



The Preparedness Post

August 2019

CEPAC/LEPC Full Scale Exercise



The Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council (CEPAC) of Franklin County in conjunction with Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) and Marathon Petroleum held the annual Full Scale Exercise (FSE) on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at Marathon Petroleum on the city's west side. The exercise featured fire response to hazardous materials incident

involving a fuel storage tank fire.

The exercise was held to validate the emergency operations plans (EOPs) and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for private sector businesses, local jurisdictions and emergency partners in Franklin County including Franklin Township Fire & Police, Columbus Fire, Columbus Public Health and Marathon Petroleum.

The After Action Report (AAR) concluded that all evaluated capabilities were met including Incident Assessment and Command, Resource Management, Communication, Response Personnel Safety, Population Protective Actions, Emergency Public Information and Warning, and Traffic Access and Control. The exercise was partially funded by a PUCO Grant and received concurrence from the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) earlier this month.

National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month (NPM) and Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) encourages residents to plan and prepare for all hazards before they happen. The month serves as a timely reminder that emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere without advance notice. The time to prepare is before the disaster happens.



This year's theme is "Prepared, Not Scared." The campaign emphasizes the need for all residents to know how to respond and what to do should disaster strike. Citizens are reminded to be informed about the top risks facing Franklin County and register for ALERT Franklin County at www.alertfranklincounty.org to receive important information and weather alerts on their mobile devices. FCEM&HS encourages everyone to create an emergency

plan that includes all family members and pets, build a disaster supply kit, and get involved by learning lifesaving skills - such as CPR and first aid.

Throughout National Preparedness Month, FCEM&HS will feature a different preparedness theme each week on Facebook and Twitter. Weekly themes include:

- Save Early for Disaster Costs
- Make a Plan to Prepare for Disasters
- Teach Youth to Prepare for Disasters
- Get Involved in Your Community's Preparedness

As part of National Preparedness Month, FCEM&HS encourages parents to include the whole family in the planning process. Young children and teens can learn how to become better prepared, build an emergency supply kit and become a "Disaster Master" by playing online games at www.ready.gov/kids/games.

FCEM&HS Radio Communications Coordinator



FCEM&HS is pleased to welcome Johnna Sells as the Agency's new Radio Communications Coordinator. Johnna will be responsible for managing public safety communications systems coordinated by FCEM&HS including the Franklin County Radio system, Franklin County 911 database and Homeland Security Regional Communications. She will also serve as a liaison to the county's Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), multiple communication centers and the Central Ohio Amateur

Radio groups. Johnna brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise in public safety communications to the Agency. Prior to joining FCEM&HS, Johnna served as a Communications Supervisor and Dispatcher for The Ohio State University Department of Public Safety.

Please join us as we welcome Johnna to our team.

Great Central U.S. ShakeOut Earthquake Drill

FCEM&HS is urging the community to join millions of people who will [Drop, Cover, and Hold On](#) at 10:17 a.m. on October 17, 2019 in the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut Earthquake Drill. Although Franklin County has a low probability for earthquakes and no damage has been reported, earthquake movement has been felt locally from incidents in other parts of Ohio. Earthquakes strike without any warning, allowing no time for preparation or evacuation.



Earthquakes can happen anywhere you live, work, attend school or travel. The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut provides the perfect opportunity to practice how to protect ourselves and become prepared. The recommend safety action should an earthquake occur is to [Drop, Cover, and Hold On](#).

During an earthquake, residents should **Drop** to the ground, take **Cover** under a sturdy table or desk if possible to protect your head and neck and **Hold On** until the shaking stops.

[Click here](#) for more information and how to participate in the 2019 Great Central U.S. ShakeOut.

Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security fosters non-political cooperation and coordinates all-hazards emergency/disaster planning, education, warning,

response and recovery efforts for the 42 local government jurisdictions of Franklin County.

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