

Racine County Office of Emergency Management



2010 Annual Report

Office of Emergency Management

April 2011

Dear County Executive William McReynolds:

I am pleased to submit our 2010 Annual Report for your review.

Although Racine County is a relatively safe place to live when it comes to natural disasters, we have seen our fair share of flooding, thunderstorms and now tornadoes over the past several years. Last year, Racine County experienced an unprecedented three tornadoes all which left significant damage in its wake.

In 2010, we completed the updates of the Racine County Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Racine County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. We also updated planning guidance so our municipalities can update their local emergency operations plan and we will assist them in that process.

We continue to participate with the City of Milwaukee's Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). UASI is a federal Homeland Security program designed to fund regional planning and coordination in critical incident response.

In addition, the emergency management directors in Southeast Wisconsin continue to meet on a regular basis to coordinate and develop regional plans for mass evacuation, providing services to persons with special needs, mutual aid and resource management, to name just a few.

I would like to thank Lt. Jim Dobbs, John Prochniak, Dave Voss and Skip Twardosz, who volunteer their time and help augment our staff by serving as Volunteer Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators for Racine County. I would also like to thank Lori Greenwood, my administrative assistant, for her dedication and attention to detail.

In addition, I would like to thank all those in the emergency response community who support and participate in our drills, exercises and training sessions. They form a team with a high level of responsibility to protect and prepare the community when disaster strikes.

On a personal note, it has been an honor to work with you, both in your capacity as Sheriff and as County Executive over the years. I have appreciated your support of our program and your active participation in both disaster exercises and actual events.

Respectfully submitted by:



David L. Maack, CEM, CPM, WCEM
Racine County Emergency Management

RACINE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Racine County Office of Emergency Management (RCOEM) is a planning and coordinating agency charged with developing both comprehensive all-hazard plans and specialized plans for chemical spills and terrorism.

In addition, it is required to conduct disaster exercises and drills, provide emergency management related training, conduct public awareness campaigns and respond to actual disaster or emergency situations. Wisconsin Statutes Section §323.14 requires that the governing body of each county, town and municipality shall adopt an effective program of emergency management consistent with the state plan of emergency management.

During an actual disaster, the emergency management coordinator advises the County Executive on emergency management issues. If need be, an Emergency Operations Center would be activated and key elected and appointed officials would gather to manage the overall incident.

The office provides emergency management services to all municipalities in Racine County. It works closely with local fire, police and public health departments and is represented on the Racine County Law Enforcement Executives Association and the Racine County Fire Chiefs Association.

The Office of Emergency Management is a relatively

small department with 1.3 staff. There are also four volunteer Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators who are on call in the absence of the Emergency Management Coordinator.

Emergency Management accounts for less than 0.1% of the overall county budget. And because the OEM budget is largely offset by a combination of federal and state grants, it is less than 0.1% of the county tax levy.

Racine County Emergency Management's mission statement is:

"To assist the community in mitigating known hazards and in preparing for, responding to, surviving and recovering from both natural and man-made disasters"; and its goal is to build a "Disaster Resistant Community" while "Making Disaster Resistance a Way of Life."

This is accomplished through planning, training, exercises/drills, public outreach and response.

This annual report chronicles major activities throughout the year and is meant to give a broad, general overview of emergency management activities in Racine County.



Scott Anderson © Journal Times



PLANNING

Racine County received a \$30,000 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to update the Racine County Hazard Mitigation plan. This plan was completed in 2010 and has been approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

the lead of Milwaukee County and working with our regional partners to accomplish this task.

“Everyone has a plan until they get hit!”

Work continued on catastrophic/evacuation planning and functional needs planning. Racine County is following

Updates were made to both the Racine County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and the municipal

planning guidance. Racine County Emergency Management will assist municipalities in either updating or developing a municipal emergency operations plan in 2011.



EXERCISES/DRILLS

Exercises and drills are great opportunities to test skills and plans under simulated conditions. Each year, Racine County Emergency Management participates in several exercises/drills.

In 2010, David Maack worked with the Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility on a series of exercises involving both the correctional facility and emergency responders.

A tabletop exercise was held in June and a functional exercise was conducted in December. In addition, Racine County was invited by the SC Johnson Flight Center to participate in a tabletop exercise involving an accident with one of their corporate jets.

RCOEM also coordinated **fire drills** for various county buildings.

2010 Exercises/Drills

4/22/2010	Statewide Tornado Drill
06/15/2010	RYOCC Table Top Exercise
09/08/2010	SCJ Flight Center ERP Table Top Exercise
09/23/2010	Courthouse Fire Drill
09/28/2010	Ives Grove Fire Drill
09/30/2010	DKRCSC Fire Drill
10/20/2010	Fire Drill – Child Support
12/13/2010	RYOC Functional Exercise



"Good planning always costs less than good reacting."

~ Wayne Schmidt

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Racine County Emergency Management conducts comprehensive, robust public outreach campaigns throughout the year. Campaigns include winter, flood, tornado, severe thunderstorm and hazardous materials awareness; public outreach includes speaking, media interviews, a Ready Racine newsletter, email blasts and a website to name a few.

PRESENTATIONS/INTERVIEWS

Throughout the year, David Maack makes presentations to various groups including service clubs, scout troops and schools. Over 20 presentations/interviews were given last year.

WHEN "IT" HITS THE FAN

Racine County Emergency Management sponsored a seminar featuring Randi Milsap, Legal Counsel, WI Department of Military Affairs. Randi spoke on the recodification of Chapter 166/323 and who's in charge during a disaster. Over 50 people attended.

DHS CFBCI REGION V CONFERENCE – FAITHFUL READINESS

Racine County Emergency Management was a participating sponsor of the DHS CFBCI Region V Conference – Faithful Readiness conference held November 1, 2010. In addition, David Maack was on the planning committee and also a plenary session keynote speaker. The purpose of the conference was to engage the faith-based community, looking at ways that they could participate in emergency preparedness and response.

In his address to the group David explained that he receives two types of calls-how will something impact us or how can we help. In most cases, both require the church or organization to spend some time on the front end preparing-either to limit their exposure to a particular threat/event or to assist them in reaching



out in the aftermath of the threat/event. Racine County Emergency Management is committed to work with the Faith Based community on preparedness/planning issues in 2011.

RCOEM GARNERS AWARD

Racine County Emergency Management received a First Place Public Awareness Award in the Division 1: Local Emergency Management category from the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) for its Emergency Preparedness Guide. Since 1995, Racine County Emergency Management has garnered 22 media awards from IAEM.

The Emergency Preparedness Guide was developed in conjunction with the Racine County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and was funded by a Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant through Wisconsin Emergency Management. The guide was published in both English and Spanish and was distributed through The Journal Times, Burlington Standard Press, Waterford Post, and Westine Report.



PUBLICATIONS

David Maack continues to write a Community Newsletter column for the Journal Times. In addition, articles that he writes occasionally appear in other publications:

- Community Newsletter: Ten Steps to being prepared for emergencies, Journal Times (3/9/10)
- Community Newsletter: Make sure you have a plan to deal with emergencies, Journal Times (5/27/10)
- Community Newsletter: Avoid a sense of false security: Don't rely entirely on outdoor warning sirens for storm warnings, Journal Times (7/15/10)
- Community Newsletter: In an emergency, the first responder is you, Journal Times (9/24/10)
- Community Newsletter: Tornadoes Out of Season, Journal Times (11/11/10)

TRAINING

Training is an important component of preparedness. Throughout the year, RCOEM will sponsor various training programs in Racine County. Many of these are grant funded and target audiences may include both public safety and the general public. In 2010, Racine County Emergency Management hosted a number of courses including:

SCOUTS TRAIN FOR JAMBOREE

Thirty-one Boy Scouts and four adult leaders from Boy Scout Troop 1025, composed of Boy Scouts from Racine and Kenosha Counties who will be attending the Boy Scout's National Jamboree this summer, participated in a CERT class on March 19-21, 2010. By participating in CERT training, the Scouts earned a special Jamboree Preparedness award and completed the Emergency Preparedness, First Aid and Fire Safety merit badges.



Fort AP Hill, a 76,000-acre facility has hosted the national Scout jamboree since 1981. The Boy Scouts of America will use approximately 3,000 acres of land to support a city of more than 43,000 Scouts and leaders and comprising 18,000 tents and 3,600 patrol kitchens.

During the training weekend, the Boy Scouts worked in their assigned patrol and learned to function as a team. Not only was this important for the final drill, but hopefully it will also help them as they prepare for the National Jamboree. In addition, the training will help the Scouts cope with any type of emergency which may arise and better equip them to respond, if necessary.

ANNUAL BOY SCOUT/GIRL SCOUT EMERGENCY TRAINING

Fifty scouts and leaders attended the annual Boy Scout/Girl Scout CERT training program on October 28-29, 2010. The breakdown for the class was: 34 Girl Scouts, 15 Boy Scouts/Venturing Crew & 1 adult. Participants came from the following counties: 28 Milwaukee/Waukesha, 12 Racine and 9 Kenosha.



David completed the following training courses:

- 3/17/10 Southeast Regional Long Term Power Outage Workshop
- 3/31/10 Governor's Conference
- 5/20-21/10 Emergency Planning for Special Needs Communities (MGT-333)
- 5/27/10 SCJ Flight Center's Safety Summit- Addressing Self-Awareness, Safety Management and Emergency Response Planning in Aviation and other High Risk Environments for Performance Improvement
- 9/30/10 Southeastern Wisconsin Meta-Leadership Summit for Preparedness

Lori Greenwood completed the following training courses:

- 9/30/10 Southeastern Wisconsin Meta-Leadership Summit for Preparedness

"We need to create a culture of preparedness in America. Our forefathers knew how to take care of themselves, their families, and the communities in which they lived. As citizens, we need to be prepared to do that same - we cannot wait on the federal government to do it for us."

-Lt. Gen. Russel Honore, ret.

SPILLS/INCIDENTS

Tornadoes Hit Racine County
2010 will go down as the *Year of the Tornadoes* in Racine County.

On Sunday, June 27th, a small EF1 tornado hit portions of Sturtevant, Mt. Pleasant and the City of Racine. Funnel clouds were reported near Sturtevant by local law enforcement at around 1:25 pm, and a warning was issued. The tornado flipped and moved two trailers about 50 yards as well as snapped three light poles in the same parking lot. In addition, there were many downed trees in the tornadoes path. Overall damage was considered minor.

- EF1 Tornado
- Tornado path was about 4.5 miles in length
- Max width 100 yards
- 95-100 MPH winds
- Started at 1:20 PM
- Ended at 1:28 PM

JULY 18th MICROBURST

On July 18th, a line of storms first developed in western Racine County. These storms grew quickly and moved rapidly east. As the storm moved into Racine a microburst developed on the west side of the city and brought winds to 60 miles per



hour. According to Weather-Watch12, "a microburst is created when a thunderstorm collapses creating a narrow, but strong area of wind." These winds damaged trees and knocked out power to about 1000 homes. No warning was given to Racine. Racine County Emergency Management conducted a windshield assessment of the damage.

OVERTURNED TANKER

On July 20th, Racine County Emergency Management responded to an overturned tanker on Hwy 20 near the Case High School Overpass. A car, coming off the ramp, cut the tanker off. The tanker driver tried to avoid a collision when the tanker overturned.



The tanker was owned by an environmental clean up company and they had crews on site within an hour. Emergency crews were able to stabilize the tanker by off loading product. Approximately 30 gallons of used oil and antifreeze leaked from the truck. There were no injuries.

OCTOBER 26th TORNADO

A tornado hit the Sturtevant/Mt. Pleasant area on Tuesday, Octo-

ber 26th. While Racine County was bracing for two days of high winds, this early morning tornado, which spun up during rush hour, caught many by surprise—even though there was a tornado watch in effect and a severe thunderstorm warning had just been issued.



This EF1 tornado was on the ground for 6 minutes and traveled 6.35 miles, ending in the City of Racine. CNH and the vacant Sapko building sustained damage, along with an old barn. In addition, several motorists were trapped in their cars because of high voltage lines which came down.

- EF1 Tornado
- Tornado path was 6.35 miles in length
- Max width 75 yards
- Winds around 105 MPH
- Started at 7:47 AM, about 1.8 miles NNE of Somers and traveled 0.43 miles to the Racine/Kenosha county border.
- Ended at 7:53 AM, about 2.2 miles west of Downtown Racine after traveling 5.92 miles through Racine County.

NOVEMBER 22nd TORNADO

On November 22nd, an EF1 tornado hit the Union Grove area,

SPILLS/INCIDENTS cont.

causing millions of dollars in damage to the Racine County Fairgrounds, Shepherds Home and School, businesses and homes.



Emergency personnel worked late into the evening clearing debris and restoring power. By

the next morning, the smell of fresh pine branches and the sound of chain saws permeated the air.

- EF-1 Tornado
- Tornado path was 11.5 miles in length
- Max width 150 yards.
- 105 MPH winds.
- Started at 4:01 PM - about 1/2 mile southwest of the intersection of county road KR & 224 Ave in Kenosha County - 2.3 miles southwest of Union Grove.
- Ended at 4:15 PM - in Racine County at intersection of County H & County K.

Grove Gear took the brunt of the hit. The tornado ripped off 30,000 square feet of roof. Fortunately, no one was injured, and remarkably, the company was partially up and running within 24 hours.



Racine County Severe Weather History

Year	Severe Thunderstorm		Tornado	
	Watch	Warning	Watch	Warning
1994	9	4	2	0
1995	10	9	2	2
1996	5	5	10	0
1997	9	6	2	1
1998	10	10	2	0
1999	8	10	0	0
2000	8	14	3	1
2001	10	7	1	1
2002	7	6	1	0
2003	4	6	3	0
2004	15	16	2	0
2005	11	5	5	3
2006	19	19	3	0
2007	2	11	3	0
2008	9	19	5	4
2009	7	8	1	2
2010	6	7	7	7
Total	149	162	52	21

GRANTS

Various grant opportunities become available each year.

Two grants that RCOEM consistently receives are the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), which is supposed to fund 50% of operations, and the Wisconsin Emergency Management's Emergency Planning and

Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) Grant, which funds a portion of our hazardous materials planning activities.

In addition, we routinely apply for training grants and through the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), of which Racine County is a member. Grants are made available for our Citizen Corps program and for response-related equipment.

In many cases, the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance requires that the emergency management office apply for grants on behalf of outside agencies. Many of the grants are multi-year grants.

The following summary provides a snapshot of the various grants that were managed in 2010 (with the exception of EMPG and EPCRA grants).

<u>2010 GRANTS</u>	START DATE	GRANT AMOUNT
UASI Critical Infrastructure Protection	08/01/08	\$50,000.00
Homeland Security/UASI EOC Equipment	09/01/09	\$9,000.00
Homeland Security/UASI Medical Surge	06/01/09	\$7,000.00
Homeland Security/SE Citizen Corps	07/01/08	\$26,925.00
Homeland Security/SE Citizen Corps	06/01/09	\$74,000.00
Homeland Security/Mutual Aid Radio Replacement Round 5	12/01/09	\$111,846.00
UASI-CBRNE Equipment Grant (2008)	02/01/09	\$12,300.00
2010 HMEP-Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness	01/11/10	\$6,000.00
Fy08 Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program	08/06/08	\$30,000.00
	TOTAL:	\$327,071.00



October 26th Tornado Damage



Adjutant General Donald Dunbar Surveys Damage

CITIZEN CORPS

In 2010 the Southeastern Wisconsin Citizen Corps hosted 6 CERT classes and one Traffic Control class. . There were 137 participants in the CERT classes and 14 in the Traffic Control class.



These classes were hosted by:

- Burlington Catholic Central High School (April 2010)
- City Hall Annex, Racine (Oct 2010) – Scouts
- Grace Lutheran Church (April 2010)
- Randall Fire Dept (Feb 2010)
- Wheatland Fire Dept (Nov 2010)
- Scout Jamboree (Feb 2010)

And the Traffic Control class was hosted by the Racine Police Dept. (April 2010)

We have a database of over 300 CERT trained people and had booths at both the Racine and Kenosha County fairs.

Community outreach included presentations to the following :

- Red Cross DAT team members
- Elderly Care Network
- M a y o r D i c k e r t

And attendance at the following:

- UW Parkside Volunteer Fair
- Society's Assets Health and Wellness Fair
- Youth Emergency Preparedness Camp
- Emergency Communications Camp

The Citizen Corps Coordinator, who provides contract support for the Southeastern Wisconsin Citizen Corps Council through the Volunteer Center of Racine County, attended the following:

- State VOAD conference in December at Fort M c C o y

In addition the coordinator attended many webinars about disaster preparedness.

CERT members volunteered for the following:

- Racine and Kenosha County fairs
- Traffic Control at several festivals and events in Racine and Kenosha Counties including Cops 'n Kids Book Giveaway
- 4th of July parades

