

The Seaboard

January 2016

Volume 1, Issue 1

Special points of interest:

- Keeping CERT engaged
- Apps & Websites
- FEMA Winter Tips
- Don't Forget Your Pets
- Outreach
- Next Training Opportunity

Keeping CERT Engaged

Now that we have had 4 CERT classes taught in Worcester County, we want to maintain your interest. As we said on the first day of classes, this CERT program is to keep yourself, your family and your neighbor prepared. If you want to become more involved there are volunteer agencies looking for members or you can assist Worcester County with events and/or incidents. We have also developed a close working relationship with Ocean City CERT and Emergency Management. This should allow us to attend training and participate in some of their scheduled events if needed.

Do not feel that this training is mandatory. We just want to

keep your interest at your level of comfort. If you attend this training frequently, once a year, once every couple of years, or not at all, that is fine. Just always remember to be aware and prepared like we talked about in class.

As my CERT agendas come out for upcoming classes, you are always invited to attend any class that interests you for a refresher. Maybe even give the current class your perspective on being a CERT person.

The name Seaboard came from a book on Worcester County history called, Along the Seaboard Shore. If anybody has any suggestions for a more appropriate name for this newsletter let me know.

If anybody has a suggestion for a training topic please let me know. I would rather have you pick the topics that interest you rather than me pick the topics that I think you may be interested in. Also suggest any topics that would be good for our newsletter. I like to research things plus it's a way for me to learn as well.

Thanks for taking CERT and be safe!

Training Opportunities will be in the "Special Points of Interest Column.

Tom

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My Favorite Apps and Websites

I am far from an IT geek but I do like to know what is going on around me and even abroad because of family.

Here's a couple of my favorites:

1. www.intellicast.com

Good local weather

2. www.fema.gov/email

Sign up for email reports

3. mema.maryland.gov

OK app but good state news

4. www.mdema.org

State association news including scholarships

5. www.teamrubiconusa.org

This is the group that I volunteer for.

VOLUNTEER



The Seaboard

News From FEMA To Keep Warm

Just because the Hurricane Season is over, don't let your guard down. Think of winter events and how you will prepare and handle them. Some winter hints;

If using a generator, you MUST have a CO detector in your living areas.

How old is your car battery? Winter weather requires more cranking amps from your car battery.

Watch the weather reports before you take a road trip for any disturbances between your home and your destination.

Keep your car filled with gas and carry extra blankets just in case you get stuck on the side of the road.

If you have a cell phone, is there a charger in your car to charge the cell phone off the battery?

Have your furnace and wall heaters checked by a professional.

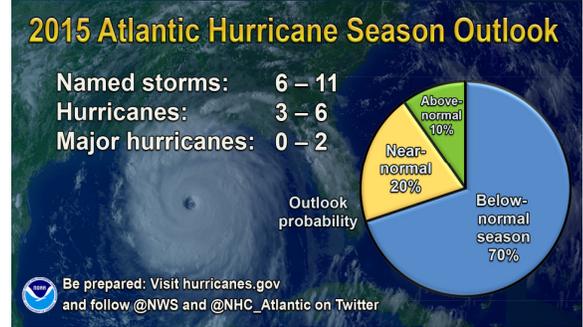
Check that your NOAA weather radio is working.

Stuff towels or rags in cracks under doors..

Close off unused rooms.

Cover exposed plumbing fixtures and pipes or leave water dripping when temperatures drop below freezing.

Check on elderly and disabled people living



alone. Make sure they are prepared for winter conditions.

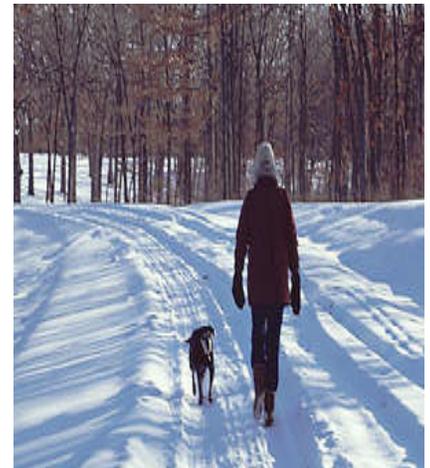
Prepare a survival kit with supplies needed to survive for a minimum of three days, You know the rest!!

“Never, no matter what may be the progress of science, will honest men who have regard for their reputation venture to predict the weather.”

Winter Safety Tips For Pets

You should keep pets indoors during winter months and at the very least, outdoor pets must be provided with shelter. The shelter should be elevated off the ground to prevent moisture accumulation and have a door of some kind to keep out winter winds, sleet, and snow. Water sources may be heated to permit constant access to unfrozen water. Outdoor pets require extra calories to keep warm. In se-

verely cold or inclement weather, no pet should be kept outside. Indoor pets should have sleeping quarters in a draft free warm area with their bed or mattress elevated slightly off the floor. Small animals may climb onto a vehicles engine to seek warmth, check under the hood or honk your horn before starting if engine is warm.



Arago's Admonition

Outreach

If you are 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, or weekends, what ever is convenient to the group that requests us.



MEMA Preparedness App



Top Photo: CERT meeting in Ocean City on 11/4/2015. Photo by Dan Collins of Ocean Pines. Topic was to see what training topics were of interest to CERT personnel. Representatives were from Ocean City, Worcester, and Wicomico CERT.

Middle Photo: Edo is a Rock Star!!



Bottom Photo: CERT meeting in Worcester County on 2/28/2015. Corporal Dale Trotter and his K-9 partner Edo from the Worcester County Sheriff's Office gave demonstrations on bomb sniffing and traffic control. I must say, those K-9 animals are AMAZING. We will have them back again. Middle and Bottom photo by Joe Lieb of Ocean City.



Next Training Opportunity will be January 30, 2016 at the Fire Training Center in Newark, Maryland. Topic will be ICS and ICS forms. Hours are 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call or email Tom Kane to register. tkane@co.worcester.md.us 410-632-3081