
HELP CAER™

Quarterly Newsletter

February 2010

Serving the East Multnomah County Public/Private Sectors since 1993

Dale Shamp, NACCO Materials Handling Group– Facilitator
Jim Slauson, - Program Coordinator
Cherilyn Foglio - Program Coordinator

Karen Reynolds, MHCC – Newsletter
Theodora Tsongas, PSU - Newsletter

HELP CAER in East Multnomah and Clackamas County.....

would like to invite each and every one of you who receive this newsletter to attend our next quarterly meeting.

We are a very relaxed group of individuals, fun to be around, and we have many interesting ways of handling a variety of issues which may affect the way you do business in the area of safety and business recovery.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS: Gresham City Hall, Conference Rooms, March, June, September, and December

PARKING: Gresham City Hall parking lot.

MARCH MEETING

Gresham City Hall
1333 NW Eastman Parkway
10:30 – Noon
March 3, 2010
Wednesday

SPEAKER

Stephanie Morgan

Director, Health & Safety and Community Programs
American Red Cross

Oregon's New AED Law is Here– [Learn More Now!](#)

Oregon Trail Chapter
3131 N. Vancouver Avenue, Portland, OR 97227
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morgans@redcross-pdx.org | www.oregonredcross.org

Upcoming CAER – HELP Meetings, June 2, 2010, September 1, 2010

The CAER Help group quarterly meetings are in March, June, September and December. When needed, Special Agenda Meetings, SAM, will be held between quarterly meetings.

December 2, 2009 HELP-CAER meeting – Dr. Theodora Tsongas facilitated the meeting; Dale Shamp was out of town.

Correction to the December Newsletter, Dr. Gary Oxman is with the Multnomah County Health Department.

Old Business:

1. **Decision to become a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)** – We will let the State Fire Marshal’s Office know that we are not able to become a LEPC at this time. We will reconsider next year.

If we don’t become a LEPC, what is the plan for our HELP CAER group? Is there value in the public sector, business-industry connection? Jim Slauson said, “Yes. Companies are cutting back and this is a valuable coordination – training opportunity.”

The HELP CAER group provides:

- Assistance preparing an emergency response plan. Oftentimes small businesses must submit a Tier 1 report to the State Fire Marshal. They may not belong to the Chamber or other networking groups where they can compare notes and determine if they need to have an emergency response plan. Their insurance companies are driving them toward creating an emergency response plan, and if they don’t, their premiums may increase.
 - Other opportunities to share emergency and business continuity plans and training, for instance the Oregon Continuity Planners, led by Marilyn Nicolas: and EPIC, which is led by Doug McGillivray, provides emergency management training and networking opportunities.
2. **How can we increase participation?** The State Fire Marshal provides the names and contacts for companies that submit Tier 1, Hazardous Materials Planning information and Todd Felix can refer us to the folks in the City of Gresham who maintain the list of city Business Licenses – the database is not accessible to CAER group.

New Business:

1. **Business Continuity Workshop** - Todd Felix, Gresham Emergency Manager, and Latham Avery, Americorp Volunteer for the City of Gresham, canvassed business “door to door” and distributed Pandemic Flu and Continuity of Operations Planning

information for small businesses. The companies were receptive to a half-day presentation in February.

2. **Does the name of our group reflect the work that we do?** **HELP CAER** stands for Hazardous, Emergency and Local Planning - Community Awareness and Emergency Response. We strive to HELP and CAER for all the businesses in our East County area.

Regulatory:

City of Gresham Fire and Emergency Services – The two Deputy Fire Marshals requested that we be patient when requesting inspection services in Gresham, Troutdale, and Corbett.

Kim Coxen is inspecting EHS sites and schools and Shawn Durham is reviewing plans and doing the building department inspections. We are not alone in this cutback on governmental services and many exempt agencies are relying on the State Fire Marshal for inspections.

No reports from OR-OSHA, DEQ, Fire Marshal, Cascadia EQ CREW.org or UofW.edu group. They have not been able to attend our meetings because of staff cutbacks.

Training:

The Incident Command System (ICS) class schedule through Sept 2010 has been posted on the Oregon Emergency Management Website:

http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM/plans_train/train_exercise.shtml

Incident Command Training at the Northwest Regional Training Center – Vancouver, WA http://www.nwrtc.org/homeland_security/training.php

Oregon OSHA is providing free safety training classes for the Gresham and East County area at Mt. Hood Community College. Schedule and registration website:

<http://www.orosha.org/education.html>

Networking:

Kelle Landavazo, City of Gresham Emergency Management has 2010 calendars for us. Regional Emergency Management partners create these and they are a wealth of information. There are specific, preparedness topics for each month and local emergency contact numbers on the cover.

Staci Huffaker, Mt. Hood Community College – The HINI vaccinations clinic at Mt. Hood was very successful. They set the Multnomah County Health Department record for vaccinations per hour – over 500! There were 200 plus volunteers from the college, CERT teams, Sheriff's explorers, Gresham Emergency Management and the health department. The Mt. Hood CC nursing student and staff provided the vaccinations which focused on the high risk members of our population: children, pregnant mother and individuals with compromised health. The Incident Command System was used to organize and run the event. It was a great learning experience and we had a great outcome. The County wants to do another smaller vaccination Point of Distribution (POD) next week.

Dr. Theodora Tsongas will be bringing the treats for the March meeting. Thank you!

Future Speakers:

In March the Red Cross will update us on the new requirements for Automatic Electronic Defibrillators, (AED). January 1, 2010, is the compliance date for the new Oregon law. requiring AED's in businesses with more than 50,000 sq. feet or 25 people in the building. Staci Huffaker and Karen Reynolds at Mt. Hood Community College are happy to share their written program with the HELP-CAER members. Staci.Huffaker@mhcc.edu
Karen.reynolds@mhcc.edu,

Ideas for Speakers?

- ❖ Fire Marshal regulations topics.
- ❖ Develop ideas for speakers from monthly topics in the emergency calendar.

Speaker Notes, National Weather Service Winter Forecast

Mr. Steve Todd, member of "Oregonians for Nebraska" and Meteorologist in Charge, National Weather Service, Portland, OR,

Will our winter be mild? Is computer modeling or the width of wooly worm stripes the best indicator? Irrespective, the upcoming cold snaps (in December 2009) are a setup for freezing rain – take heed. This condition happens when we have warmer, moisture laden air above, and cold air below.

How to make Freezing Rain: Create the Columbia River Gorge. Did you know that Troutdale and east end of the Gorge have the highest frequency of freezing rain in the country? The cold air on the east side of the Gorge picks up moisture and blows through the narrow walls – the wind friction prevents the rain from freezing, then when the Gorge opens up into the valley the wind slows down, temperature drops and the rain freezes.

Recap of last year 08-09: We had three extreme weather events – December snow, January flooding and the longest spread of summer heat.

The December 2008 snowstorm set the record for the 3rd annual, highest December snowfall highest since 1940. 1950 is the record breaking year for snowfall in western Oregon. These record breaking snowfalls rarely occur on our side of the Cascades because it takes a tricky combination of moisture laden, northerly flow of air from Alaska and British Columbia and a low pressure zone.

Snow Advisory: (nuisance notice) 1-3 inches in the valley, or over six inches of snow in the Cascades in the next 12 hours

Snow Warning: (more severe) 3-6 inches in the valley, over 12 inches in the Cascades in 12 hours

The January 2009 floods were nothing compared to the heavy rain and flooding of 1996. Twelve inches of water in snow pack melted in 3 days plus an additional 18” of rain fell. 1964 is also a benchmark year for floods.

How to make a flood: Add one Pineapple Express to sufficient snow pack. A Pineapple Express – the key ingredient, is formed when an area of convection across the tropics starts heading west. The polar jet stream splits, and the lower arm connects with warm tropical air and drops rain on us. This is also a tricky combination, which is why weather people get so excited when it happens.

And for us in East County, we had “The Wind Storm” that brought down hundreds of trees.

How to make OUR wind storms: You need a strong, off shore, low pressure area and an upper, strong low or jet stream from the SW.

High winds east of the coast range occur once or twice a season, October through March. A major storms happen every 10 years or so. Minor storms last 3-4 hours in the valley; major storms last 6-8 hours. The 1962 Columbus Day storm is the benchmark from San Francisco to Idaho to British Columbia. Winds were clocked at 116 mph on the Marcum Bridge and 176 mph at Cape Lazo, BC. During the 2007 wind storm, speeds reached 140 mph in SW Washington.

The 08-09 winter had high winds, greater than 40 mph with 58 mph gusts, and multiple storms over a 32-38 hours period. The trees suffer the most damage. They develop microfractures that could not withstand the continuous wind pressure.

Winter Weather Forecast: ***EL NINO !!***

El Nino = above normal equatorial water temperature. La Nina = below normal equatorial water temperature.

The normal thunderstorm pattern in the western Pacific Ocean is from east to west and this causes cold water to rise along the Pacific Coast. Depending on the equatorial temperature, the upwelling water is warmer – El Nino, or colder – La Nina, than normal.

El Nino’s typically cause excessive thunderstorms and wet weather in California, and we stay warmer. Right now we are in an El Nino. It is a mild to moderate El Nino which is expected to peak in December 2009 and drop off in the springtime. The actual temperature difference between El and La Nina’s is ½ degree warmer between October and December. A more significant difference of one degree occurs between January and March. One degree? That’s all? La Nina’s bring us more rainfall January – March. We get more rain than Seattle! El Nino’s bring us more snowfall.

Steve reminded us that in any weather pattern you will have significant storms; they are just a little less likely in an El Nino year. Last year was a La Nina and looked what happened! The fact is that neutral years tend to have the more severe weather storms.

In the second half of the winter we will be warming up. We expect to be a bit below normal for precipitation, while California and the southern USA should be above normal. (We think you had this one right, Steve!) Look for below average snow pack levels and above normal temperatures this summer.

How to stay informed of the weather:

The National Weather Service <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/> , has On Demand weather, a Portland Oregon webpage <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/pqr/> , forecast discussion in text and AFD formats, and graphs of temperature, wind and humidity. They also have links to the road cams, the moon phase and tide information.

Question: How do the TV people use the forecast information?

Answer: Some are trained meteorologists and interpret the National Weather Service data. They prepare the models for the weather reporters or explain it themselves. Channel 8 has their own Doppler station and also uses the NWS Dopplers to forecast the weather.

Question: Are the NOAA weather stations broadcasting these forecast discussions?

Answer: Yes, that is where they are reading from.

Question: Can I get forecasts by cell phone or wireless means?

Answer: Yes for more information visit this website: <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/cte.htm>

Weather Guy Lingo:

Outlook – weather pattern shows potential to become a warning notice

Watch – 30% chance of occurring in 12-72 hours

Warning – 60-70% chance of occurring 12-72 hours

Information:

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/pubs/newsletter/OregonEnvironmentWinter2010.htm> Start the New Year right with Oregon Environment, an on line newsletter.

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/lab/wgm/assessment.htm> Willamette River Basin: Watershed Health Problems and Potential Solutions

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d96f984dfb3ff7718525735900400c29>
EPA News Releases from Region 10

01/13/2010 [EPA Announces Regional Administrator for Region 10 - Regional Agency Headquarters in Seattle](#)

02/25/2010 [City of Eugene receives EPA grant to combat greenhouse gases](#)

<http://www.fema.gov/news/recentnews.fema> Recent FEMA news releases

<http://www.oregonemergency.com/> Oregon Emergency Management Association. Save the Date for the 2010 Annual Conference, October 10-14, Hood River Best Western

http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM/plans_train/train_exercise.shtml Oregon Emergency Management Training Calendar

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING IN OREGON, January 13, 2010

| Date | Course Title | Location | Host Agency | Prerequisites | Cost | Process To Register for Course |
|----------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|--|
| 1/25-28/10 | AHIMT: All Hazards Operations Section Chief | Hermiston | Hermiston Fire Department | ICS 300 & 400 and one of the following: ICS 420, AHIMT, or Command & General Staff Functions for Local IMT | None | Dean Marcum 541-567-2353 ppe5@eoni.com |
| 1/27-28/10 | Scenario Based Executive Law Enforcement Training | Beaverton | Beaverton Police Department | None | None | |
| 2/8-11/10 | ICS 300 and 400 | Oregon City | Clackamas Co Emergency Management | ICS 100 & 200 | None | Nora Yotsov norayot@co.clackamas.or.us |
| 2/8-11/10 | AHIMT: All Hazards Planning Section Chief | Hermiston | Hermiston Fire Department | ICS 300 & 400 and one of the following: ICS 420, AHIMT, or Command & General Staff Functions for Local IMT | None | Dean Marcum 541-567-2353 ppe5@eoni.com |
| 2/9/10 | MGT-342: Water/Waste Water During Emergencies/Manager | Grants Pass | Grants Pass Public Works | None | None | thaugen@grantspassoregon.gov |
| 2/10-11/10 | MGT-343: Water/Waste Water During Emergencies | Grants Pass | Grants Pass Public Works | None | None | thaugen@grantspassoregon.gov |
| 2/22-26/10 | S-320: Command and General Staff for Local IMTs | Clatskanie | Columbia Co Emergency Management | ICS 100-400 | None | Lorraine Churchill 503-366-3928 Lorraine.Churchill@co.columbia.or.us |
| 3/1-4/10 | AHIMT: All Hazards Logistics Section Chief | Hermiston | Hermiston Fire Department | ICS 300 & 400 and one of the following: ICS 420, AHIMT, or Command & General Staff Functions for Local IMT | None | Dean Marcum 541-567-2353 ppe5@eoni.com |
| 3/10-11/10 | MGT-310: WMD Threat and Vulnerability Assessment | Portland | Multnomah Co Emergency Management | None | None | Bob Grist bob.grist@co.multnomah.or.us |
| 3/16/10 | MGT-336: Operational Value of Threat Risk/Vulnerability Assessment | Hillsboro | Hillsboro Police Department | None | None | henryr@ci.hillsboro.or.us |
| 3/17-19/10 | HSEEP Course and TTT | Pendleton | Oregon Emergency Management | None | None | Stan Ross 541-966-9640 sross@oem.state.or.us |
| 3/23-25/10 | HSEEP Course and TTT | Portland | Multnomah Co Emergency Management | None | None | Bob Grist bob.grist@co.multnomah.or.us |
| 3/24/10, 8:00-12:00 | AWR-130: Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings | Oregon City | Clackamas Co Emergency Management | None | None | Nora Yotsov norayot@co.clackamas.or.us |
| 3/24/10, 13:00-17:00 | AWR-131: Prevention and Response to Suicide Bombings Incidents | Oregon City | Clackamas Co Emergency Management | None | None | Nora Yotsov norayot@co.clackamas.or.us |
| 4/5-7/10 | All Hazard Incident Management Team Workshop | Hermiston | Hermiston Fire Department | ICS 300 & 400 and one of the following: ICS 420, AHIMT, or | None | Dean Marcum 541-567-2353 ppe5@eoni.com |

| | | | | Command & General Staff Functions for Local IMT | | |
|--------------------------|--|-------------|-----------------------------------|---|------|---|
| 4/21-22/10 | MGT-310: WMD Threat and Vulnerability Assessment | Portland | Multnomah Co Emergency Management | None | None | Bob Grist bob.grist@co.multnomah.or.us |
| 6/9/10 | AWR-160: WMD Awareness | Oregon City | Clackamas Co Emergency Management | None | None | Nora Yotsov norayot@co.clackamas.or.us |
| 6/21/10 | AWR-160: WMD Awareness | Portland | State Health | None | None | sudhir.oberoi@state.or.us |
| 6/22-23/10 | AWR-202: Water Sector Interdependencies | Portland | None | None | | jsullivan@wef.org |
| 6/22-24/10 | PER-240: Radiological/Nuclear Responder Operations | Portland | None | None | | jsullivan@wef.org |
| 8/11/10, 8:00-12:00 | AWR-130: Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings | Oregon City | Clackamas Co Emergency Management | None | None | Nora Yotsov norayot@co.clackamas.or.us |
| 8/11/2010, 13:00-1:00 | AWR-131: Prevention and Response to Suicide Bombings Incidents | Oregon City | Clackamas Co Emergency Management | None | None | Nora Yotsov norayot@co.clackamas.or.us |
| 9/20-24/10 | Advanced Forensics Investigations for Hazardous Environments | Portland | Portland Police Bureau | WMD Awareness | None | rmason@portlandpolice.org |
| 9/27-30/10 | ICS 300 and 400 | Oregon City | Clackamas Co Emergency Management | None | None | Nora Yotsov norayot@co.clackamas.or.us |

http://www.nwrtc.org/homeland_security/training.php Northwest Regional Training Center – Homeland Security Training schedule,