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EMA Maps Mobile Homes

Gives weather radios to occupants in Franklin County

Doesn't it seem like whenever there are tornado touchdowns, there are always mobile homes that are affected? Do they really attract tornadoes?

According to Ed Hollenbach, director of the Franklin County Emergency Management Agency, "The main reason we think of mobile homes when we think of tornadoes is that mobile homes are so easily destroyed."

Hollenbach is on a mission to give residents of his county's mobile homes and manufactured homes a fighting chance when it comes to inclement weather. He has nearly singlehandedly located and charted just about every mobile and manufactured home in Franklin County, with the goal of presenting a weather radio to each set of occupants. Hollenbach, who is 75 years old, says he has driven about every inch of Franklin County, finding roads he never knew existed, and now has about 750 red dots on a map signifying their locations. His goal? He wants to be able to put a green dot next to every red dot, indicating he personally handed a weather radio to an occupant there.



Franklin County Emergency Management Agency Director Ed Hollenbach studies the more than 750 dots on his county map that indicate mobile and manufactured homes he has identified. His goal is to get a weather radio in as many of these homes as possible by next spring.

Hollenbach has recently received weather radios from both Duke Energy and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. He said he has distributed weather radios before, but always thought he could find a way to make sure the placements were better, in terms of true need.

"I suspect before I am done that I will have about 1,000 red dots on my map," Hollenbach said. "Right now, I am about 55% of the way through this project. There are certainly some challenges, but I'm pressing on. My goal is to have this completed as much as possible by next spring."

One of the challenges he is encountering is a lack of trust and even wariness on the part of some mobile home occupants. Even though his vehicle has the proper identification displayed, Hollenbach says many folks don't come to the door, and he knows they are home. He says that's a bit frustrating because these radios could be a real life saver. There are no local radio stations, and residents in the area tend to listen to Cincinnati media. Given the extra time a weather radio could provide, many mobile home dwellers could get to a safer location.

Hollenbach is not discouraged about the complexity of his mission to find every mobile and manufactured home in his

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State Creates Free County Travel Status App

The State of Indiana has created a free mobile app to provide Hoosiers with county travel status updates and alerts directly to their mobile devices.

"This new app will be a great on-the-go resource for citizens and visitors to Indiana," said Governor Mike Pence.

"The travel advisory map has been one of the most popular pages on the State of Indiana website, particularly during times of inclement weather. The app will be even more convenient, and we hope

many people will use this as a resource to make informed travel decisions."

In addition to weather, the app will also include notifications with regard to flooding, hazardous materials spills and other events that could affect travel.

Last winter, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) County Travel Status Map was the most visited page on IN.gov, generating nearly 5 million unique visitors between

December 1, 2013, and March 31, 2014.

The Indiana Office of Technology and IDHS collaborated on the project. The Indiana Travel Advisory app is available to download for iPhone (<https://appsto.re/us/QHVW4.i>) in the App Store, and Android (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=gov.in.traveladvisory>) in the Google Play Store.

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What's Going On

IU Bloomington Active Shooter Exercise

An active shooter exercise on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington November 25 was a “great learning experience.”

The full-scale exercise was held after a workshop and tabletop exercises leading up to it. Coordinated by IU Emergency Management and Continuity (IUEMC), the exercise tested the Active Shooter Annex, which was developed after the tabletop exercise.

Debbi Fletcher, director of IUEMC at IU Bloomington, said the exercise went well overall.

“Our staff and first responders are dedicated and willing to participate,” said Fletcher. “We have a plan that is comprehensive and well done and we have the support and participation of university leaders to the highest level.”

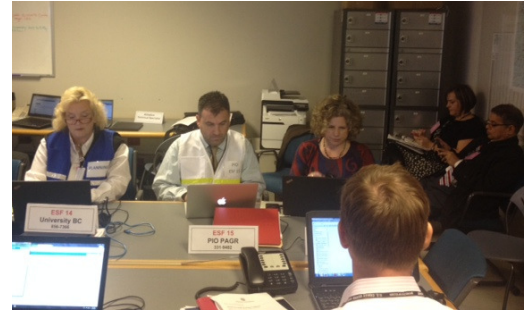
As part of the exercise, a Joint Information Center (JIC) and Emergency

Operations Center (EOC) were established and activated. It was a great learning experience for all the participants, Fletcher said.

“We have practiced and drilled but mostly on a small scale,” she said. “We also had a lot of new folks in the EOC and JIC and they learned a lot. It has provided us with the impetus to get them to attend training and participate in other emergency management activities.”

The exercise provided the participants the opportunity to not only evaluate strengths, but also identify areas of improvement.

Fletcher said areas they could improve upon are the ones typically most common after an exercise; namely quicker communication and better accuracy and integration. Though law enforcement response was very rapid and coordinated, university and administrative staff are still learning about their roles.



Indiana University staff participated in the full scale exercise. An established Emergency Operations Center and Joint Information Center addressed various issues that arose from the simulated situation.

“It takes some work to develop the plans and checklists that they will need to accomplish their objectives during the response,” said Fletcher.

This exercise was an important step in developing those plans and checklists, and practicing response activities in an active shooter situation.

In Hendricks County, Agencies Work Together

Aid Victims of Apartment Fire

Smoke was visible from six miles away, as an eight-unit apartment building burned in Avon, Indiana on November 1, 2014. More than 10 different agencies came together to respond to the incident and aid the displaced families needing shelter.

Multiple calls were placed reporting the fire and the Washington Township-Avon Fire Department arrived in minutes. Responders immediately sounded the second alarm and received assistance from Plainfield, Brownsburg, Danville, Speedway and Wayne Township (Marion Co.) fire departments.

While the fire departments handled the flames, Hendricks County Emergency Management Agency (HCEMA) Director Dave Warren arrived on scene and began

aiding the displaced residents.

“I realized that while they were safe from the fire, these people still needed help,” said Warren. “I thought ‘I’m going to get everybody down here to see what we can do.’ I called the Red Cross in right away.”

In addition to the displaced families, there were also a group of Chinese nationals on work visas.

Communication with the Chinese workers was an unexpected hurdle. The Hendricks County Communication Center was called upon to help figure out what was needed by those individuals. To assist in this, the communication center used an on-demand translation service. Immediately, both parties were able to

talk to each other and the workers were reassured that they would be helped.

The responding firefighters were supported by the Indianapolis Fire Buffs. The fire buffs support emergency responders with snacks, drinks and other necessities for situations that remain active for long periods of time.

“Having all of these services come together helped address all aspects of this fire,” said Warren. “Everyone played to their strengths and the displaced residents were taken care of promptly, courteously, and with dignity.”

EMA Maps Mobil Homes (*cont.*)

county. He's concerned, though, because there is no reverse 911 in the area and, frankly, he has seen a lot during his 26 years as a volunteer EMT. He is working with the county's eight fire chiefs and has a volunteer with him

every time he hits the road.

"I must admit I didn't realize the enormity of this project when I first started it," he said. "We're talking about 780 miles of road and many mobile

homes are just all by themselves out in the country. You almost have to stumble across them sometimes to find them. It's been a real learning experience for me, but I know I am making a difference."

State Creates Travel Status App (*cont.*)

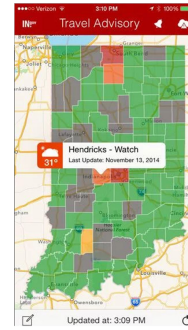
Features include:

- Ability for users to set alerts for any county or counties they choose, up to every county in the state. When the travel status in a selected county is changed, the user will receive an alert notification.
- Weather conditions for each county. Tapping on a county will display the temperature and an icon with the current conditions.
- Contact information for county emergency management agencies,

which are responsible for the status updates.

The app is meant to be used as part of a system to stay aware of changing travel conditions. Other sources include local news, travel, weather and social media sites and apps.

Indiana Travel Advisory is part of the IN.gov family of apps. The state has developed 12 different mobile apps to help serve citizens, including the IN.gov



The Indiana map in the travel advisory app provides a quick at-a-glance look for travel in the State of Indiana. As the local Emergency Management Agencies update traffic advisories, the map will reflect those changes in real time.

app ([Apple](#) and [Android](#)), which is a hub to access all the apps from the State.

IDHS Offering Tactical Medicine Training

Terrible acts of violence in schools, shopping centers and other public places seem to dominate the news on a weekly basis. With these violent acts taking place more frequently in a variety of settings, first responders need more training to help them handle a wide range of situations.

Josh Kreigh, IDHS Emergency Medical Services Training Manager, recently went to Florida to receive instructor certification in tactical medicine, bleeding control and tactics. During his time there he received high stress simulations that made the training experience more realistic. Taking what he learned there, Josh has partnered with qualified instructors from the Evansville Police Department and Indiana State Police to bring this training to Indiana.

"Training personnel have learned that realistic training gives the best opportunity for the students to become proficient in their skills," said Kreigh.



Law enforcement officers practice techniques for stopping blood loss and stabilizing patients.

"That's why we applied and received grant funding to purchase equipment that will make this course more realistic."

One of these pieces can be worn by a role player to simulate an injury. These

injuries can be changed to affect the type of training, to include active shooter, building collapse, car accidents, or any number of other possibilities. This equipment allows students to have to put a tourniquet on and treat a live person, who is often combative and scared. This

gives the student the increased stress that the old method of using manikins did not provide. It also allows for instructors to build confidence in the students, showing them that they can perform these skills.

Over the last two months law enforcement officers from Capitol Police, State Police, and Southwestern Indiana Academy recruits have taken part in the training.

IDHS is offering this training for free. In addition to training instructors throughout Indiana, organizations may also borrow equipment to meet their training goals. IDHS staff can provide the training, or can work with an organization's training personnel to supplement current training.

For any further information about this program, or to request this training, please contact Josh Kreigh at JKreigh@dhs.in.gov.

\$4.6M in 2014 Federal Grants

Additional Assistance for Last Year's Winter Storm Anticipated

Editor's Note: This article is based on a press release dated December 9, 2014.

Governor Mike Pence announced on December 9 that more than \$4.6 million in total federal grants has been paid so far to help 30 counties and the state recover from the January 5-9 winter storm.

Local, county and state government and other organizations that provide public services will receive the funds.

"More than \$4.6 million in disaster grants is positive news that will help to bring relief across the state," said Governor Pence. "Like many states, almost a year ago Indiana started 2014 with a severe winter storm. While that storm is for many a distant memory, we at the state continue to work through this demanding process to make the most of the disaster funding opportunities available to communities in those 30 counties."

Counties that have received reimbursements so far are: Allen, Blackford, Boone, Clay, Clinton,

Fulton, Hamilton, Hendricks, Huntington, Jasper, Johnson, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Lake, Madison, Marion, Montgomery, Morgan, Newton, Noble, Owen, Parke, Putnam, Sullivan, Tipton, Vigo, Wabash, White and Whitley.

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have been working with applicants in eligible counties to document and distribute the funds. To date, \$4,678,144.81 has been processed for reimbursement to applicants in the eligible counties. More money will be distributed as applications are processed.

Public Assistance will pay 75 percent of eligible expenses for damage to eligible infrastructure and emergency protective measures like traffic control and rescue operations. Snow Assistance will cover eligible costs associated with snow removal for the 48-hour or 72-hour period with the highest costs.

Monster Guard

Preparedness App for Kids

A new American Red Cross app helps children between the ages of 7 and 11 learn emergency preparedness.

The free app, "Monster Guard: Prepare for Emergencies," teaches children to prevent emergencies, such as home fires, and learn what to do if severe weather or natural disasters occur.

Users play as monster characters and engage in interactive episodes for different hazards. Once completed, the user will graduate and become a member of the 'Monster Guard.'

Monster Guard runs on iOS 7 and 8 and Android OS 4x and up. Users can go to redcross.org/monsterguard or text 'MONSTER' to 90999 for a direct link to download the app.

The Monster Guard App game is a complement to The Pillowcase Project, designed to increase children's awareness and understanding of natural hazards and is sponsored by Disney. The Pillowcase Project is available at redcross.org/prepare.

Data Reporting System Update for Fire, EMS

There are some upcoming changes to data reporting for emergency medical services (EMS) and fire departments in Indiana. The updates are to increase the quality of data captured related to emergency calls around the state.

Transition from Firehouse to ImageTrend

The new data software, ImageTrend, will replace the current Firehouse program. The Firehouse servers will still be available until the transition to ImageTrend is complete. ImageTrend will be able to handle information for EMS as well as fire departments,

increasing the quality of reports and giving a more accurate depiction of response across the state.

The change to ImageTrend will be free to local fire departments. However, there will be a fee if those departments want to include the ability to transfer data between Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) programs and/or mobile apps.

There is no specific date set for transition from Firehouse to ImageTrend.

Transition from NEMSIS Version 2.2.1 to NEMSIS Version 3

The transition timeline from NEMSIS Version 2.2.1 to NEMSIS Version 3 has been updated as well. NEMSIS Version 3 data collection is expected to begin July 2015; Version 2.2.1 data will still be accepted until December 31, 2015. Beginning January 1, 2016, all data should be sent according to Version 3 requirements.

Agencies that are not sure if their software is Version 3 compliant can contact Angie Biggs at abiggs@dhs.in.gov, phone 317-232-2227 or Assistant State Fire Marshal Robert Johnson at rjohnson@dhs.in.gov, phone 317-233-0195.

Cold Weather Adds Risks to Firefighter Safety

Fighting fires offers its own set of safety challenges. Put below-freezing temperatures and wind chills into the mix and that adds yet another potentially serious dimension to firefighter safety.

Now's a good time to review signs and symptoms of cold-weather-related conditions and injuries common to firefighters and other first responders. Cold-weather issues are sneaky and can get firefighters and other outdoor personnel into trouble quickly.

"When the temperature gets cold, it's important for firefighters to keep an eye on each other," said Assistant State Fire Marshal Robert Johnson. "If someone tells us we need to recover, it's important that we take a break to avoid injuries."

Unfortunately, chilblains, frostbite and hypothermia are common occurrences (see below for definitions and symptoms of each). Of course, preventing these conditions is the best advice. But if that's not possible, there are remedies and treatments that can keep serious and

lasting tissue damage, or even death, from happening.

The best initial treatment of any cold-weather-related injury is removing the individual from the cold environment to prevent further heat loss. Once in a warmer place, all wet clothing should be removed, especially socks, boots and gloves, and replaced with dry clothing. If the individual is experiencing uncontrolled shivering, that's a sign of hypothermia and it requires aggressive re-warming.

Avoid massaging or rubbing areas of chilblains or frostbite, as that could result in further tissue damage. Cupping the hands and blowing warm air through them onto the exposed skin can help. For deeper frostbite or hypothermia, the best course of action is to transport the individual to a medical facility for treatment under controlled conditions.

Firefighters should be especially aware of their surroundings and conditions once firefighting activity slows and they are

doing more standing around in the elements. Wet turnout gear can be dangerous, as well as if the firefighter has sweat-soaked clothing under the turnout gear.

And, by all means, firefighters need to keep an eye on each other and intervene, if necessary. Often symptoms are more noticeable to others before the affected person realizes he or she is in trouble. Relief personnel and a warming area with food (not those heavy in fats or sugars) and water are vital for long operations. A cold body needs food high in protein and carbohydrates.

Finally, firefighters often have to contend with water that freezes on contact, making walking at a fire scene nearly impossible. When darkness and icy conditions are combined, falls are almost inevitable. Think about having ice cleats available for these situations. Responders don't get to choose when emergency calls come in. A little preparation and review of cold-weather safety now could result in safer firefighting later.

Firefighter Safety Review for Cold Weather

Chilblains

Chilblains is a common cold-weather condition that most often happens to people who are predisposed (have underlying medical conditions or take medications that make them less able to handle low temperatures). Chilblains, itchy, painful red or purple areas on the skin, happen to people exposed to non-freezing temperatures because they have an abnormal vascular response after their cold skin warms. Fingers, toes, nose and ears are common places for chilblains. Some individuals also experience blisters and small open sores. There is usually no permanent damage, but affected areas can remain sensitive to cold.

Frostbite

Frostbite happens when fluid in the cells freezes. There are various degrees of frostbite, from frost nip to deep frostbite.

Frost nip, a mild form of frostbite, occurs only on the surface of the skin and usually affects the nose, ears, cheeks, fingers and toes. Frost nip causes the skin to turn red or flushed and it can cause a burning or tingling sensation. This is the most common type of frostbite that affects firefighters and, if identified early, can be reversed easily with no tissue damage.

A more serious situation involves the surface of the skin and the tissue underneath. This deeper freezing of the tissue underneath the skin interrupts oxygenated blood flow from reaching cells, putting the tissue at risk. Deep frostbite can permeate to deeper tissue and even muscle and bone.

Hypothermia

Simply put, hypothermia is a condition where the body's core temperature falls

below 95 degrees. Firefighters must think about the dangers of hypothermia, especially if their activities cause them to get wet. Hypothermia can set in quickly, commonly when firefighters are wet and there is a significant wind, creating wind-chill conditions. Exhaustion is a contributing and predisposing factor to hypothermia because when a firefighter's efforts slow down, core temperature can fall.

Physical signs of hypothermia include cold and pale skin, slowed respiration and a slow, irregular pulse. With continued exposure, firefighters can become irritable, clumsy, weak and have difficulty speaking. This means the core temperature is close to 90 degrees. If no treatment is given, coma and even death can occur.

Indiana Homeland Security Grant Period Open

Letter of Intent Due January 15

Any Indiana public safety agency, department or organization organizations interested in applying for an Indiana Homeland Security Foundation grant must submit a notice of intent by January 15.

To request a notice of intent template, contact the Indiana Department of Homeland Security Grants Management Section at grants@dhs.in.gov.

The Indiana Homeland Security Foundation funds public safety projects at the local level. Eligible applicants include various public safety organizations, such as fire departments, law enforcement,



emergency medical services, or emergency management agencies. Entities may apply for grants of up to \$4,000.

Submissions should address the safety of Indiana citizens and align with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's local and district goals. Submissions should also

focus on one or more of the following state-identified priority areas:

- Life-saving activities
- Day-to-day operational requirements
- Improvements to existing capabilities

In 2014, more than \$400,000 was awarded through the Indiana Homeland Security Foundation. Awards were given to 112 recipients in 62 counties.

For more information, visit <http://www.in.gov/dhs/2511.htm>.

Angie Biggs New Fire/EMS Data Coordinator

Angie Biggs has recently been promoted to Fire and EMS Data Risk Coordinator in the Division of Fire and Building Services (DFBS) in the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS.)

Biggs has been with IDHS for seven years. She began in the Elevators and Amusement rides section of DFBS but quickly moved to become the State Building Commissioner's Administrative Assistant.

In addition to her new position, Biggs will continue on as the Indiana Building Emergency Assessment and Monitoring (IBEAM) Team administrative assistant and the Indiana Deployable Portable Mortuary Unit administrative assistant.

Fire Marshal Leadership Seminars Scheduled



State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson has three Fire Marshal Leadership Seminars scheduled so far in Indiana. These seminars will cover topics such as

Bakken Crude Oil, fire prevention and education, a demonstration of the new ImageTrend software, a presentation about legal responsibilities of fire chiefs

and a presentation from the American Red Cross regarding its various programs.

The locations for the seminars are:

- January 24, District 7
Terre Haute Fire Training Facility
2465 N. Brown Avenue,
Terre Haute, IN 47804
- February 7, District 3
Fort Wayne Public Safety Academy
7602 Patriot Crossing

Fort Wayne, IN 46816

- February 28, District 9
South Ripley High School
1509 S Benham Road
Versailles, IN 47042

To register for the classes, visit <http://www.indianafiretraining.com/> and click on the district tab for the appropriate district.

Visit
GetPrepared.in.gov



Mission

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security will provide statewide leadership, exemplary customer service, and subject matter expertise for the enhancement of public and private partnerships and the assurance of local, state and federal collaboration to continually develop Indiana's public safety capabilities for the well-being and protection of our citizens, property and economy.

Contact

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Please direct any questions or comments to the
IDHS Public Information Office at (317) 234-6713 or pio@dhs.in.gov.

Indiana Department of Homeland Security
302 West Washington Street
Indiana Government Center South
Room E208
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232-3980 or (800) 669-7362

