

DATE:

September 16, 2016

TO:

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

FROM:

Richard D. Flinn, Jr.
Director, PA Emergency Management Agency

TIME PERIOD:

This report covers the period 0600 hours, September 15, 2016, through 0600 hours, September 16, 2016.

STATUS REPORT: (as of 0600 hours)

THREAT STATUS:

National Terrorism Advisory System:

There are no current alerts.

CRCC STATUS:

Commonwealth Resource Coordination Center (CRCC) Activation: None

County EOC Activations: None

CAPABILITIES STATUS:

PA All-Hazards Type-3 Incident Management Team – Mission Capable
PA-Task Force 1 (PA-TF1) – Urban Search & Rescue – Mission Capable
PA-Task Force 2 (PA-TF2) - Search & Rescue - Mission Capable

INFRASTRUCTURE STATUS:

Major Road Closures: None
Power Outage Reports: As of 0550 hours – 112 customers
Telephone Outage Reports: None

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

OPEN:

MISSING PERSON SEARCH – Bucks County, 9/7/16 – A search for a missing 21 year old suicidal female from Bensalem Township is being conducted at Tyler State Park, 101 Swamp Road in Newtown Township. The female's vehicle was found at Tyler Park with a suicide note. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is leading the search.

The searches were continued over the September 11th weekend with negative results. Smaller searches will continue this week.

ADVERSE WEATHER – Fayette County, 8/28/16 – Heavy rains caused flood damage to residences and businesses in several areas in Fayette County. Most of the flooding occurred in the area of Connellsville. Pennsylvania American Water lost a water main. Two water buffaloes have been placed in the area to assist residents. A resource request was submitted for DEP assistance with mosquito spraying and well testing, as well as DOH assistance with tetanus shots. Damage assessment is ongoing by the county EMA and PEMA Western Area. The Fayette County Volunteers Active in Disaster (VOAD) held two Multi-Agency Resource Center events to provide resources to those affected by the storm. PA Department of Human Services representatives attended. Personnel from (Region 13) PA Task Force 1 were sent to assist at the Connellsville Church of God with flood damage/collapsed foundation wall. A meeting with PennDOT and county/local officials was held on the status of road repairs in the affected areas. Free tetanus shots were made available at several locations on September 7 and 8, 2016. Monetary and material donations continue to be received by Connellsville Area Community Ministries for victims. A distribution center has been opened in the closed East Side Fire Station for distribution of the donated items. SBA along with PEMA and County EMA toured the affected areas on 9/8/16 to continue efforts for obtaining SBA approval.

BRIDGE FIRE – Allegheny County, 9/2/16 - The Liberty Bridge construction tarps on the bridge and the construction area under the bridge caught on fire in the City of Pittsburgh. Traffic over the bridge was stopped in both directions. The trapped queue was cleared and emergency detours enacted, due to visible structural damage to the bridge. The Coast Guard initially stopped river traffic underneath the bridge. All bridge traffic will continue to be detoured until the bridge re-opens. Temporary repairs on the bridge began on Sunday, September 4. The inbound and outbound Liberty Tunnels are open. As of 9/10/16, the bridge is reported to remain closed until 9/19/16.

CLOSED:

NATURAL GAS LEAK W/EVACUATION – Beaver County, 9/15/16 - The Community College of Beaver County Student Union Building and Dome (gym) were evacuated, due to a four inch natural gas line being struck in the parking lot at 1 Campus Dr in Center Township. Peoples Gas Company was unable to contain the leak and had to request additional resources from Burgettstown. No injuries were reported and the incident was closed in three hours.

ROAD CLOSURE - Washington County, 9/15/16 - Two tractor-trailers were involved in a vehicle accident at milemarker 9.5 on Interstate 70 eastbound in Buffalo Township. Approximately 30 gallons of diesel fuel were spilled in the accident. Interstate 70 eastbound was closed between Exit 6 (State Route 231) and Exit 11 (State Route 221). The interstate was closed for six hours.

ROAD CLOSURE – York County, 9/16/16 – Multiple police units took a driver into custody on US 30 around the Hellam Exit in Hellam Township after the driver lead the officers on a chase. While units were on the scene, a vehicle traveling US 30 westbound rear ended a tow truck navigating the scene. Fire units arrived on the scene and reported a single occupant heavily entrapped in the vehicle. Air medical transported the patient and PennDOT was also requested to the scene. US 30 West was closed for four hours.

DISASTER DECLARATIONS:

8/30/16 – The County of Fayette issued a Declaration of Disaster for the county due to the impact from the severe weather.

8/29/16 – The Supervisors of Connellsville Township issued a Declaration of Disaster for the Township due to the impact of severe weather.

8/29/16 – The Township Council Members of Fairfield Township issued a Declaration of Disaster for the Township due to impacts from flooding.

8/28/16 – The Township Supervisors of Donegal Township issued a Declaration of Disaster for the Township due to impacts from heavy rains/flooding.

8/17/16 – The Borough Council Members of Donora Borough issued a Declaration of Disaster for the borough, due to severe weather.

8/10/2016 – The Borough Council Members of Albion Borough issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency for the borough, due to a drought/water emergency.

7/25/2016 – The Mayor of Dunmore Borough issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency for the borough, due to severe weather.

7/19/2016 – The U.S. Small Business Administration issued a SBA disaster declaration for Fayette, Greene, Somerset, Washington and Westmoreland counties for damages during the flooding event on June 17, 2016. The effective date is 7/19/16 and termination date for applications is 9/19/16. Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) application termination date is 4/19/17.

3/23/16 - The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency announced that federal disaster aid has been made available to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to supplement commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area affected by the severe winter storm which occurred January 22-23, 2016. The designation is FEMA-4267-DR.

CONTIGUOUS STATE EVENTS OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO PENNSYLVANIA:

Delaware:	No significant events at this time.
Maryland:	No significant events at this time.
New Jersey:	No significant events at this time.
New York:	No significant events at this time.
Ohio:	No significant events at this time.
West Virginia:	No significant events at this time.

24-hour Projected Weather Statewide:

National Weather Service, 0535 hours, 09/16/16

Generally fair skies are expected across much of Pennsylvania today, thanks to a large area of high pressure sliding to our north across New England. The sole exception is low clouds over the Laurels that may hang tough through this morning. These clouds will give way to hazy sunshine this afternoon. Elsewhere, it should be partly to mostly sunny with high temperatures from the low-70s in the mountains to near 80 degrees in far southwestern Pennsylvania.

Lows tonight will range in the mid to upper 50s through the eastern and central portions of the state to the low 60s across the western third of the Commonwealth.

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A cold front will approach from the Great Lakes on Saturday and slowly cross the Commonwealth on Sunday. This front will be preceded and accompanied by some much needed showers and thunderstorms.

WATCHES AND WARNINGS:

None



TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK:

