



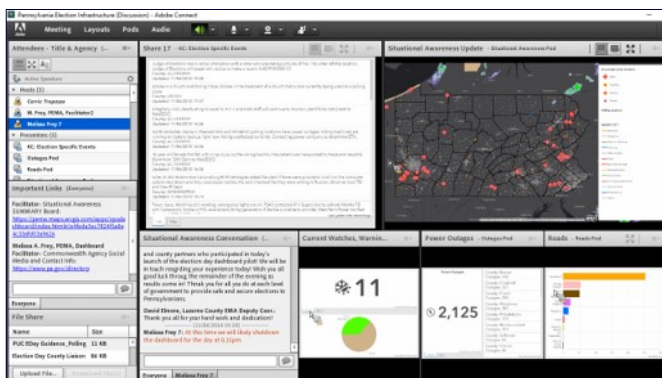
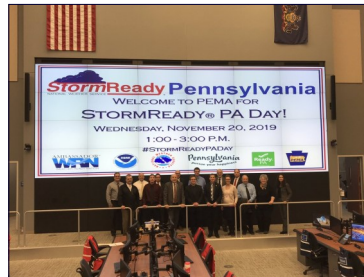
EMergent News

Engaging You, Engaging the Community

January - February 2020

PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY 2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

- Despite numerous flash flooding events and 50.9 inches of rain (seventh wettest year on record for Pennsylvania), damage did not meet thresholds for federal disaster grants.
- The commonwealth recorded 35 tornados spanning 28 counties which puts 2019 as the 2nd highest year for tornados since accurate record keeping started in 1950 (the most recorded was 61 in 1998).
- 72 incidents resulted in damage to 1,313 residential homes. 7 Small Business Administration Disaster Declarations were provided resulting in \$3.7 million of approved low interest loans to individuals or business to assist with recovering from these events.
- PEMA coordinated a multiyear effort to have all 67 counties achieve Storm Ready status resulting in Pennsylvania becoming only the 6th state in the nation to achieve that status.
- PEMA received a national award from the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN). The Gold Best of HSIN in Interagency Collaboration award was for the development of the Commonwealth's Election Dashboard. The dashboard is a secure platform allowing the real time collaboration between PEMA, the Department of State, Federal and Local governments working to ensure safe and secure voting opportunities for citizens of the Commonwealth.



INSIDE

PEMA 2019 Year in Review.....	1
2019 Weather Overview.....	3
PEMA Grants Update.....	4
NSGP Grant.....	5
PCCD Grant.....	6
FEMA Update.....	7
Mitigation Minute.....	8
Huntingdon County News.....	10
Election Dashboard.....	11
PA Disaster History.....	12
Training Update.....	13



RECAP of Milestones




911

The first point of contact for emergencies

43 Counties
With
Text to 911

Near full deployment expected this year.

9M

Answered
calls for help


\$324M
Grants Administered



Harrisburg City:
1st sink hole mitigation project using FEMA,
Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant funds in the nation

159

Homes acquired
or elevated

*99 more expected
this year*

35
Tornados

Most in one
year since 1998.

**Activated
26 times**




Commonwealth Response
Coordination Center

277 | Emergency
management
courses offered

Certified
310 | Emergency
Management
Coordinators

Emergency
Management
Accreditation Program



Homeland Security Gold Award
 Information Dashboard
supporting election security

PA | Only 1 of 6 states to have every
county designated as



2019 WEATHER NOTABLE NUMBERS

By Jeff Jumper, PEMA State Meteorologist

Coming off Pennsylvania's wettest year on record in 2018, we recorded our 7th wettest year in 2019 with 50.19" of rainfall - an 8.76" surplus. Temperature wise, we landed at the 16th warmest in 121 years of record keeping. We currently sit atop the list for the warmest four- and five-year periods on record.

As far as the most noteworthy record for the year, one can argue that tornadoes should top the list. The 2019 tornado count puts Pennsylvania at number two for tornado count since accurate record keeping began in 1950. We tallied 35 tornadoes across 28 counties, a count second only to 61 confirmed tornadoes in 1998. The National Weather Service (NWS) confirmed 11 EF-0 tornadoes, 18 EF-1 tornadoes, and six EF-2 tornadoes. Annually, we average three EF-0, six EF-1, and two EF-2 tornadoes. The last EF-3 or greater intensity tornado occurred in 2004.

2019 Tornado Breakdown:

The first tornado was an unusual, EF-1 in Mercer County, occurring on January 8th, one of only seven across Pennsylvania to ever occur in January. Then, two outbreaks of tornadoes occurred in April, with nine confirmed tornadoes late April 14th into early April 15th. The second outbreak of five tornadoes occurred during the evening of April 19th. The 1950-2018 average count for April is one tornado, and we totaled 14. In May, we added 16 tornadoes to the count, with most occurring between the 28th and 29th. Three occurred in June before we finished out the month, with one on Halloween night in Delaware County.

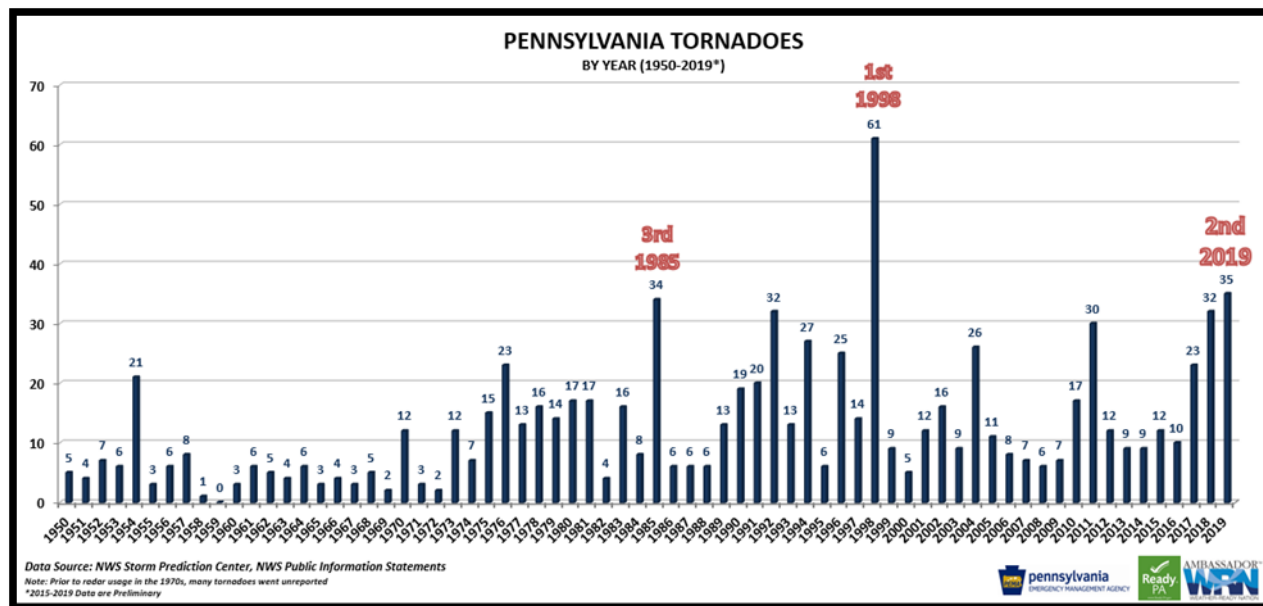


Figure. The second-place tornado count was secured for 2019 when the 35th tornado struck Pennsylvania on October 31st. The most historic outbreak for the state, which is included in 1985 numbers, is now in 3rd place. The 1998 record of 61 continues to remain untouched. The data before the mid-1970s are likely underreported due to lack of radar technology.



PEMA GRANTS UPDATE

The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, Bureau of Grants Management, is providing this timeline as a reminder for when performance reports are due for the below listed grants

Grant	Performance Report Due Dates
Hazardous Materials Response Fund (HMRF)	Due no later than 30 days after the end of the performance period
Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)	1st Quarter (October 1 to December 31) - January 15
	2nd Quarter (January 1 to March 31) - April 15
	3rd Quarter (April 1 to June 30) - July 15
	4th Quarter (July 1 to September 30) - October 15
Radiation Emergency Response Grant (RERF)	Due No later than 30 days after the end of the performance period

Important things to remember

Due dates for applications cannot be extended.

All grant applications must be submitted using the Electronic Single Application (ESA)

Designated signatories must have a User ID and Password

There currently are no open application in the ESA

Questions regarding grants, contact:
ra-dgmhmgrants@pa.gov

ESA login:
<https://www.esa.dced.state.pa.us>

Guidance

For further guidance and instructions for each grant, please visit:

<https://www.pema.pa.gov/about/Pages/Grants.aspx>

Reminders

Deadline and due dates may vary from year to year; please refer to PEMA guidance for each individual grant.

EMPG reimbursement requests or performance reports due quarterly on the 15th of the month after the quarter ends.

PEMA GRANTS UPDATE (CONTINUED)



The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) would like to inform you of a potential Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) opportunity for Pennsylvania nonprofit organizations. To be eligible for the NSGP, applicants must be:

- Registered/recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization as described in the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) of 1986 **-OR-** be a Church, Mosque or Synagogues that are automatically exempt according to the requirements under section 501(c)(3) of the IRC.
- Physically located within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- Has the ability to demonstrate, through the application, that the organization is at high risk of a terrorist attack.

The purpose of the NSGP is to provide funding support for physical security enhancements and other security related activities to nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of a terrorist attack. NSGP seeks to integrate the preparedness activities of nonprofit organizations with broader state and local preparedness efforts.

Nonprofit organizations may only apply for the NSGP through PEMA. PEMA **has not** yet received notice for when the 2020 Federal Fiscal Year Notice of Funding Opportunity grant will become available. However, once announced, you will have a **very limited timeframe** to apply.

Announcements and updates will only be provided on the PEMA Website at:
<https://www.pema.pa.gov/about/Pages/Nonprofit-Security-Grant-Program-.aspx>.

Below are steps you can take now in preparation for the grant:

1. Learn more about the grant, organizations eligible to apply, and eligible projects visit the [PEMA NSGP link](#) webpage;
2. Register for the **Upcoming 2020 NSGP Workshops** at:
https://www.train.org/pa/course/1067552/live_event
3. Continue to visit the [PEMA webpage](#) often to learn of new announcements and updates.



PCCD NONPROFIT SECURITY GRANT FUND PROGRAM

On November 7, 2019, House Bill 859 (or Act 83 of 2019) was signed into law, establishing a new program called the Nonprofit Security Grant Fund Program at the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). *This is separate from the Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP).*

Act 83 directs PCCD to administer grants to nonprofit organizations who principally serve individuals, groups or institutions that are included within a bias motivation category for single bias hate crime incidents as identified by the FBI's 2017 Hate Crime Statistics publication. Applicants are eligible for security enhancements designed to protect the safety and security of the users of a facility located in the Commonwealth that is owned or operated by the nonprofit organization.

The following webpage provides initial information on who is eligible to apply for these funds; the availability of funds; eligible projects and expenses; what information you will need when applying; and an overview of the review process.

Eligible Applicants - Under Act 83, eligible applicants under this funding announcement must satisfy the following criteria:

The applicant must be a nonprofit organization based in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania which is designated as exempt as defined under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (Public Law 99-514, 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3)Opens In A New Window); and

The applicant must principally serve individuals, groups, or institutions that are included within a bias motivation category for single bias hate crime incidents identified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in its 2017 Hate Crime Statistics Publication under the Uniform Crime Reporting program that can be found here: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/hate-crime/2017>Opens In A New Window. The categories include:

- Race/ethnicity/ancestry;
- Religion;
- Sexual orientation;
- Disability;
- Gender; and Gender identity.



The Non-Profit Security Grant Fund program is now accepting applications via SurveyMonkey for nonprofit organizations who principally serve individuals, groups or institutions that are included within a bias motivation category for single bias hate crime incidents. Applications for the first round of funding must be submitted by **11:45 PM on February 14, 2020**.

Non-Profit Security Grant Fund Application Link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NonProfitSecurity>

Non-Profit Security Grant Fund Application ([PDF](#))
Budget Template \$25,000 or less ([PDF](#))
Budget Template \$25,001 to \$75,000 ([PDF](#))
Budget Template \$75,001 to \$150,000 ([PDF](#))



If you have questions about this process, please email RA-CD-NPSEC-GRANT@pa.gov for assistance, or call 717-265-8448 or check the grant webpage at: <https://www.pccd.pa.gov/schoolsafety/Pages/Non-Profit-Security-Grant-Fund.aspx>



FEMA FEMA UPDATE

New PrepTalks Added with a Focus on Building Community Resilience

Neighborfest—Building Resilience from the Block Up — Daniel Homsey

In his PrepTalk, Daniel Homsey shares his tools for building resilient communities at the neighborhood level and why empowering neighbors to help themselves is the best way to prepare your community for any disaster. Daniel Homsey is the Director of the Neighborhood Empowerment Network (NEN) for the City Administrator's Office of the City of San Francisco. The NEN empowers residents to build and steward stronger, more resilient communities.

<https://www.fema.gov/preptalks/homsey>

Using Codes and Standards to Build Resilient Communities — Stuart Tom

In his PrepTalk, Stuart Tom provides an overview of the importance of building codes and how codes and standards are developed. He explains that model codes and standards are adopted and enforced by jurisdictions and he shares how the community can get involved. Mr. Tom is the Fire Marshal for the City of Glendale, California, and a member of the Board of the International Code Council (ICC). He also served as a member of the Los Angeles Uniform Code Program Steering Committee and co-chair of the State Fire Marshal's Wildfire Ignition ad-hoc committee.

<https://www.fema.gov/preptalks/tom>

FEMA Launches "Resolve to be Ready" Campaign

This month, FEMA launched the "Resolve to be Ready" campaign. The campaign is a reminder that disasters can strike at any time and that the beginning of a new year is the perfect time to ensure you, your family and neighbors are prepared before future disasters or emergencies occur.

For more information and actionable tips to help prepare you and your family for any emergency in the new year, visit the [Ready website](#).

FEMA Releases National Incident Management Documents

FEMA released the "National Incident Management System Guide for Coaches and Evaluators," providing processes, procedures, and tools to assist with developing and maintaining coaching and evaluating programs as part of the qualification process. The document is available on the FEMA website. The National Engagement period for the Post-Disaster Building Safety documents concludes at 5 p.m. ET on Jan. 17. To access the documents, visit the FEMA [website](#).

Email Updates



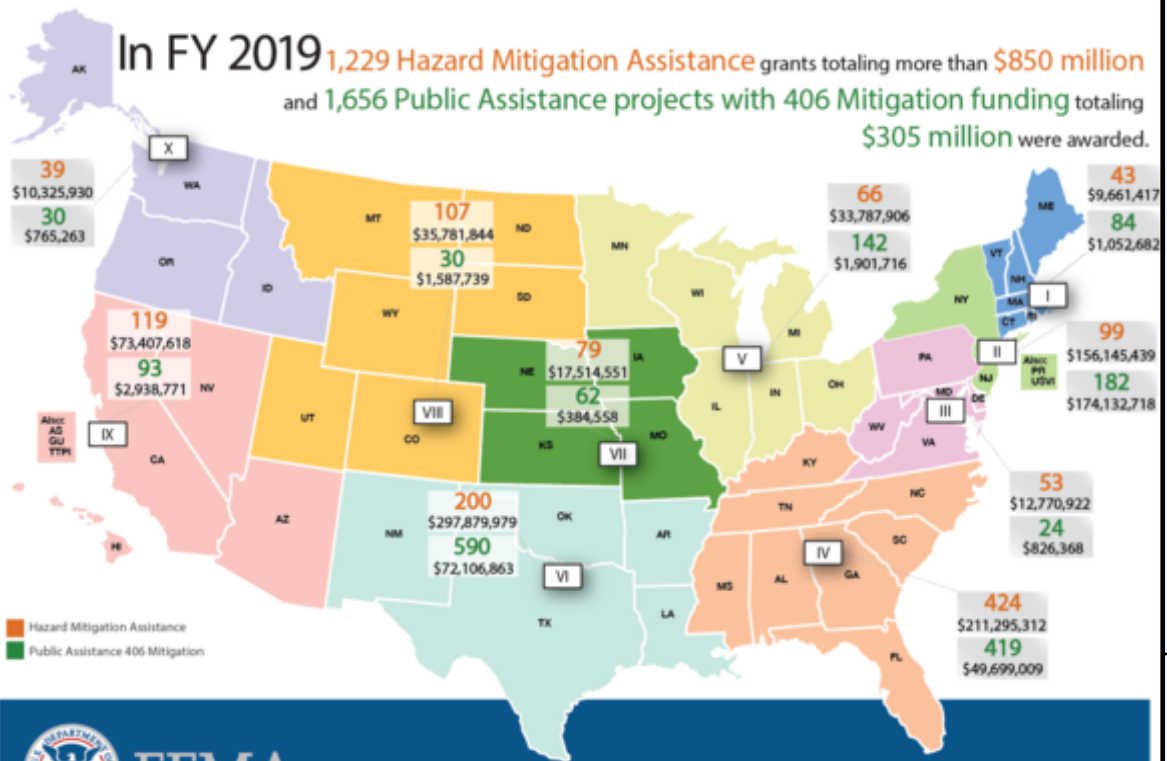
To sign up for FEMA updates or to access your subscriber preferences, please click [here](#). The Department of Homeland Security collects this information to distribute notices, updates, and subscriptions, as requested by the user.



FEMA



Mitigation Minute

HMA
 Hazard Mitigation
 Assistance


FEMA

To learn more about the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Programs, visit:
<https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance>

To learn more about Public Assistance 406 Mitigation, including eligibility requirements, examples of mitigation projects, and where to go for more guidance, visit:
<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/184476>

View the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Resources page here:
<https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance-hma-grant-resources>.

To subscribe to the Mitigation Minute, visit the [Hazard Mitigation Assistance](#) webpage and select "Subscribe to HMA communications."



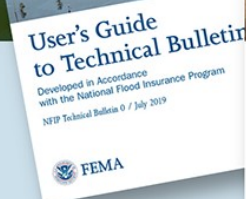
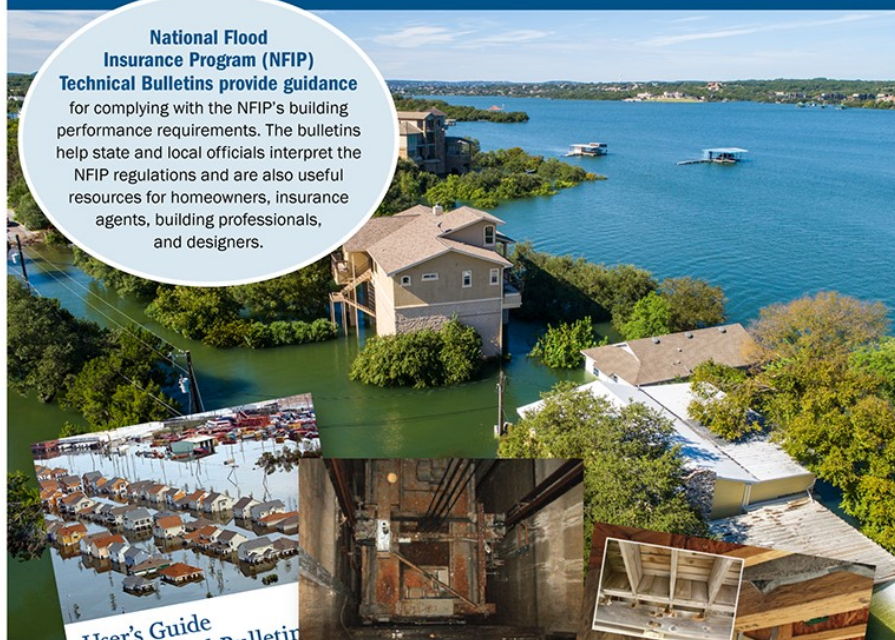
HMA
Hazard Mitigation
Assistance

Updated Guidance Now Available for NFIP Building Performance Requirements

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Technical Bulletins provide guidance for complying with the NFIP's building performance requirements. The bulletins help state and local officials interpret the NFIP regulations and are also useful resources for homeowners, insurance agents, building professionals, and designers.

Learn more about these changes at <https://www.fema.gov/nfip-technical-bulletins> or visit <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/166093> for more information.

To subscribe to the Mitigation Minute, visit the [Hazard Mitigation Assistance](#) webpage and select "Subscribe to HMA."



FEMA is currently in the process of updating all 12 technical bulletins.

Three revised technical bulletins are now available:

- TB 0:** The technical bulletin **user's guide**
- TB 4:** NFIP regulations concerning the **installation of elevators** below the Base Flood Elevation in Special Flood Hazard Areas
- TB 8:** Guidance on **corrosion-resistant metal connectors** for the construction of buildings in coastal areas

Look for additional technical bulletin updates in the coming months!



HUNTINGDON COUNTY NEWS

EMA OFFICIALS REVIEW MUSEUM, HISTORICAL SOCIETY EMERGENCY LIST

*Excerpts by Ron Morgan, Staff Writer, The Daily News, Huntingdon, PA
Used with Permission*

Representatives from the Huntingdon County Emergency Management Agency were on hand last week at the county History Heritage Roundtable meeting to review the newly-created museum and historical society emergency inventory list.



Huntingdon County Library

The inventory list, which contains contact names, telephone numbers, locations of heritage-related properties, etc., is seen as a valuable tool in helping emergency response crews and the 911 communications center, concluded the EMA director. Joe Thompson, county EMA director, and Vince Lombardi, EMA senior volunteer, have been working on the project off and on for about six months, told the heritage group that the list will be helpful in responding to emergencies at the listed sites.

“The project was the first of its kind,” explained Thompson. “The list includes very important data and contact information for libraries, museums and other historical-related sites throughout Huntingdon County.”

Funded by the county EMA as a demonstration project, the initiative involved the assistance of volunteers from the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP) and others, including EMA personnel, said Thompson, who, along with Lombardi, approached the county Historical and Roundtable organization about the project this past summer.

Ron Morgan can be reached at dnews@huntingdondailynews.com

Governor's Emergency Preparedness SUMMIT

One Commonwealth ~ One Mission - The 2020 Governor's Emergency Preparedness Summit will bring partners together from multiple agencies, organizations and all levels of government, as well as the public and private sectors to provide an unsurpassed educational opportunity. The Summit is a coordinated effort of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security to increase the shared learning and exchange of ideas and showcase best practices that will enhance our resilience as a Commonwealth.

Please stay tuned for more information on how you can register and make your room reservations. For further information, go to: www.gepsummit.pa.gov

Governor's Emergency Preparedness Summit

SAVE THE DATE

May 18-20, 2020

Kalahari Convention Center and Resort
Pocono Manor, PA

#GEPS2020





PEMA USES HSIN TO HELP PROTECT ELECTIONS INFRASTRUCTURE GOLD "BEST OF HSIN" WINNER IN INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION

Pennsylvania counties administer elections and often work to fulfill their election responsibilities with a focus on their relationship with state government and reporting. But using HSIN, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) worked to connect The Pennsylvania Department of State, county election directors, county emergency managers, county chief information officers, other state agencies and the federal government to bolster security of the overall election infrastructure on election day.

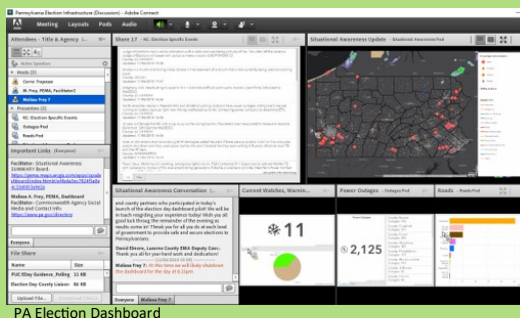
An election dashboard on Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) allows all vetted personnel to view a common operating picture that includes maps, other visual aids, links and chat options. In real time, dashboard users can track cybersecurity threats, power outages, weather hazards, traffic issues and other factors that may impact more than one municipality.

"Numerous planning sessions with all county emergency management agencies, election directors, county chief information officers along with DHS' Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and HSIN, allowed this project to blossom," said Melissa A. Frey, Special Assistant to the PEMA Director and Election Day Infrastructure (EDI) Dashboard Project Lead. "Some election directors met with their emergency management counterparts for the first time ever, learning about the resources at their disposal."

The election dashboard on HSIN connects 67 county election commissioners with their emergency managers, along with state and federal resources, to better protect the integrity of the election process in Pennsylvania. The ability to monitor events and trends across jurisdictions in real time allows county, state and federal officials to rapidly identify potential problems, mitigate risks and implement corrective solutions. All participants can use HSIN to chat with each other to share issues and collectively solve problems.

"PEMA worked across numerous agencies to get this project rolling, including the Governor's Office, the Pennsylvania Department of State, CISA, HSIN, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Pennsylvania Turnpike and others," said Frey. "With the support of PEMA Director Randy Padfield, PEMA GIS Administrator Carrie Tropasso and I diligently worked with numerous parties across local, state and federal agencies to develop the interactive dashboard, which solved the problem of lack of interconnectivity and real-time situational awareness."

The election day infrastructure dashboard on HSIN allows unprecedented cross-jurisdictional collaboration and provides another layer of security in the election process. Plans to refine and further expand the solution are underway and will be implemented over the next several elections. To learn how HSIN can support operations in your area, contact HSIN@hq.dhs.gov.



PENNSYLVANIA DISASTER IN HISTORY

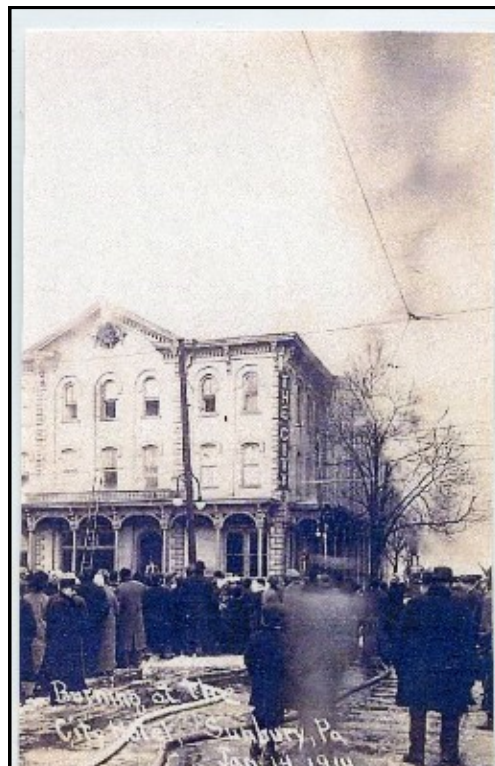
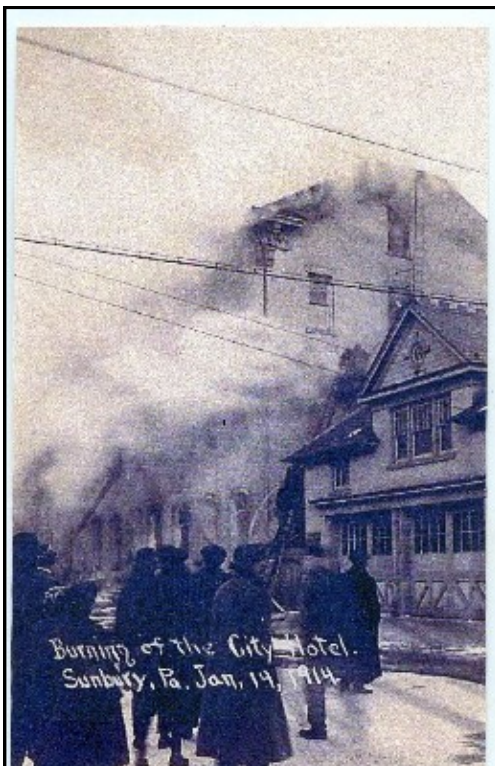
HOTEL AT SUNBURY BURNED YESTERDAY. OVERHEATED FURNACE CAUSE OF FIRE.

By Associated Press.

Sunbury, Jan. 14. -- The City hotel, the largest hotel in Sunbury and one of the largest in central Pennsylvania, was totally destroyed by fire today as a result of an overheated furnace. The loss is estimated at \$125,000, partly covered by insurance.

James Leeser, a fireman, was fatally injured fighting the flames. The hotel was owned by DR. F. E. Drumheller and Charles Rothermel.

Titusville Herald Pennsylvania 1914-01-15



UPCOMING TRAINING

Course Title	Session Start Date (first scheduled session)	Session Location (first scheduled session)	Registration Deadline
PA-PEMA: Allegheny County Municipal EMC Quarterly Training	3/10/2020 10:00:00 AM	Allegheny County Emergency Services	3/10/2020
PA-PEMA: P369 Parent-Student Reunification	3/10/2020 8:30:00 AM	Allegheny Intermediate Unit	3/3/2020
PA-PEMA: Assisting Individuals in Crisis & Group Crisis Intervention	3/23/2020 8:00:00 AM	Montgomery County Public Safety Training Center Rooms 101 & 102	3/24/2020
PA-PEMA: G402 Incident Command System (ICS) Overview for Executives and Senior Officials	3/24/2020 9:30:00 AM	Northampton County EOC	3/19/2020
PA-PEMA: G289 Public Information Officer Awareness Training	3/24/2020 8:00:00 AM	Pampered Palate Catering & Conference Center (Crawford County)	3/10/2020
PA-PEMA: P010 Area Office Orientation for Emergency Management Coordinators	3/13/2020 1:00:00 PM	PEMA Central Area Office	3/13/2020
PA-PEMA: Internal Logistics Section Training - Experienced	3/3/2020 1:00:00 PM	PEMA Headquarters - Rm 358 (Elmerton Ave)	
PA-PEMA: Internal Logistics Section Training - New Personnel	3/5/2020 9:00:00 AM	PEMA Headquarters - Rm 358 (Elmerton Ave)	
PA-PEMA: All Hazards Exercise	3/26/2020 8:30:00 AM	PEMA Headquarters CRCC	
PA-PEMA: CRCC - Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) Training	3/10/2020 9:00:00 AM	PEMA Headquarters Rm 112 (Elmerton Ave)	
PA-PEMA: CRCC - Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) Training	3/12/2020 9:00:00 AM	PEMA Headquarters Rm 112 (Elmerton Ave)	
PA-PEMA: P033 PSS How To: Develop the Incident Action Plan in WebEOC	3/25/2020 9:30:00 AM	PEMA Headquarters Situation Room CRCC	

Be sure to visit <https://pa.train.org> for other courses that may be of interest to you in both on-line and classroom formats. Many of the courses provide continuing education credits for emergency medical services certifications. See course descriptions for further details.

To register, visit Train PA: <https://pa.train.org>





Need Ideas For Getting The Word Out?

Each month, the PEMA External Affairs Office distributes numerous preparedness resources designed to help make communicating to your communities about preparedness easy. We encourage everyone to share this valuable information with their partner agencies, schools, faith-based organizations, family and friends.

These tools are emailed each month and are also available on at www.ready.pa.gov.



ReadyPA Monthly - Community preparedness information designed for citizens. Forward to libraries, schools, local municipalities, etc.



Tip Sheets - One-page preparedness material about a specific hazard. Please make this easily printed information available to your community members, elected officials, civic organizations, and anyone who could benefit from this valuable information.



Talking Points and Social Media Toolkit - Graphics, tweet suggestions, and talking points for you to use on social media, websites, and when speaking to groups.

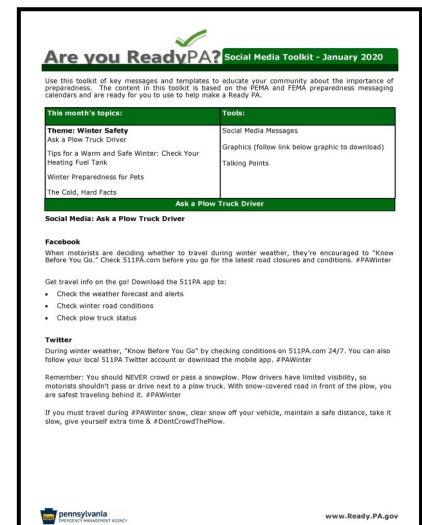
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TOOL OF THE MONTH - The Ready PA Social Media Toolkit

Each month, the PEMA External Affairs Office distributes the Social Media Toolkit to Counties, Schools, and any other organization that wishes to receive it.

The Toolkit contains talking points, Facebook messages, Tweets for Twitter, downloadable graphics, and links to the current ReadyPA Monthly.

The subjects for the Toolkit match-up with the ReadyPA Monthly and are seasonal, based on the FEMA Outreach Calendar, the National Weather Service Outreach Calendar, and topics specific to Pennsylvania.

We encourage you to share the Toolkit with your municipal, other government organizations, non-government organizations, faith based groups, and other partners within your county.



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