

# HSEM UPDATE

St. Clair County Office of Emergency Management Homeland Security  
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St. Clair County, MI

1/22/2015

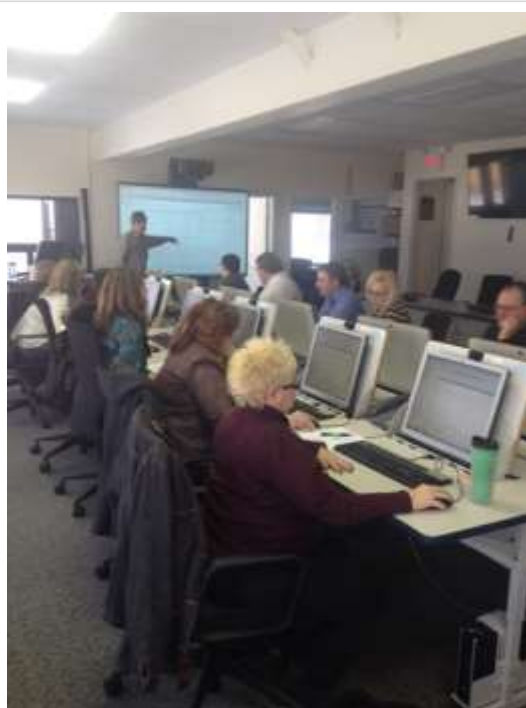
Volume One, Issue One

## WARNING INFORMATION NOTIFICATION SYSTEM (WINS)

We have seen the commercial how 15 minutes with Geico saves us money! Well the St. Clair County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is pleased to announce that if you spend 5 minutes with WINS, it could be a significant life saver for you and your family.

The Warning Information Notification System (WINS) is a county wide alliance of public and private organizations that have a shared need to send information to private groups within their organization or, to the public at large. Several organizations within the boundaries of St. Clair County have a shared need to rapidly get information to employees, groups, and the general public.

The system is capable of sending alerts in numerous ways that include; Home Phones, Cell Phones, Text Messages, E-Mails, and TTY devices. Additionally, the software can leave a message, it can require an acknowledgement/confirmation, or



Members from various municipalities received WINS system training in January of 2015

### HOW DOES WINS WORK?

When we issue a notification about a potential safety hazard or concern, you will receive a message on the voice or text communication methods that you have registered for. If requested for the notification, you can confirm that you have received the message and you will not be contacted by any subsequent methods regarding that particular notification. If you do not confirm, the system will continue to attempt to reach you at all of the contact paths that you have registered.

it can require an option be chosen from the menu.

The public side of the program allows users to choose what types of notifications are important to them and how they wish to receive them. Although emergency alerts are mandatory, there are unlimited possibilities for organizations to set up various types of public notifications.

All local governments (with the exception of two) are now using the system and are being trained to provide such things as Mayor Announcements, Council Announcements, Board Announcements, Community Policing, Fire Safety, Public Works, Recreation, Well-Being checks etc. to those of you who desire that information.

We have 2 school districts that are participating and will provide school closing/early dismissal,

health alerts, parent teacher notices, and much more.

The St. Clair County Office of Homeland Security has created this public/private partnership in acknowledgement of the community's shared need to have a stable, cost effective way to communicate with public and private groups. This collaboration will allow each organization to ensure their information is available to a wide group as there will be "one stop shopping" which requires a user to sign up once and choose what organizations are important to them based on where they live, work, play, or go to school.

## **MULTI VEHICLE ACCIDENT REVIEW**

Next week we will be coordinating a workgroup consisting of law enforcement, fire, EMS, hazmat and hospitals to review response to a multi vehicle accident. In the past weeks, there have been at least three of these incidents in Michigan and also others in the nation. The I-94 accident involved approximately 190 vehicles, killing 1 and injuring 23. Involved were a truck fire involving fireworks and a tanker spilling 800 gallons of formic acid.

The goal of the workgroup is to create a support attachment to the County Emergency Operations Plan and develop an EOC tabletop exercise for the entire event and a command post exercise designed for the first 3 hours of the event.



Pileup on I-94 between Battle Creek and Galesburg on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Photo courtesy of [www.wzzm13.com](http://www.wzzm13.com)

## **BE READY ST. CLAIR COUNTY**

It is important that St. Clair County plans for large scale events with a “whole community” approach. A significant part of that is citizen preparedness. Although when you have an emergency such as a fire, breaking or entering or medical emergency, emergency responders are at your door in a matter of minutes.

When a large scale event(s) occurs, there will not be enough emergency responders to be everywhere at once. Furthermore weather conditions such as an ice storm, blizzard may delay response for hours or even days making it even more important that residents prepare to be on their own for up to 72 hours.

Our office has partnered with EBWtv to provide on educational videos available for view 24/7.

The” **Be Ready St. Clair County**” partnership with EBWtv provides a weekly studio interview with community members to discuss safety issues important to the public.

### **This week’s Be Ready St. Clair County video** (Hold control button down and click on links)

Kirk Weston, Managing Director, Road Commission discusses the Road Commissions work to clear snow from the county's streets

[http://www.ebw.tv/PlayVideo?vid=38063&aid=6&cid=12&d=Kirk\\_Weston,\\_Ma](http://www.ebw.tv/PlayVideo?vid=38063&aid=6&cid=12&d=Kirk_Weston,_Ma)

### **Recommended from the 2014:**

Sandy Hook Part 1

[http://www.ebw.tv/PlayVideo?vid=16141&cid=12&d=The\\_Sandy\\_Hook](http://www.ebw.tv/PlayVideo?vid=16141&cid=12&d=The_Sandy_Hook)

Sandy Hook Part 2

[http://www.ebw.tv/PlayVideo?vid=17166&cid=12&d=The\\_Sandy\\_Hook](http://www.ebw.tv/PlayVideo?vid=17166&cid=12&d=The_Sandy_Hook)



Or visit our website at:

[www.bereadystclaircounty.org](http://www.bereadystclaircounty.org)



Nationwide, one hundred six firefighters (47 volunteer, 29 career and 30 wild land agency) died while on duty in 2013.

- Activities related to emergency incidents resulted in the deaths of 77 firefighters.
- Fifty-five firefighters died while engaging in activities at the scene of a fire.
- Fourteen firefighters died while responding to or returning from 14 emergency incidents.
- Nine firefighters died as the result of vehicle crashes.
- Heart attacks were the most frequent cause of death with 36 firefighter deaths.

### CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Critical infrastructure comprises the goods and services that are necessary for business continuity and are vital to daily life for each and every American. Our infrastructure is grouped into broad sectors and includes a vast array of multi-dimensional, physical and virtual assets, systems, networks, and functions. Disrupting or destroying our Nation's critical infrastructure would have major impacts, because we are all connected to it—individual citizens, the private sector, and all levels of government.

### HELPFUL LINKS

In Nasty Weather, High-Tech Sensors Get The Lights Back On Faster

<http://goo.gl/dQydEu>

This Smart Battery Sends a Message to Your Phone When Your Smoke Detector Sounds

<http://goo.gl/rm790K>

A Year After West Virginia Chemical Spill, Some Signs of Safer Water

<http://goo.gl/ILScga>

### UPCOMING TRAINING

#### NIMS TRAINING

ICS 400: Wednesday, February 18th & 19th

8:00am – 4:30pm

Who must take it, What it covers

All Federal/State/Local/Tribal/Private Sector & Nongovernmental personnel should take ICS-400, including:

- Persons who will serve as command or general staff in an ICS organization, select department heads with multi-agency coordination system responsibilities, area commanders, emergency managers, and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center managers.