



MEMA REPORTS

MEMA REPORTS is a monthly newsletter produced by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to help keep the Public Safety Community of Massachusetts better informed about the day's Emergency Management issues. MEMA REPORTS also appears on the MEMA website: www.mass.gov/mema.

July 14, 2017

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MEMA Hosts Hurricane Preparedness Webinars

In July, over 300 emergency managers, public safety officials, and community partners participated in MEMA's Hurricane Preparedness webinars that included presentations by the National Weather Service and National Hurricane Center on decision support products and services, and by MEMA on state hurricane planning and preparedness efforts. A [recording of the webinar](#) and the webinar [presentation slides](#) are available on MEMA's website.

MEMA Supports City of Waltham at Major Fire

On Sunday July 23, the City of Waltham experienced a major fire in the area of Cooper Lane. The massive fire destroyed a large apartment complex under construction and caused evacuations of residents from nearby buildings. MEMA deployed staff to assist Waltham Emergency Management in their shelter operations for over 200 evacuated residents. MEMA staff also assisted the Incident Commander and the Emergency Management Director in obtaining diesel fuel for on-scene fire apparatus and light towers to support nighttime operations.



**Waltham Fire Chief Paul Ciccone and MEMA Local Coordinator Allen Phillips at the fire scene on 7/23/17
(Photo courtesy of Matthew Carter)**

MEMA Supports Successful Boston July 3-4 Celebrations in Boston

For the July 3-4 celebrations on the Esplanade in Boston, MEMA liaisons staffed the Unified Command Center to provide WebEOC and logistics support, and had a seat in Unified Command. Prior to the event, MEMA worked with the State Police, DCR, MassDOT and others to secure and stage the numerous light towers and sign boards that were used during the events. Additionally, MEMA's Training and Exercise unit facilitated a pre-event tabletop exercise for all stakeholders to practice plans and procedures.

Multi-Jurisdictional Animal Coordination Exercise

On July 13 & 14, MEMA, along with state and federal partners, participated in a functional Multi-Jurisdictional Animal Coordination Exercise (MARCE). MARCE 2017 was made possible through an agreement between the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the University of Kentucky. Participating states included Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Washington, and West

Virginia. In Massachusetts, the exercise was held in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) at MEMA Headquarters in Framingham and included representatives from MEMA, Department of Public Health (DPH), Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR), Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and Environmental Police. During this exercise, players collaborated to simulate resource coordination during a major natural disaster affecting animals. The exercise focused on nationwide coordination and tested the ability of state Emergency Operations Centers to request out-of-state, federal, and non-governmental organization resources in response to a disaster affecting animals.

Hazard Mitigation Grants Available

MEMA and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) are pleased to announce the availability of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) [2017 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant \(PDM\) Program](#), and [2017 Flood Mitigation Assistance \(FMA\) Program](#) funding. The 2017 PDM and 2017 FMA grants are nationally-competitive annual grant programs. FEMA will open the FY 2017 application period for both grant programs on August 14, 2017, and the State application deadline is October 16, 2017.

These federally-funded Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) programs (PDM and FMA) provide significant opportunities to reduce, minimize, or eliminate potential damages to property and infrastructure from natural hazard events. Funding for hazard mitigation plans and projects can reduce overall risks to the population, structures and infrastructure, while also reducing the reliance on taxpayer-funded federal disaster assistance for disaster recovery.

To assist potential sub-applicants who are considering applying for FEMA PDM or FMA funding, MEMA/DCR will be hosting a series of grant program briefings. Interested sub-applicants are strongly encouraged to attend one of these briefings as requirements regarding the grant program will be described and discussed in detail. The briefings will be an overview of the HMA programs, the HMA guidance, and the application procedures. For more information and grant briefing details, visit the above grant webpage links or <http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/resources/grants/>.

EMPG Grant Application Deadline is August 18, 2017

MEMA has posted its FFY 2017 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) on its website:

<http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/resources/grants/empg/>

The EMPG provides funds to local and tribal emergency management programs in preparing for all hazards and to obtain the resources required to support FEMA's National Preparedness Mission Areas and Core Capabilities. Municipalities and Federally-recognized Tribes with local emergency management programs are eligible to apply, and directions on how to apply, the application deadline, and when grant application briefings will be held may be found within the NOFO. If you have questions regarding the EMPG, please contact your respective MEMA Regional office.

MEMA Staff Updates

Thad Leugemors has been hired as MEMA's Hazard Mitigation and Disaster Recovery Section Chief. Cris Flores has been hired as a full-time dispatcher in our Communications Center.

MEMA Training Update

Upcoming MEMA trainings with open seats:

Date	Class	Location
9/12-9/14	ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents	Topsfield
9/18-9/22	All Hazard Situation Unit Leader (L-964)	Agawam

To view a full calendar of training opportunities and register for classes, see MEMA's [Training Registration System calendar](#).

During the month of June, MEMA's Training and Exercise Unit hosted 322 students in 2 course offerings:

Class	Location
2017 Hurricane Preparedness Webinars	Online
Basic HURREVAC	Bourne

To date in 2017, 1,674 students have taken MEMA supported classes. For additional MEMA Training opportunities go to: <http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/resources/training/>.

MEMA Field Deployment Highlights

During the month of July, MEMA deployed field assets and personnel to support the following events across the Commonwealth:

- July 1: MEMA supported Hingham's Community Celebration and Fireworks by deploying one of MEMA's Mobile Emergency Operations Centers (MEOCs) to serve as the Unified Command Center and communications platform for Hingham Fire, Police and EMS command staff.
- July 3-4: MEMA supported the Massachusetts State Police (MSP) during Boston's 4th of July/Boston Pop's celebration. One of MEMA's MEOCs supported the Tactical Operations Center (TOC) and MEMA's Mobile Communications Support Trailer (MCST) provided communications support. In addition, MEMA provided 75 portable radios to members of the Massachusetts National Guard (MANG) who were deployed during the event.
- July 4: MEMA deployed an MEOC to Springfield to serve as the Unified Command Center for public safety operations during Springfield's 4th of July celebration. The Unified Command Center included Springfield Police and Fire, Springfield Emergency Management, and Massachusetts State Police. The MEOC also served as an interoperable communications platform and was a distribution point for the 15 cache radios that MEMA provided in support of the event.
- July 4: MEMA supported the Pittsfield Fire Department for the 4th of July Parade and Road Race. An MEOC served as an interoperable communications platform and command post, and MEMA distributed 25 of its portable cache radios to enhance interoperable communications.
- July 14: MEMA supported North Attleboro Kids Day by providing an MEOC to serve as a Unified Command Center for Police, Fire and EMS staff to coordinate public safety communications and operations.
- July 28-30: MEMA supported Lowell for their Folk Festival sponsored by the National Park Service. Lowell Emergency Management requested an MEOC to serve as a unified command center for the Lowell Police Department, Lowell Fire Department, National Park Service, Mass State Police, and MANG Civil Support Team. The MEOC also served as a communications platform and MEMA provided 40 800 MHz cache radios for medical and public safety personnel for the 3-day event.

Latest Federal Disaster Assistance Totals for the 2015 Blizzard

The Disaster and Snow Assistance process for local communities, state agencies, and eligible private non-profits for the January 26-28, 2015 Blizzard continues to advance. As of July 31st, 2017, 1,134 Project Worksheets (PWs) have been obligated by FEMA, totaling more than \$81.7M in federal aid reimbursements to local communities, state agencies, and eligible private non-profits (75% of the \$107.9M eligible project costs).

MEMA'S Mission Statement

MEMA is the state agency charged with ensuring the state is prepared to withstand, respond to, and recover from all types of emergencies and disasters, including natural hazards, accidents, deliberate attacks, and technological and infrastructure failures. MEMA is committed to an all hazards approach to emergency management. By building and sustaining effective partnerships with federal, state and local government agencies, and with the private sector - - individuals, families, non-profits, and businesses - - MEMA ensures the Commonwealth's ability to rapidly recover from large and small disasters by assessing and mitigating threats and hazards, enhancing preparedness, coordinating response operations, and strengthening our capacity to rebuild and recover.

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