



*Safeguarding
Hoosiers by
Planning,
Preparing and
Responding*

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The Hoosier Responder

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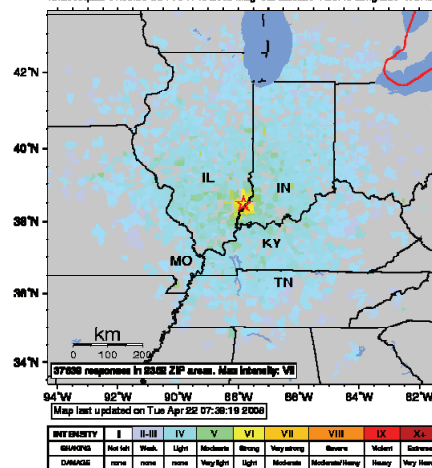
Earthquake Shakes Indiana Residents

Hoosiers were rattled awake on Friday April 18th. The U.S. Geological Survey reports that a 5.2 magnitude earthquake occurred at 5:37 a.m. EDT in southern Illinois on the Wabash Valley Seismic Zone, which is near the New Madrid Seismic Zone that includes Indiana.

"We have received no reports of major damage in the area," said Joe Wainscott, executive director of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS). "We have some minor reports of glass breakage. No reports of any injuries, although we continue to ask our local counties EMA (Emergency Management Agencies) to work with folks across the state line to determine any additional information."

Wainscott added that investigating the quake will be an ongoing effort as some information may not be readily apparent.

USGS Community Internet Intensity Map (21 miles SW of Vincennes, Indiana)
ID:20080226 04:36:58 CDT APR 18 2008 Map:5.2 Lat:38.48 Lon:87.83



**** Click for a Larger View ****

Indiana Department of Transportation began an immediate inspection of bridges and overpasses in the western and southwestern area of Indiana, with no damage reported.

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From the Directors Chair



Greetings!

My first few weeks as Executive Director have been extremely busy. We're still working with the aftermath of flooding in January and February of this year, and earlier this month we had the third earthquake of at least a 5.2 magnitude occurring in the Wabash Valley since 1968.

Although this was not a big one, it did serve as a reminder that flood water and tornados aren't the only natural disasters that Mother Nature throws at Indiana.

The quake was on the

Wabash Valley Fault, one that is less familiar and isn't as active as the New Madrid Fault. Even though it may only be described as small to moderate, this quake helps us to increase awareness that an earthquake is possible in the Midwest.

Once the ground began to shake in the early morning of April 18, response teams hit the road and performed inspections of structures, bridges, and businesses with no major problems being reported. IDHS relied on local responders to assess and report damage to the district coordinators. However, after evaluating damage in their

areas, the local responders did not find any significant damage.

This particular event has raised several questions about preparedness for earthquakes. While it is difficult to prepare for such disasters, as they typically last less than a minute, it is important that Hoosiers follow simple steps to ensure their homes are as ready as possible.

Protecting your family from potential danger and your property from damage requires a few simple items that can be

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IDHS Announces New Leadership

Executive Director Joe Wainscott is pleased to welcome three new employees to the IDHS family. Wainscott also announced promotions for two current employees.

Governor Mitch Daniels appointed Jim Greeson as the State Fire Marshal, while Mike Garvey has been promoted to the position of chief of staff and Brad Thatcher named the director of training. Jason Hutchens has been hired as the director of planning and Arvin Copeland has been hired as the director of emergency response.

Jim Greeson served as the Indianapolis Fire Department chief since 2004. He spent several years in the suppression division and earned several merit ranks.

Greeson joined IFD in 1970, advancing during his career to the merit positions of lieutenant, captain and battalion chief. Other key positions he has served in include deputy chief, deputy chief of operations and deputy chief of administration. Greeson will begin his position as fire marshal on May 5th.

Mike Garvey was promoted from chief deputy for the Indiana State Fire Marshal, a position he has held since 2005, to chief of staff for IDHS. He has served IDHS and its predecessor agencies in various management positions since 1985, and has an extensive background with Indiana's statewide efforts with emergency medical services and response.

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Mobile Live Fire Trainer

The Indiana Firefighter Training System will soon take delivery of a 53' mobile live fire trainer. The unit, built by Kidde Fire Trainers, Inc. of Montvale, NJ should be delivered within the next 30 days.

The capability of this unit will allow firefighters without access to a regional fixed burn facility to use this unit to enhance their fire suppression skills. The trainer has multiple burn props as well as a second floor where firefighters can practice vertical ventilation skills. The collapsible second floor allows attack crews to advance a handline to the second floor.



Hoosiers Reminded of Fireworks Laws

With the fireworks season fast approaching, Indiana citizens and retailers are being reminded of a new state law governing the use and sale of fireworks.

In 2005, nearly 11,000 people were injured by fireworks in the United States and had to be treated in a hospital emergency room according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

"While Independence Day is not for another couple of months, we will begin to see, and hear, people shooting off fireworks as early as Memorial Day," said Mike Garvey, Director of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) Fire and Building Safety Division. "When handled by professionals, a fireworks show may look easy, but each year amateur fireworks use cause injury, death and property damage because of misuse and accidents."

In March of 2006, Governor Mitch Daniels signed a new law that has helped fund important public safety programs around the state, such as firefighter training, through the collection of a 5-percent safety fee on the sale of all fireworks. The law also includes requirements regarding where and when consumers can set off fireworks, as well as requirements for

structures where fireworks are sold.

"Hoosiers need to remember that restrictions are in place regarding the use of fireworks, as well as the possible penalties for violators," Garvey added. "We want to stress the personal responsibility of each fireworks consumer. Obey our laws, follow directions for safe use and apply common sense."



Fireworks law provisions:

- Fireworks may be used only on the user's property; or on the property of someone who has consented to the use of fireworks; or at a special discharge location.
- Fireworks can be purchased only by persons 18 years of age or older and children may only possess or use any firework when an adult is present.
- Penalties for violating the fireworks law can range from a Class A misdemeanor up to a Class C felony in the case of

the reckless or intentional use of fireworks that results in a person's death.

- On Memorial Day, the 4th of July, Labor Day and New Year's Eve, fireworks may be discharged from 9 a.m. to midnight. Any other day of the year fireworks may be discharged from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Local laws may further affect fireworks use.

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) data shows that in 2006, approximately 1,300 people were injured by fireworks. In addition, approximately 1,000 people were injured by sparklers and 800 by bottle rockets.

The IDHS Fire & Building Safety Division recommends Hoosiers check the fireworks they purchase to ensure they contain the following information:

1. Class "C"
2. Consumer Fireworks
3. 1.4 g

"If you find a package that you cannot read because it is in a foreign language, it says Class 'B' fireworks, or 1.3 g, we strongly encourage you to call the CPSC hotline (800-638-2772)," Garvey added.

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EMA Spotlight



DeKalb County

Roger Powers is no newcomer to Emergency Management. He was appointed Director of DeKalb County Homeland Security in October 2006. Previously he served as Director of Emergency Management in Allen County for 5 years. Before that he worked for the State Fire Marshal office as a Hazardous Material Specialist covering the northern 30 counties. Powers started as a volunteer firefighter in 1980 and went to work for the Fort Wayne Airport as a Public Safety Officer, holding the rank of Lieutenant. He graduated from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in 1989. Powers just ended 28 years as a volunteer Firefighter.

In the first 18 months with DeKalb County, Powers has worked two federally declared Emergencies/Disasters. Upon accepting the Director position in DeKalb County, Powers was assigned the task of organizing a Central Communications Center in the county which currently has three Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP). The project involves a new structure and

purchasing new radios that will be on the State 800 MHz system county wide.

Powers was asked to develop a Court House Security Committee to research security issues and to find funding for the Court House Security. Powers also performs duties of the County Safety Director.

Powers started implementing critical facilities on the county GIS maps. He has logged schools, HazMat/industries, churches, cemeteries, hospitals and government buildings. He has also implemented county ID badges for county employees.

Last fall the county started using Incident Action Plans for all public events along with National Incident Management System (NIMS). This will be useful as the Labor Day auto auction brings in over 149,000 people into the county for a 4 day period, and the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair averages 3,000 people per day for the 6-day event.



Roger Powers, Director
DeKalb County EMA
 219 E 9th Street, Suite 101
 Auburn, IN 46706
 Office: (260) 925-1392
 repowers@ci.auburn.in.us

Powers serves as the fiscal agent for District 3 Fire training Grant and serves as Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Chairperson for the County.

The office of Homeland Security participates in the DeKalb County safe school monthly meetings along with TRAIID meeting for senior citizens. Currently, Powers is trying to obtain a full time Deputy Director to share the work load.

IDHS Highlights Public Safety Weeks

The month of May is jam-packed with public safety awareness and education weeks.

Lighters or toys?

Can you tell the difference?
 Could a child?



The month begins with Arson Awareness Week running May 4-10. The goal of this year's Arson Awareness Week is to focus public attention on the dangers of toylike or novelty lighters in the hands of children. Toylike or novelty lighters have been responsible for injuries, deaths, and accidents across the Nation.

Children are attracted to novelty lighters because they look like toys. Many of these lighters look like animals, miniature cars, mobile phones, cameras, fishing lures, stacks of coins, markers,

and doll accessories. One lighter is nearly identical to the popular rubber ducky bath toy—it even quacks! There are also toylike and novelty lighters that look like tools such as tape measures, drills, hammers, and paint brushes. Ironically, there are even lighters that mimic a Dalmatian donning a fire helmet, a red fire truck, or fire extinguishers.

IDHS has distributed informational documents via email and has posted a link on the website for those who are seeking additional information.

You can find more information on the U.S. Fire Administration's website at: http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/subj/ects/arson/arson_awareness.shtm.

The second is Building Safety Week, going from May 5-11. This year's theme

is "Building Safety: Where you Live, Work and Play." Statewide agencies are participating in this important week by holding public information events throughout the week. These agencies will spread the word on how important the role "first preventers" play in saving lives and protecting property.



Hoosiers can find information about Building Safety week, including tips on smoke alarms, safe exiting, electrical cords, building permits and gas appliances from the International Code Council (ICC). The ICC offers a number of tools to help you get ready.

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Earthquake Shakes Indiana Residents

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The earthquake was felt as far north as Kokomo, Rochester and Warsaw in Indiana, as well as Evansville, Fort Wayne and Indianapolis.

"I don't think with the magnitude of this event there will be any significant damage," said Phil Roberts, FEMA consultant on the New Madrid Seismic Zone. "Each year we have hundreds of smaller earthquakes taking place anywhere from a 1.2 to a 2.0. These earthquakes occur constantly, hundreds a year, they're just not felt by us."

Roberts added that both of these seismic zones continue to be active.

Following the quake, dormitories at Vincennes University were evacuated as a precaution, sending nearly 1,500 students to an intramural field for an hour.

"Each facility that housed employees or students at both our Jasper and Vincennes campuses were checked for damage for safety reasons before students could re-enter. We found no damage to any of our facilities, and our employees and students were permitted

to carry on normal activities for the day," said Richard Helton, President of Vincennes University.

When asked if he encouraged people to buy earthquake insurance, Wainscott said, "We always encourage folks to be prepared."

For more information on the earthquake, visit the U.S.G.S. website at <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/eqcenter/> or the [IDHS website](#) and click on "Are you Ready."

Regional Automobile Extrication Competition

The 3rd Annual Indiana Regional Auto Extrication competition will be held on June 6-8, 2008 at the Wayne Township Emergency Services Education and Conference Center in Indianapolis. Fire and Rescue organizations from across the State will compete against one another displaying their skills in extricating persons trapped in serious motor vehicle accidents. Teams are judged on basic and advanced theory using practical skills to successfully manage an auto extrication of a victim or victims from the vehicle. Teams with the 2 highest scores will advance to the 2009 National TERC challenge.



IDHS Highlights Public Safety Weeks

(Continued from page 3)

Take this opportunity to reintroduce your department to the community and share information about the importance of building safety and fire prevention codes by visiting the ICC website at: <http://www.iccsafe.org/safety/BSW/>.



The third and final week IDHS will be celebrating in May is EMS week. The theme this year is "Your Life is Our Mission," and will run May 18-24. This theme was chosen to recognize the commitment that emergency medical personnel make to the communities they serve. This dedication to their mission provides round-the-clock care to communities across the nation.

EMS week brings together local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line." IDHS has a link posted on its website to the American College of Emergency Physicians website, along with a link highlighting local events and an EMS Week placemat.

For more information on EMS week, please visit our website: <http://www.in.gov/dhs/4563.htm>.



In the month of June, IDHS will celebrate, "Committed to Long-Term Results." That is the theme this year for Fire/EMS Safety, Health and Survival Week being held June 22-28. This week encourages long-term investments by chiefs and firefighters to enhance their health and safety. The ultimate goal is to institute a strong culture of health and safety within the fire/EMS service.

The theme this year reflects the need for organizational action that supports and encourages a safety culture. Recommended activities and materials will incorporate three key areas where standard operating procedures, policies and initiatives—along with the training and enforcement that support them—can limit fire/EMS personnel's risk of injury or death. For more information, visit the International Association of Fire Chiefs website at: <http://www.iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=306>.

Eco-Extremists Targeting I-69

Radical environmentalists are opposing road construction, which will extend Interstate I-69 from Indianapolis to Evansville. The environmental group Roadblock Earth First has threatened to mount resistance to the construction of I-69. Some groups have already responded by carrying out criminal acts.



The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is concerned about veiled threats radical environmentalists have recently made on the Internet according to the Evansville Courier & Press. "The level of intensity has ratcheted up significantly from the opposition. And if you follow various Internet threads, you can find they are spreading the word that construction is getting closer, and they-whomever they may be - have targeted Indiana for the summer of 2008," INDOT spokesman Andy Dietrick told the Evansville Courier & Press.

According to the newspaper, in late March 2008, fliers were circulating in Evansville which sought to recruit members to gather supplies for future activities. Items sought in the flier according to the newspaper included:

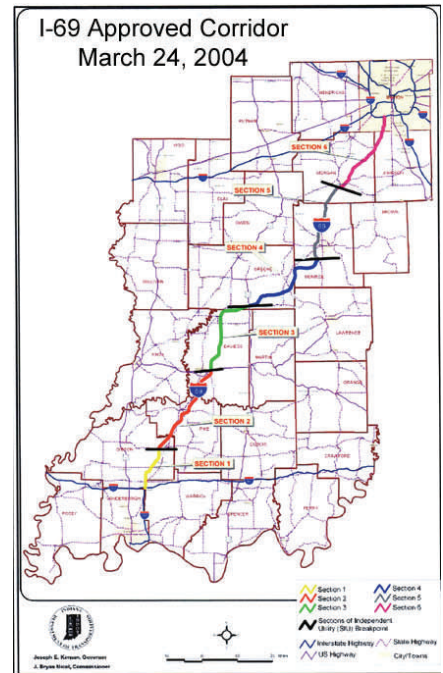
money for legal fees, medical supplies, food, strong boards, nails, scraps of metal, large tarps, rope, gravel, sand, cordless drills, wrenches, hammers, vehicles, cameras, and rock climbing gear.

Some of the items could be used to carry out monkey wrenching (acts of sabotage and property destruction). Criminal activity could also include: tree spiking, road spiking, plugging culverts, closing roads, disabling vehicles and heavy equipment, burning machinery, spray painting slogans, and many other acts of sabotage or vandalism.

Citizens are urged to report any

suspicious activity to their local police agency.

References: "Fliers hint at I-69 resistance," Evansville Courier Journal, 2 April 2008.



From the Directors Chair

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purchased at your local hardware store. It is fairly inexpensive and simple to anchor large furniture, such as bookcases and entertainment centers, to the wall. It is also important to move large, heavy objects to lower shelves in the home, as falling objects can be a potential threat to safety.

Water heaters can be another source of potential danger, ruptured waterlines can cause flood damage and deprive your family of a valuable source of fresh water. If you have a gas water heater, it is critical that you secure it with some

plumbers strapping and bolts to deter a gas leak that could pose a fire risk.

Because a gas leak can cause an immediate hazard, adults in the home should know how to turn off the gas valve. In fact, you may want to keep a crescent wrench in a convenient location, such as next to the valve if you need to take immediate action.

By taking a few simple steps you can keep your family safe in the event of another earthquake on either the Wabash Valley Fault or the New Madrid Fault. This latest event shows that we must be prepared for all earthquake threats, regardless if it is the New Madrid, Wabash or any of the other faults within the state. However, if one does strike the area, we at IDHS will be prepared and ready to respond as we did earlier this month.

Fire Safe Cigarettes

Governor Daniels signed SB 28 into effect on April 21. The new law establishes reduced ignition propensity standards for cigarettes. The law authorizes the State Fire Marshal, Department of Revenue, and the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission to monitor and enforce the standards and provides for certification fees and penalties.



Ceremonial Bill Signing for SB28 for Fire Safe Cigarettes.

FEMA Grants Governor's Appeal; Northern Indiana to Receive Aid

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved Governor Mitch Daniels' request for federal assistance to governments in northern Indiana devastated by flooding earlier this year.

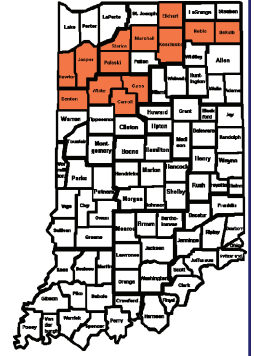
Counties included are: Benton, Carroll, Cass, DeKalb, Elkhart, Jasper, Kosciusko, Marshall, Newton, Noble, Pulaski, Starke and White.

FEMA denied a request to assist state,

county and local government to repair damage and reimburse emergency costs on March 20. Governor Daniels appealed the original decision, saying that damage was much more severe than originally recognized. Additional damage was discovered and verified in several counties after flood water receded.

FEMA's public assistance program provides supplemental federal disaster grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the

replacement, repair, or restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities and the facilities of certain private non-profit organizations. The program also encourages protection of these damaged facilities from future events by providing assistance for hazard mitigation measures during the recovery process.

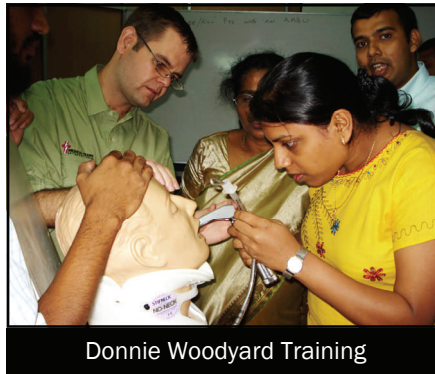


Indiana Emergency Responders Help Bring EMS to Sri Lanka

For Sri Lankans, accidents, injuries and death are a daily reality. The small tear-shaped island off the coast of India has been immersed in a violent civil conflict for decades and was slammed with a massive tsunami in 2004. Despite the violence and natural disasters, Sri Lankans do not have an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system in place. Patients requiring emergency care have been responsible for transporting themselves to the hospital, an undertaking which often causes additional injuries or even death.

Medical Teams International, a relief and development agency based in the United States, is working to bring an EMS system to this country of almost 20 million—one first responder at a time. At the helm of this innovative project is Indiana resident Donnie Woodyard. Prior to accepting this position, Woodyard was a paramedic in Hamilton County and the director of EMS education at Riverview Hospital in Noblesville. Under his leadership, Woodyard has helped expand services to millions. "I hope this generation will be the last one that remembers fending for themselves following an injury—where it is their responsibility to get themselves to the hospital," says Woodyard.

Dozens of U.S. volunteers have helped Woodyard and Medical Teams International make this dream a reality. Two men from Indiana, John Barrett of



Donnie Woodyard Training

Noblesville, and Danny Kelly of Cicero, each spent a month in Sri Lanka last spring helping to develop the project.

Barrett taught future EMS instructors how to train students in an interactive way—a new concept for the lecture-based school system currently used in Sri Lanka. "It was one of the best teaching experiences I've ever had," says Barrett, a communication instructor at Ball State University and a Westfield firefighter/EMT.

While Barrett worked with the future trainers, Kelly developed a complete children's education program aimed at teaching children about emergencies and dialing 1-1-0 (Sri Lanka's version of 9-1-1).

"Volunteering in Sri Lanka for a month gave me pride, sorrow, joy and

everything in between," says Kelly. "I look forward to the day when I can return to Sri Lanka to volunteer again and be a part of history."

Through the combined efforts of many dedicated people like Woodyard, Barrett and Kelly, Medical Teams International's staff and volunteers have trained 500 EMTs, stocked more than 20 ambulances with medical equipment and launched massive public education campaigns. Already, 3 million Sri Lankans have access to 24-hour free and professional pre-hospital care.

"Our training is the hot commodity," says Woodyard. "People all over Sri Lanka have said to me, 'Your training is the standard and we want to be there.' It is the sign of a fundamental paradigm shift for the country. It has been a thrill and an absolute joy to be involved."



Barrett, Kelly and Sri Lankan native, Nomi with Sri Lankan medical vehicle.

Hoosiers Reminded of Fireworks Laws

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Facts (According to 2005 NFPA statistics)

- Approximately 95-percent of all fireworks are produced in China.
- More than half (54%) injuries in 2005 were burns.
- Contusions and lacerations accounted for 29-percent, but were twice as common as burns when the injury was to any part of the head or face, including the eye.
- Hands or fingers were injured in 30-percent of the incidents.
- The eye was involved in 24-percent of the cases.
- Nearly 50-percent of fireworks injuries are to school-age children
- The highest injury rate relative to population was for ages 10-14 with nearly 3 times the risk of the entire population.
- Males accounted for nearly 7 out of every 10 (69%) fireworks injuries.

If you choose to use fireworks, the IDHS

Fire & Building Safety Division suggests following these important safety tips:

Preparation

- Obey local laws, including ban of fireworks due to drought.
- Buy fireworks from a reliable, licensed dealer.
- Read and follow all directions.
- Do not alter any fireworks or attempt to make fireworks.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from the reach of children.
- Safety glasses are recommended for the person lighting or nearby the fireworks, such as a helper.

Location and Conditions

- Keep a fire extinguisher, water supply, hose or bucket of water nearby.
- Use fireworks outdoors, never indoors.
- Use in a clear, open area.
- Keep spectators a safe distance from the show.

Be cautious of lighting any fireworks during strong wind conditions and light fireworks with prevailing wind blowing away from the spectators.

Fireworks Use

- Don't allow children to handle, play with, or light any fireworks.
- Designate one person to ignite fireworks.
- Light only one firework item at a time.
- Never attempt to re-light, alter or fix any fireworks.
- Never smoke when handling fireworks.
- Drinking alcohol and using fireworks do not mix.
- Never aim, point or throw fireworks at another person.

If you would like more information on fireworks or the IDHS Building Safety Division, please visit our website at: <http://www.in.gov/dhs/2588.htm>.

IDHS Announces New Leadership

(Continued from page 2)



(L-R) Jason Hutchens, Arvin Copeland, Jim Greeson, Brad Thatcher, and Mike Garvey.

bioterrorism preparedness and emergency cardiac care. Other positions with the State of Indiana include training coordinator for EMS, deputy director for EMS training and certification, acting director of the Indiana EMS Commission and deputy director of the EMS division.

Brad Thatcher has been promoted to director of training. Over the course of his career, Thatcher has a variety of supervisory, investigative, law enforcement and military experience. Thatcher was promoted from the post of assistant director of training, a position he's held since November of 2005. Prior to the transition to IDHS, Thatcher was director of the preparedness division for the Indiana State Emergency Management Agency. He also served in the positions of training and exercise branch manager and local comprehensive emergency management planning branch manager.

Jason Hutchens comes to IDHS from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (CJI) where he has served as deputy director. Hutchens is an associate fellow with the Sagamore Institute for Policy Research in Indianapolis and an adjunct instructor for the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University-Purdue

University at Indianapolis. Prior to joining CJI, Hutchens was the chief administrator of special projects at the Marion County Justice Agency and coordinator of the Indianapolis Violence Reduction Partnership; and research fellow at the Hudson Institute in Indianapolis where he also was a liaison with the Indianapolis Mayor's Office. Hutchens began his role as the planning division director on April 28th.

Arvin Copeland served as the administrative director of the Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency since 2005. Copeland was a firefighter in Wabash for 20 years, working his way through the ranks to chief, and served in that capacity from 1995-1999. Copeland has a background in firefighting, emergency management and as an elected official (mayor of Wabash). He began his duties as the emergency response division director on April 21st.

Pan-Flu Tabletop to Lead Into Functional Exercise

To better prepare for a possible influenza pandemic, a state tabletop exercise was convened March 28. The March event is the lead-in to a functional exercise in June.

The exercise was presented by the partnership of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, the Indiana State Department of Health and the Indiana State Board of Animal Health. The exercise was facilitated with the assistance of the Purdue Homeland Security Institute.

The morning session concentrated on influenza surveillance and animal disease issues, while the afternoon focused on pandemic influenza and human health.

The exercise was an opportunity to discuss the various challenges faced in minimizing the effects of an Avian and Pandemic Influenza outbreak in

Indiana. This design process employed a building-block approach of linked training and exercise activities that escalated in complexity throughout the exercise cycle.

Agency participants discussed capabilities and limitations among their respective agencies and determined what roles and responsibilities their agency has that best support Indiana's Avian and Pandemic Influenza Strategy. Target capabilities included:

- Communication
- Epidemiology/surveillance/labs
- Distribution of medical supplies
- Mass prophylaxis (vaccine), emergency triage, pre-hospital treatment and fatality management.

IVFA Annual Convention

Belterra Casino is the host site for Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association Convention 2008. The Convention will be held June 18-21. You won't want to miss out on the fun activities planned for this year's event.

Hotel reservations can be made directly to the hotel, either through the [website](#), or by calling (888) BELTERRA. Be sure to mention Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Convention to receive your room rate by phone, or use booking code: M70780 when booking online.

You can now register for the 2008 convention using the form on the [IVFA website](#). The registration fee is \$60 until June 1st, at which time it increases to \$70.



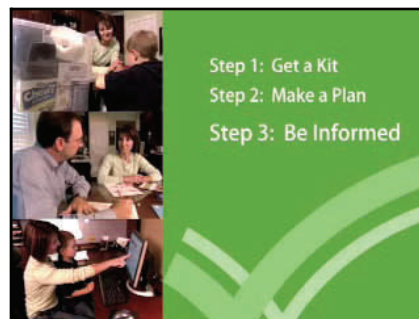
Family Preparedness Website

As severe weather approaches, we are reminded of the importance of preparedness. In order to educate people about the hazards of severe thunderstorms and tornadoes, IDHS would like to draw your attention to the family preparedness page of the IDHS website.

The IDHS family preparedness website is designed to help Hoosiers become more prepared to respond to and recover from a wide array of disasters, including natural and man-made. The website offers suggestions that will help you and your family develop an emergency plan, assemble a preparedness kit, and share basic information about how to obtain emergency and ongoing disaster recovery assistance.

An emergency can occur quickly and without warning. The most important thing to remember to keep yourself and

your family safe from an emergency is to prepare, stay calm, and follow instruction from emergency personnel. If a catastrophic event occurs in your community, it could take emergency workers several days to be able to reach you.



As stated previously, it is important to be prepared before an emergency strikes. A disaster situation can occur without warning and with little or no time for you and your family to prepare.

To learn about the types of emergencies that may affect your community, visit the website and click on "Get Informed." It is important to learn if your community has a warning system, via television, radio or warning signal. Emergencies may also strike when your family is away from home, so it is important to find out if your employer or child's school has a preparedness plan.

Emergency preparedness is no longer the sole concern of earthquake prone Californians and those who live in "Tornado Alley," including Indiana. Knowing what to do in an emergency is an important part of being prepared and may make all the difference when seconds count. Each Hoosier has a role to play in emergency preparedness.

For more information on family preparedness, visit the IDHS website at: <http://www.in.gov/dhs/3638.htm>.

Employees Receive Governor's Award

Executive Director Joe Wainscott recently announced members of the IDHS team who have been selected to receive one of this year's Governor's Awards for outstanding service and contributions to the State of Indiana and IDHS.



(L-R) George Thompson, Mara Snyder, Rosemary Petersen, Bob Lagrange, and Phil Brown.

Phil Brown, Rosemary Petersen, Mara Snyder, Bob Lagrange and George Thompson were recognized as a team for their work after the devastating tornado in Nappanee late last year. This disaster event left the City of Nappanee incurring over \$200,000 in storm damage.

The Response and Recovery division put together a team of IDHS employees who, in collaboration with the state's Disaster Relief Fund, worked diligently to develop and implement the state's first Individual Assistance and Public Assistance programs. Each team member played a vital role by conducting research, developing and implementing administrative plans, reviewing claimed damages, conducting field investigations, and providing expert legal knowledge and skills in order to obtain immediate implementation of the Individual Assistance and Public Assistance programs prior to adoption of the formal rules.

Through the dedication and hard work provided by these team members, the citizens of the City of Nappanee and the state of Indiana were provided assistance when no other options existed. To date, the Individual Assistance and Public Assistance programs have brought Hoosier citizens approximately \$2,511,200 in Small Business Administration loans, approximately \$6,696,227 in Housing Assistance, and approximately \$887,154 in other needed assistance. Today, the team members continue to enhance the programs in order to provide citizens relief in a more efficient and timely manner.



John Buckman

Additionally, John Buckman was recognized as an individual award recipient. For the last three years he has worked diligently to develop and implement the first state funded and supported fire training system in Indiana.

John established a local fire training committee in all ten Homeland Security districts, helped each district complete its training needs, assessments, and plans, identify and select a fiscal agent for each district, identify and select a district training hub, and establish an effective budget. He has aided the District Fire Training Committees in the

delivery of National Fire Academy courses across the state through the efficient use of NFA grant funds to firefighters around the state. He has also successfully promoted the NFA's Indiana Weekend, more than doubling the number of Indiana firefighters participating within just two years. Although, Indiana had a statute which outlined the mandatory level of training required for an individual to become a firefighter, no uniform curriculum for this training had been developed. This led to very poor test results by the new trainees.

Buckman organized a team of subject matter experts, developed a curriculum with learning objectives and practical skill expectations and created a comprehensive instructor guide, student manual, power point presentation, and other support materials. The instructional materials have now been supplied to more than 1000 fire instructors and nearly 4000 students in the past two years, resulting in a 15% increase in test scores for the mandatory fire test.

Today, he continues to lead several other fire training initiatives including Fire Chief Leadership Seminars, Firefighter Safety Initiatives, Courage to Be Safe Program, Instructor In-Service Seminars, Recruiting and Retaining Volunteer Firefighter Programs, Fire Training Infrastructure Grant Program, and Hazardous Materials and Technical Rescue Training Initiatives.

Because of the dedication and hard work of these individuals, the citizens of Indiana are served more efficiently and effectively. Please take a few moments to congratulate them.

New IDHS Employees



Division of Fire & Building Safety

Debra Noel, Secretary
Megan Clark, Secretary

Division of Planning

Carlos Baker, Planner

Division of Emergency Response - Communication

Gary Barnett, Tcom Tech

Division of Training - Certification

Regine Hampton, Secretary

Promotions

- Tony Bradshaw, Level 3 Code Review Official
- Ken Woodall, Assistant Director, Training Division





Mark Your Calendar!

MAY

- 7- Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Center Room B
402 W. Washington St., Indianapolis
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 7- Counter-Terrorism & Security Council (CTASC)
302 W. Washington St., Indianapolis
Conference Room 1 & 2
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- 7- Indiana Intelligence Fusion Center Sessions
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Rooms 1 & 2
302 W. Washington St., Indianapolis
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- 12- Indiana Emergency Response Commission
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Room 14
302 W. Washington St., Indianapolis
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- 13- Indiana Electrical Code Review Committee of the Fire Prevention & Building Safety Commission
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Center Room 5
402 W. Washington St., Indianapolis
- 13- Citizens' Advisory Commission Meeting
Vermillion County Emergency Response
259 Vine St., Clinton, IN 47842
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- 16- Indiana Elevator Code Review Committee of the Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission Meeting
Indiana Government Center South
Teleconference Media Center
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 16- Higher Education Advisory Board
Fort Wayne Public Safety Academy
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- 19- Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education
Anderson City Hall—City Council Chambers
120 E. 8th St., Anderson, IN 46011
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- 20- Indiana Homeland Security Foundation Project Committee
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Room C
302 W. Washington Street
10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- 22- District 3 Seminar
LaGrange, IN
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 28- EMA Conference Call
Call Originates at the IDHS Planning Division
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- 6- Indiana Elevator Code Review Committee of the Fire Prevention & Building Safety Commission
Indiana Government Center South
Teleconference Media Center
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 14- Search & Rescue Training Advisory Committee
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- 17- Indiana Homeland Security Foundation
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Room 17
302 W. Washington Street
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 19- Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education
Belterra Casino Resort
777 Belterra Dr., Vevey, IN 47020
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 25- EMA Conference Call
Call Originates at the IDHS Planning Division
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

JUNE

- 3- Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Center Room B
402 W. Washington St., Indianapolis
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 4- Indiana Boiler & Pressure Vessel Rules Board
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Center Room 12
402 W. Washington St., Indianapolis
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 4- Counter-Terrorism & Security Council (CTASC)
302 W. Washington St., Indianapolis
Conference Room TBD
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- 27- Indiana Elevator Code Review Committee of the Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission Meeting
Indiana Government Center South
Teleconference Media Center
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Indiana Department of Homeland Security

302 West Washington Street
Indiana Government Center South
Room E208
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232-3980 or (800) 669-7362

The Hoosier Responder is a publication of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security.
Please direct any questions or comments to the IDHS Public Information and Outreach Office at (317) 232-6632.