our partners from INDOT and ISP for the past several months.”

One way to alleviate traffic issues is to bring people into the viewing area earlier. Many cities and counties are planning additional events throughout the week to bring people in early so they can get settled before the eclipse and stick around after the eclipse is over. This planning strategy works as a double benefit — people are entertained and it helps avoid safety issues at the same time. [Visit Indiana](#) created the [See the Eclipse IN Indiana](#) webpage, compiling events happening across the state.

“Overall, the Indiana Destination Development Corporation [IDDC] is working to be a hub for partners

and state information,” said Amy Howell, IDDC vice president of Tourism, Marketing and Communications.

Howell’s team currently is building out the [See the Eclipse IN Indiana](#) webpage to include more information; buying media advertisements to educate the public; offering eclipse swag and teaming up with state partners to host an eclipse informational webinar for local governments.

USING PAST EXPERIENCE

Indiana agencies have been working with other state counterparts to shore up planning efforts.

“States like Wyoming, Colorado, South Carolina, Kentucky, Ohio and others have been instrumental in helping us plan from their lessons learned. These states have all been

vital in helping us identify areas of concern that we may have overlooked,” Hyndman said.

Traffic concerns were identified as a high priority.

“The one thing that every state that has experienced an eclipse has agreed upon is that traffic is going to be 10 times worse than what you can imagine, and that communication with all of your partners is essential,” said Hyndman. “If we have a critical incident at Monroe Reservoir, as an example, getting an ambulance through traffic on two-lane SR 446 with no berm or area to pull over is going to be difficult at best. Working out all the options ahead of time is paramount to success.”

LOOKING AHEAD

All parties involved in planning understand this is a unique

opportunity for Indiana to experience a naturally occurring event that is not a disaster.

“For IDHS, this is already a very large planning event for us and it will be all hands on deck during the actual event occurrence. The EOC will be fully activated to support local communities,” Moran said.

The importance of the 2024 eclipse is enhanced by the lack of opportunities to see this kind of eclipse in the future. This will be the last solar eclipse visible from the contiguous U.S. until 2044.

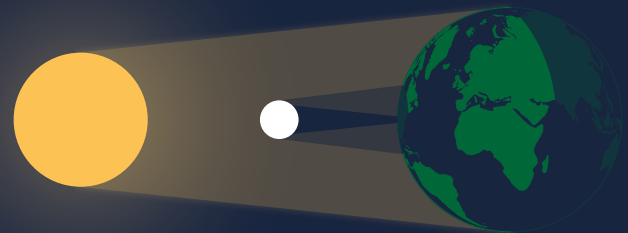
“With a little preplanning and attention given to public messaging, this can be an incredible experience for our citizens and schools, along with being a great economic opportunity for the state,” Moran added.

WHAT IS A SOLAR ECLIPSE?

A solar eclipse happens when the moon passes between the sun and Earth, casting a shadow on Earth that either fully or partially blocks the sun’s light in some areas. This only happens occasionally, because the moon does not orbit in the exact same plane as the sun and Earth do, according to NASA.

People located in the center of the moon’s shadow when it hits Earth will experience a total eclipse. The sky will darken as if it were dawn or dusk. Weather permitting, people in the path of a total solar eclipse can see the sun’s corona, the outer atmosphere, which is usually obscured by the bright face of the sun.

A total solar eclipse is the only type of solar eclipse where viewers can momentarily remove their eclipse glasses for the brief time when the moon is completely blocking the sun.



PHASES OF THE ECLIPSE



First Contact

Edge of the moon starts to overlap the edge of the sun. The eclipse begins.



Second Contact

The moon covers the majority of the sun. Total eclipse begins.



Totality

Max phase of a total solar eclipse. The sun is completely covered.



Third Contact

The moon starts moving away. Parts of the sun's disk reappear.



Fourth Contact

The moon stops covering the sun. The eclipse ends.

CHECK OUT VISIT INDIANA'S DEDICATED WEBPAGE FOR THE ECLIPSE

MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE MARSHAL

It was a successful legislative session for the Indiana Fire and EMS services.

For the first time in a long time, the consensus across the state is that our legislators are recognizing the need to better support and train firefighters and focus on recruitment and retention for the EMS service. Two major initiatives, the Hub-and-Spoke Regional Training Model and EMS initiatives outlined in the Governor's Public Health Commission, were approved by the General Assembly and are set to be signed by Governor Holcomb.

Reaching this milestone of unprecedented support is the result of a lot of work and lobbying by IDHS staff and the community of support we have across Indiana. Thank you to everyone who called or wrote a legislator in support of these initiatives.

[Hub-and-Spoke Training](#)

The governor supported the IDHS-proposed regional training enhancements for Indiana firefighters by including it in his NextLevel agenda and his budget bill. After negotiations in both legislative chambers, more than \$17 million was approved for this proposal, which would expand existing training sites; create new sites where training is needed the most; purchase more than \$1 million in training props to be used by departments across Indiana and provide \$10 million to purchase new PPE equipment for volunteer departments.

The original proposal called for \$24.2 million. Although short of the total amount requested, this approved amount still represents the largest single investment in firefighter training since the creation of the Indiana Fire and Public Safety Training Academy system. The real work now begins to prioritize the projects that can be completed with these allocated funds. The response across the state to our plan to expand firefighter training has been profound, and we are still early in the process to determine priority locations for investment.

The best way to express interest in your community being a part of this training growth or PPE support is to complete the [Training Model Interest Form on the IDHS website](#).

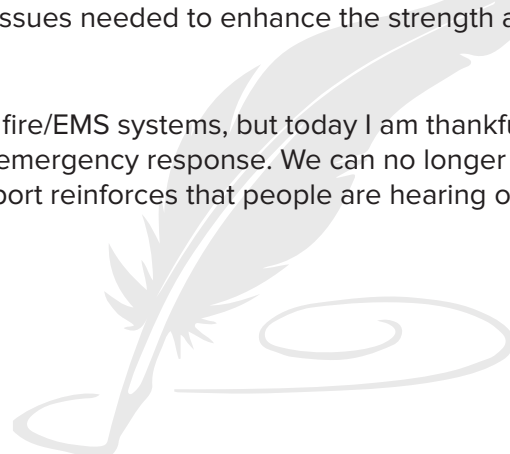
EMS Workforce Funding

A major shortfall for Indiana was identified in the Governor's Public Health Commission report related to the long-term health of EMS recruitment and retention. Low wages, long hours and lack of adequate employee benefits threaten to derail this system of public healthcare. The General Assembly approved \$14.6 million across the next two years to address EMS workforce challenges through an intense workforce development study, a renewed focus on Mobile Integrated Health programs and reimbursement stipends for new EMS recruits. This support will be critical as Indiana focuses squarely on the issues needed to enhance the strength and vitality of the Indiana EMS system.

These initiatives will not solve all issues facing the Indiana fire/EMS systems, but today I am thankful for the support shown to these critical areas of public health and emergency response. We can no longer turn a blind eye to the needs of our frontline responders, and this support reinforces that people are hearing our concerns.



Stephen Jones
Indiana State Fire Marshal



UPCOMING TRAININGS

MAY

MAY 20-21	K9410 Advanced Land Cadaver Search Tech for K-9s	BRAZIL
MAY 25-26	Social Media Tools and Techniques (PER 344)	VIRTUAL

JUNE

JUNE 7-9	ICS 300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents	PORTLAND
JUNE 10-11	SAR300 Ground Search II (Operations)	BRAZIL
JUNE 14-15	National Fire Academy - Incident Command System and Resource Management for the Fire Service	PLAINFIELD
JUNE 21	Mass Fatalities Planning & Response for Rural Communities	PLAINFIELD
JUNE 23-25	K9510 Advanced Water Cadaver Search Techniques for K-9s	BRAZIL

JULY

JULY 10	Radiation Instruments Operations Course (PER 345)	PLAINFIELD
JULY 11	Primary Screener Personal Radiation Detector (PER 243)	PLAINFIELD

UPCOMING EVENTS

EMS WEEK MAY 21-27

EMS Week is an annual event held in the third week of May to honor and celebrate the hard work and dedication of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) professionals. This week recognizes the tireless efforts of EMS personnel who work to provide lifesaving care to people in need. It is an opportunity to express gratitude to EMS providers for their service and sacrifice, and to promote their importance in public health and safety.



INDY 500 MAY 28

The Indianapolis 500 is a famous automobile race held annually at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. It is one of the most prestigious races in the world, attracting top drivers and teams from around the globe.



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH MAY

Mental Health Awareness Month is an annual observance held in May to raise awareness about mental health issues and promote the importance of mental healthcare and support. For first responders, who often face high levels of stress and trauma in their work, mental health awareness and support are especially important. By recognizing and addressing the mental health needs of first responders, everyone can help to improve their well-being and job performance while reducing the risk of burnout, depression, anxiety and other mental health problems that can arise from their challenging work.

NATIONAL STOP THE BLEED MONTH MAY

National STOP THE BLEED® Month raises awareness about the importance of bleeding control and emergency response in cases of severe bleeding. The campaign aims to empower individuals with the knowledge and skills to act in emergencies, potentially saving lives and reducing the impact of these incidents on communities.



SAVE A LIFE

CPR AND AED AWARENESS WEEK JUNE 1-7

CPR and AED Awareness Week raises awareness about the importance of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) use in saving lives during cardiac emergencies. By promoting CPR and AED awareness, the event helps to improve public health and safety and increase the chance of survival for those experiencing cardiac emergencies.



FIREWORK SAFETY MONTH JUNE

Firework Safety Month promotes the safe use and handling of fireworks during the summer when fireworks are often used. The campaign aims to raise awareness about the risks and dangers associated with fireworks and provide guidance on preventing accidents and injuries.

NATIONAL PET PREPAREDNESS MONTH JUNE

National Pet Preparedness Month raises awareness about the importance of preparing and including pets in emergency plans. The event helps to ensure the safety and well-being of pets and their owners during natural disasters, emergencies and other challenging situations.



*The Indiana Department of Homeland Security works 24/7
to protect the people, property and prosperity of Indiana.*



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