

ADVISOR



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RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE

An exercise designed to test Connecticut's Radiological Emergency Response Plan (RERP) was held in conjunction with Millstone Nuclear Power Station on October 19 and 20, 2010. The exercise took place at the State EOC, local communities around Waterford and in various other locations in Connecticut and New York. The Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS)'s role was to coordinate the exercise for Connecticut and simulate an emergency activation of the State EOC using the RERP. All DEMHS employees played their roles as they actually would during an emergency. Connecticut's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is the lead technical agency, responsible for monitoring the plant, performing dose calculations and determining protective action recommendations to the Governor based on plant conditions and potential threats to the health and safety of the public.

This particular exercise was played in 2 phases – over 2 days, and is played and evaluated only once every six years.

Phase 1 (Day 1) was the plume exercise in which an escalating emergency at Millstone Station is simulated and players respond appropriately according to the RERP. This exercise included the simulating of a release of radiologically contaminated steam from the plant (the plume). Connecticut's protective actions included simulating evacuation and relocation of the affected population.

Phase 2 (Day 2) was the post-plume or ingestion pathway portion of the exercise in which the Departments of Health, Agriculture, and Consumer Protection simulated the collection, sampling, and testing of potentially contaminated materials and foodstuffs that would potentially be taken into the food chain and ingested by people.

Participants were from all sectors of the community, and included:

- **Federal:** US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, US Department of

(Continued on page 4)



Peter J. Boynton
Commissioner

FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Fall is the time of year when DEMHS staff holds annual meetings with local Emergency Management Directors across the state, to reflect on the year, and seek their advice and input on how to improve. It's been a busy year, and I salute all members of the Emergency Management and Homeland Security team in Connecticut for all you've accomplished. Your accomplishments this year are the result of many years of working together to build our capacity to withstand, recover and adapt from man-made or natural events. We

saw the positive results of collaboration, training and coordination in the response to the explosion at the Kleen Energy plant in Middletown and in many other responses around the state over the last year.

The ability to withstand, recover and adapt is the definition of resiliency, and through your efforts, we have enhanced the resiliency of our towns and our state. This means being able to withstand and recover from the inevitable 'bad thing' such

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND GRANTS

Emergency Management & Homeland Security Funding Investments Since 2005

DEMHS recently completed a report detailing our agency expenditures, activities, and responsibilities since our creation almost six years ago. This information will be of interest to CT Emergency Management & Homeland Security stakeholders as it is representative of our collective work. Since 2005 DEMHS has invested more than \$121 million dollars to protect the citizens of our state from terrorism and natural disasters. This funding, provided by the

Federal Department of Homeland Security, has been used to purchase equipment, enhance planning & response capabilities and conduct training & exercises for our Police, Fire and EMS first responders. We have used this

funding to purchase equipment such as emergency response vehicles, two-way radios, security systems, emergency generators, specialized computers and bomb detection robots. Our planning investments have included updating all municipal Emergency Operations Plans and preparing Continuity of Operations Plans at State and municipal levels. Connecticut has also conducted large scale exercises involving terrorism, radiation leaks at Millstone and catastrophic disasters involving hurricanes.

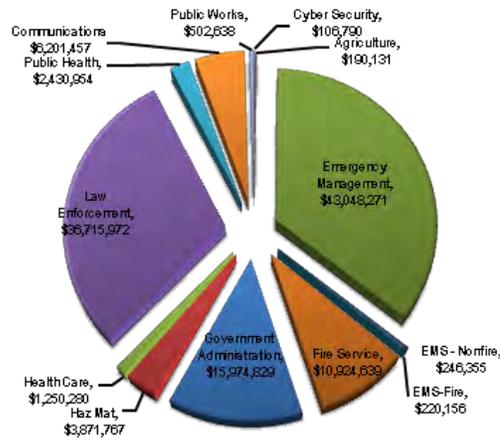
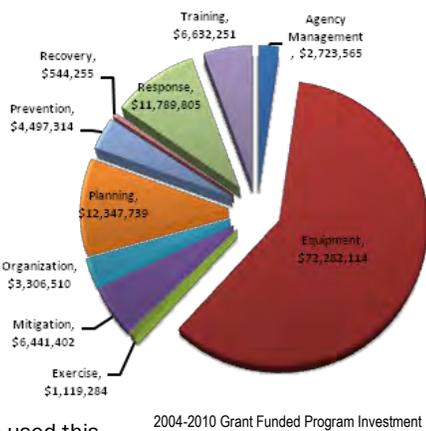
The DEMHS investments since 2005 also cut across the full range of Homeland Security disciplines including Law Enforcement, Emergency Management, Communications, and the Fire Service. In the first few years after 9/11, DHS channeled funding to law enforcement with the aim of protecting against another attack. More recently, DHS has diversified this funding to include Interoperable Communications and Hazard Mitigation. Since 2006, DEMHS has made building our regional collaboration capabilities, both in-state and with our neighboring states, a major initiative. Going forward, DEMHS will seek to sustain our current capabilities and respond to any new emerging threats.

Emergency Management Performance Grant

Streamlining Initiative

In an effort to reduce the documentation necessary to reimburse towns and cities, beginning with the 2010/2011 fiscal year

(which began on October 1, 2010) and from this point forward,



DEMHS will be sub-granting funds to the towns that participate in the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG). These EMPG sub-grants will allow towns to submit reimbursement requests on a quarterly or annual basis depending on individual needs. Sub-granting of funds also has other benefits including:

1. The EMPG grant application has been streamlined and all governance language has been moved to a sub-grant format.
2. The letter of award has been replaced by a sub-grant award containing all governance language and necessary approval signatures.
3. Reimbursements will be processed more quickly.
4. Administrative consistency will be achieved as EMPG adopts the traditional sub-grant structure already in place for all other grant programs DEMHS administers.

SLA Backlog

The delayed arrival of the Federal EMPG Award this year resulted in a backlog of State and Local Assistance (SLA) payments to towns that could not be processed prior to the receipt of the federal award. This backlog of 242 reimbursement requests has now been processed and paid. For the current fiscal year, a sub-grant structure is being introduced to the EMPG which should help reduce or eliminate future backlogs (see above). If towns have any questions on pending payments, they should contact their respective DEMHS Regional Coordinator.

Recently Received Federal Grant Awards

DEMHS has received nearly \$20 million in federal grant funding since July 2010. This funding will benefit a variety of disciplines

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FROM THE COMMISSIONER

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as the storms and accidents we've seen recently, working to return to normalcy by getting roads open and schools and businesses back on track. This busy year included not only the tragic explosion at the Kleen Energy plant in Middletown, but : the response to the H1N1 virus; an attempted terrorist car bombing nearby in Times Square; the equivalent of category-1 hurricane winds in Fairfield County; flooding that exceeded the 500-year threshold in New London County; two EF-1 tornadoes; Tropical Storm Nicole; and a near-miss by Hurricane Earl- a category 2 storm- that swept past Connecticut just 80 miles offshore.

Continuing to improve our resiliency depends in large part on plans that integrate local, regional and state preparedness, response and recovery. One of the ways in which DEMHS has improved its capacity to support local communities is through the development of a State Response Framework which mirrors the National Response Framework. The Framework was signed by Governor Rell in October. It details procedures at the state Emergency Operations Center and also how we work together with federal, state and local entities to respond to all-hazard incidents.

On the Homeland Security front, we have improved our capacity by expanding and re-designating the State Intelligence Fusion Center (CTIC) to DEMHS headquarters in Hartford. In doing so, we have brought the state fusion center in line with other fusion centers across the country, while strengthening our ability to communicate and analyze homeland security information.

Local, state, and federal preparedness, response and recovery is further integrated in our long-term planning. The DEMHS Statewide Strategic Plan was updated last fall with 10 goals, 80 objectives and 403 measurable performance criteria. That plan would not have been possible without the participation and contributions of our local, state and federal partners. This type of collaborative planning is a foundation for our continued success in competing for federal grants that are increasingly critical to support local communities and continue our work towards improving resiliency.

Looking forward, DEMHS will continue to work to strengthen resiliency for the state and local communities to withstand, recover and adapt from man-made or natural events; to strengthen our homeland security capacity; and to do everything possible to preserve federal funding for our local and state partners.

Be Ready,

Peter J. Boynton



EVENTS AND TRAINING

NOVEMBER

[15—Web EOC Training](#)

[16&23—ICS-400 Advanced ICS Command and General Staff-Complex Incidents](#)

[16—MGT 347 Incident Command Systems Forms Review](#)

[17—MGT 344 Advanced Incident Management/Unified Command \(ICS 400\)](#)

DECEMBER

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

JANUARY

[18&19—FEMA/Water Environment Federation Water Sector Interdependencies Training](#)

RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE

(Continued from page 1)

Agriculture, US Food and Drug Administration, US Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of Health and Human Services – Centers for Disease Control, US Coast Guard, and Plum Island Animal Disease Center

- Contiguous States: New York and Rhode Island.
- State Agencies: CT DEMHS, Department of Environmental Protection, Public Health, State Police, Military Department/CT National Guard, Transportation, Corrections, Developmental Services, Consumer Protection, and Agriculture
- Municipalities: Waterford, New London, East Lyme, Lyme, Old Lyme, Montville, Ledyard, Groton Town and City, Stonington, and Fishers Island, NY,
- Private Organizations: Red Cross, United Way/211-Infoline

Connecticut state agencies and the towns in the

ten mile emergency planning zone around Millstone make up the “Offsite Response Organization” and their participation in the exercise was evaluated by US DHS/FEMA. FEMA’s evaluation is based upon how well participants follow the CT RERP and is delivered in two parts. Part one was delivered verbally immediately following the exercise on Friday, October 22, and was overwhelmingly positive, identifying minor issues for plan revision and corrective actions. After the state and local governments had a chance to hear the initial findings, FEMA also presented their findings to the public at an open meeting at 5:00 PM in Groton.

Part two of FEMA’s evaluation is the final exercise report, which is not expected to differ significantly from the verbal report. It is due to the State of Connecticut 30 days after the exercise, or November 19, 2010.

Training on actual homes is rare, and with the creation of the DVD, thousands of firefighters around the country will be able to benefit from this exercise.

FIRE TO FIGHT WATER

East Haven firefighters in coordination with the City of New Haven, six surrounding towns and firefighters from New Jersey, conducted a full scale fire assault training exercise for three days at a home marked for demolition. The 2000 square foot raised ranch located at 40 Hudson Street in East Haven, was recently acquired by the town in a buyout program to reduce future flood damage. East Haven is purchasing 5 severely flood prone homes with funding provided under the Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) program from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The homes must be demolished within 90 days and this provided the opportunity for a live fire exercise.

From October 30 to November 1st nearly 100 firefighters practiced 11 different types of fire assault on the home with large controlled burns in the basement, attic, stairways and on the main floor. Firefighters had the rare opportunity to sharpen their skills under actual conditions in a burning house. This was also the first exercise of its kind where scientific monitoring of cyanide gas generated by the fire was conducted. This monitoring will help in the treatment of cyanide gas poisoning during fires in the future. This type of training cannot be simulated and is invaluable to the towns that participated.



Ladder trucks deploy their hose towers to contain the fire.



Fire Chief Doug Jackson delivers a safety briefing before the training begins.

On the final evening the home was prepared for one last burn, a controlled burn to the ground. During the burn which lasted just over an hour two ladder trucks used their hose towers to shower the flames and practice fire knockdown and suppression techniques. Squads of firefighters on the ground practiced protecting

two homes (both of which were also purchased by East Haven to prevent future flood damage) on either side of the burning house with high pressure water cannons. The Connecticut Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team also gained valuable knowledge from the exercise. A portion of the home was weakened prior to the fire in order to cause a partial collapse of one wall during the fire onto a simulated fire fighter.

This entire exercise was filmed for a National Training DVD that will be created with footage of firefighters attacking the fire from both inside and outside the home. Training on actual homes is rare and with the creation of the DVD, thousands of firefighters around the country will be able to benefit from this exercise.

Chief Jackson (reprising his role as Capt.

Kirk) followed his firefighters into the attic on one fire assault. "Crawling across the rafters during an attic fire with 9 foot flames shooting through the roof ventilation hole really brought me right back to what we ask our firefighters to perform at every fire" according to the Chief.

The four remaining homes may be used in simulated trainings later this month (using theatrical smoke machines instead of an actual fire) and will be torn down. The empty land resulting from the demolition of the homes will then be converted to open space for use by the town of East Haven thus preventing damage from future flooding. It is not common to see fire being used to fight water.

- submitted by Chief Jackson

CHILDREN AND DISASTERS

On October 6, 2010, the National Commission on Children and Disasters delivered its landmark 2010 Report to the White House and Congress. [The report contains more than 100 recommended actions for Federal and non-Federal partners.](#)

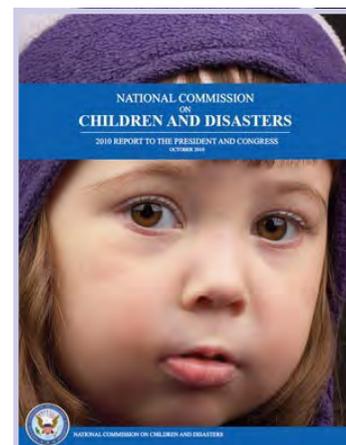
The National Commission on Children and Disasters is an independent, bipartisan body established by Congress and the President to identify gaps in the Nation's disaster preparedness, response, and recovery for children and make recommendations to close the gaps. The commission was established under the Kids in Disasters Wellbeing, Safety, and Health Act of 2007.

In its October 2009 Interim Report, the Commission found serious deficiencies in the state of emergency preparedness for children. The 2010 Report to the President and Congress builds on the findings and recommendations in that Report.

The Commission examined and assessed the needs of children in relation to the prepara-

tion for, response to, and recovery from all hazards, including major disasters and emergencies. The Commission reports findings and recommendations relating to: child physical health, mental health, and trauma; child care in all settings; child welfare; elementary and secondary education; sheltering, temporary housing, and affordable housing; transportation; juvenile justice; evacuation; and relevant activities in emergency management.

- Only 6% of hospital emergency rooms and less than 20% of ambulances carry essential supplies and equipment for children
- Only 12 states meet basic emergency preparedness standards for children, such as requiring schools to have a multi-hazard preparedness plan, and child-care facilities to have a plan that addresses evacuation, reunification and accommodating children with disabilities or other special needs



FIRE CHIEF MAGAZINE ANNOUNCES 2010 VOLUNTEER AND CAREER FIRE CHIEFS OF THE YEAR

This year's winners are [Timothy S. Wall of the North Farms Volunteer Fire Department in North Wallingford, Connecticut](#), and Thomas W. Carr of the Charleston Fire Department in Charleston, South Carolina. Both chiefs were honored on Thursday, August 26th at the opening session of the International Association of Fire Chiefs' (IAFC) 2010 Fire-Rescue International Conference and Exhibition in Chicago, Illinois. This was the 15th anniversary of the awards program.

"Fire Chief magazine is very pleased to recognize the dedication and commitment of fire chiefs, especially during these challenging times," said Janet Wilmoth, editorial director of Fire Chief magazine. "Chief Tim Wall has been an integral part of education and training for volunteer and combination chiefs..." 2010 Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year Timothy S. Wall is a third-generation firefighter who has served the North Farms Volunteer Fire Department for more than 30 years, the last 14 of them as chief. In 1980, he was appointed as a deputy sheriff of New Haven County – the youngest person so assigned in the state of Connecticut – and today he is a Connecticut state marshal.

Chief Wall is a longtime member of the IAFC's Volunteer & Combination Officers Section (VCOS), serving on its board of directors since the section's inception in 1994 and as its chair since 2005. Chief Wall has been an effective advocate for raising awareness among fire-service professionals, legislators and the public on the importance of volunteers to the fire service.

"[He] is well-known throughout the state for his work in the fire service," said Rep. Mary G. Fritz, assistant deputy speaker of the Connecticut House of Representatives. "Training his men and women to be the best they can be is the very essence of Tim Wall."

-from Fire Chief Magazine



Fire Chief Timothy S. Wall, of Wallingford's North Farms

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<http://www.ct.gov/demhs>



Plan for Pet Disaster Needs

- Identifying shelter. For public health reasons, many emergency shelters cannot accept pets. Find out which motels and hotels in the area you plan to evacuate to allow pets – well in advance of needing them. There are also a number of guides that list hotels/motels that permit pets and could serve as a starting point. Include your local animal shelter's number in your list of emergency numbers – they might be able to provide information concerning pets during a disaster.
- Take pet food, bottled water, medications, veterinary records, cat litter/pan, can opener, food dishes, first aid kit and other supplies with you in case they're not available later. While the sun is still shining, consider packing a "pet survival" kit which could be easily deployed if disaster hits.
- Make sure identification tags are up to date and securely fastened to your pet's collar. If possible, attach the address and/or phone number of your evacuation site. If your pet gets lost, his tag is his ticket home. Make sure you have a current photo of your pet for identification purposes.
- Make sure you have a secure pet carrier, leash or harness for your pet so that if he panics, he can't escape.
- [Animals in Emergencies for Owners](#) This video, developed by the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) /FEMA, is intended to help pet and livestock owners prepare to protect their animals during emergencies.

STATE ANIMAL RESPONSE TEAM (SART)



Across Connecticut, the five regional units of the Connecticut State Animal Response Team program (CTSART), have organized, planned, trained and exercised to assist Connecticut citizens and emergency management agencies. CTSART's mission is to provide safe and secure shelter for the household pets of citizens evacuating in the presence of disasters. CTSART units operate as specialized CERTs under the Citizen Corps program charter.

On Saturday, October 9th, the Region 3 Animal Response Team (R3ART), an operational component of Preparedness Region 3 & CREPC, held an animal shelter training exercise at the North Canton Fire Station, in North Canton.

Following a 9:30 AM briefing by team leaders Doctors Arnold Goldman and Howard Asher, 20 members of the team took advantage of the beautiful weather to set up and operate a simulated animal shelter

behind and in the lower level of the fire-house. After unloading 1 of the 3 Region 3 ART equipment trailers, the team staked out and set up the animal shelter, including discrete areas for housing dogs, housing cats and other small pets, for the injured or ill, for aggressive pets and for dogs to toilet.

Following set-up, team members posed as members of the public, registering their own pets and temporarily sheltering them using forms and procedures designed for this purpose.. Once all the pets were admitted, they were then discharged and the shelter operation closed. The trailer was reloaded and the team members then treated to a catered barbecue, courtesy of the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Foundation.

For more information on CTSART and its constituent teams go to: www.ctsart.org





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STRATEGIC PLANNING AND GRANTS

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and jurisdictions across the state as Connecticut continues to build its preparedness capabilities. This funding includes:

- **\$14.9 million** from the FFY 2010 Homeland Security Grant Program.

This grant provides funding for all-hazards preparedness activities in the State of Connecticut with the aim of enhancing the coordination of National Priority efforts to prevent, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies. This program includes:

- \$ 8,894,442 for the State Homeland Security Grant Program
- \$ 5,564,404 for the Urban Area Security Initiative to be split between the Hartford and Bridgeport regions
- \$ 178,606 for the Citizen Corps Program
- \$ 317,419 for the Metropolitan Medical Reserve System
- **\$75,000 from the FFY 2010 Urban Area Security Initiative – Nonprofit Security Grant Program.** This is a competitive grant program open to non-profit organizations within the Bridgeport and Hartford regions. Selected recipients must provide match funding of \$25,000. St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport was selected for funding from the 2010 federal fiscal year.
- **\$525,500 from the FFY 2010 Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program.** This

funding enables Connecticut to further implement its Statewide Communications Interoperability Plans and to align itself to the National Emergency Communications Plan to further enhance interoperability.

- **\$1.7 million from the FFY 2010 Emergency Operations Center Grant Program.** This partly competitive grant enables states or towns to build their emergency management capabilities by improving their Emergency Operations Centers. Three municipalities will receive funding from this program.
 - \$800,000 for the City of Hartford
 - \$400,000 for the City of Torrington
 - \$540,126 for the Town of East Haddam
- **\$400,000 from the FFY 2010 Buffer Zone Protection Program.** This program provides funding to reduce the vulnerability of a federally designated Critical Infrastructure/Key Resource (CI/KR) site through planning and equipment.
- **\$2.2 million from the FFY 2010 Port Security Grant Program.** The Port Security Grant Program provides funding to enhance the ability of Connecticut's port infrastructure to prevent, protect, respond to, and recover from threats or acts of terrorism through the implementation of projects supporting the Port Wide Risk Management/Mitigation Plan.

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If You See Something Suspicious... Say Something!

1-866-HLS-TIPS

In an emergency contact
your local police - 911

For Connecticut's Homeland Security

