

CEMA Signal



Outdoor Emergency Sirens Update

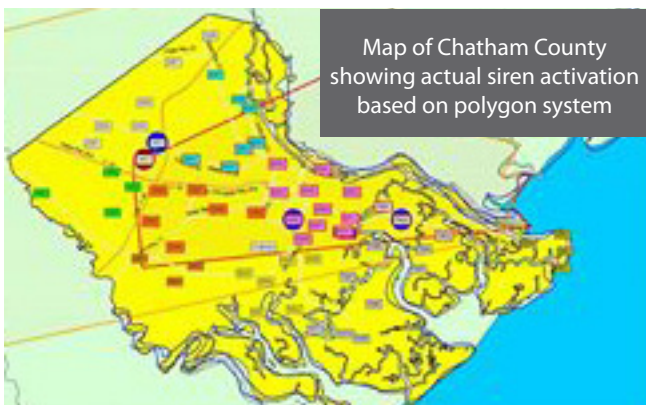
Over the last decade, Chatham County has expanded the Outdoor Emergency Warning Siren System to cover 95% of the County's population. The warning sirens are placed throughout the County in vulnerable locations such as parks, schools, fire stations and municipal Public Works utility sites. These sirens can be heard up to at least one mile in all locations and in some locations, over two miles away. The sirens can be activated for various events such as a hazardous materials incident, tornadoes, large fire(s), explosions, etc.

They are most notably used for alerting residents engaged in outdoor activities, who are not directly in front of a TV, radio or near their phone, as these are the primary alerting tools. Contrary to popular belief, the outdoor sirens are not meant to alert residents inside of buildings. Most structures are designed and insulated to help keep everyday noise pollution out of living or working spaces. If you need emergency notifications while indoors, CEMA recommends purchasing an All Hazard Weather Radio to alert you on pending storms. They cost a bit more than traditional radios, but if it saves a life, it's worth every penny. If you have questions regarding Weather Radios, feel free to call the CEMA office and we can help.

The entire siren system was upgraded in 2014 to allow sectional, or polygon, siren activation based on the National Weather Service warnings. When Chatham County enters into a Tornado Warning, the National Weather Service in Charleston plots



CEMA's David Grotyohann conducts a monthly siren check



Map of Chatham County showing actual siren activation based on polygon system

a polygon over the parts of the county where the system is forecast to track. Once the Warning is issued, the system automatically activates each siren in the polygon, rather than a county wide activation. These sirens will activate and alert residents for three minutes. The system will then pause for ten minutes and then will resume alerting for three minutes. This process is repeated as long as there is a threat over that portion of the County.

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INFORMATION WHEN YOU NEED IT

CEMA has launched a new app for Android and iPhones to put important emergency and weather information at your fingertips. Pg. 3

A Message from the Director



This year has already been a busy one as we've launched several new and exciting initiatives centered on education and emergency preparedness. CEMA Staff should be commended for their efforts. While implementation of some of these new programs fell largely on one person's shoulders, the entire CEMA staff offered support and assisted in the development process to ensure success.

First, CEMA is proud to launch a free App for iPhone and Android users that puts breaking weather and emergency news in the palm of their hands. Users are able to access weather alerts and radar, submit damage reports and build an emergency plan customized for their family's needs.

Hurricane season is right around the corner and is usually when most people start planning for severe weather, not realizing that a disaster can happen at any time regardless of where we fall on the calendar. This year, CEMA began a new training

initiative for Team Chatham employees that focused on threats we face in the county and what they can do to care for their families. We used FEMA's Emergency Financial First Aid Kit as a guide and are pleased with the response and support we've received. Our goal was to have every employee trained by June 1 and we are on track to accomplish that even sooner than expected.

Finally, due to a cut in Federal funding, we are focusing the efforts of our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to what will be now known as the CEMA Support Team. Our volunteers are a tremendous resource and we need more ways to keep them active. By developing more outreach and service opportunities, we hope to capture their talents and funnel their energy back into the community. Their continued support is invaluable and we are looking forward to new and exciting opportunities!

Emergency Response Staging Area

When responding to emergency events, an Incident Commander may establish a Staging Area where first responders and other emergency personnel and equipment initially report. Staging areas are critical to the scene and should remain clear of unnecessary traffic, especially when they are the site for security or safety briefings. Depending on the services, support, and facilities available during an incident, there may be a need for several staging areas.

Simply, staging areas provide a central location where equipment and personnel assemble to prepare for deployment. The chosen area should be well known, easily accessible and close enough to the incident to allow for timely response, while far enough away to be out of danger. The designated location should allow good traffic flow, sufficient parking and a water supply. When appropriate, staging areas can be co-located with the Incident Command Post.

Complex staging operations should be capable of providing expanded support services when prolonged response efforts are needed. During larger extended events, staging area operations may advance as separate, self-supporting facilities and/or integrate into the Incident's Base Facility.

Depending on the event, services and support, the staging area could include shelter, food, water, toilet facilities, medical support, fuel and equipment maintenance support. Administrative support is often tasked with resource check-in and status tracking, communications, traffic control and area security. It is not uncommon for out of service equipment and personnel to return from the incident site to the staging area in preparation for re-mobilization.

Since staging areas sometimes require an extended level of organization and support, local authorities may consider requesting assistance to help manage various functions during the incident. For more information about staging area coordination in Chatham County, see Annex D in the Chatham County Emergency Operations Plan.

Staging operations at the Reliance Center for rescue operations in preparation of Hurricane Ike. Houston, TX, September 12, 2008. Source: FEMA Photo Library





There's an App for That

Developing a family preparedness plan and getting up-to-date emergency information has never been easier thanks to the new CEMA App. With the touch of a finger, users can access the latest weather information, live radar and alerts. The app has a built-in NOAA weather radio that can be accessed when users are not near a television and need updates during a severe weather event. After a storm or significant incident, power outages and damage reports can be submitted through the app, along with images and contact information that might be helpful to first responders.

Because preparedness and education is a prime focus at CEMA, we built a feature to help take the guess work out of developing a family emergency plan. The “My Plan” feature allows users to discuss and share with friends and family their personalized strategy to surviving a disaster, as it can be emailed or shared on social media. Emergency contacts, medications, school or work information and meeting points both in and out of town, can be listed in case the family gets separated.

Additionally, the My Plan section gives users a recommended list of emergency supplies that can be checked off and shared as a kit is built. The best part, the app is free and available on all iPhones and Android devices. Be sure to check your Wi-Fi settings as some servers may block content that allows features to run properly. To download, visit the App Store and search for “ChathamEMA”. The app was funded through the Emergency Management Performance Grant and was built by MyEMAapp.com.

ESF 15: External Affairs

Disaster Finance Training Available

On February 6, 2014, CEMA Staff met with employees in the City of Tybee Island's Finance Department to discuss Disaster Finance Principles. This meeting provided CEMA Staff the opportunity to answer important questions regarding evacuation procedures, damage assessment team requirements and what they would need to maintain operational continuity during an evacuation. During the training, the Finance staff, with CEMA's assistance, were able to pinpoint gaps in their plans and identify areas where additional training or procedures are needed.

CEMA Staff are available to offer this training to every municipality within the county. The one-day course includes a half-day session on the Disaster Finance Process, including the requirements and classifications of reimbursable expenses. The second half of the day will build on the principles learned during the morning session, while completing the paperwork the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will require when processing reimbursement for Public Assistance during a disaster.

If you are interested in the training, but do not feel as if you have enough interested participants in your area, please let us know. We can add you to the list for future training opportunities, and you will be invited to join one of our larger Disaster Finance Training sessions.

Finance

LEPC 101

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) was passed by Congress to battle concerns about the environmental and safety hazards posed by toxic chemicals if they are handled or stored improperly. Concerns from around the world were triggered by the 1984 disaster in Bhopal, India, where a dangerous gas known as methyl isocyanate was accidentally released. The incident, which killed or severely injured more than 8000 people, is still known as one of the world's worst industrial disasters.

To quell fears and reduce the likelihood of such a disaster occurring in the United States, Congress imposed requirements for federal, state and local governments, tribes, and industry. On the local level, first responders, elected officials, environment and community representatives meet with facility reps who report the use of hazardous and toxic chemicals. Together, they make up the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and must develop an emergency response plan and review it annually with stakeholder participation. Through this process, LEPCs help increase the public's knowledge and access to information on chemicals at facilities in their communities, chemical uses, and possible environmental impacts.

In 1996, the Chatham County Commission approved the LEPC as an informal hazardous materials committee. The LEPC is a forum for government and private industry to work together to better serve the community. As a participating agency, CEMA promotes and regularly conducts training at various facilities. This process helps first responders keep their skills sharp and protects stakeholders. If any safety gaps are exposed, industry stakeholders and first responders work together to mitigate problems and create a safer process. There are currently 58 member agencies and organizations affiliated with Chatham County's LEPC.

ESF 10: Hazardous Materials

Preparing For The Worst, Hoping For The Best

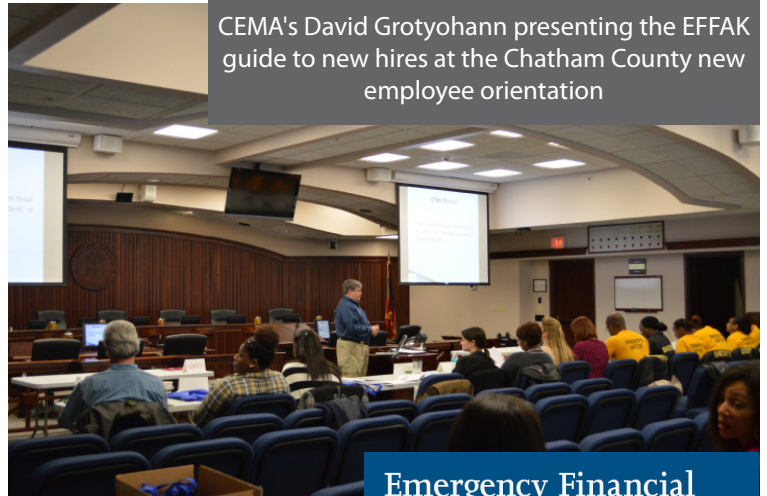
With the New Year comes a new and exciting initiative designed to keep Team Chatham employees informed and educated about threats to our area. With the help of department leaders, CEMA has been training Team Chatham employees on how to develop a Family Emergency Plan and the importance of keeping it current. In the past, CEMA would distribute information to all departments at the beginning of Hurricane Season. This year's goal is to have every employee develop a plan now and understand that an emergency can happen tomorrow, not just during Hurricane Season.

One of the major elements of this training is the FEMA Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK). The EFFAK is a twenty-five page document made up of checklists and forms. The checklist is designed to take the guess work out of planning and help families compile comprehensive lists of personal household information, documents and account information.

Each checklist has three columns: "Have", "Need" and "N/A" which is an easy way to get organized. Some of the cards included in the list are ones you carry every day in your wallet, such as Driver's License, Owner's Card or Insurance Card. To get started, each card carried in your wallet should be copied and added to the packet of documents you are collecting. The documents you are gathering are considered vital; so plan to store them in a fire-proof box or safe. The bank safe deposit box is a good place to keep them, but getting to them after a disaster could take quite some time. Your insurance policies, mortgage and/or rental documents may be needed right after a disaster in order to rebuild your life. In addition, the forms are a guide to organizing your household, family, employment, payments and possibly things you haven't thought about.

Basically, your whole life will be compiled into a file that has everything you might need to cancel household services if your home is destroyed. Even worse, if something were to happen to you, your children, spouse or siblings will have not have to track down documents to manage your estate. What the EFFAK will do for you is help you organize your life in one box for any emergency or unexpected situation.

CEMA's David Grotyohann presenting the EFFAK guide to new hires at the Chatham County new employee orientation



Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK)

Checklists and Forms
September 2014



EFFAK



ESF 5: Emergency Management

CEMA Course Catalog

In 2015, CEMA has a new focus on expanding Training throughout Chatham County. A catalog of courses was developed to benefit our community partners through continued education. The list includes the area of focus, course number, a brief description, number of continuing education hours earned and intended audience (if applicable). We have sectioned off the catalog to provide quick access to the courses:

- Baseline NIMS/ICS Courses
- Advanced ICS Courses
- Management and Elected Officials Courses
- FEMA Training Courses
- FEMA Emergency Management Institute Course s (EMI)
- Georgia State Training Courses
- National Weather Service Courses
- CEMA Provided Courses

There are notes within the catalog that indicate some FEMA courses are currently being reviewed and revised. When you want to take this class, check on-line and see if it has been updated. CEMA is offering numerous classes in 2015. If you are interested in learning more, please call David Grotyohann at 912.201.4500.

Tornado Tracking

On January 4th, an EF-01 Tornado touched down in Western Chatham County and caused damage from Quacco Road to the Savannah River. The National Weather Service in Charleston, South Carolina sent a Damage Assessment Team to assess the tornado damage. The team from Charleston was supported by CEMA Staff who served as Duty Officers during the Tornado Warning that day. Staff began their assessment on Salt Creek Road in Garden City off Highway 17.

Along the entire stretch of the road, significant tree damage was found and two structures suffered damage due to those falling trees. From this area, the team caravanned west down Highway 17 to the intersection of Moose Jaw Avenue and Elk Road. There, the team surveyed multiple reports of tree damage and noted that the fallen trees were lying in same direction as those on Salt Creek Road and several other locations.

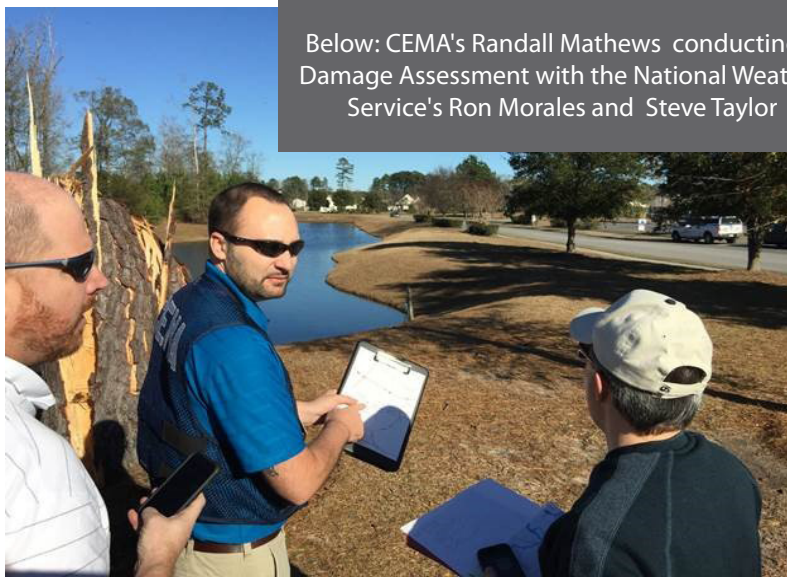
At first, the National Weather Service Damage Assessment Team was ready to classify this particular weather incident as a straight line wind event until the team made their final drive through the Stonebridge neighborhood. Upon entering the subdivision, the team spotted a twisted pine tree at the entrance. Further down the street, very slight roof damage was spotted along with siding damage on a few houses. It wasn't until the survey led them to Stonebridge Circle that the first confirmed tornado damage was found. The impacted home had significant roof and fence damage. Most of the shingles on the western side of the house were damaged, as it was that side that took the brunt force of the wind. The shingles were strewn in opposite directions, proving that there was circulation in the system that passed over Chatham County.

After calculating the damage, the team was confident in classifying the initial tornado touchdown as an EF-0 in the subdivision, but as the system moved, it strengthened to an EF-01. The system continued on its path just above the tree line and lifted out of the area across the Savannah River. It was reported later that it blew over six containers stacked at the Georgia Ports Authority to the west of the Savannah Bridge.



Right: Recorded damage from the event

Below: CEMA's Randall Mathews conducting a Damage Assessment with the National Weather Service's Ron Morales and Steve Taylor



Supporting Law Enforcement

CEMA's Mobile Emergency Operations Center (MEOC) is a vital asset to community partners. The MEOC enables CEMA to position a forward command for their partners in response to emergencies as well as to support special events such as the Rock 'n Roll Marathon, St. Patrick's Day and Orange Crush.

The MEOC can operate for up to seven days without needing to be refueled. This makes it ideal for any type of incident, allowing for sustained operations if the situation dictates. A wide array of communications equipment is located inside the vehicle, allowing Incident Commanders to get the most current information to aide in the decision-making process. There are multiple radio stations for communication using dual band 700/800 MHz radios, as well as amateur radios that allow for long range transmission. Should the situation dictate, Chatham County's Mosquito Control helicopters can attach a camera to their helicopter and provide Incident Commanders a live aerial view of the situation which is streamed directly into the MEOC from the communications equipment located onboard.

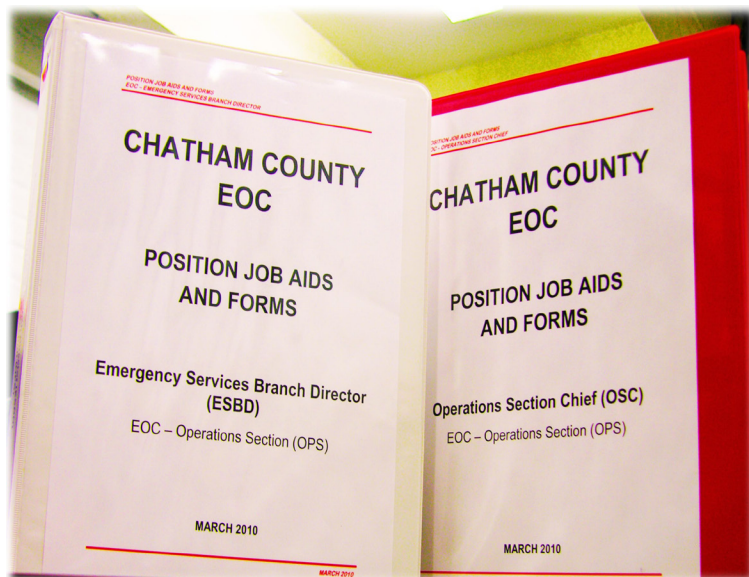
Workstations inside the MEOC allow up to nine people to produce necessary documents needed to support the Incident Commander. There are also printers onboard which allow for the printing of large maps that may be useful when conducting search and rescue operations, or to plot where officers are positioned during an incident. All of this can be done in a matter of minutes which can greatly aid an Incident Commander's situational awareness.

The Mobile Emergency Operations Center was entirely funded by a Port Security Grant through the Department of Homeland Security.



ESF 13: Public Safety and Security

Why Job Aids Are Needed



During an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activation, it is inevitable that stress levels will rise, and it is possible that some tasks of the job may fall behind. It is also possible that an individual may be tasked with more than one job position while the EOC is activated. Job aids are excellent tools for guidance while working in the EOC and they help identify some recommended, or sometimes required, training for each position.

Job Aids do, however, go far beyond the EOC. There are Job Aids for several different centers that if activated require position specific job descriptions. In the event that a Volunteer Reception Center, Disaster Employee Integration Center, Joint Information Center, or Family Assistance Center is activated, there are guides to the positions within each center. Many positions from these centers could be staffed with volunteers or county employees who are unfamiliar with the task. Job Aids are crucial to a successful activation. If you are interested in learning more about job aids, most are listed on CEMA's website, ChathamEmergency.org.

ESF 5: Emergency Management

The Importance of Generator Record Keeping

You may not realize you need a generator, until you find yourself without power. At CEMA, we keep records and track working generators in the county so when the time comes when generators are needed, we can source them quickly. Emergencies that cause a loss of power can happen quickly and when time is of the essence, critical facilities, like gas stations and hospitals for example, can receive power to continue serving the community. It is important to have up to date information that is easily accessible in the event action is needed for a fast response.

Every four years, Generator Surveys are conducted through our municipalities and the U.S. Army Corps. Of Engineers. From the information they provide, the generators are listed by “types of use” and then assigned to various public emergency shelters, police departments, fire departments, utilities, etc. Once we have gathered the pertinent information, we enter it into the WebEOC under the Facility Emergency Power Database. When needed, GEMA can access the surveys and deliver the appropriate generator to a specific location during an emergency in a timely manner.

Many gas stations have their own generators that will be used to power fuel pumps during an emergency, i.e. a hurricane evacuation. Thanks to the generator survey, we can notify the public as to which gas stations will be able to pump gas during an evacuation if a power outage should occur. Using Google Earth and Map Quest, CEMA identified and surveyed gas stations along the major evacuation routes out of Savannah and the island communities. Gas stations with generators were then added to a Refueling Evacuation Map that is updated on an annual basis.

ESF 7: Logistics Management and Resource Support



CEMA Welcomes Kristi Johnson

Kristi Johnson was born and raised in Somerset, Kentucky and moved to Savannah in 1996. Kristi joined CEMA in January 2015 as an Administrative Assistant but is no stranger to the Chatham County Government. She worked in the Chatham County Tax Commissioner's office for 12 years in a myriad of positions before taking a few years off to stay home with her family.

Kristi's position with CEMA gives her the opportunity to work closely with Emergency Managers and other Administrative staff. She is excited to provide assistance and support to ensure all team members have the tools and resources necessary to provide superior service to Chatham County. Also, due to her passion for animals, Kristi is looking forward to assisting with the ongoing development of CEMA's emergency needs for animals.

Mass Casualty Incident Planning: The Basics

Practice doesn't always make perfect, but we know that we are far more prepared to face a disaster rather than going in blindly. As a community, we constantly practice and train for emergencies of all kinds, knowing they could occur at any time. Our local first responders answer hundreds of emergency calls every year. Fortunately, the vast majority of those calls involve little to no injuries, and the calls that are more serious are dealt with professionally and efficiently. While large disasters are a rare occurrence, that doesn't mean we shouldn't be ready, especially when there is a possibility of mass casualties, and every second counts.

Mass Casualty Incidents (MCI) can be man-made or natural events which cause injuries or illnesses that exceed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and hospital capabilities. The effects could be far reaching; impacting surrounding municipalities, jurisdictions and regions for a sustained amount of time.

In cooperation with emergency partners from our local fire, police, EMS and health care services, CEMA has developed an MCI Plan for Chatham County that outlines various procedures and responsibilities for a coordinated response. The MCI Plan was developed with three primary goals: to save as many lives as possible, including those of first responders and bystanders, manage limited available resources, and efficiently manage the incident. With those goals in mind, the MCI Plan provides specific guidance to first responders regarding MCI Command and Scene Size-up, Triage, Treatment, Transport, and Patient Tracking & Accountability; and outlines responsibilities for both on-scene and supporting agencies.

As of January 2015, Southside Fire Department/Emergency Medical Services (SSFD/EMS) and CEMA began providing MCI coordination briefings to first responders throughout the county along with other emergency partners with supporting responsibilities. SSFD/EMS is the County's primary coordinating agency for the MCI Plan. This coordination effort will continue through April, culminating with an MCI table top exercise in May. For additional information regarding the MCI Plan, please contact SSFD/EMS Lieutenant Jeff Mills: (912) 658-9250, jeff@southsidefire.com. If you have questions regarding the table top exercise or would like to schedule a briefing for your agency, contact CEMA at (912) 201-4500 or email David Grotyohann at dsgrotyohann@chathamcounty.org.

ESF 8: Public Health and Medical Services

WebEOC Tracking Road Closures

2014 - Rock N Roll Marathon



Special Events - Road Closures

New Road Closure

Edit	Road	Status	Closed	Re-Opened	Details	Map
Edit	Augusta Ave	Closed @ 5:46AM (Saturday)	Open	11/8/2014 06:34:55	11/8/2014 11:33:54	View Map
Edit	Bay Street	Closed @ 5:41AM (Saturday)	Open	11/8/2014 06:32:45	11/8/2014 11:33:17	View Map
Edit	Bull Street: Between Bay & Bryan Street	Closed @ 8:15AM (Friday)	Closed	11/7/2014 09:35:22		View Map
Edit	Drayton Street: Between Hall Street & Park Avenue	Closed @ 9:16AM (Friday)	Closed	11/7/2014 09:39:33		View Map
Edit	Jenks Street					
Edit	Louisville Rd					
Edit	Magazine Avenue					
Edit	Park Ave: Between Bull & Drayton Street					
Edit	Southbound Truman Parkway					

During an event, keeping up with what roads are open and closed is key to moving resources across the County. To help track assessable roads, a board was created in WebEOC. Every EOC staff member should have the ability to view the board of road closures and contribute with updated information. After years of road closures due to St. Patrick's Festivities and Rock N Roll Marathon, WebEOC was employed in hopes of streamlining the tracking process. Police, Fire, EMS and Public Works utilize this board for pre-planning. Once a road has been closed, the system automatically time stamps the road for the user. If the roadways partially opens, the user can select "IN PROGRESS" to alert users that the road is in the initial phases of re-opening. Once a road opens fully to traffic, the user will select "OPEN" and the record is time stamped when the road re-opens. The Display Board is color coordinated for quick visual cues on the roads that have impacts on their traffic flow. Roads that are closed are flagged RED, roads in the process of being re-opened are flagged YELLOW and those that re-open fully after being closed turn GREEN.

Road Closures Display - Internet Explorer

Update Record 544

Save Spell Check Cancel

Report As: Dustin Hetzel

Address: 732 Drayton Street, Savannah, GA Get Address Map It

Lat: 32.072515 Lon: -81.09312

Road: Drayton Street: Between Hall Street & Park A

Road Closed: 11/7/2014 09:39:33

Road Opened: 1/30/2015 14:28:10

Status: Open

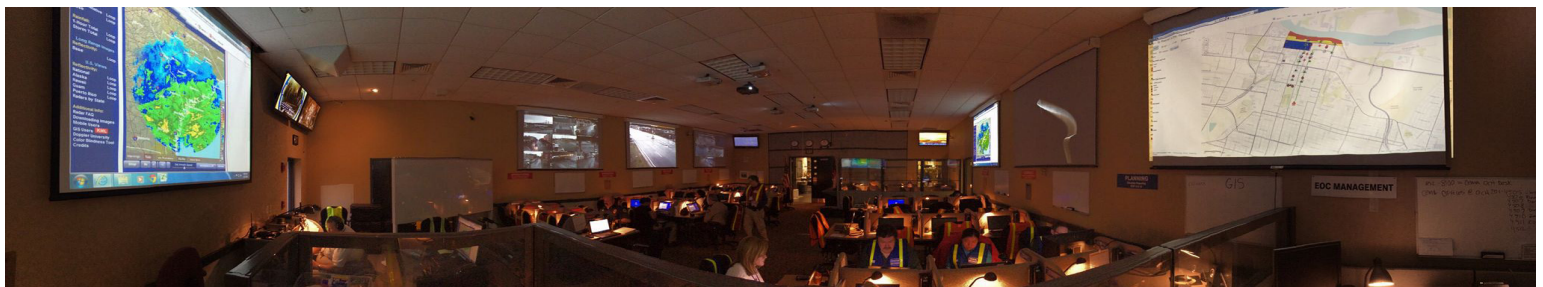
Desc: Closed @ 9:16AM (Friday)

Road Name Example: Bay Street - MLK to Broughton
Status: -Normal- (Used for Pre-planning), Closed (Street Closed), In Progress, Open (Re-opened)
Road Closed and Opened: Times are automatically generated.

Page 1 of 1 Disable Refresh intermedix

ESF 1: Transportation

EOC Contacts: Updates Planned



Every year, CEMA reaches out to its partners to update the contact information for the primary, secondary, and tertiary Emergency Operations Center representatives. The goal is to have a list of contacts for each agency that would be able to help support an EOC activation if needed. Getting the correct information to the right people, at the right time is critical and can only be done if we have the most current contact information for our partners. This allows decision makers to have the most current information, enabling them to make informed judgments. This in turn, could save precious time during emergency operations. If you are a trained EOC worker and need to update your contact information, please call the CEMA office at 912-201-4500.

EOC Operations

Lost and Found

On a Sunday morning in February, police asked for assistance from CEMA's Volunteer Search and Rescue Team to help locate a missing elderly woman with dementia. The CEMA SAR Team quickly assembled at a staging area near the woman's last known location and received a situational briefing from police. Wasting no time, the SAR Team's leadership quickly developed a search plan and in cooperation with the police, initiated ground search operations within a short time.

In a true display of teamwork, the ground search was conducted by SAR Team members with police supporting. The search began in the area where she was last seen and expanded to streets, lanes and vacant buildings throughout the surrounding neighborhoods. To maximize efforts, SAR Canine Teams were also brought in to help locate the missing woman's scent "track". These highly trained K9 teams were able to follow two tracks thought to be of the missing person, but the track did not leave the immediate area and seemed to return back to her residence. After one more search of the neighborhood, searchers were convinced she couldn't have gone far on foot. That meant either she was still at her residence or she had been driven out of the area. With these two scenarios in mind, police went back to square one and started over at the missing woman's building. Despite being searched twice, the missing person was eventually located in a locked room within the building.

Sometimes, a person who is reported "Lost" or "Missing" has intentionally run off and does not want to be found, and when this happens, the missing person will eventually show up on their own. This woman's story has a happy ending, but sadly not all searches end like this. Regardless of the circumstances or motivation, searchers will always give their all to find those reported as lost and/or missing.

Keep an eye out for the SAR Team at upcoming community events. SAR is sponsoring a Lost and Found Booth for the public that will provide a central location to turn in or pick up items found or lost during the event. Staff at the Lost and Found Booth will have contact with police and event coordinators to help return the items to the appropriate owners. Stop by the SAR Team's Lost and Found Booth to learn more about how you can become part of the Team.

Right: CEMA Director Clayton Scott and SAR Coordinator Don Sullens wait for Search Crews to arrive

Below: SAR Team receives a briefing from SCMPD



Above: SAR Members Art Peltier and Wanda Bello search with Metro officer



From Left to Right: Linda VanHeulen, Art Peltier, Patricia Gibbs, Larry Yawn, Doug Rowland, Gary Hom, Marie Dotson, Perry Kerr, Sonia Geiss, Tom Johnson, Anthony Petrillo, Colin Elgood, Kevin Strickland, Kathy Gideon, Wanda Bello

Force Account Labor Form

During a Declared Disaster event, all workforce activities, even those that are regular activities, must be accounted for on the proper form. This accounting is important to ensure that reimbursement of all activities is approved and completed in a timely manner. When completing FEMA Form 90-123 Force Account Labor Summary, keep the following points in mind:

- Record Regular and Overtime Hours separately, there are separate line items for each of these entries. The determination of when Overtime occurs (after 8 hours worked versus after 40 hours worked) is based on the pre-disaster policy for payment of employees.
- Record the Benefits separately for regular and overtime hours. Typically, benefits associated with overtime pay or less than benefits associated with regular pay. These benefits must be tracked per employee to determine the total benefit amount per each employee.
- Applicant's Benefit Calculation Worksheet must be attached for each employee or job title. This worksheet shows a breakdown of benefits by percentage for each employee or job title.

The following graphic shows the main parts of the Force Account Labor Form and what information is required in each section. Please see the FEMA Website for additional information.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FORCE ACCOUNT LABOR SUMMARY RECORD						PAGE _____ OF _____	O.M.B. No. 1660-0017 Expires December 31, 2011				
APPLICANT				PA ID NO.	PROJECT NO.	DISASTER					
LOCATION/SITE				CATEGORY		PERCENTAGE					
DESCRIPTION OF WORK PERFORMED											
<p>Detail of the project. Only the work used for this project can be accounted for on this form.</p>				<p>Total the hours from the previous section. This applies for each line that has a work hour (regular and overtime).</p>		<p>Total of the Hourly Rate plus the Benefit Rate per hour.</p>		<p>Total Hours multiplied by Total Hourly Rate equals Total Costs</p>			
NAME	DATES AND HOURS WORKED EACH WEEK					COSTS					
JOB TITLE	DATE						TOTAL HOURS	HOURLY RATE	BENEFIT RATE/HR	TOTAL HOURLY RATE	TOTAL COSTS
NAME	REG.						<p>If the employee is a salaried employee versus an hourly employee, divide the salary by number of annual pay periods. This number is the amount paid per pay period. Divide this number by the amount of hours worked in a pay period. The final number is the hourly rate.</p>	<p>Total of all benefits the employer pays for the employee (social security, insurance, pension benefits, etc...) An Applicant's Benefit Calculation Worksheet must be attached showing each employees benefits. An average rate can be used if there are different benefit rates for different employees. Must be entered as hourly benefit rate.</p>			
JOB TITLE	O.T.										
NAME	REG.						<p>All regular hours and overtime hours must be accounted for separately as overtime hours typically include fewer benefits than regular hours</p>				
JOB TITLE	O.T.										
NAME	REG.										
JOB TITLE	O.T.										
NAME	REG.										
JOB TITLE	O.T.										
NAME	REG.										
JOB TITLE	O.T.										
TOTAL COSTS FOR FORCE ACCOUNT LABOR REGULAR TIME											\$
TOTAL COST FOR FORCE ACCOUNT LABOR OVERTIME											\$
I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION ABOVE WAS OBTAINED FROM PAYROLL RECORDS, INVOICES, OR OTHER DOCUMENTS THAT ARE AVAILABLE FOR AUDIT.											
CERTIFIED				TITLE				DATE			

FEMA Form 90-123, FEB 09

Progress is Impossible Without Change



CEMA's Meredith Ley opens the meeting and reviews agenda

Change is a good thing. After serious and thoughtful review of CEMA's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), we have decided to take the program to a higher level. CERT is about disaster readiness, people helping people, rescuer safety and doing the greatest good for the greatest number. While we have a fairly active CERT, the team has never been activated to respond to an emergency and under the scope of the program, there were only so many opportunities for community engagement. Many of our members were itching for more ways to volunteer and expressed a desire to get to the heart of our mission, which is emergency management and preparedness.

With different backgrounds, occupations, experience and education, we realized that we had a vast untapped resource in our CERT members. To satisfy their desire to do more, we have begun the process of shifting the focus of our CERT on to what will be known as the CEMA Support Team. On March 12th, we had a wonderful meeting with existing CERT members to discuss the transition of the program, and were thrilled to see so many of our volunteers excited and eager about new opportunities. We are thankful for their continued support through this process and willingness to try something new.

Our new program will give volunteers the opportunity to sign up for various support teams in different phases of the emergency process, each supported by a CEMA staff member. Over the years, our stellar instructors have trained nearly 400 people in our community on how to prepare themselves and their families in the event of a disaster. Unfortunately, federal funding has dried up and of those trained, a small percentage stay engaged. CEMA will continue to offer CERT training when requested to community, religious and neighborhood groups of fifteen or more.

While the standard three day class will no longer be offered quarterly, shorter abridged versions of the course will still be available to the public. In the spirit of CERT, the condensed class will teach fundamental lifesaving techniques that could provide the greatest chance of survival during a disaster.

The abridged curriculum should be easy to present to a variety of groups, such as:

- Schools
- Businesses
- Government Agencies
- Religious Organizations
- Neighborhood Groups
- Community Organizations

CERT Training Will Teach Participants To:

- Take steps to prepare for a disaster.
- Identify and reduce fire hazards in their homes and workplaces.
- Apply basic fire suppression strategies, resources, and safety measures.
- Apply techniques for opening airways, controlling bleeding, and treating for shock.
- Employ basic treatments for various wounds.
- Identify planning and size-up requirements for potential search and rescue situations.

Instructors are needed to lead the classes. If after an abridged class, the group decides it would like to go a step further with the full CERT Training; that can be arranged. If you would like to know more about CERT or the CEMA Support Team, please visit our website or call CEMA's Public Information Officer Meredith Ley at 912-201-4500.

CEMA Staff discuss opportunities with volunteers



Volunteers

Exercise Season is Upon Us

Each year, Georgia Emergency Management Agency sets aside one week in May for statewide hurricane exercises, known as HURREX. During the week-long exercise, CEMA will be involved in four exercises. These exercises will take place starting on May 7th with the last exercise on May 13th. These exercises are designed to establish a no-fault learning environment for Players to evaluate and validate Chatham County's Emergency Operations Plans. It will also provide an excellent forum for familiarizing departments and personnel with roles and responsibilities and encourage open discussion to enhance coordination.

This year, the focus will be on these important functions:

- Evacuation Assembly Area (EAA): This exercise is designed to evaluate the County's EAA Plan to provide public resources for those without their own means of transportation during a mandatory evacuation.
- Functional and Medical Needs (FMN): This exercise is designed to evaluate the County's FMN Plan that will involve registering medical patients at an evacuation assembly area and preparing them for out-of-area medical evacuation.
- Long Term Care Facility (LTCF): This exercise is designed to evaluate the County's Plan activated in any emergency situation necessitating either a full or partial evacuation of a health care facility, nursing home or assisted living center.
- Rehearsal of Concept (ROC): This is an Evacuation Planning Drill developed by GEMA. State and Local EMAs are invited, along with Georgia State Patrol, Georgia Power and Paris Island.
- Points of Distribution (POD): This will be a full scale exercise designed to evaluate the County's Emergency Plan to provide resources that would be activated during a disaster to assist the citizens of Chatham County. PODs are established post-incident for distributing life-sustaining commodities (such as water, ice, food, tarps and other bulk resources) to the public within the first 72 hours following a disaster or extraordinary incident.

Volunteers are needed to help make the exercises a success. To get involved, contact the CEMA office at 912-201-4500.



Savannah, GA--Georgia Army National Guard conduct fire suppression training in a Black Hawk Helicopter as part of the May, 2014 HURREX Exercise. Photo Credit: Maj. Will Cox, Georgia Army National Guard

Exercises

Continuity of Operations

A Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) is designed to ensure an agency's Essential Functions can continue to be performed during a vast array of emergencies whether they are man-made or natural disasters. The plan's goal is to identify essential functions and guarantee those functions can either be continued throughout a disaster or recommence promptly. This document is a collection of information, resources and procedures that is used as a guide during any disturbance of operations.

For instance, if you came to work one Monday morning and found your business was flooded and all the important documents were destroyed including the ones that are a necessity to your daily operations, having a COOP plan established would be vital to helping you make decisions that would not hinder your daily operations.

The Chatham County Emergency Management Agency will be working with all county agencies to ensure they all have an effective COOP plan. In addition, beginning this March, CEMA will be assisting the Chatham County Courts in initiating their COOP plan. Over the past three years they have worked with 22 departments to ensure they have an effective COOP. Currently, there are only four departments who do not have an established COOP and CEMA plans to work with them in the future.

Planning

Failing to Plan is Planning to Fail

- Alan Lakein, Author & Time Management Expert

At CEMA, we are dedicated to the disaster mitigation and recovery process. This is a complete list of our plans. Most are reviewed annually to ensure we have the most up to date information. You can find all of our plans on our website, ChathamEmergency.org. If you are in the process of developing your own plans, and would like to request a copy of a CEMA plan in a format other than PDF, feel free to contact our office at 912-201-4500.

REFERENCE	PLAN NAME
Appendix 01-01 (Base)	Evacuation Coordination
Appendix 01-01 Tab A	Evacuation Routes
Appendix 01-01 Tab B	Evacuation Assembly Area Operations
Appendix 01-01 Tab C	Host County Coordination
Appendix 01-01 Tab D	Barrier Island Evacuation
Appendix 01-02 (Base)	Transportation Assets Management
Appendix 01-02 Tab A	Consolidated County-wide Transportation Resource List
Appendix 01-02 Tab B	Anticipated Transportation Request
Appendix 01-02 Tab C	Air Support Operations Center Coordination
Appendix 01-04	Post Event Return of General Population
Appendix 02-01	Interoperable Communications
Appendix 02-02	Emergency Services Alerts
Appendix 03-01	Debris Management and Coordination Strategy
Appendix 03-02	Critical Facilities Restoration Priorities
Appendix 03-03	Render Safe Teams - Assignment and Coordination
Appendix 03-04	Priority Road Clearing Coordination
Appendix 03-05	Damage Assessment Strategy
Appendix 04-01	Community Wildfire Protection Plan
Appendix 05-02	Mutual Aid Coordination
Appendix 05-03	Disaster Employee Integration Center Management
Appendix 06-01	General Population Mass Care and Sheltering
Appendix 06-02	Critical Workforce Sheltering - For Official Use Only
Appendix 06-03	Mass Feeding Coordination
Appendix 06-04	Community Safe Room Operation and Coordination
Appendix 07-01	Disaster Volunteer Assistance and Management Plan
Appendix 07-02	Donations Management
Appendix 07-03	Community Organizations Active in Disasters Coordination
Appendix 08-01	Functional and Medical Needs Evacuation
Appendix 08-02	Disaster Health and Medical Services
Appendix 08-03	Family Assistance Center
Appendix 08-04	Crisis Counseling Coordination
Appendix 08-05	Health Care Provider Coordination Plan
Appendix 09-01	Search and Rescue Coordination
Appendix 10-01	Hazmat Emergency Response Plan
Appendix 11-01	Animals in Disasters Coordination
Appendix 11-02	Food and Water Coordination
Appendix 11-03	Cultural and Historical Coordination
Appendix 15-01	Joint Information System Coordination
Appendix 15-02	Joint Information Center Management
Appendix 15-03	Disaster Awareness and Preparedness Strategy
COG	Continuity of Government Plan
DEPT COOPs	Department Continuity of Operations Plan

REFERENCE	PLAN NAME
DEPT ERPs	Department Emergency Response Plans
DRRP	Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
FOG	Field Operations Guide
HMP	Hazard Mitigation Plan
Incident Annex-A	Hurricane Incident Management
Incident Annex-B	Bridge Disruption Incident Management
Incident Annex-C	Catastrophic Incident Management
Incident Annex-D	Terrorism Incident Management
Incident Annex-E	Biological Incident Management
Incident Annex-F	Cyber Incident Management
Incident Annex-G	Radiological Incident Management
Incident Annex-H	Mass Casualty Incident Management
Incident Annex-I	Flood Response
Incident Annex-J	Mass Fatality Incident Management
Incident Annex-K	Special Events Incident Management
Incident Annex-L	Cold Weather
RCA	Area 5 Capability Assessment
RSP	Area 5 Regional Strategic Plan
Support Annex-A	Financial Management
Support Annex-B	Private Sector Coordination
Support Annex-D (Base)	Logistics and Resources Management
SA-D Appendix 1 (Base)	Logistics Facilities Mgmnt
Support Annex-D Appendix 1 Tab A	Base Camp
Support Annex-D Appendix 1 Tab B	Helibase / Spots
Support Annex-D Appendix 1 Tab C	Logistics Support Area Coordination
Support Annex-D Appendix 1 Tab D	Points of Distribution (Commodities) Plan
Support Annex-D Appendix 1 Tab E	Staging Area Coordination
Support Annex-D Appendix 2	Logistics Resources and Supplies
Support Annex-D Appendix 3	Logistics Services Management
Support Annex-D Appendix 4	Fuel Consumption
Support Annex-E	Training and Exercise
Support Annex-F	Emergency Operations Center Staff Manual
Support Annex-G	Integrating and Coordination Defense Support to Civil Authorities
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
SP	Strategic Plan
THIRA	Area 5 Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Chatham County has contracted with Atkins Consulting to develop a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan that will cover the County and its seven municipalities: Bloomingdale, Garden City, Pooler, Port Wentworth, Savannah, Thunderbolt, and Tybee Island. These local governments will be working together to develop a plan that will help Chatham County become more resistant to disasters.

The purpose of the plan is to:

- Protect life and property by reducing the potential for future damages and economic losses that result from natural hazards.
- Allow the participating communities to qualify for pre-and post-disaster grant funding.
- Speed recovery and redevelopment following disaster events.
- Demonstrate a firm local commitment to hazard mitigation principles.
- Comply with federal requirements.

We have had two meetings thus far to kick-off the project, share the risk assessment and begin developing the mitigation strategy. The jurisdictions, as well as the county, are assessing their current strengths and weaknesses along with the risk assessment to determine the best possible mitigation strategy. A draft plan will be available in May for review.

By having multiple jurisdictions collaborate on identifying common hazards and known risks, the planning process will enhance intergovernmental coordination and efficiency. Further, this effort will use consistent methodologies and loss estimation techniques that will help the State and FEMA understand area vulnerabilities and evaluate future mitigation project proposals.



Above: Atkins' Margaret Walton speaks with participating jurisdictions regarding hazard mitigation principals and requirements

Right: CEMA's Clayton Scott discusses the importance of public participation in the hazard mitigation process in an interview with WTOC

Planning
Margaret Walton, Atkins Consulting

Intern Spotlight: Brandon Daniel



Brandon Daniel is a graduating senior at Savannah State University majoring in Homeland Security and Emergency Management. He currently serves as the Residence Hall Association's Executive Board President where he oversees eight executive board members, nine Hall Councils that consists of five members each and over 2,000 residents. In addition, he is the Music Director at St. Philip Monumental A.M.E Church and an aspiring photographer.

Upon entering college, Brandon was a Naval ROTC student with a passion for the military. However, after seeing the plethora of catastrophes that have transpired within our county and other parts of the world, Brandon's passion shifted to saving people and things from domestic emergencies. Upon graduation, he hopes to receive his Master's in Emergency Management and also further his education by obtaining a Juris Doctorate Degree. Brandon plans on not only working in the Emergency Management field, but the security profession as well.

Re-Entry Support

On March 3rd, CEMA hosted a meeting with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and Georgia Power to discuss support during Re-Entry after an evacuation. During this meeting we reviewed many of CEMA's plans regarding re-entry and sheltering to ensure all partners were in agreement on the timeline and what would be required in order for the cleanup to begin. Under the current Critical Workforce Plan, 2,500 employees would be housed at a location outside of Chatham County. Because these employees will need to enter the County to work, we addressed our phased re-entry plan, which aligns with the state timeline. We also shared CEMA's Render Safe Team Plan which outlines how different groups will enter to begin important Priority Road Clearing projects for each of the municipalities, allowing access to Priority Critical Facilities.

We are fortunate to have such great partners that are willing to sit down and discuss tedious and difficult tasks. Meetings like this are what help prevent higher levels of chaos after a disaster. Building relationships and partnerships are two of the most important things you can do in Emergency Management. It's important to meet people face to face, shake their hands and make sure they know how important they are to the success of bringing their community back online.

State Partners come together to discuss evacuation and re-entry operations



ESF 12: Energy

Cold Weather Plan



The 2014 winter season brought an uncommon storm that swept across the south impacting many parts of Chatham County. Although the effects from the storm were not as severe as those in other parts of Georgia, winter storms can produce hazards that we should pay close attention to. Because of dangerous winter conditions, our everyday work activities and tasks may be affected significantly. Severe winter storms can be extremely dangerous. Transportation can come to a standstill and electricity can be out for days, often with very cold temperatures.

In preparation for the next storm, CEMA developed a Cold Weather Plan that was finalized in March 2015. The purpose of the plan is to ensure necessary precautions are taken to mitigate probable risks to life, property and industry. It will also serve as a guide for local officials to coordinate response in conjunction with other emergency plans and procedures. The plan sets forth actions to be taken to save lives and protect property, including notification of emergency response personnel, evacuation of the public and actions to mitigate damage from a storm. Know that before a storm strikes, precautionary actions are being taken now to protect the citizens of Chatham County.

ESF 6: Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing, and Human Services

SAVE THE DATE:

May 7, 2015 :
HURREX Evacuation
Assembly Area Tabletop
Exercise

May 11, 2015:
HURREX Functional &
Medical Needs & Long
Term Care Facility Tabletop
Exercise

May 12, 2015:
HURREX ROC Drill

May 13, 2015:
HURREX Point of
Distribution Full Scale
Exercise

Family Emergency Planning



CEMA's Dustin Hetzel speaks to students at West Chatham Elementary during Severe Weather Awareness Week

Man-made or natural disasters can happen at any time and when they do, you can be ready if you prepare now. Developing a family disaster plan is easy and updating it often could protect your loved ones when every second counts. Your plan should be a blueprint for the first 72 hours of any severe weather-related event or disaster, and if you have children, include them in the planning process to make it fun for the whole family!

First, build an emergency supply kit that you can "grab and go" when needed. Include a flashlight, extra batteries, toiletries, a manual can opener, medicine and non-perishable foods. Also plan on one gallon of water per person per day and don't forget cash.

Next, develop a family communications plan. If your family gets separated during a disaster, designate a rally point and an out of town point of contact. Out of town relatives are often easier to reach because their phone lines are clear. When phone lines are down or overloaded, make sure family members know how to text message. Once you hit "send," the message will push when a signal is available.

Finally, invest in a NOAA Weather Radio. During a potentially life threatening weather event, a NOAA radio will send out a special alarm tone to signal a watch or warning alerting listeners to take appropriate safety measures. This simple tool is designed to read signals day and night but only activate when necessary. A few extra dollars could buy a few extra minutes for a family to get out of harm's way.

Preparing now will save precious time later. Following these helpful tips will come in handy for the upcoming hurricane season, which begins June 1st. For more information on how to be weather and disaster ready, visit our website at ChathamEmergency.org or download our new free app available for iPhones and Androids by searching "ChathamEMA" in the app store.

ESF 15: External Affairs



CLAYTON S. SCOTT
DIRECTOR

DENNIS JONES
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Chatham Emergency
Management Agency
124 Bull Street, Suite 140
Savannah, GA 31401
(912) 201-4500 (Office)
www.ChathamEmergency.org
Facebook and Twitter:
ChathamEMA

Have an Idea for the Signal?

This newsletter focuses on activities and accomplishments for each Emergency Support Function and other areas of the Emergency Management System throughout Chatham County. The newsletter is an available conduit for our partners who may have an interest in submitting a short article or to advertise an upcoming meeting, training event or exercise. For those interested in submitting content for the upcoming newsletter, please follow the submission criteria below:

- **Submissions emailed to:** Meredith Ley, maley@chathamemergency.org
- **Deadline:** June 1, 2015
- **Article Length:** 100 - 750 words
- **Article Submissions:** Include Article Title, Author Name, Title and Agency
- **Meeting Notices:** Include Meeting Title, Date, Time, Location and Point of Contact (Name, Phone and Email Address)
- **Training Notice:** Include Training Title, Date(s), Time(s), Location, Prerequisites, Registration Deadline, Costs, Point of Contact (Name, Phone and Email Address)
- **Exercise Notices:** Include Exercise Title, Date(s), Time(s), Location and Point of Contact (Name, Phone and Email Address)
- **Editorial Note:** The Editor has the discretion to edit submissions. If changes are considered substantive, the author will be contacted to review the changes prior to publication.