



# MEMA REPORTS

MEMA REPORTS is a newsletter produced by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to help keep the Public Safety community of Massachusetts better informed about Emergency Management issues. MEMA REPORTS also appears on the MEMA website: [www.mass.gov/mema](http://www.mass.gov/mema).

September 2019

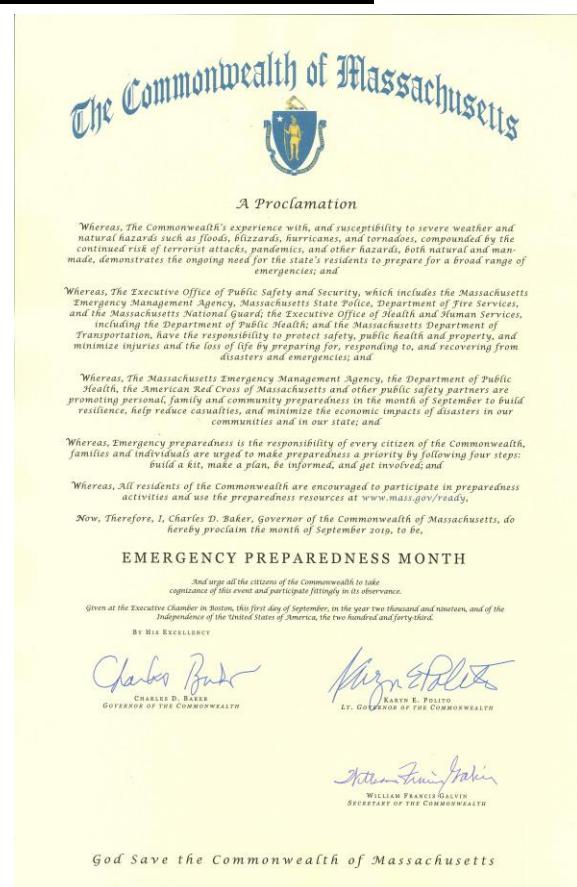
Volume 19, Issue 4

## **Residents Encouraged to Prepare During Emergency Preparedness Month**

Governor Charlie Baker has [proclaimed](#) September 2019 as Emergency Preparedness Month to encourage individuals and families to prepare for emergencies and disasters. The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), the Department of Public Health (DPH), and the American Red Cross in Massachusetts, together with their partners will promote emergency preparedness throughout the month through various outreach initiatives. These efforts are part of a month-long nationwide preparedness campaign to encourage residents to take simple steps to better prepare themselves, their homes, their businesses, and their communities.

During September, MEMA, DPH and the Red Cross are sharing information on their respective social media accounts about emergency preparedness topics including financial preparedness, emergency planning, youth preparedness, planning for those with access and functional needs, ways to get involved in community preparedness, and more. These agencies and organizations hosted a joint [Facebook Live preparedness event](#) on September 9th.

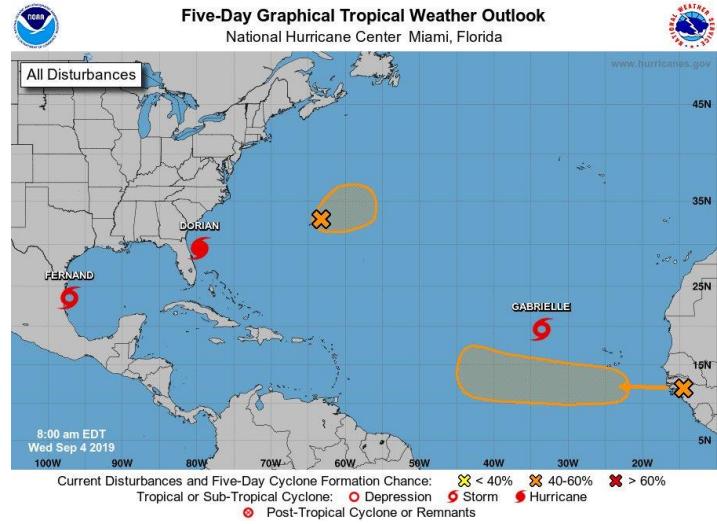
MEMA's website, [www.mass.gov/mema](http://www.mass.gov/mema), features information about the hazards common in Massachusetts and resources to help prepare for emergencies: 1) [Be Informed and Receive Emergency Alerts](#), 2) [Plan for Emergencies and Disasters](#), 3) [Build an Emergency Kit](#), and 4) Get Involved. Residents of the Commonwealth are encouraged to participate in preparedness activities and use these preparedness resources to help prepare themselves, their family, their property, and their community.



## Hurricane Season Lasts Through November 30<sup>th</sup>

September remains peak hurricane season! It's important for Massachusetts residents to be prepared before a hurricane or tropical storm approaches. Until the end of hurricane season, MEMA will continue to feature hurricane preparedness topics on our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts and on the [MEMA website](#). We ask you to join us in encouraging residents and businesses of Massachusetts to prepare for hurricanes and tropical storms by determining if they live or work in a [hurricane evacuation zone](#), making [family emergency plans](#), building an [emergency kit](#), and staying [informed](#).

<https://www.mass.gov/mema/hurricanes>



NHC 5 Day Tropical Outlook as of September 4th

## MEMA Assists Cape Cod Communities After EF-1 Tornadoes

Between 11:57 AM and 12:15 PM on Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, three EF-1 tornadoes struck several communities on Cape Cod. Two of the tornadoes caused damage in Yarmouth while the other caused damage in Harwich. Chatham, Dennis, Sandwich, Barnstable, Brewster, and Mashpee also experienced damage from the storms.

The majority of damage was to trees in the impacted areas, but several buildings suffered structural damage from the wind and falling trees. Thankfully, there were no injuries reported by the impacted towns.

MEMA staff responded to assist at the Barnstable County Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC) and directly to the impacted communities. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was also activated to support local public safety agencies, coordinate mutual aid from state agencies and neighboring communities, receive and process requests from the towns for resources, and coordinate the state's multi-agency response.

MEMA coordinated with the Department of Correction, Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Fire Services, MassDOT, the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority, and the Massachusetts National Guard to deploy state personnel and equipment to impacted communities in support of local debris removal operations.



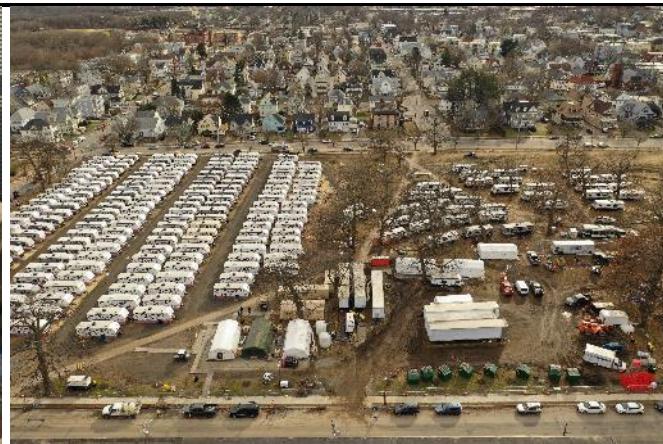
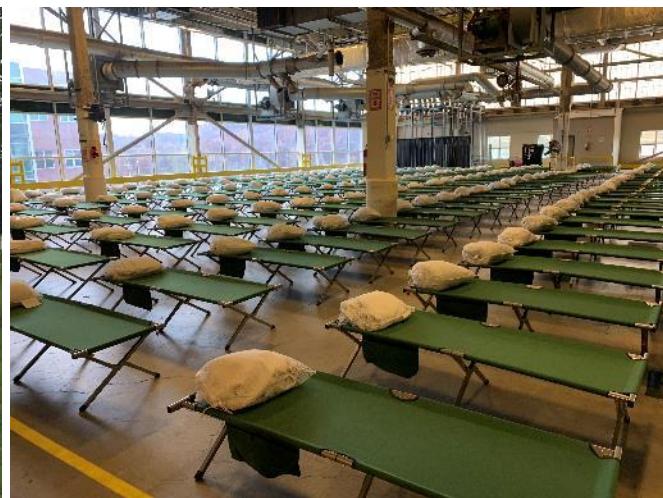
## **September Marks One Year Anniversary of Merrimack Valley Natural Gas Emergency**

September marks the one year anniversary of the gas line over-pressurization and resulting fires and explosions in Lawrence, Andover, and North Andover. On this anniversary of the emergency, our thoughts are with the family of Leonel Rondon, and all those injured and impacted by the incident.

The incident required an unprecedented response effort that tested and exceeded the capacities of public safety agencies and required the development of entirely new capabilities. Approximately 15,000 residents were evacuated from their homes for days, and thousands of homes needed to be entered, rendered safe, and secured to ensure that dangerous gas levels no longer existed. As the emergency response concluded, it was clear that the recovery effort would span months. Again, public safety agencies came together with the responsible utility, and solved unique problems that included repairing infrastructure damage, providing shelter, and longer-term housing solutions as recovery efforts extended into the fall and winter months.

The effort included local, regional, state, non-governmental, and private-sector coordination and teamwork to meet the unique challenges. We thank all of our partners who were part of the massive effort.

For more details on the incident and the response and recovery efforts, see our previous [August-October 2018 MEMA Reports](#) & [November 2018 MEMA Reports](#).



## **Summer Brings Severe Weather and Extreme Heat Hazards**

With fall nearly here and winter weather not far behind, the hazards that Massachusetts faces begin to change. MEMA's website include safety tips for various fall, winter, and year-round hazards. MEMA encourages our partners to share these resources and tips with stakeholders to help keep residents and visitors safe before, during and after severe weather and emergencies:

[Hurricane Safety Tips](#)

[Power Outage Safety Tips](#)

[Flood Safety Tips](#)

[Nor'easter & Coastal Storm Safety Tips](#)

[Winter Storm Safety Tips](#)

## **Hazard Mitigation – Notice of Funding Availability**

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is inviting communities, state agencies, and other local governments to submit a Statement of Interest for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program and the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program. These grants fund the development of hazard mitigation plans, advance assistance, and the implementation of hazard mitigation projects to reduce or eliminate loss of life and property due to natural hazards. For complete grant details, see the [Grants Availability Memo](#) and the [PDM and FMA](#) page on the MEMA website. Please note that all sub-applicants seeking funding for [planning](#) or [projects](#) are required to submit a Statement of Interest no later than October 11, 2019. The Mitigation Unit will be holding informational briefings and webinars for information:

- 9/19/19 – Webinar Briefing – 1:00PM to 3:00PM
- 9/24/19 – Carver Public Library – 2 Meadowbrook Way, Carver – 10:30AM to 12:30PM
- 9/25/19 – MA Department of Fire Services – 100 Grochmal Avenue, Springfield – 10:00AM to 12:00PM
- 9/26/19 – DEP Northeast Regional Office – 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington – 1:00PM to 3:00PM
- 10/8/19 – MEMA Headquarters – 400 Worcester Road, Framingham – 10:00AM to 12:00PM (also offered via webinar)

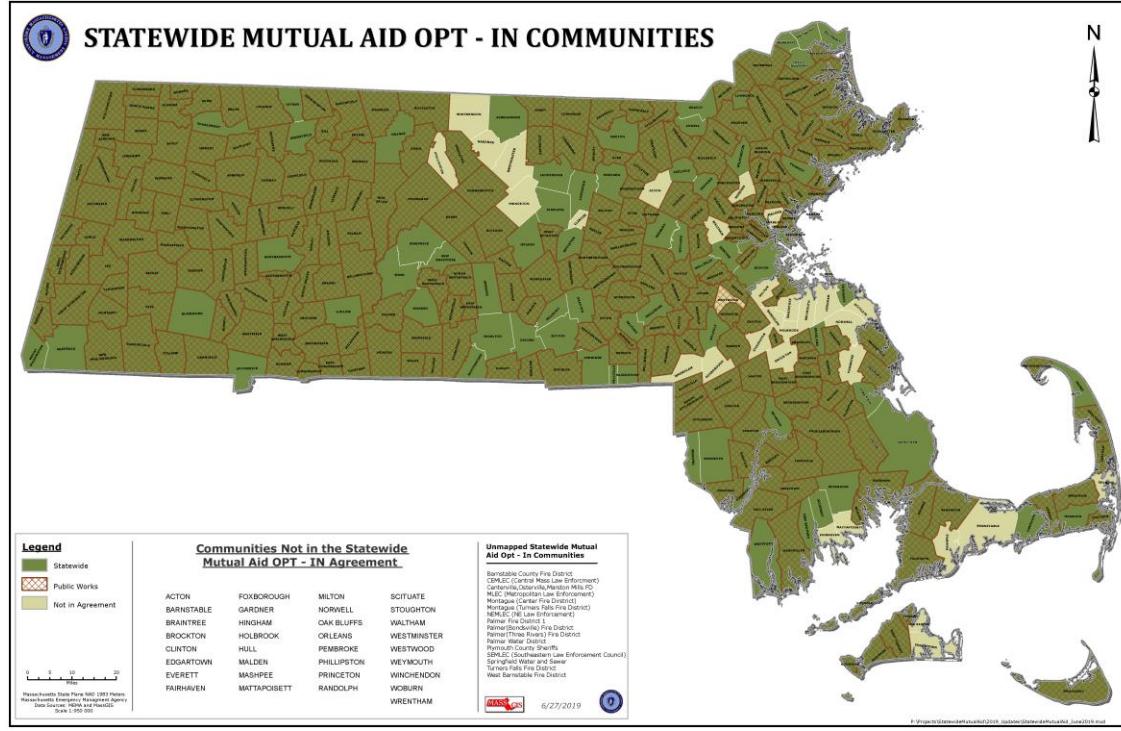
For more information, please contact the Mitigation Unit at [mitigation@mass.gov](mailto:mitigation@mass.gov).

## **Register For the 2019 Great Northeast ShakeOut**

At 10:17 AM on October 17, 2019, millions of people will participate in the [Drop, Cover, and Hold On worldwide drill](#) to practice how to protect themselves if an earthquake occurs. You are invited to join them by participating in the 2019 *Great NorthEast ShakeOut!* Last year more than 63 million people were registered in *Great ShakeOut* earthquake drills worldwide. So far this year, over 23 million individuals have registered worldwide and over 160,000 have registered for this year's *Great NorthEast ShakeOut*. Participating is a great way for your family or organization to be prepared to survive and recover quickly from large earthquakes. This is the fifth year that the Northeast states have been organized as an Official ShakeOut Region. FEMA and state emergency management agencies are coordinating recruitment across the entire region. More details can be found at <http://shakeout.org/northeast/>.

## Updated Mutual Aid Agreement Members

MEMA continues to encourage all communities and governmental entities to opt into the Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid Agreement and the Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement programs. To date, 338 communities and governmental entities have signed onto the Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid Agreement and 260 have signed onto the Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement. For more details, maps, and forms, see: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/intrastate-mutual-aid>. Local officials with any questions regarding the agreements should contact Allen Phillips at [allen.phillips@state.ma.us](mailto:allen.phillips@state.ma.us) or their MEMA Regional Office



## Update on March 2018 Nor'Easters

### March 2-4 Storm (FEMA DR-4372)

On June 25, 2018, the Commonwealth received a disaster declaration authorizing FEMA Public Assistance funding for eligible applicants in the counties of Barnstable, Bristol, Essex, Nantucket, Norfolk, and Plymouth as a result of the March 2-3, 2018 severe winter storm and flooding event. Funding is authorized for an applicant's storm-related costs including emergency work, as well as permanent repair and restoration of damaged facilities as a result of the storm event. FEMA has approved 118 Eligible Applicants for this disaster. All exploratory calls and Recovery Scoping meetings have been conducted with eligible applicants, to identify and document damages related to the event. To date, 288 projects, totaling \$7,097,208 (federal share) have been obligated by FEMA to sub-recipients.

For more information, see: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/fema-dr-4372-ma-march-2-3-2018-severe-winter-storm-flooding>.

## March 13 Storm (FEMA DR-4379)

On July 19, 2018, the Commonwealth received a disaster declaration authorizing FEMA Public Assistance funding for eligible applicants in the counties of Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk, Suffolk and Worcester as a result of the March 13-14, 2018 winter storm and snowstorm event. Funding is authorized for an applicant's storm-related costs including snow removal, emergency work, and permanent repair/restoration of damaged facilities as a result of the storm event. FEMA has approved 172 Eligible Applicants for this disaster. All exploratory calls and Recovery Scoping meetings have been conducted with eligible applicants, to identify and document damages related to the event. To date, 320 projects, totaling \$26,576,032 (federal share) have been obligated by FEMA to sub-recipients.

For more information, see: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/fema-dr-4379-ma-march-13-14-2018-severe-winter-storm>.

## **MEMA Training Update**

Upcoming MEMA trainings:

<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Date(s) (Starting)</b>	<b>Location</b>
<a href="#">Basic Public Information Officer Course (G-290)</a>	October 08, 2019	Lowell
<a href="#">Basic Public Information Officer Course (G-290)</a>	December 09, 2019	Agawam
<a href="#">Basic Sheltering Concepts (BSC)</a>	October 10, 2019	Agawam
<a href="#">Basic Sheltering Concepts (BSC)</a>	November 13, 2019	Leominster
<a href="#">Benefit-Cost Analysis: Basic Level (BCA)</a>	October 01, 2019	Framingham
<a href="#">Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Train-the-Trainer (G428)</a>	October 28, 2019	Newton
<a href="#">Emergency Operations Center Management and Operations (G775)</a>	October 23, 2019	Worcester
<a href="#">Emergency Operations Center Management and Operations (G775)</a>	December 18, 2019	Agawam
<a href="#">High Consequence Incidents: Planning, Response and Recovery (PER-372)</a>	October 08, 2019	Worcester
<a href="#">High Consequence Incidents: Planning, Response and Recovery (PER-372) - Class is Full</a>	October 09, 2019	Agawam
<a href="#">ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)</a>	October 07, 2019	Worcester
<a href="#">ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)</a>	October 22, 2019	Hanson
<a href="#">ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)</a>	October 28, 2019	Boston
<a href="#">ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)</a>	October 28, 2019	Great Barrington
<a href="#">ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)</a>	November 12, 2019	Concord
<a href="#">ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)</a>	December 11, 2019	Agawam
<a href="#">ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)</a>	December 16, 2019	Plymouth
<a href="#">ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)</a>	March 20, 2020	Bourne
<a href="#">ICS-400: Advanced ICS (ICS-400)</a>	October 01, 2019	Barnstable
<a href="#">ICS-400: Advanced ICS (ICS-400)</a>	November 21, 2019	Worcester
<a href="#">ICS-400: Advanced ICS (ICS-400)</a>	December 05, 2019	Holyoke
<a href="#">ICS-400: Advanced ICS (ICS-400)</a>	December 11, 2019	Boston
<a href="#">ICS-400: Advanced ICS (ICS-400)</a>	December 18, 2019	Bourne
<a href="#">Incident Command System/Emergency Operations Center Interface (G-191)</a>	October 18, 2019	Westborough
<a href="#">Introduction to WebEOC for Local Officials (WebEOC)</a>	October 16, 2019	Leominster
<a href="#">Local Mitigation Planning Workshop (G-318)</a>	November 18, 2019	Springfield
<a href="#">WebEOC Webinar and Exercise (WebEOC-X)</a>	October 17, 2019	
<a href="#">WMD/Terrorism Standardized Awareness Course (AWR 160)</a>	November 12, 2019	Wilbraham
<a href="#">WMD/Terrorism Standardized Awareness Course (AWR 160)</a>	November 14, 2019	Barnstable

For a full list of training opportunities and to register, see [Training Registration System calendar](#).

From June - August, MEMA's Training and Exercise Unit hosted courses across the state:

<b>Class</b>	<b>Location</b>
2019 Massachusetts All Hazards Emergency Preparedness Conference (Conf-2019)	Marlborough
Basic Public Information Officer Course (G-290)	Falmouth
Basic Sheltering Concepts (BSC)	Holden
Basic Sheltering Concepts (BSC)	Mansfield
Commodity Points of Distribution (CPOD)	Ipswich
Emergency Operations Center Management and Operations (G775)	Bourne
Enhanced Sports and Special Events Incident Management (MGT-440)	Hadley
Hazardous Materials for First Responders, Awareness Level (HAZ01)	Leominster
Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (L-0146)	Agawam
ICS-200: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents (ICS-200)	New Braintree
ICS-400: Advanced ICS (ICS-400)	Fitchburg
ICS-400: Advanced ICS (ICS-400)	Middleton
ICS-400: Advanced ICS (ICS-400)	Boston
ICS-400: Advanced ICS (ICS-400)	Bourne
Introduction to WebEOC for Local Officials (WebEOC)	Pittsfield
Introduction to WebEOC for Local Officials (WebEOC)	Cummington
Introduction to WebEOC for Local Officials (WebEOC)	Great Barrington
Introduction to WebEOC for Local Officials (WebEOC)	Charlton
Introduction to WebEOC for Local Officials (WebEOC)	Brookline
Introduction to WebEOC for Local Officials (WebEOC)	Agawam
Introduction to WebEOC for Local Officials (WebEOC)	Chatham
Law Enforcement Active Shooter Emergency Response (PER-275)	Worcester
National Incident Management System & Introduction to the Incident Command System (NIMS-700/ICS-100)	Middleborough
Planning for Disaster Debris Management (MGT-460)	Worcester

To date in 2019, 2196 students have taken 76 MEMA supported classes. For MEMA Training opportunities, visit: <https://www.mass.gov/training-exercises-and-conferences>.

### **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.

### **Stay Connected with MEMA**

**MEMA Website** - [www.mass.gov/mema](http://www.mass.gov/mema)

**Twitter** - [www.twitter.com/MassEMA](http://www.twitter.com/MassEMA)

**Facebook** - [www.facebook.com/MassachusettsEMA](http://www.facebook.com/MassachusettsEMA)

**YouTube** - [www.youtube.com/MassachusettsEMA](http://www.youtube.com/MassachusettsEMA)

**Massachusetts Alerts app** - [www.mass.gov/mema/mobileapp](http://www.mass.gov/mema/mobileapp)

