

Hoosier Responder



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VOAD Conference Held in Indianapolis for First Time

The annual conference of the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) was held in Indianapolis last month, with more than 50 member organizations in attendance. VOAD is a non-profit, nonpartisan membership-based organization that serves as the forum where organizations share knowledge and resources throughout the disaster cycle. This cycle includes preparation, response, recovery and mitigation, which helps communities prepare for and recover from disasters.

together 200 Pet Disaster To-Go Kits, 100 for cats and 100 for dogs.

“We learned from disasters like Hurricane Katrina that there are situations where people die because they will not leave their pets behind,” said Abby Hostetler, 2014 National VOAD Conference Co-Chair and Indiana VOAD Secretary. “I think a secondary benefit to making disaster pet kits available to families is they start to think that if their pets have a to-go disaster kit, maybe the human members of their family should have preparedness kits, too.”

As is the tradition with each annual conference, the host gets to decide on a project, carried out by attendees, that benefits the state. This year, attendees helped put

After the 200 pet kits were assembled, IDHS Human Services Program Manager Nancy Morris and other attendees delivered the kits to several Indiana animal shelters.



IDHS Human Services Program Manager Nancy Morris stands among the 200 Pet Disaster To-Go Kits assembled by attendees of the recent VOAD conference in Indianapolis. Eight Indiana shelters received kits.

Each IDHS District Now Has Disaster Housing Plan

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security has completed Disaster Housing and Emergency Services Plans for each of the state's 10 districts. The plans outline the concepts, coordinating structure,

roles and responsibilities and overall approach for providing emergency housing services during and after a disaster.

IDHS Acting Planning Branch

Chief Steve Broniarczyk says each district plan establishes the basis for preparing for and responding to a sudden loss of housing and other basic needs and is tiered to

(Continued on page 3)

IDHS HazMat Specialist Shares Exercise Experience at National Forum

Indiana Department of Homeland Security Hazmat Radiation Specialist Laura Dresen was a panelist last month at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the National Transportation Stakeholders Forum, held in Minnesota.

She and three others shared their recent experiences hosting radiation exercises. Dresen discussed the radiation transportation exercise in Allen County last August 28 that involved the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program and IDHS. The transportation accident exercise involved a spent fuel rail shipment passing through Fort Wayne that collided with a dump truck. Departments that had players in the exercise included:

- Fort Wayne Fire Department
- New Haven Fire Department
- Fort Wayne Police Department

- New Haven Police Department
- Indiana Department of Homeland Security
- Allen County Office of Homeland Security
- Three Rivers Ambulance Authority
- Indiana State Police

This year marks the fifth meeting of the NTSF, which brings together representatives of the states and tribes that are affected by DOE's shipments of radioactive waste, including spent nuclear fuel. About 26% of attendees are federal employees.

Accident Mirrors Recent Exercise

On May 6, emergency crews responded to the northeast side of Indianapolis after a train collided with a semi. The accident occurred on N. Rural Street near Massachusetts Avenue about 10 a.m.

The train, which displayed DODX on its side, was with the Department of Defense and was carrying a radiological shipping container. Fortunately, that container had never been used and was completely empty.

The only spill that occurred was pineapples from the semi. There were no injuries or a derailment. But this situation mirrored the radiological transportation exercise from last August. In this case, some of the only first responder activity was stopping spectators from stealing the pineapples from the accident scene.



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Interagency Coordination Beneficial During Recent HAZMAT Situation

Ever wonder what a day is like for Hazardous Material Specialist Stan Capobianco and others like him? He'll be the first to tell you that no two days are alike and that some are certainly more eventful than others. But he's especially proud of a day not long ago where his specialized skills were put to use, along with those from several other responding agencies.

Indiana State Police responded to a report of a domestic disturbance during daytime hours involving family members and an adult son. When officers arrived, the son pointed weapons at law enforcement, which then led the way after his arrest for them to get a warrant to search the home. A domestic disturbance run quickly escalated into something even more serious as police discovered bomb-making materials.

ISP asked for help from Capobianco so that the suspicious materials could be identified and the risk quickly assessed. Capobianco arrived with instrumentation that allowed him to check for any contaminants in the atmosphere, any possible radiation exposure and help verify the materials present. He worked alongside personnel from the ISP Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Team, the Evansville branch of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Special Agent Bomb Tech (SABT) Team out of Louisville, Kentucky.

The teams, using different instrumentation, were able to quickly identify the materials and confirm that, while the materials were indeed capable of being made into homemade explosives, the materials had not been combined.

"All the precursors were there but fortunately nothing was mixed to form an explosive material," said Capobianco. "These days, if a person is so inclined, he or she can literally go on the Internet and find hundreds of YouTube videos that show you how to make homemade bombs. I'm afraid law enforcement will always be facing tough decisions because it's so easy and quick for someone to post step-by-step bomb-making directions on the Internet."

"Luckily, we did not have a situation where anyone was hurt, but it was a tense situation for a while," he said. "The experience did make all of us aware how well we could work together and how our specialized skills and equipment complimented each others'. We are all very proud of the inter-agency coordination."

Disaster Housing Plan *(continued from page 2)*

include needed housing on a short-term, intermediate and long-term basis. Facilities include places such as hotels, churches, community centers, schools, mobile home parks, realtors and rental companies.

"Each county emergency management agency has identified facilities to meet various criteria, keeping in mind those locations must be ADA (Americans with Disabilities) compliant and accepting of pets," Broniarczyk said. "Each dis-

trict also worked with agencies like the American Red Cross and gathered existing shelter data to ensure unity of effort."

Broniarczyk said these district-specific plans will serve as a play-book for housing in the event people are displaced. "It's vital people can find housing quickly after a disaster." He said.

All plans were complete by the end of May and seminars to explain the plans will occur in June.

These seminars are Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) compliant and will count toward Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) credit. To sign up for a district-specific seminar, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DistrictDisasterHousingTrainingSeminarsJune2014> to register. Community outreach efforts will occur later in the summer.

Southern Indiana Getting New 930 Area Code in September

Starting September 6, callers to parts of southern Indiana will have to use a new area code – 930, in addition to 812. Due to an increase in demand for telephone numbers, the addition of a new area code is necessary for the same geographical area as the 812 area code, bringing mandatory 10 digit (area code + 7 digit phone number) dialing for local calls to the 812 area.

The Indiana Public Service Commission (IN PSC) approved an all-services overlay as the relief method for the 812 Numbering Plan Area.



Here is a brief rundown of how this change will affect customers in the current 812 area code:

What will remain the same for now?

- Customer's existing telephone number, including area code, will remain the same.
- The price of a call and coverage area will not change. Local calls will remain local regardless of number of digits dialed.

Customers will continue to dial 3 digits to reach services such as 911, 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711, and 811.

When will the change take place?

- Beginning Sept. 6, 2014, it will be mandatory to use the new 10-digit dialing procedure for all local calls.
- Calls will not complete unless dialed as area code plus 7-digit telephone number.
- If you do not use the new dialing procedure, your call will not be completed and a recording will instruct you to hang up and dial

again. 1 + 10-digit dialing still applies for toll calls.

- Beginning Oct. 6, 2014: New telephone numbers may be assigned with the new 930 area code as 812 numbers are at capacity in individual wire centers.

What customers need to know:

- In addition to changing the dialing procedure, all service, automatic dialing equipment, or other types of equipment programmed with a 7-digit number will need to be reprogrammed using the 10-digit dialing pattern. It is the responsibility of the agency to contact their vendors for testing and confirmation of these services. Some examples are:
 - o Call Forwarding Settings
 - o Life Safety Systems
 - o Fax Machines
 - o Internet Dial-Up Numbers
 - o Alarm and Security Systems
 - o Speed Dialers
 - o Internet Numbers
 - o Postage Machines

Nominations Open for 2014 Serve Indiana Awards for Excellence

The Serve Indiana Awards for Excellence are Indiana's most prestigious awards celebrating the accomplishments of dedicated volunteers and service members from across the state. Nominations are currently being accepted for individuals who have displayed exemplary service

through volunteering in the categories of Corporate Service, Exemplary Service-Learning, Faith-Based Volunteer, Lifetime Achievement, National Service, Volunteer Program, Volunteerism, and Youth Volunteer.

To nominate an individual, a

group, or yourself, download the [nomination form](http://www.in.gov/serveindiana/awards.htm) from the website at <http://www.in.gov/serveindiana/awards.htm>. Once the form is completed, it can be submitted electronically or by mail. Serve Indiana requests that all nominations be submitted by July 18, 2014.

New Mobile App Helps First Responders Recognize Persons with Disabilities

Hoosier first responders have a new tool that can help them and individuals with disabilities communicate better in a crisis. The HELPS (Help Everyone Learn Practical Solutions) mobile app was developed through a partnership between the Indiana Autism Society and the Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services to aid first responders.

The app serves as a quick guide on how to act in difficult situations in a respectful and responsible way when responders come into contact with individuals who may have developmental, intellectual, physical, visual or hearing disabilities. For example, a subject acting disoriented might have a disability like epilepsy, which first responders would handle

differently from a subject who may be under the influence of alcohol. The app also contains graphics that can help responders communicate with subjects who may have difficulty speaking or understanding those who are trying to help. The app is currently available for free for Android and iPhone.



Here are screens from the HELPS app. The home screen (left) has shortcuts to the many tools in the app. Quick tips (center,) helps responders gain perspective on potential disabilities. The screen on the right allows individuals who may not be verbal to communicate with first responders.

One Third of Indiana Counties are Text-to-911 Ready

Indiana residents with Verizon Wireless service can now text 911 dispatchers in about one-third of the state's counties. The move is intended to benefit the deaf, people with speech impairments or people in positions where they are unable to speak to dispatchers, like a hostage or home invasion situation.

Emergency dispatchers in 28 Indiana counties have been equipped

and trained to handle text-to-911 calls. Another 66 counties have agreed to train their dispatchers and are at various stages of implementation. The goal is to have the entire state text-to-911 capable by year's end.

Anyone who attempts to text to 911 in a county not yet operational will get a bounce-back message saying to call 911.

Police say in most circumstances a call is best. That's because a dispatcher can ask follow-up questions and can hear inflection in the caller's voice and environment noise behind the call or other information to pass along to responders. Calls also allow dispatchers to more accurately locate the source of a call.

IDHS Leads CPR/AED Certification; 300 Trained to Date



The Indiana Department of Homeland Security is leading an effort with other state agencies to provide training to state employees for CPR and AED (cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillator) certification.

“Since the classes began, about 18 months ago, more than 300 state employees have become certified through our classes at no cost to them,” said

IDHS Emergency Medical Services State Director Mike Garvey. “We are pleased to be able to offer this training and it’s our hope more state employees will want to learn these simple, but life-saving, techniques.”

The classes are continuing and training provides employees with the skills to respond to cardiac and breathing emergencies. Course skills include evaluation, compressions, giving breaths through a mask and signs and response to choking.

H.T. Pham (standing back left) oversees a state employee learning how to operate an AED during free certification classes conducted by IDHS. Pham, of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, was completing his instructor certification under the supervision of certified instructors.

Remember Safety Tips When Visiting County Fairs

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security, the Indiana State Board of Animal Health, Indiana State Department of Health and Indiana State Police remind all Hoosiers to remember basic safety tips when attending summertime county fairs, local festivals and carnivals.

Here are just a few to keep in mind:

- Pay attention to weather forecasts and know where to go should inclement weather arise. Especially in the summer, storms can approach

quickly;

- Use sunscreen, wear sunglasses and be sure to keep hydrated;
- To protect feet, wear closed-toe shoes instead of flip-flops or sandals;
- Keep a watchful eye on children so they do not become separated in large crowds. Have an established family meeting location where family members would reconnect if separated. Some event organizers offer contact tags children can wear;
- Wash hands or use hand sanitizer after touching animals

and don’t consumer any food while inside a barn;

- Don’t board a ride if there are broken parts, sign of improper maintenance or an inattentive operator. IDHS operates an amusement ride hotline at 1-888-203-5020;
- Every ride should have a prominently displayed, current permit issued by IDHS; and
- Know any physical conditions or limitations before boarding an amusement ride.

For more summer tips, visit Getprepared.in.gov.

C-POD Training Focuses on Life-Sustaining Supplies, Logistics

In a large scale disaster affecting multiple communities, local government may need to provide basic life-sustaining supplies. The Commodity Point of Distribution (C-POD) Training is designed to educate site managers and volunteers on the process for running an effective C-POD.

Students in the training included C-POD site managers, faith-based organizations, local volunteers, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members and emergency management personnel.



Colonel Joe Luckett, with the Indiana National Guard, describes the operations of a C-POD to the District 9 class, held in Osgood, IN. There were 15 participants in the course, which was taught by Luckett, along with Rick Card, IDHS Deputy Logistics Chief.

Training was scheduled for each Indiana Department of Homeland

Security districts, with a majority of the classes taking place in May. It provided in-depth training to site managers and public officials, as well as offered recommendations for recruiting staff and locating ideal distribution sites. Logistical needs were reviewed to ensure that each county could operate a successful site. Focus was also on procedure, record keeping and site maintenance over extended periods of time.

IDHS Participating in CUSEC Capstone-14 Exercise

During the week of June 15, IDHS will be participating in a multi-state exercise hosted by the Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC). The exercise, called CAPSTONE-14, is part of a three-year, multi-state scope of planning and preparedness activities.

The goal of the exercise is to strengthen partnerships among federal, state, and local governments, and engage public and private sector groups in planning response and recovery efforts from a catastrophic earthquake in the New Madrid and

Wabash Valley seismic zone.

The exercise will also work to help improve capabilities in building inspection and promote code adoption to enhance seismic safety and community resilience.

Focus areas of the CAPSTONE-14 exercise include regional communications, regional transportation, situational awareness, resource management and private sector integration.

The exercise will be the culmination of the full three-year planning, training, and exercise cy-

cle. It will also serve as a national and regional model to the emergency management community.

CAPSTONE-14 will build off of and enhance lessons learned during the 2011 New Madrid Seismic Zone Catastrophic Planning Project and National Level Exercise.

Workshop Helps Design Professionals Streamline Plan Review Process

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security's Department of Fire and Building Safety recently hosted a workshop for architects and design professionals designed to help them better understand and streamline the plan review process.

The department first hosted a workshop of this type about 18 months ago and saw good results. Plans are being made to repeat the workshop once a year going forward.

"About half of the plans submitted for approval to us are put on hold for various reasons," said

IDHS Plan Review Director Bonnie Robison. "Many plans could be released more quickly if not for little things. The workshops are great ways to supply information and reminders about what tends to hold up the approval process."

Robison said some plans are held up merely because they are missing signatures or other small omissions. The workshop also outlines some plan review differences that vary from state to state.

"It's really to everyone's benefit to get things right the first time,"

Robison said. "The workshops offer beneficial information, but we are also asking for feedback from the participants that could further help speed up the approval process."

Primary instructors were Robison and IDHS Senior Code Review Official Brendon Schroeder. In addition to receiving useful information, participants could also receive four continuing education credits for attending the workshop.

Indianapolis Was Site for DHS Cyber Joint Working Group

Indianapolis was the site for the spring meeting of the Industrial Control Systems Joint Working Group (ICSJWG) conference, established by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team. The working group was formed to facilitate information sharing and reduce the risk to the nation's industrial control systems, and has national and interna-

tional membership.

The meeting, in Indiana Government Center South, brought together asset owners and operators, government professionals, vendors, systems integrators and academic professionals to discuss the latest initiatives, threats and vulnerabilities impacting security systems.

The goal of the meeting was to provide a venue where partici-

pants can obtain current information, research findings and practical tools to enhance the security and resilience of industrial control systems. The three-day workshop, June 3-5, included keynote speakers, practical demonstrations, plenary sessions, panel presentations and classified and non-classified briefings.

State Fire Marshal Urges Hoosiers to Obey Fireworks Laws

It's that time of year again—time to review fireworks safety, especially with children. Indiana State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson is reminding Hoosiers to obey all fireworks laws while enjoying the Independence Day holiday and to make safety number one priority.

Fireworks should only be discharged on the user's property, on someone else's property with that person's consent or at a special discharge location. Fireworks may only be discharged between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m. on most days other than holidays.

On holidays such as Memorial Day, Independence Day, New Year's Eve and Labor Day, they may be discharged until midnight. On July 1-3 and 5-9, fireworks can be discharged until two hours past sunset.

"These laws are established to protect Hoosiers during celebrations," said Greeson. "We want people to enjoy the holiday but to also be safe.

Greeson added that children between the ages of 10 and 14 are twice as likely to be injured by fireworks. In fact, two out of

every five fireworks injuries happen to people under the age of 15.

Seemingly harmless fireworks can cause injuries. For example, hand-held sparklers burn at about 1200 degrees Fahrenheit. Greeson says glow sticks make an excellent alternative to sparklers, especially for young children.

For more information about fireworks safety and more details about fireworks laws, visit Getprepared.in.gov.

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 wellbeing and protection of our citizens, property and economy.

Indiana Department of Homeland Security Leadership for a safe and secure Indiana



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