

The Seaboard

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CPR and Defibrillator Use

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) survival rates are more than four times higher when bystanders use CPR and an automated external defibrillator (AED) instead of CPR alone. That's why it is so important to maintain your AEDs. While AED failure is rare, batteries are the most common reason. In fact, more than 23% of AED failures are due to battery/power failure.

Like any machine, AEDs need to be maintained:

- ◆ Most batteries must be replaced at least every two years.
- ◆ Battery status and other indicator lights need to be checked every month.
- ◆ Electrode pads should be replaced by their use-by date.
- ◆ Any maintenance performed shall be recorded appropriately.
- ◆ When the AED is used the summary shall be downloaded and becomes part of the patient's record and a copy goes to MIEMSS in Baltimore.

Hosting A CERT Class

To host your own CERT class, you need a minimum of 10 adults to commit to attend all 8 sessions. A classroom with an outside area for fire extinguisher practice is also required. Once you've decided on the dates and time for the 24 hour program, call Tom Kane at 410-632-3080. Tom is also available for any questions you may have regarding organizing your class.

Community Outreach

If you or a member or know of any church, civic group, club, association, business or municipality we (and maybe one of you) will come and give a presentation about Preparedness and Emergency Management. We can do this nights, days, weekends, what ever is convenient to the group that requests us.

IRS Phone Calls — Fake!

It has come to the attention of local law enforcement that individuals are receiving calls from persons claiming that they or a family member owe money for unpaid taxes. In these cases individuals are contacted by scammers claiming that they are federal employees and that the individual owes money. These individuals are told that they can avoid arrest, foreclosure or suspension/termination of services if they make payment.

The IRS does not and will not ask for credit card numbers over the phone, nor request a prepaid debit or wire transfer. The IRS only makes contact by mail.

Other characteristics of this scam may include scammers using fake names and IRS badge numbers. They usually use common names and surnames to identify themselves. Some may spoof the IRS toll free number on caller ID to make it appear that it

is the IRS calling. These scams cost honest citizens thousands of unrecoverable dollars.

If you believe you may have been a victim to any of these scams, call your local law enforcement agency.

School Bus Safety

- ◆ Line up facing the bus, not along side of it
- ◆ Do not play in the street while waiting for the bus
- ◆ Carry loose belongings in a bag or backpack
- ◆ Never reach under the school bus to get something
- ◆ When getting off the school bus, move onto the sidewalk and out of traffic



Getting Prepared for a Flood

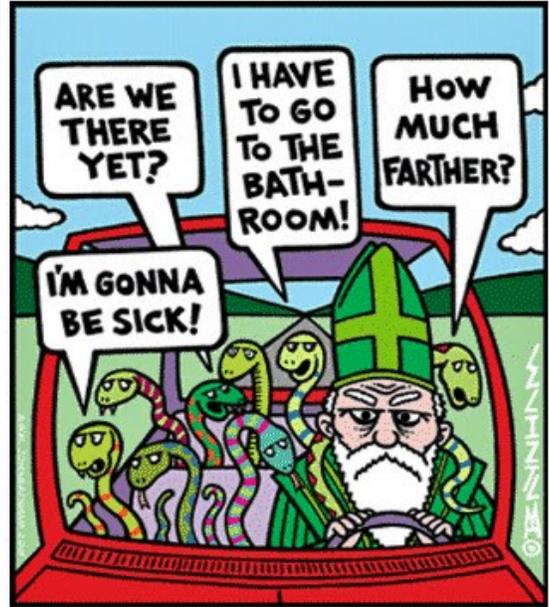
- ◆ Sign up for alerts
- ◆ Test your family emergency plan
- ◆ Update emergency supplies
- ◆ Conduct a drill
- ◆ Participate in preparedness classes or training, i.e. CERT

Current CERT Class Photos

These pictures are courtesy of **Dan Collins** who was in the Ocean Pines CERT class last year. Thank you Dan, we appreciate your time and effort.



Happy St. Patrick's Day



St. Patrick driving the snakes out of Ireland.

Special Thanks

I would like to thank **Peter Kupec** in our IT Department. He edits and posts these newsletters to our web site. I wouldn't be able to accomplish this without his help.

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