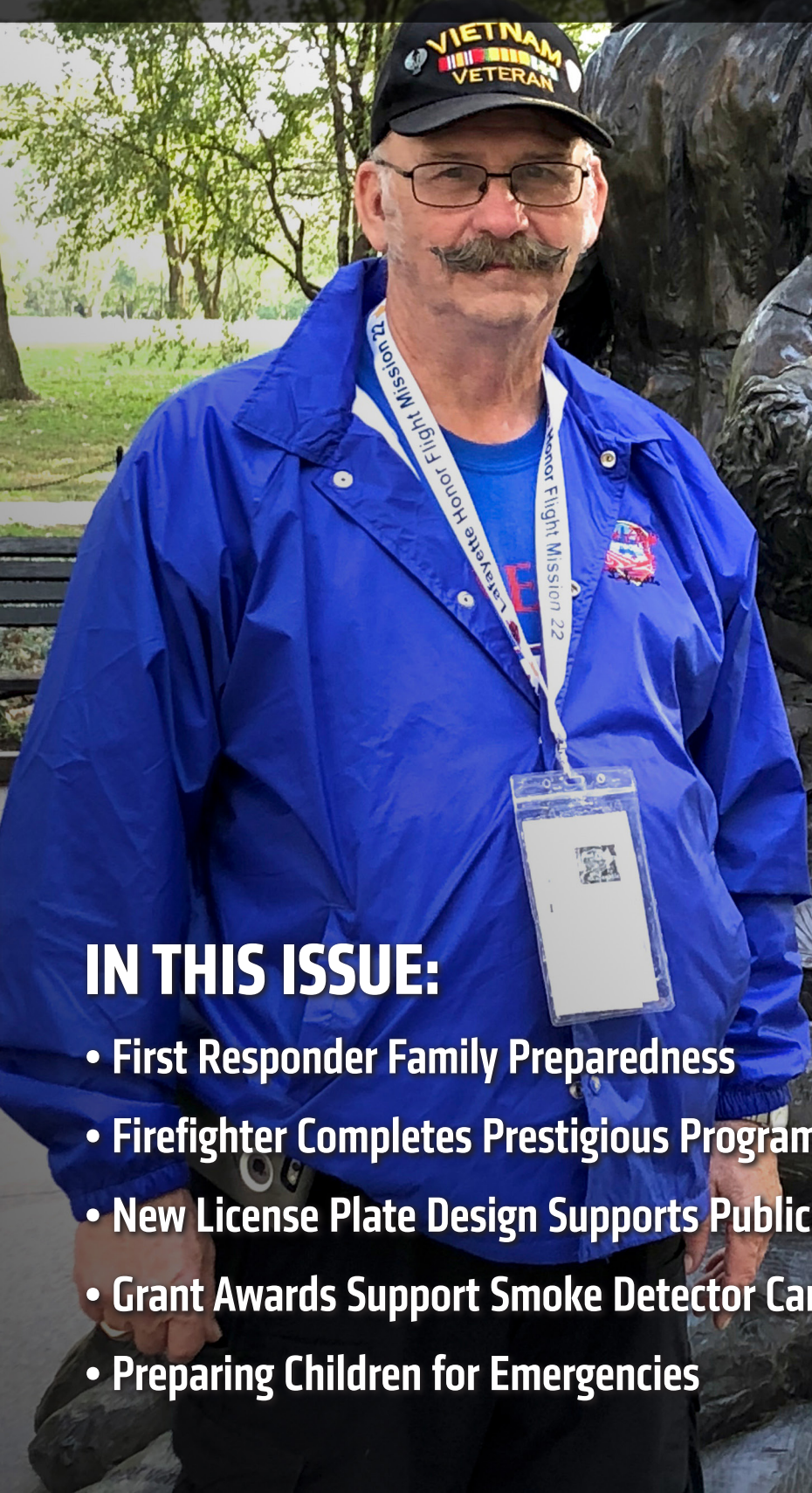


# THE HOOSIER RESPONDER

DECEMBER 2018



**HONOR FLIGHT  
RECOGNIZES LOCAL  
EMA WITH TRIP TO  
WASHINGTON, DC**

## **IN THIS ISSUE:**

- **First Responder Family Preparedness**
- **Firefighter Completes Prestigious Program**
- **New License Plate Design Supports Public Safety**
- **Grant Awards Support Smoke Detector Campaign**
- **Preparing Children for Emergencies**





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## FIRST RESPONDER FAMILY PREPAREDNESS

Every day, Indiana first responders encourage Hoosiers to prepare for natural and man-made emergencies, but many are not prepared themselves.

In various surveys, first responders report concern for their family's safety impacts their effectiveness when working and their willingness to report for duty during an emergency. Unfortunately, this concern could have a negative impact on the [61 percent of Americans polled by FEMA Citizen Corps](#) who said their disaster plans rely on emergency personnel providing help within the first 72 hours of an emergency.

Concern can't be eliminated, but it can be reduced. Emergency preparedness steps and guidelines shared with the community can be utilized in the households of first responders.

First responders should create an emergency supply kit tailored to their household needs, an emergency plan and an emergency communication plan. A few items to consider when creating the plans include:

- Be aware of all possible disasters that occur in local areas.
- Gather a three-day supply of non-perishable food and water.
- Create a list of meeting locations, emergency phone numbers and a map of potential neighborhood escape routes.
- Have a supply of extra batteries for flashlights and weather radios. Also, have a supply of fully-charged external battery chargers for electronic devices.
- Have an accessible emergency fund that includes cash in small bills because loss of power can impact the use of credit cards.

For more emergency preparedness information, visit:

- [IDHS Get Prepared Page](#)
- [The InfoGram - Volume 18 Issue 38](#)
- [Homeland Security Affairs: Beyond the Plan](#)

# FIRE DEPARTMENT'S VIRAL VIDEO BRINGS AWARENESS TO MENTAL HEALTH

The Yorktown Fire Department entered the popular first responder lip sync video challenge with a twist. In comparison to other challenge videos, Yorktown addressed the emotional and mental toll first responders endure while serving their community.

“Everyone in the department decided the video is something we should pursue,” said Yorktown Fire Chief David Boone. “At the time of planning, lip sync videos were a trending topic and if people were like ‘Oh look, another lip sync video’ and watched it. That allowed us to have a larger impact.”

A recent study released by Ruderman Family Foundation

reports 243 first responders committed suicide in 2017, which exceeds the 222 who died in the line of duty. Unfortunately, only an estimated 40 percent of firefighter suicides were reported, leading researchers to believe the rate could be much higher.

Conditions that affect a person’s thinking, feeling, mood or behavior are often at the root of the thought or act of committing suicide. Common forms are depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder.

In a way to combat emergency medical services (EMS) personnel suicide rates, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security launched a

mental health training program in Public Safety Personnel Portal. House Enrolled Act 1430 requires EMS providers offer the suicide assessment, treatment and management training.

“It is okay to discuss mental health awareness and try to help fellow first responders,” Boone said. “I think a lot of the time people are nervous talking about it or bringing up the struggles, but it’s important to remember that no one has to face these challenges alone.”

Anyone contemplating suicide is encouraged to contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.





## HONOR FLIGHT RECOGNIZES LOCAL EMA WITH TRIP TO WASHINGTON, DC

For many soldiers returning home during the Vietnam War, they did not receive a warm welcome. Many Americans protested the war and the soldiers who served. This sense of rejection was startling for veterans, who expected to be praised upon their return by fellow Americans, similar to the veterans of previous wars.

Since 2005, The Honor Flight Network has provided a way to properly celebrate the bravery and commitment of military veterans by flying them to Washington, D.C., to visit the many memorials that exist today in their honor. The Network began as a way to thank World War II veterans, but now the program flies thousands of soldiers from across the country to the nation's capital so they can connect with their fellow soldiers and recognize those

who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Fountain County Emergency Management Agency Director Joe Whitaker served in the U.S. Army as a helicopter engine mechanic during the Vietnam War. On Oct. 16, he joined his brother-in-law, Ron Zimmerman (also a veteran of the Vietnam War) on the 22nd Greater Lafayette Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.

"It was fabulous and also emotional," Whitaker said.

Indiana is one of 45 states that offer Honor Flights for war veterans. Since its founding, the Honor Flight Network has flown more than 130,000 veterans to visit memorials to "honor their service and sacrifices of themselves and their friends." More than 25,000 veterans

remain on a waiting list to participate in an Honor Flight. Greater Lafayette is one of 135 regional flight hubs for the Honor Flight Network.

The Indiana flight departed the Purdue University Airport early in the morning on Oct. 16 en route to Washington. The first stop on the trip was the Marine Corps Memorial, more commonly known as the Iwo Jima Memorial. The tour also included the Women's Memorial, World War II Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Vietnam Wall and Arlington National Cemetery, where the group experienced the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Whitaker and other veterans were able to spend about 45 minutes at each of the memorials they visited that day.

*(continued on next page)*



Each memorial held its unique significance for the country and for the soldiers. The experience allowed them to reminisce about their experiences, remember their fallen friends and appreciate the freedoms they fought hard to protect.

Of all the memorials Whitaker visited and veterans he spoke with during that powerful day, it was the flight home that continues to impact him the most.

“On the flight back they had mail call, and we all received a big envelope with letters from home,” Whitaker said. “This included letters from my wife and also from my sister-in-law, children, grandchildren and other family and friends. This was very emotional for me. When you are in the service and away from home, mail call is the most important part of the day.”

The group landed back in Lafayette around 7:30 p.m. after a long, eventful day. They had a renewed sense of pride for their service and felt supported by their communities, Whitaker said.

“The other memorable part of the trip was when I got off the plane and saw all of the people that welcomed us home,” he said. That is what the Honor Flight Network is all about.

[Watch a video of the Greater Lafayette Honor Flight experience.](#)

# 2018 LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) AWARDS

## Chairman’s Award

Pam Eldridge—Hamilton County  
Becky Waymire—Morgan County  
John Hooker—Monroe County

## Commodity Flow Study

Grant County

## Contribution to the Indiana Emergency Response Commission (IERC)

Hamilton County    Marion County

## Contribution to the IERC (Beta Testers—LEPC Module)

Adams County	Allen County	Jackson County
Marion County	Monroe County	Morgan County
Ripley County	Shelby County	Whitley County

## Data Management

Hamilton County

## Outreach to Facilities

Hamilton County    Monroe County    Jasper County

## Outreach to the Public

Hamilton County    Madison County    Posey County

## Hazardous Materials Exercise (HSEEP Compliant)

Adams County	Cass County	Hamilton County
Pike County	Warrick County	Wells County

## Hazardous Materials Response Plans

Dearborn County	Monroe County	Pulaski County
Tipton County	Wabash County	Wayne County

## Training

Hamilton County

# FIREFIGHTER COMPLETES PRESTIGIOUS PROGRAM

Zach Westfall began his fire service career as a volunteer firefighter with Vincennes Township



Fire Department. After six years with the department, Westfall transitioned into a full-time position at the Vincennes City Fire Department in 2011. This year, Westfall decided to apply to the Managing Fire Officer (MFO) program to take advantage of the opportunity for career growth.



The U.S. Fire Administration’s National Fire Academy (NFA) offers the MFO program. Since it was established in 2015, only one other Hoosier has completed the course.

“While the academics are a huge part of the program, they are only one part,” Westfall said.

“Since attending, I have made several new friends in the fire service from all over the country. I think connecting with other people is a great resource tool in our field.”

The MFO program provides leadership and professional development training and allows

the applicant to substantially impact their community.

As part of the program, five prerequisite courses must be completed in the student’s home state, four courses at the NFA’s Emmitsburg, Md. campus and a capstone project focused on the person’s community.

“During my community risk reduction class we analyzed run data from our local departments,” Westfall said. “Using this data, we were able to find an area to focus on in my community. I primarily focused on our call volume for automatic fire alarms and how this impacted the community and my department.”

*(continued on next page)*

- 63** Indiana Executive Fire Officer Program Graduates since 1987
- 14** Current Indiana Executive Fire Officer Program Students
- 1** Indiana Managing Fire Officer Program Graduate since 2015
- 10** Current Indiana Managing Fire Officer Program Students

The NFA also offers the Executive Fire Officer Program. It offers fire service members training for current social, environmental, cultural and economic challenges the career faces.

Department chiefs, chief officers or EMS organizations interested in applying for either program can visit <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/> for more information.

“This is a challenging and demanding program, but the knowledge gained is worth the time and effort,” Westfall said. “In comparison to other classes, everything from the prerequisite courses, daily homework and final project will give students a product they can use to make a difference in their community.”

## LEADERSHIP ACADEMY TRAINING

Another important leadership resource is delivered here in Indiana through the Fire and Public Safety Academy. The new Leadership Academy Classes offer fire, emergency management services, emergency management agency and dispatch professionals the opportunity to pursue leadership development courses from subject matter experts.

During the course of 80 classroom hours, students learn about topics such as managing conflict, emotional intelligence, legal issues, budgeting expenses and more. The program ends with a capstone course that covers material taught in all of the classes and “Brings it all Together.” The classes are delivered in blocks, allowing for opportunities that will work for both career and volunteer agencies. Approximately 50 leaders have attended initial classes for the new program.

Leadership personnel interested in joining the program can contact Wade Walling for more information at [WWalling@dhs.IN.gov](mailto:WWalling@dhs.IN.gov) or look for training opportunities in the [Public Safety Personnel Portal](#).

## 2018 EMAI

The 2018 Emergency Management Alliance of Indiana (EMAI) Conference provided emergency management professionals the opportunity to learn a variety of best practices related to disaster management and response, community preparedness and other valuable topics. Focusing on the 2018 theme of “Managing Chaos,” the conference brought in numerous speakers, including responders from national-level incidents such as the 2016 Orlando night club shooting and 2017 hurricane responses.





# NEW LICENSE PLATE DESIGN SUPPORTS PUBLIC SAFETY

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security will debut a new First Responder license plate design beginning in January that prominently recognizes the importance of public safety officials in “Saving Lives.” Working with student designers from Vincennes University, IDHS submitted the new design to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for approval. The new plate will replace the more generic cardinal license plate and allow Hoosier drivers to clearly show their support for the public safety and first responder communities.

“It was important for this new plate design to recognize the bravery and dedication of all our public safety groups,” said Bryan Langlely, executive director of IDHS. “Not only will this plate illustrate our support for our first responders, it also

will allow the Indiana Homeland Security Foundation to enhance our communities through Foundation grants and support students through college scholarships.”

The Response and Recovery Division at IDHS focuses heavily on mitigation and resiliency for communities—helping them prevent natural disasters and be better positioned to recover from a widespread event. Communities can apply for Foundation grants to address specific projects that will protect the people, property and prosperity of residents in their area. These can include equipping emergency responders with personal protective equipment, acquiring communications equipment and technology or enhancing training and planning for communities. Last year, the

Foundation distributed more than \$200,000 in community grants.

In addition, students interested in college who volunteer with a public safety agency can apply for a scholarship to help offset the cost of their Indiana education. Hoosier Safety Scholarships can provide \$2,000 for full-time students and \$1,000 for part-time students.

The new First Responder license plate will be available in January as part of the annual plate renewal process. The plate will cost an extra \$40, with \$25 of that going directly to the Foundation and \$15 to the BMV for administrative costs.

For more information, visit [dhs.in.gov/foundation](https://dhs.in.gov/foundation).





# GRANT AWARDS SUPPORT INDIANA FIRST RESPONDERS AND SMOKE DETECTOR CAMPAIGN

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security received nearly **\$1.3 million** in federal grant awards recently to enhance training and resources for Indiana first responders and kickstart a statewide campaign to install 10,000 smoke detectors in Hoosier homes.

The funding will impact three specific areas across Indiana:



**EQUIPMENT & TRAINING FOR FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS**



**FIRE PREVENTION & SAFETY IN HOMES**



**ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING RELATED TO HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS**

## ***FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY GRANT***

**\$521,130**

The *Fire Prevention and Safety Grant* primarily is geared toward reducing injury and preventing fire deaths in high-risk populations. As of Dec. 1, 85 fire fatalities have occurred in Indiana in 2018, an increase from the previous year.

The Indiana State Fire Marshal will focus the grant funds on community risk reduction through a statewide smoke detector education and distribution campaign. The goal will be to install more than 10,000 smoke detectors and 1,000 shaking bed/strobe alarms for deaf and hard of hearing across the next two years.

## ***ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT***

**\$372,856**

The *Assistance to Firefighters Grant* will address the needs of fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical service organizations in Indiana. This could include equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles and others resources for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related deaths.

## ***HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANT***

**\$401,236**

The *Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant* will provide much-needed hazardous materials training and equipment to assist the more than 820 fire departments across Indiana, 90 percent of which are staffed by volunteers. IDHS will use the funds to purchase equipment and training resources that will be made available to communities across the state.

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE EFFORTS SUPPORT RESCUED OR LOST ANIMALS

A routine part of Montgomery County's response to emergencies includes providing support for rescued or lost animals.

Montgomery County Emergency Management Agency Deputy Director Brian Campbell said the agency's animal disaster response plan isn't new but recently underwent a few changes for improvement.

"We strive to have a plan for every scenario," Campbell said. "In the event first responders encounter animals in an emergency, we want to be able

to set the plan in motion as quickly as possible. We don't want to be reactive, we want to be proactive."

One of the plan's improvements includes the Animal Response Trailer, which is filled with supplies for animals large and small. The trailer was used for the first time Nov. 7 during the Operation Northern Iceberg Exercise – a simulated major snow storm emergency that involved multiple first responder and public safety agencies.

The trailer assisted the Animal Welfare League of Montgomery

County and Board of Animal Health in microchipping animals. According to Campbell, 99 animals were microchipped, and the process lasted less than 5 minutes per animal.

"Plans and resources are great, but if you don't exercise a plan prior to implementing it in a real world scenario you may not be prepared for the outcomes you may face," Campbell said. "Write the plan, learn the plan, exercise the plan and implement the plan."





# HOW TO SURVIVE A FALL THROUGH THE ICE



1

## KEEP CALM

As soon as you realize you're falling through the ice, hold your breath so you do not breathe in water. Try to keep calm. Panic is your worst enemy.



2

## STAY AFLOAT

Keep your head out of the water. Get to an edge that you can reach. Snap off thin ice until you reach thicker ice.



3

## PULL YOURSELF OUT

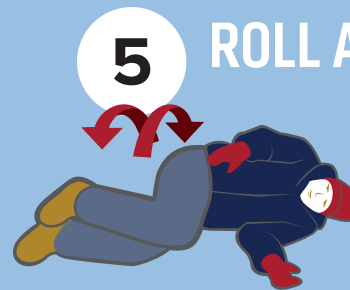
Lean forward onto the ice and kick your feet as you would if you were swimming. Use your arms and elbows to lift yourself up.



4

## CRAWL FORWARD

Don't stand up right away. The ice around the hole may be weak.



5

## ROLL AWAY

Roll away until you are several feet away and are certain you are out of danger.

## WHAT'S NEW IN PUBLIC ASSISTANCE?

With the possibility of severe winter weather affecting the state in coming months, IDHS Recovery Staff encourages potential Public Assistance (PA) applicants across the state to be prepared in the event of disaster and to be aware of their eligibility for federal assistance.

While the majority of PA funding is awarded to government entities, such as highway departments and county governments, certain private, nonprofits also are eligible for funding during a disaster.

“Our concern at the state level is that many people across Indiana might not be aware that their organizations are eligible for federal assistance,” said Susan Shearer, Public Assistance program director with IDHS. “When disaster strikes, we want to make sure that all eligible parties are getting the help they need and deserve.”

One factor regarding eligibility for private nonprofits is specific to the type of service the organization provides to

their community. Facilities that provide critical services, such as utilities, education, emergency or medical services, may be eligible for funding for any damages or costs associated with a disaster.

For questions regarding PA funding eligibility, please contact IDHS Public Assistance staff at [PA@dhs.in.gov](mailto:PA@dhs.in.gov). For more information on the Public Assistance Program, visit the [IDHS Public Assistance Program webpage](#).

# PREPARING CHILDREN FOR EMERGENCIES

Adults naturally want children to be safe. The unique vulnerabilities of children make them disproportionately impacted by disasters, but children also can be major assets for disaster preparedness. Teaching children about disasters and emergencies increases their coping potential post-disaster and helps them develop life-safety skills from an early age.

The Student Tools for Emergency Planning program, or STEP, is a preparedness education curriculum developed by FEMA as a method for educating children about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies.

**A youth preparedness program is a great way to enhance a community's resilience and help develop future generations of prepared adults.**

Since its launch in 2008, STEP has grown into a robust nationwide program for educating fourth- and fifth-grade students about emergency preparedness. The program offers a one-hour base curriculum and seven to eight hours of optional curriculum intended for teachers to incorporate into existing subject areas, such as social studies, science and reading. STEP

also offers children strategies for dealing with various types of emergencies and encourages students to share this knowledge with family members.

Through the STEP curriculum, students learn general knowledge about common disasters in their area, how to assemble emergency kits for their homes and guidelines for developing family communication plans for their household. The STEP lesson materials were designed by teachers, for teachers and are offered in an easily adaptable curriculum. The materials include an instructor guide, a series of videos and a student activity book aligning with a variety of subject areas. Everything is no-cost, pre-packaged and ready to go—teachers just have to request it.

In the Midwest, both Wisconsin and Michigan have implemented STEP on a statewide scale. Wisconsin Emergency Management implemented the STEP program in more than 100 elementary and middle schools. Since its adoption in 2010, more than 40,000 students across the state have been trained in emergency preparedness. Additionally, Michigan State Police adopted STEP in 2011, and the program has since spread to schools throughout the state, with the goal of



teaching 10,000 students every year. Both states were able to adapt the program to fit state, school and classroom structures, thereby making the materials accessible to teachers and students statewide.

But STEP does not need to be implemented on a statewide level. It also can be used by individual teachers, schools, administrations or any educators with a desire to teach emergency preparedness to students. For example, two elementary schools in Lake Station, Ind., conducted STEP trainings in January 2018.

For more information on the STEP program and to download the curriculum, visit: <https://www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness>.



# IDEM EMERGENCY RESPONSE/SPILL REPORTING

Hazardous materials add complexity to any incident, from traffic accidents to a tornado strike. It is important to task those properly trained and possessing the proper resources to deal with these hazards, especially when the incident involves the release of materials that could jeopardize public health or environmental quality.

While the responsible party (i.e. the spiller) is obligated to notify the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) of a spill, emergency managers, fire departments and law enforcement officers also are encouraged to report any spill to IDEM Emergency Response.

IDEM On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) staff the 24-hour hotline and document information regarding the incident and responsible party and assigning each incident an individual tracking number. Information such as location, material and amount spilled, if sewers or

## INDIANA SPILL RULE

The Indiana Spill Rule – 327 IAC 2-6.1 – requires any person who operates, controls or maintains any mode of transportation or facility from which a spill occurs to the soil or surface waters of the state to do the following:

1. Contain the spill, if possible.
2. Accomplish a spill response.
3. As soon as possible, but within two hours of discovery, report the spill to the IDEM Emergency Response Program's 24-hour hotline at 888-233-7745. Some spills also may require notification be made to the National Response Center at 800-424-8802.

drains are involved, any impact to soils or waters and other pertinent information provided by first responders allows IDEM to assess the public health hazards and the environment risks by the spill.

The OSCs coordinate with the responsible party and help them understand their obligation to accomplish a spill response. OSCs also conduct field activities assessing spills and carry defensive operation equipment to render assistance to responding agencies as needed. OSCs also can assist by contracting environmental remediation companies to perform cleanup operations if the responsible party fails to accomplish a spill response or cannot be located.

Anyone wanting more information on the spill rule, spill reporting or other Emergency Response Program activities, should contact IDEM at 317-308-3038. To report a spill to IDEM Emergency Response please call 888-233-7745.



# UPCOMING TRAININGS

## **LOCAL VOLUNTEER AND DONATIONS MANAGEMENT (G0288)**

**12/06/2018 - 12/07/2018**

**MID AMERICA SCIENCE PARK - 821 SOUTH LAKE ROAD SOUTH, SCOTTSBURG, IN 47170**

The course is designed to strengthen the abilities of local jurisdictions to successfully prepare for and handle volunteer and donations management issues that may arise. The course content and activities also may serve as a template, thereby enhancing uniformity in addressing areas of donated unsolicited goods, unaffiliated volunteers and undesignated cash. This training also provides information regarding the state's volunteer and donations management responsibilities, which are designed to help build relationships between government and non-governmental organizations.

## **ALL-HAZARDS FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION (L-973)**

**12/12/2018 - 12/14/2018**

**PLAINFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT - 591 MOON ROAD, PLAINFIELD, IN 46168**

This course provides local- and state-level emergency responders with a robust understanding of the duties, responsibilities and capabilities of an effective Finance/Administration Section Chief on an All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT). These responsibilities include managing the personnel within the incident's finance/ administration section and managing the finances and administrative responsibilities during an incident.

## **SENIOR OFFICIALS WORKSHOP FOR ALL-HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS (MGT-312)**

**01/15/2019**

**SOUTH BEND FIRE DEPARTMENT - 1222 S MICHIGAN ST, SOUTH BEND, IN 46601**

This course provides a forum to discuss strategic and executive-level issues related to all-hazard disaster preparedness and shares proven strategies and best practices to enhance coordination among officials responsible for emergency response and recovery from a disaster. This workshop is an effective process for discussing executive-level issues with leaders from the agencies involved in all levels of the emergency management structure.



# UPCOMING TRAININGS

## READINESS: TRAINING IDENTIFICATION & PREPAREDNESS PLANNING

01/17/2019 - 01/18/2019

JOHNSON COUNTY PURDUE EXTENSION  
484 N MORTON ST  
FRANKLIN, IN 46131

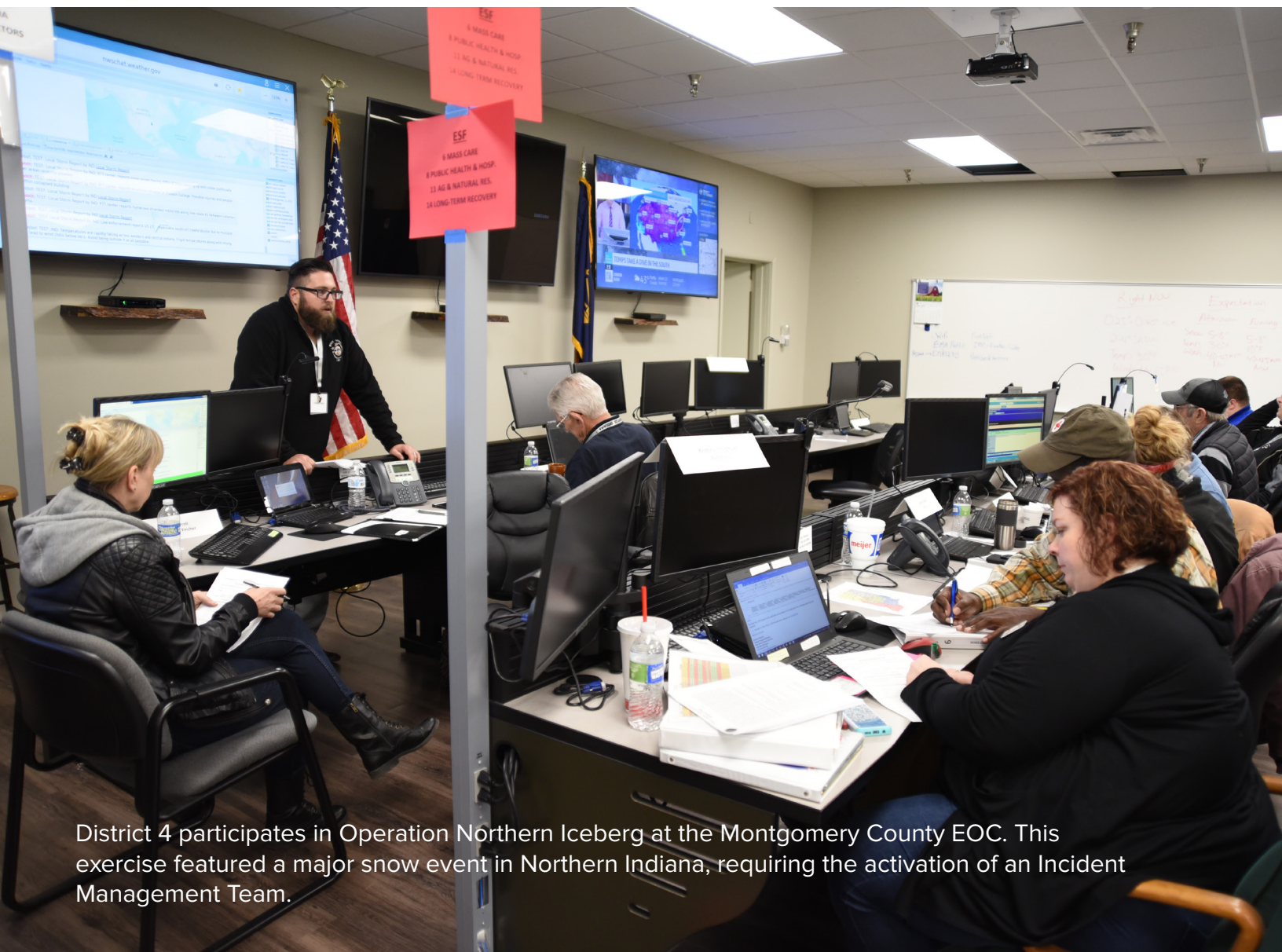
01/23/2019 - 01/24/2019

VINCENNES UNIVERSITY  
1002 N 1ST ST  
VINCENNES, IN 47591

02/05/2019 - 02/06/2019

GRANT COUNTY EMA  
401 S ADAMS ST, SUITE 601  
MARION, IN 46953

This course teaches participants how to create effective training plans for their agencies and jurisdictions. Topics discussed include evaluating the agency's abilities to meet their emergency operations plan using traditional and national preparedness tools.



District 4 participates in Operation Northern Iceberg at the Montgomery County EOC. This exercise featured a major snow event in Northern Indiana, requiring the activation of an Incident Management Team.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## HOLIDAY SEASON DRUNK DRIVING CAMPAIGN

**OBSERVED: DEC. 13-31, 2018**

Each year the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration brings awareness to drunk driving through a Holiday Season Drunk Driving Campaign because an increase in alcohol-related accidents occur during the holiday season. Local law enforcement agencies are encouraged to take part in sharing information about drinking responsibly with the community.

For more information about the campaign, visit [trafficsafetymarketing.gov](http://trafficsafetymarketing.gov).

## SAFE TOYS AND GIFTS MONTH

**OBSERVED: DEC. 1-31, 2018**

Prevent Blindness America sponsors the yearly Safe Toys and Gifts Month Campaign, which raises awareness of age appropriate gifts. Encourage adults in your community to consider safety hazards when holiday shopping this season.

For more information, visit [preventblindness.org](http://preventblindness.org).

## FIREWORK SAFETY

**OBSERVED: DEC. 31, 2018 - JAN. 1, 2019**

Hoosiers use fireworks to ring in the New Year. Share firework safety tips before and help keep community members safe this holiday.

For information on fireworks safety, visit [GetPrepared.in.gov](http://GetPrepared.in.gov).



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## DATA PRIVACY DAY

**OBSERVED: JAN. 28, 2019**

The National Cyber Security Alliance wants everyone to “Stop. Think. Connect.” for Data Privacy Day. The annual event strives to educate consumers and business owners about the importance of privacy and their online presence. Consider sharing cybersecurity safety tips as a way to participate.

For more information on Data Privacy Day, visit [staysafeonline.org](http://staysafeonline.org).  
For more information on cybersecurity, visit [in.gov/cybersecurity](http://in.gov/cybersecurity).

## WINTER WEATHER SAFETY

**OBSERVED: ALL WINTER SEASON**

Hazardous weather is a mainstay of Indiana winters. Weather forecasters track the atmospheric conditions, which makes preparation simple. Consider sharing safety tips before the precipitation occurs.

For winter weather safety and traveling tips, visit [GetPrepared.in.gov](http://GetPrepared.in.gov).

## HOLIDAY SAFETY

**OBSERVED: ALL HOLIDAY SEASON**

Many injuries, accidents and home fires occur during the winter holiday season. Encourage members in your community to review some holiday safety tips before the decorating and celebrating begins.

For more information about holiday safety, visit [GetPrepared.in.gov](http://GetPrepared.in.gov).

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



*The Hoosier Responder is a publication of  
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Please direct any questions or comments to the  
IDHS Office of Public Affairs at 317.234.6713 or [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov)*

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