



Director's Notes

END OF MONTH COMMUNICATIONS

August 2011

September Proclaimed Preparedness Month

With 10 presidentially declared disasters in almost four years in the Commonwealth and recent earthquake events in Colorado and Virginia, it is more important than ever to re-evaluate your level of preparedness.

In conjunction with National Preparedness Month, Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear has signed a proclamation designating September as Preparedness Month in the Commonwealth.

This September will mark the ten year anniversary of 9/11; we will remember those lost, honor our first responders and renew our commitment to prepare and plan for emergencies. I am pleased to announce that KYEM is joining the Ready Campaign, founded after 9/11 to increase preparedness in the U.S. and taking an active role in helping Kentuckians prepare for emergencies.

What does it mean to be prepared?

Communities and Families: Households should have an emergency supply kit in order to be self-reliant for at least three days in case of an emergency and a plan for how to respond and reconnect after an emergency. For information on creating a supply kit, writing a plan and additional free resources visit www.Ready.gov and www.kyem.ky.gov/preparedness.

Employers and Business Groups: Employers have planned for how to survive a disaster by backing up critical information, developing a plan for assisting employees on site, establishing a call tree to account for employees and identifying back-up sources of power and supplies. Visit www.Ready.gov/business for more information.

Schools: Schools and districts have developed, implemented and communicated crisis plans. See the U.S. Department of Education's Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Technical Assistance Center at <http://rems.ed.gov> and National Clearing House For Educational Facilities www.ncef.org/rl/disaster.cfm.

All Groups: Being prepared means staying informed, knowing how to get information and alerts from local and state emergency management and understanding the specific risks in your community and preparing for them. Meet with community resources such as Citizen Corps (www.citizencorps.gov/), Commonwealth Emergency Response Commission (CERC) www.kyem.ky.gov/about/cerc and first responders to coordinate planning in your community.

We're taking steps as an organization to become better prepared and informed. We urge you to take time and do the same at home and in your community.

KYEM Public Affairs

The KYEM public affairs group has a multi-faceted approach. They communicate with the public and other agencies orally, through publications, social media, web and the newest upcoming addition, videos to ensure communities are informed, aware and prepared.

KYEM has fully embraced social media. We currently offer information services on Twitter and Facebook. We highly encourage community involvement in using Facebook. If your county needs assistance with Facebook, please contact our KYEM public affairs staff.

As stated, we will continue to reach out electronically through publications such as this End of Month Communications and the KYEM Protector. As always, please feel free to share information for articles for any of our publications.

Visit www.kyem.ky.gov to follow us on Twitter and like us on Facebook!

GEMW Workshop



The 2011 GEMW is back on track and will be one of the best ever! Included in this year's Workshop are county emergency managers, senior elected officials, all levels of state government, federal partners and our private sector partners.

The GEMW will commit to having the Kentucky Energy Summit as part of our private sector efforts. We hope everyone can join us December 12 - 14 at the Galt House in Louisville! A number of grants will be available. A good time will be had by all with excellent learning opportunities and significant socials to have some fun!

KEMA Conference

REMINDER! If you haven't already signed up, time is running out! The KESC (or KEMA) is September 6 - 9, 2011, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel-Airport in Louisville. The highlight for this conference will be an overview of the NLE 2011 depicting the deployment of our Incident Management Team (IMT) into western Kentucky, not only for the flood situation, but also in support of the CEOC Forward as part of the NLE 2011.

The overview will occur on Tuesday afternoon and then our KEMA leadership plans to have a vendor reception on Tuesday night with training on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We hope everyone can attend this great event!

Register at www.kyem.ky.gov/conferencesandworkshops/ before it's too late!