

VDH OEP TRAINING IN FOCUS

Are You Ready? OEP Quarterly Training Newsletter



Leadership Letter

We are at the “IN-Betweens” Still a month remaining in the Atlantic Hurricane Season; and beginning to see advancing cooler weather and the promise of Winter. Most forecasts highlight a 60% chance of a weak La Niña weather pattern, suggesting the southern U.S. will likely experience warmer temperatures and below-normal precipitation, leading to less snow in our area this Winter. Don’t take this to the Bank; always prepare for the unexpected and plan for worst-case-scenarios.

Speaking of scenarios, we continue to experience high incidence of Environmental and Drinking Water Events. Good chance to dust off AARs in these areas as well as visiting your Continuity Plans for currency and completeness.

Relationship building and maintenance have been a cornerstone in our Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R) Programs. Please continue to maintain and expand these partnerships.

In OEP we find ourselves continually referring to our compendium of After-Action Reports and Improvement Plans (AARs/Ips). We all know how counterproductive it is to RELEARN a Lesson; so, take time to revisit your AARs/Ips and, if corrective actions have not been implemented, identify what needs to be done, assign responsibility, and track through completion.

As always thanks for all you do for Virginia, VDH, and your jurisdictions.

Best, Bob
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VDH: Everbridge HAN Group Manager and Dispatcher Refresher Training (Live Event)
Course ID 1059198 –This course provides Group Managers and Dispatchers with refresher trainings on various topics regarding the functionality of using Everbridge HAN.

Day/Date/Time	Topic	Job Aid
Wednesday, November 6, 2024/9:30am-10:30am	Reports Tab (Group Managers only)	<u>Reports Tab Job Aid</u>

NOTE: The 2025 HAN training schedule will be released in December. If you have any questions please contact Donald Moore at donald.moore@vdh.virginia.gov



2025 Public Health Preparedness Summit and Virginia Epidemiology Seminar

Reimagining Public Health Preparedness for the Future

March 25-27, 2025

Richmond, VA

The Public Health Preparedness Summit and Virginia Epidemiology Seminar provide a venue where participants are exposed to current information, research findings, practical tools, and lessons learned from the public health emergency response to strengthen public health preparedness in Virginia. [Visit the summit webpage for updates!](#) Direct questions to James Sclater at james.sclater@vdh.virginia.gov



Incident Command System (ICS) Training

ICS- 400 Advanced Incident Command

Location: Peninsula Health District 836 J Clyde Morris Blvd Newport News, VA 23601

Dates: November 18th- November 19th

Class Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Contact James Sclater at james.sclater@vdh.virginia.gov with questions

ICS-400 provides training and resources for responders who require advanced application of the ICS by providing overall incident management skills rather than tactical expertise. Expanding upon information covered in ICS-100 through ICS-300 courses, ICS-400 emphasizes large-scale organizational development, roles and relationships of the command and general staff, and planning, operational, logistical, and fiscal considerations related to large and complex incident and event management. The course also describes the application of Area Command and the importance of interagency coordination on complex incidents and events.



The EP&R Lunch and Learn program is perfect for short powerful training sessions to address hot topics. They occur on the second Thursday of each month from 11:00-11:30 am for those that are interested. It is the ideal opportunity to learn a little, eat a bite, and interact with colleagues. Review upcoming sessions and register on TRAIN.

If you don't have time to join the actual Lunch and Learn, you can still access these great mini-courses. Just visit [OEP Lunch and Learn Sessions on the Workforce Development Team webpage](#) where you can find information about upcoming sessions. Access archived sessions at your convenience on the [OEP webpage](#). If you have suggestions for upcoming topics, send your idea to Regina Hutchinson at regina.hutchinson@vdh.virginia.gov.

Date/Time	Topic	Register
November 14, 2024 11:00-11:30 am	Well Water Safety	TRAIN Course ID 1079519
January 9, 2025 11:00-11:30 am	Winter Alternative Power Sources: Heating Safety: What You Need to Know About Generators and Heating	TRAIN Course ID 1079519

The Eight Step Exercise Design Process.... Step 6: Write Major and detailed Events

Aaron L. Kesecker, MEP (aaron.kesecker@vdh.virginia.gov)

Now we start to put context in our exercise by writing the major and detailed events that relate to the threat or hazard we have chosen for our scenario or narrative. For example, if we chose a hurricane, the storm itself could be a major event, but what else is associated with a hurricane? There is rain which is a detailed event, but how much rain? If you say 24-36 inches of rain, this is an even better example of a detailed event. What else? There could be tornadoes, another major event. What other detailed events might go with a tornado threat? A tornado watch? tornado warning? Reports of tornadoes on the ground? These are all examples of events. They could be used as a major or minor event depending on the scope of the exercise and the objective you want to achieve. You can use these events as a way of driving players to achieve those objectives developed early on in the planning process.



It time exercise design will become second nature as you go through the process practicing exercise development. Remember, you are not alone in this effort. Work with your planning team members to generate ideas and to make a more robust exercise. Own the process!

In Other Exercise News...

As you may be aware, an ongoing requirement for the new grant cycle is the development of a Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan. This plan is now called the Integrated and Exercise Plan. This plan is now called the Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP). We held the Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop (IPPW) in August with our partners from VDEM, VHHA, Coalitions, DCLS, and VDH Offices.

The plan is in development and will be released agency wide upon its completion. The key tenants of the plan includes our Hazard Vulnerability Analysis, Grant Requirements, Exercise requirements for the nest 5-year budget period and calendar of execution of the plan for training and exercises.

The plan is developed for the five-year period but reviewed annually for updates.

New MRC HIPAA Training Course Replaces Requirement for Cybersecurity/HIPAA Training for MRC Volunteers

In October, a new training HIPAA-ONLY course was launched on TRAIN. MRC Volunteers that have already completed the previous Cybersecurity/HIPAA training course do not need to take this new HIPAA course. As of October 10, 2024, about 17% of Virginia MRC Volunteers have completed the training requirement and we need to increase this number. Therefore, if MRC Volunteers have not completed the previous course, they need to take the new HIPAA-ONLY course.

Further, MRC Volunteers that have not completed HIPAA training will be “conditionally deployable” which means that they can only be deployed in one the following circumstances:

- The volunteer will be able to complete the
- HIPAA training at the beginning of their deployment.
- The volunteer will be deployed for a mission that has zero exposure to HIPAA-protected information (as approved by the Health District Director)
- The deployment is in response to a declared emergency and the Health District director has waived the requirement for HIPAA training for volunteers.



Upcoming Statewide Training Events:

- [Prepping Your Smart Devices for Emergencies November 21, 2024 at 6:30 pm](#)
[TRAIN ID 1124064](#)
- Monthly statewide REVIVE! Lay Rescuer and Training of Trainers, Every 3rd Friday

Contact Adreania Toliver at adreania.toliver@vdh.virginia.gov with questions about MRC training.



The Training and Development Council was developed to consolidate workforce development professionals across the agency to “break the silos.” Out of this came five subcommittees: New Employee Orientation and Onboarding, Shared Tools and Resources, Marketing and Communication of Training Efforts, Training Coordination and Logistics, and Leadership Development. A Leadership Academy in 2025 is the first major products of this effort as a of result of gathering, cultivating, and developing content to be delivered throughout the the agency. More details to come. Contact Steve Smith at steve.smith@vdh.virginia.gov with any questions about Center for Workforce Development.

Multigenerational Workforce

Susan Margaret (susan.margaret@vdh.virginia.gov)

VDH: Supervisor-net (Recording) 2024 Sep Multigenerational Workforce TRAIN 1123996

Provides the opportunity to understand about the generations beyond the social media stereotypes and put that understanding into use with others within VDH and beyond.

EMERGENCY KIT COOK-OFF

Rain couldn't stop the annual Emergency Kit Cookoff on September 17, 2024 sponsored by the Virginia Department of Health Office of Emergency Preparedness and OnTheSquareVA to celebrate National Preparedness month.



1st Place:

Felicia L. Manns
Backdraft Soup



2nd Place:

Lara Cash
Steam Cake to
the Rescue



3rd Place:

Susan Margaret
Celery-Apple
Quinoa Salad

Contestants prepared dishes using nonperishable foods, and a panel of three judges selected a winner. Explore the annual [Emergency Kit Cookbook](#). It was a great event and participants were able to gather information about preparedness for pets and their cars and their family while listening to music and participating in fire extinguisher and AED demonstrations. Find more information about preparedness on the [OEP Public Preparedness Guidance webpage](#). Contact Adreania Toliver (adreania.toliver@vdh.virginia.gov) with any questions.