

Maryland Emergency Management Agency

MEMA



2009 Annual Report

Richard Muth
Executive Director



Martin O'Malley
Governor



Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

MARTIN O'MALLEY
GOVERNOR

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Maryland Emergency Management Agency

Table of Contents

Message from Governor O'Malley	5
Office of the Executive Director	
Executive Director's Message	6
Executive Director testifies before Congress	8
MEMA Gives Back to the Community	9
Office of Administration	
Director of Administration	10
2009 Annual Budget	10
Retirements	11
FFY 2009 Homeland Security Grants	12
Communications	13
Maryland Citizen Corps	14
Office of Operations and Preparedness	
Director of Operations	16
Inaugural Planning and Activation	17
Individual Assistance	18
Public Assistance	19
Mitigation.....	20
Planning.....	21
Maryland Joint Operations Center	22
Regional Administrator Program	24
Exercise and Training.....	26
Photo Collage	28

Working together for a safer Maryland



Dear Friends,

I am pleased to offer you the Maryland Emergency Management Agency's Annual Report, detailing the year's many efforts and achievements of our hard working staff at MEMA, as well as our goals for the future. As you will see in this report, MEMA was involved with two historic events – planning for Maryland's role in the inaugural of President Obama and coordinating the state's response to the record-setting December snow storm – along with many other activities during a busy 2009.

The most important responsibility of any government is to protect the lives of its citizens and the O'Malley-Brown Administration has worked hard with the dedicated staff at MEMA to fulfill that great responsibility.

With strong emergency preparedness and response plans, and the partnership of the men and women of MEMA, we can help save lives and property in the event of a disaster, whether it is an unplanned event such as a tornado, or an event with some warning such as our December snow storm. Together with first responders around Maryland, State agencies, our National Guard, 26 local emergency management directors and our partners in neighboring states, our emergency management team works hard to plan for, respond to and recover from any catastrophic event that could threaten Maryland's families.

As part of the rigorous planning process, state agencies take part in frequent training exercises with local, federal and non-governmental partners to help identify gaps and correct them before a disaster occurs. Meanwhile, our Maryland Joint Operations Center maintains a 24-hour-a-day vigil, monitoring national and worldwide events and their potential impact on the State of Maryland. In an emergency, the individuals from every state agency who staff our Maryland Emergency Operations Center stand ready to implement detailed response plans and direct vital resources to areas of need. And MEMA's mitigation staff works closely with local emergency managers to help minimize the threat from future events.

Every family in Maryland needs to be prepared and stay informed of emergency procedures, and should develop a personal disaster plan. For more information on emergency management and disaster preparedness, please visit MEMA's website at www.mema.state.md.us, where you will find more important information about all types of emergencies that can help save lives.

Together, we can make Maryland a safer place to live, work and play.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Art O'Malley".



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Office of the Executive Director

Executive Director's Message

It is with great pride that I present this annual report of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). To say that 2009 brought some unusual challenges would be an understatement, but they were challenges that we met successfully. The year began and ended with historic events – the inauguration of our first African-American President in January and a December record-setting snowfall – and included the pandemic outbreak of H1N1 influenza and a November nor'easter that battered the lower Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland coastline.

Our staff at MEMA works diligently 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to ensure the safety of our citizens by working with all of Maryland's local jurisdictions and state agencies to develop and coordinate a unified planning effort for these very different types of events. Each of these activities and MEMA's response to them are outlined in this report.

On two occasions, I had the honor of testifying before Congressional subcommittees on the issues related to emergency management and the H1N1 influenza outbreak, and on the Emergency Alert System and recommendations to improve it.

MEMA continues to provide the very best service to Maryland's citizens and our partner agencies. The Maryland Joint Operations Center (MJOC) has continued to expand its role, handling calls for service for other agencies with emergency response as part of their mission. In addition to handling calls for the Office of the State Fire Marshall and after hours calls for service for the Maryland Department of the Environment's hazardous materials response teams, the MJOC now also receives such calls for the Maryland Occupational Safety and Health and the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

As you look through this report and read about these and other accomplishments, remember that none of the fine work that took place during the inauguration, snowstorms, nor'easters and other events would be possible without the day-to-day activities to prepare. All of the training classes and exercises, planning meetings, mitigation work, and the public outreach and education is the foundation for our ability to successfully manage emergencies. And, after EVERY emergency or exercise, we perform a critical self-assessment – what we call after action reports – that shows us what we can improve the next time and how we can better coordinate with local and federal partners and other state agencies. That is the backbone of every good emergency management agency.

We already know that the year 2010 will be full of its own challenges, at least if the early part of the year is any indication. Please know that MEMA will be here, ready to serve the citizens of Maryland, local emergency management staff and our partner agencies during whatever unusual events may come our way.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard M. Smith".

Working together for a safer Maryland

Executive
Director's
Message



Executive Director



Richard G. Muth was appointed Executive Director of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency by Governor Martin O'Malley on June 1, 2008. Director Muth has devoted his entire professional career to safeguarding the lives of Maryland citizens by improving public safety and emergency management practices on the Federal, State and local levels. Director Muth is a 33-year career and volunteer veteran of the Baltimore County Fire Department. He has previously chaired the Governor's Emergency Management Advisory Council (GEMAC), served as a two-term President of the Maryland Emergency Management Association, was a committee member and subsequent Chairman of the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC).

Executive
Director's
Office

As MEMA's Executive Director, Muth oversees a staff of 75 people who work closely with State agencies and Maryland's local jurisdictions coordinating and planning Maryland's response to any disaster. When a disaster occurs, whether it is man-made or natural, Director Muth becomes the lead person having the primary responsibility of managing the emergency event and closely advising the Governor on preparedness and response strategies.

Director Muth sits on several statewide committees. Most notable among them is the National Capital Region Senior Policy Group (NCR SPG). The Governors of Maryland and Virginia, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, and the Advisor to the President for Homeland Security established the NCR SPG to ensure policy and executive-level focus to the NCR's homeland security program. The SPG has responsibility for overseeing the management and administration of more than \$200 million dollars awarded to the NCR and works closely with the Chief Administrative Officers in each locality in the NCR to determine priority investments for increasing regional preparedness and response capabilities and to reduce the region's vulnerability to terrorist attacks and other hazards.

Director Muth currently serves as a member of the Federal Department of Health and Human Services National Commission on Children in Disasters - Evacuation, Transportation and Housing Sub-Committee. Here he is a key advisor to the group recommending minimum standards for the care of children during any phase of a disaster. Furthermore, he assists in the commission's mission to identify best practices that ensure the safety of children during a disaster as well as addressing any gaps in care that may exist.

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Office of the Executive Director

Executive Director's Office

Executive Director Muth Testifies before Congress

MEMA Executive Director, Richard Muth, had the opportunity on two separate occasions to testify before Congressional committees on issues related to emergency management at the State and local levels.

On July 29, 2009, Director Muth testified in front of the US House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security. The topic was "Beyond Readiness: An examination of the current status and future outlook of the National Response to Pandemic Influenza". He was joined by a panel of individuals from across the country who represented various disciplines upon which Pandemic Influenza would have an impact.

Director Muth's testimony covered four areas: establishing effective management and coordination, addressing and meeting key medical requirements, evaluating and updating plans, and improving early warning and detection. He also commented on the challenges in applying the Stafford Act to a Pandemic Influenza outbreak.



MEMA Executive Director Richard Muth testifies in Washington D.C. before United States Congressional Committees.

On September 30th, Director Muth testified in front of the US House of Representative's Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management. The topic was "This is NOT a test: Will the Nation's Emergency Alert System Deliver the President's Message to the Public?". His testimony discussed the current status of the Emergency Alert System (EAS), Maryland's improvements to EAS, EAS successes and vulnerabilities, the Federal government's interaction and support to states regarding EAS, and recommendations for improvement of EAS.

Director Muth's testimony may be viewed on MEMA's website in both video and print format.

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MEMA Staff Gives Back to the Community

Throughout the year, the staff at MEMA had the opportunity to give back to the community in many ways. Through icy plunges into the Chesapeake, races and donations, the staff teamed up and raised awareness and money for numerous charities.

In January, Team MEMA participated in the 13th Annual Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge at Sandy Point State Park. The event raised more than \$3 million for Special Olympics of Maryland and attracted over 11,000 Plungers.



Team MEMA at the Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge to benefit Special Olympics of Maryland

MEMA Staff Give Back

Team MEMA had 12 plungers in its inaugural debut and raised over \$5,000 in donations. "I was honored to be a part of such a worthy fundraising effort and proud of the staff and their families that participated", said Executive Director Muth. "It is my hope that Team MEMA will grow for next year's Plunge and this will become an annual MEMA tradition."



In October, Team MEMAGRAMS, walked in the 17th Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in Hunt Valley, MD.

Led by Co-Captains Sharon Morazzani and Marianne Souders, the 12 MEMAGRAMS completed the 3.1 mile walk and raised \$2,758 for breast cancer awareness.

Co-Captain and breast cancer survivor Marianne Souders stated, "It

was amazing to see the agency pull together and support this cause. Everyone showed their support and awareness of Breast Cancer by registering to walk, donating money to our team and wearing pink on Thursdays. I am proud to work with such a caring group as we have here at MEMA." **Team MEMAGRAMS, staying abreast of an emergency.**

The Agency also participated in three Red Cross Blood Drives in 2009, coordinated by MJOC Supervisor Norm Gifford. MEMA and Military department staff donated 50 units of blood and had 10 first time donors. The 50 units of blood donated was enough to help 150 patients in our community. Blood drives will continue in 2010 with goals set to exceed those reached in 2009.



To close out the year, Agency Operations Planner, Jane Thursby arranged for the Annual Toys for Tots collection sponsored by the US Marine Corps. Staff donated enough toys to fill two large boxes. The toys were distributed to local children to enhance their holiday season.





Office of Administration

Director of
Administration



Director of Administration

Erin Easton was appointed in March 2009 as Director of Administration under Executive Director Richard Muth for the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). As the Director, she plans, directs, manages and administers all aspects of the Agency Administration Directorate. This includes the Agency budget activities, the Communications, Interoperability and Information Technology Branch, the Grants Management Branch, the Citizen Corps Program, the Public Information Office and the Administration and Logistics Branch. Ms. Easton also manages the University of Maryland Center for Health & Homeland Security Law Fellow staff assigned throughout the Agency and the Towson University Center for Geospatial Sciences staff.

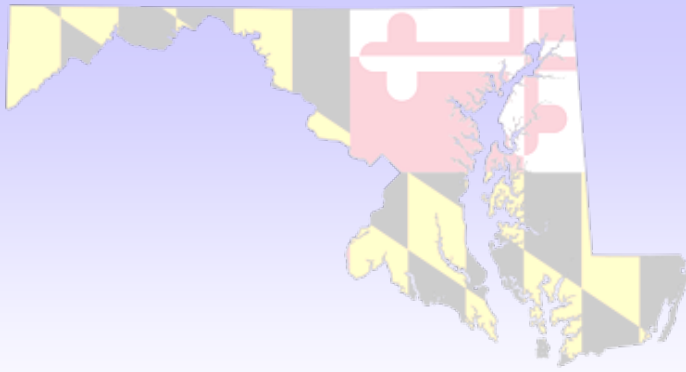
Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Budget

In Fiscal Year 2009, the Maryland Emergency Management Agency recorded incoming funds from numerous federal homeland security grants, and the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA) and Amoss grant programs.

After a \$3 million shortfall in FY 2008, MEMA was able to balance the operating budget of the agency in FY 2009. Cost containing measures enabled the agency to close the fiscal year budget with no deficiencies.

Looking forward to FY 2010, MEMA continues to execute tight budget requirements to again balance the budget at the close of the fiscal year.

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Elizabeth Stone



Beth Stone retired after 24 years as a dedicated employee in State government. She was employed for 18 years at the Community College of Baltimore County-Essex Campus, 12 years at University of Maryland Baltimore County, and was with the Maryland Emergency Management Agency January 2006 until December 2009.

Beth not only has served the citizens of Maryland through her employment, but also through her volunteer efforts in Baltimore County. She has been an active member in the Baltimore County Volunteer Fire Service for 22 years and is currently certified as a Firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician – IV Tech. Beth has held numerous offices with both the Maryland State Fireman’s Association and the Baltimore County Volunteer Fireman’s Association.

Beth has been and will continue to be a true asset to the citizens of Maryland. Her dedication and loyalty to public service is unwavering.

Retirements

Daniel “Skip” Mahan

Skip has been serving his country, state and community for forty plus years. He joined the United States Marine Corps out of high school and served his country for four years. Upon completion of his service in the Marines, he became a Maryland State Trooper. As a trooper, he taught at the Police Academy, was assigned to the Criminal Investigation Unit and later promoted and transferred to the Cecil County States Attorney’s Office as the Lead Investigator for the County. Skip served with MSP for 11 years and then was appointed as the youngest Director of Emergency Management in the State. He served in that position from 1979-1985.

Skip returned to service in the National Guard as a Title 31 and a Title 10 AGR Soldier. During his tour of duty, he served primarily in the Counter drug arena and as a trainer for the Military Academy, First Sergeant of the 629th Military Intelligence Battalion (CEWI) and the NCO Commandant of the Maryland Military Academy. He later was re-assigned to the National Guard Bureau as the Senior NCO of the Nation’s Counter Drug Program. He retired from the National Guard Bureau in 1998 as a Command Sergeant Major.

From 2000-2003, Skip served as the Chief of Police for the Town of Elkton, Maryland. In 2003, he was appointed as Coordinator for Homeland Security for his County and was placed on loan to MEMA to assist in implementing the National Incident Management System in the state of Maryland. In 2006, he was selected to become one of six Regional Administrators for MEMA.

On December 31, 2009, Skip retired from state service after twenty six years of faithful service to spend quality time with his wife, children and grandchildren.





Office of Administration

Maryland Homeland Security Grant Funding

FY 2009 Grant Program

In 2009, the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) continued to manage, on Maryland's behalf, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) grant funds totaling \$42,751,535. The task has become increasingly challenging as federal funding for this vital program continues to decline nation-wide. This trend is reflected for Maryland in an overall decrease in program funding of 6.8% (-\$3,128,062) from Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2008 to 2009. Despite reduced resources, Maryland's focus remains on supporting regional, county and city first responders meeting the unique and multi-faceted threat of terrorism within Maryland's borders. To this end Maryland continues to pass through the large majority of awarded funds to its local jurisdictions. Primary sub-grantees include all twenty-three Maryland Counties and the cities of Annapolis, Baltimore and Ocean City. For 2009, 81% of all Homeland Security grant funding was passed through to local jurisdictions to support local programs and initiatives.

To better control and more efficiently manage DHS funding, MEMA acquired and fielded a new web-based grants management system providing both local and state program managers with real time information of program acquisitions, expenditures, and reimbursements. This system also supports the creation of detailed equipment inventories for enhanced program management and use in times of emergency or disaster.

In addition, on November 19, 2009, DHS approved the updated Maryland Homeland Strategy. Based upon the Governor's Strategic Goals and Objectives for Homeland Security, this document provides the overarching direction for Homeland Security programs within Maryland and provides a basis for the allocation of resources to meet the goals and objectives established therein. This document emphasizes the collaborative process and promotes local, regional and state-wide partnerships critical in addressing the complex and changing challenges of terrorism.

Federal Fiscal Year 2009 Homeland Security Grants	Maryland's Award	Local Sub-Grants
Buffer Zone Protection Program	\$1,000,000	\$970,000
Citizens Corps	\$269,829	\$181,188
Emergency Management Performance Grant	\$5,664,580	\$2,903,864
Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant	\$970,428	\$776,342
Metropolitan Medical Response System	\$321,221	\$321,221
Non-Profit Security Grant Program	\$149,270	\$14,792
Port Security Grant Program	\$6,423,657	pending
State Homeland Security Program	\$16,977,500	\$13,582,000
Urban Area Security Initiative	\$10,975,050	\$10,775,050
Grand Total	\$42,751,535	\$29,524,457

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Communications

A top priority for Governor O'Malley is state-wide interoperability. Below are two initiatives that MEMA is actively engaged in, to ensure that objective is met.

MEMA Staff Appointed to Regional Communications Workgroup

Communications Manager Hank Black and Acting MJOC Manager Gary Zamerski were appointed by the MEMA Executive Director to serve on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Regional Emergency Communications Coordinating Working Group (RECCWG). The RECCWG serves as the single, regional coordination point for emergency communications preparedness, response, and recovery for federal, state, and local governments within FEMA Region III. This group also provides tactical disaster emergency communications capabilities to support all-hazards disaster response and recovery and national security emergency requirements in the Region and among other regions as needed.



Communications



MEMA Hosts Baltimore County Radio Shelter

Baltimore County is expanding and enhancing its Public Safety Radio System capabilities incorporating APCO Project 25, the national digital communications interoperability standard. The new capabilities will provide first responders for fire and law enforcement better coverage and in-building communications with interoperability for homeland security and day-to-day operations. The enhancements will utilize 18 county and State towers one of which is located at MEMA, Camp Fretterd. Choice of locations improves coverage deficiencies, maximizes use of existing public safety towers, and provides increased microwave connectivity and best use of available land. Shelter construction at Camp Fretterd is expected to be completed March, 2010.

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Office of Administration

Maryland Citizen Corps

Maryland Citizen Corps (MCC) is a part of the nationwide grass-roots movement that actively involves all Americans in making our communities safer, stronger and better prepared for all hazards and threats. The MCC is sponsored and managed by the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and selected individuals representing several agencies, associations and organizations. The program offers a competitive grants process to all of the local jurisdictions.

The mission of the Maryland Citizen Corps Council is to help regional and local organizations, such as local Citizen Corps Councils and Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs), to make their communities safer, stronger and better prepared to respond to large scale disasters as well as daily emergencies.

Maryland Citizen Corps

Maryland State Citizen Corps Council (MCCC) membership organizations include:

- MEMA/MD Citizen Corps State Program Manager
- Governor's Office of Community Initiative
- Local Emergency Management representatives
- MD Volunteer Center representative
- MDVOAD Representative
- Disabilities Representative
- American Red Cross
- Maryland Professional Volunteer Corps/Medical Corps
- Maryland Fire and Emergency Services/ Fire Corps
- Law Enforcement/Volunteer in Police Service (VIPS)
- State Animal Response Team (SART/CART)
- Local Citizen Corps Representative
- Business and Industry Representative



Maryland State Citizen Corps Council

The role of the MD Citizen Corps Council is to:

- Support the establishment of local and regional Citizen Corps Councils.
- Provide a state level voice to support partnership in citizen education and preparedness.
- Collaborate on developing a multi-disciplined and diverse approach to improving citizen education, training and participation.
- Exchange information on programs to promote public awareness, training and volunteer service opportunities.
- Promote messages on public safety, emergency preparedness, and the importance of citizen preparedness.
- Serve as a catalyst for engaging others within their areas of expertise to promote the Citizen Corps Mission.

Working together for a safer Maryland



Volunteer Opportunities in Maryland

Maryland currently has 28 Citizen Corps Councils (CCC) listed on the national Citizen Corps website. Maryland local Councils must be certified by their local emergency manager, have a regular meeting schedule and submit a grant application to the State Citizen Corps Program Manager every year. The grant application requires councils to submit information about what they have accomplished in the prior year, what their plans are for the upcoming year, and who sits on the council.

Throughout the State, there are numerous volunteer opportunities through programs affiliated with the local Citizen Corps Councils. Here is a snapshot of those opportunities.

Community Emergency Response Team Program

Maryland currently has 25 CERTs listed on the national CERT program website. Currently the State has over 2600 Marylanders that have gone through CERT training using collaborative efforts at all levels.



Maryland
Citizen Corps



Fire Corps

Maryland has 29 Fire Corps units listed on the national Fire Corps website.

Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

On the national MRC website, Maryland has 7 MRCs registered.

USA on Watch (UOW)-Neighborhood Watch

The Montgomery County Citizen Corps Council has been working on developing a Neighborhoods Ready Program. The core of this program is the neighborhood component, in which trained CERT volunteers will work to prepare neighborhoods to be able to take care of themselves during a disaster. The training will also include presentations to neighborhood and civic groups to introduce the program and provide information on personal and family preparedness. The Montgomery County Citizen Corps is finalizing training modules for this program.



They are working in partnership with the Office of Emergency Management, Police Department, and Health and Human Services from different counties. An official launch is planned for September to coincide with National Preparedness Month.

Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)

Maryland currently has 28 VIPS units listed on the national website.



Shelter Evaluation Training

The State of Maryland provided training on the Design and Construction Guidance for Community Safe Rooms (FEMA 361) and is now utilizing volunteers from the Maryland Defense Force Engineering Unit to evaluate primary shelters across the state. The first primary shelter evaluation was completed in early August.

Highlights

The State of Maryland received the **2009 FEMA Region III Pursuit of Excellence Award** for demonstrating the most progress in National Preparedness Month activities in the region.

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Office of Operations & Preparedness

Director of Operations

Director of
Operations



Melvin L. Blizzard Jr. currently serves as the Director of Operations for the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, having been appointed to that position in July 2008.

His responsibilities include the oversight of all state-wide operational all-hazards planning and preparedness, mitigation and recovery programs, the Maryland Joint Operations Center, Exercise and Training, MEMA's Regional Programs, and coordinates information and intelligence sharing between MJOC and Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC).

In January, Mr. Blizzard served in the leading role, working closely with the United States Secret Service and both allied state and local partners, responsible for coordinating Maryland's planning, preparedness, and response during the Whistle-stop Tour and Inauguration of President Barack Obama.

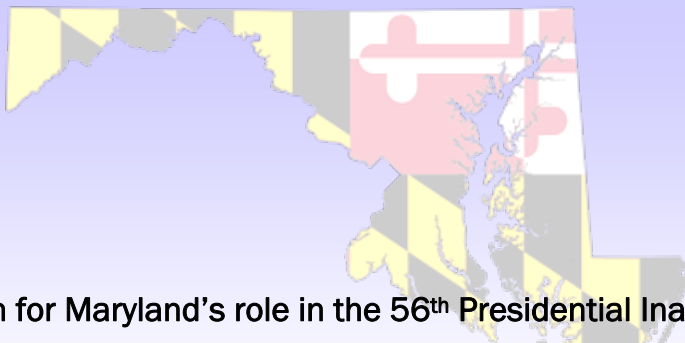
Deputy Director of Operations

Edward Hopkins currently serves as the Deputy Director of Operations and Director of Communications for MEMA.

His responsibilities include management and oversight of the Operations Directorate. This includes the Regional Administrator program, the Maryland Joint Operations Center, Mitigation and Recovery, Exercise and Training, and the Planning branch. Most recently, he served as Chief of Staff and formerly as the Manager of the Office of Domestic Preparedness - Law Enforcement Liaison Group (ODPLEL) where he was the liaison with all state, local, and federal law-enforcement and served as the intelligence liaison/resource between Federal agencies and the Executive Director of MEMA.



Working together for a safer Maryland



MEMA leads coordination for Maryland's role in the 56th Presidential Inauguration

The Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) was appointed by Governor Martin O'Malley to be the lead State agency in coordinating Maryland's assistance to the District of Columbia (D.C.) and the United States Secret Service (USSS) in preparing for and responding to safeguarding the 56th Presidential Inauguration in Washington D.C. on January 20, 2009.



Maryland (MD) began preparing months before the inauguration. In October 2009, MEMA was asked to represent MD on the FEMA Consequence Management committee in D.C. The consequence management committee is one committee of many that is initiated during an identified National Special Security Event (NSSE). Many other State agency representatives were then placed on the various sub-committees to help facilitate coordination with Fire, Law Enforcement, Communications, Emergency Medical Services and more.



In December 2009, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security designated a second NSSE which affected Maryland. It was designated as the "Whistle Stop Tour". President-Elect Barak Obama would board an 11 car Amtrak train in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and travel to Wilmington, Delaware where Vice President-Elect Joseph R. Biden, Jr. would join the procession to travel next to Baltimore for a speech, and then continue to D.C. It was a 137 mile route with 91

miles through Maryland. State agencies, Baltimore City and many other local jurisdictions worked closely together to coordinate and assist the USSS with protection, communications and safety issues. This event took place on Saturday, January 17, 2009. While in Baltimore, President-Elect Obama hailed the troops at Fort McHenry who had pushed back the British navy and inspired the poem that we know as "The Star-Spangled Banner."



The events from January 17, 2009 through January 21, 2009 were perceived as unprecedented as the nation's first African-American president took the oath of office. Crowds were expected to be in the millions and massive amounts of traffic were anticipated to enter the Washington D.C. area. This required Maryland, D.C.

and Virginia to work with precision in pre-planning efforts to minimize any congestion. The planning activities proved to be a success which led to minimal traffic congestion and good crowd control. Security measures were at the highest ever seen. Over 700 first responders deployed to D.C. in support of law enforcement and medical needs. These men and women were from municipal, county and state agencies and included law enforcement, fire, EMS and health personnel. In addition, the Maryland State Emergency Operations Center was activated and provided a unified command structure. MEMA worked closely with the Maryland



Coordination and Analysis Center to monitor any threats against the events.

The 56th Presidential Inauguration was a historic event and a memorable occasion for both the citizens and responders of Maryland. It was an honor and a privilege to be an integral part of such a momentous occasion.

56th Presidential Inauguration



Office of Operations & Preparedness

Individual Assistance in Support of Water Main Break in Baltimore County

Local Emergency Management Leads Immediate Response

On Friday, September 18, 2009, at 4:10 p.m., a 72-inch water main supplying water to Baltimore City broke, sending millions of gallons of water into a nearby business and residential area in Dundalk, Baltimore County, MD. As a direct result of the water main break, over 100 homes had some degree of water damage in the basements/crawl spaces.



Baltimore County led the immediate response from their Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM). They were supported by county public works, fire/police, and social service agencies; State agencies, including MEMA, Department of Human Resources (DHR), the Maryland Insurance Administration, Department of Social Services, State Highway Administration; MD VOAD (Maryland Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster), including the American Red Cross and Southern Baptists; and several private sector partnering companies.

Individual Assistance



Briefing of Partnering Agencies

A briefing was hosted by the Baltimore County Executive to determine recovery capabilities of the local government and State; and as a result of that briefing, the local jurisdiction asked MEMA's Director to request a Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment of the affected area to determine if the damage was beyond the recovery capability of the local government and state.

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment

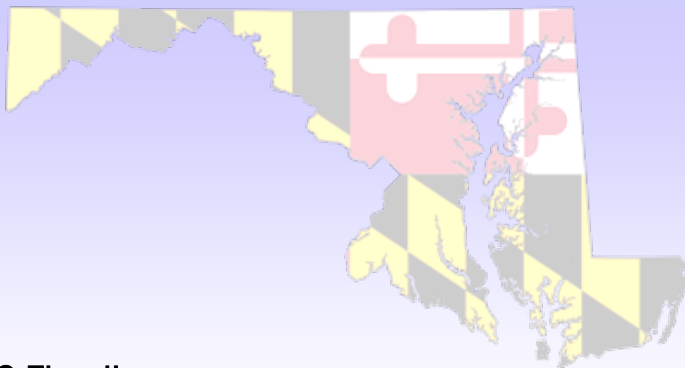
Partners from Baltimore County HSEM, MEMA, DHR, FEMA, the Small Business Administration and the American Red Cross participated in an on-site Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment process.

Primary factors considered include type of property damage (number of homes destroyed or with major damage), impact on infrastructure of affected areas or critical facilities, imminent threats to public health and safety, impacts to essential government services and functions, unique capability of Federal government, dispersion or concentration of damage, level of insurance coverage in place for homeowners and public facilities, assistance available from other sources (Federal, State, local, voluntary organizations), State and local resource commitments from previous, undeclared events; and frequency of disaster events over recent time period, to include previous flood damage from Hurricane Isabel in September 2003.



No emergency needs were identified during fieldwork; however, referrals were made to the Department of Public Works for additional water pump out assistance, as well as, to the American Red Cross for clean-up kits. Even though there was significant water damage to the basements/crawl spaces in over 100 homes, the extent of the damage did not meet the minimum program criteria or thresholds for any type of Federal assistance. It should be noted the local jurisdiction continues to provide support to the affected citizens and businesses within the affected area, by way of county programs, voluntary organizations, and private sector partners.

Working together for a safer Maryland



June 2006 Flooding Public Assistance Program Closes

The Public Assistance Section of the Mitigation and Recovery Branch is poised to close the door in the early part of 2010 on the 2006 June Flooding disaster that impacted counties on the Eastern Shore and Capital regions. The majority of public assistance projects were completed and closed during 2009. One project remains open with preliminary completion set for April 2010. Public Assistance programmatic close out of the disaster will follow soon after.



An entire section of Indiantown Road washed away in Dorchester County as a result of flooding in 2006.

Public Assistance



A December snow-storm coated the entire state, and in some areas was record setting.



December Snow Event

Following the December 2009 Snow/ Severe Winter Storm Event, initial cost estimates were collected to request a Presidential Declaration. Maryland received record or near record snow-fall in several jurisdictions.

In February, Maryland received confirmation of the Presidential Declaration and is now working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to maximize the state's reimbursement potential for this storm.

Training and Planning Continues for Damage Assessment and Debris Management

In 2009, the Individual Assistance and Public Assistance Officers continued to offer Damage Assessment Training to Maryland's local jurisdictions. A total of 226 individuals were trained through a series of trainings offered in nine jurisdictions, to State representatives, and to the Maryland Defense Force.

Debris Management and Operations planning also continued throughout the state. A total of eight jurisdictions have FEMA-approved debris plans and one is pending.

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Office of Operations & Preparedness

Mitigation



Montreal Drive in Harford County -
This land was acquired after a home was demolished due to repeated flooding issues. The land along Grays Run stream will be used as a county park .

Local Mitigation Plans

In 2009, MEMA mitigation staff continued to work with local jurisdictions whose local mitigation plan updates were pending review by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) within the next one to two years. As a result of this coordinated effort, eight jurisdictions prepared sub-grant applications seeking funding to update their local hazard mitigation plans. Additionally, one jurisdiction began work on an update to their plan internally. MEMA mitigation staff will continue to work with local jurisdictions to ensure updates are completed within the time parameters set by FEMA.

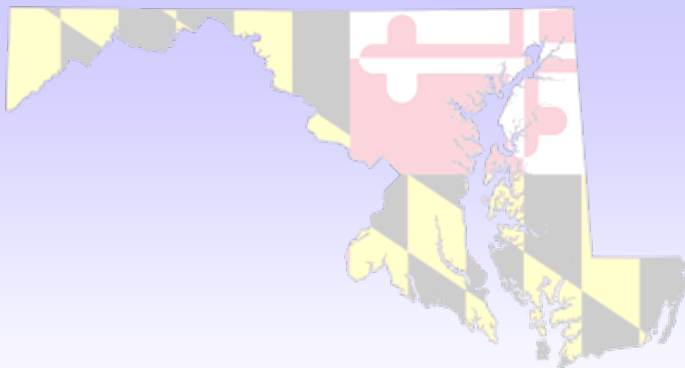
Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program

MEMA has submitted eight planning and one project application for funding under the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program. The project application is for the hardening of a new hurricane shelter to be located in Talbot County. The total cost of the project application is \$1,827,060. Approval of the planning and project applications is pending a competitive national review panel. The panel review is conducted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and includes federal, state and local officials from throughout the United States.



As part of an acquisition project in Prince George's County, MEMA acquired this property due to unstable soil conditions. The property will be transferred to the County government for open space and parks development.

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MEMA's Planning Branch Wraps Up Another Busy Year

2009 proved itself to be a year of planning opportunities and challenges! January saw the plans staff creating and then updating the **Concept of Operations** (ConOps) for the Presidential Inauguration. This planning process was one of a kind, as Maryland worked in coordination with new federal partners, such as the United States Secret Service.

Planning

Immediately after the Inauguration, the planning branch forged ahead with planning mandated in the **Governor's 12 Core Goals**. With the expertise of staff from the Department of Human Resources, the planning branch provided the mass care and sheltering suite of plans and procedures to care for citizens in disasters.



Next, the complete overhaul of State of Maryland emergency planning occupied most of the summer with the writing of the State **CORE Plan** as Volume One of this effort. Seminal to this effort is the Comprehensive Emergency Management Program – **CEMP** which drives Maryland's preparedness and planning efforts.

As **Volume Two** develops, annexes and appendices relevant to the needs of Marylanders – a new **Anti-terrorism Plan**, a revised **Radiological Annex** (*Fixed Nuclear Facility*), and an updated **Repatriation Plan**, will be incorporated.

Another complex and demanding effort was the creation and coordination of **Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP)** planning with all jurisdictions and State departments and agencies. By mandate of the Governor, all cabinet level agencies developed COOP and Pandemic Flu COOP plans

Finally, the newly devised **eLibrary** allows for a targeted emergency management audience to view emergency plans on MEMA's web-based gateway.

www.mema.state.md.us



Office of Operations & Preparedness

Maryland Joint Operations Center Improves Efficiency



Since its inception in 2004, the Maryland Joint Operations Center (MJOC) has developed into a key asset for the citizens of Maryland and partner state agencies. Developed by the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Maryland Military Department, it is one of the first State Emergency Management/National Guard joint operation centers in the country.

The MJOC is staffed by emergency management professionals and National Guardsmen, and functions as the state's primary hub for agency coordination, communications and information. The MJOC is the State Warning Point for public notification (i.e. Amber alerts, weather warnings, etc...). The staff helps to coordinate conference calls with state, local and federal partners; maintains detailed call-down lists for SEOC representatives; and provides regular updates of incidents throughout the state to executive leadership. In addition, the MJOC serves as the steady-state component for the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and the SEOC Communications Center. The Maryland National Guard component tracks military activities around the country and the world. Together, the MJOC staff monitors developing weather and disaster situations to ensure that state officials have early notice on any emerging incident, in the state or elsewhere in the country. Through the use of effective communication and information management, the MJOC is able to provide a common operating picture to elected officials and key senior leaders across the state.

The MJOC has an extensive training and certification program that validates the staff's competencies through enhanced on-the-job training. This is accomplished through a series of online training sessions sponsored by FEMA and by attending various classroom courses. Upon completion of a class, testing is administered for the employee to either obtain professional development certificates and/or college credits.

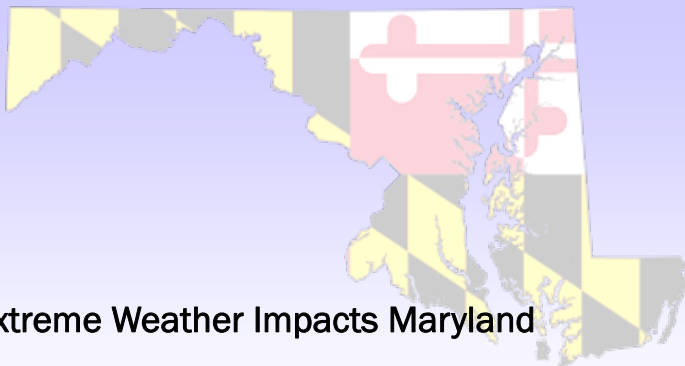
In 2009, the MJOC expanded its role in state-wide emergency operations and coordination. To provide added value, the MJOC assists other state agencies with their emergency operations. In addition to their current roles as a dispatch center for the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), the MJOC is now assisting the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) and the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation's Occupational Safety and Health Division (MOSH). Through these agreements, the MJOC is able to provide the public, key organizations and other state agencies with information about incidents that could affect the safety and well being of Maryland's citizens. For the year, the MJOC handled approximately 1,400 calls for service for the State Fire Marshal and approximately 1,800 calls for MDE. Hours of service have limited the number of calls for MOSH and MDA, but it is planned that the hours will increase with time.

The Maryland Joint Operations Center functions 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The MJOC is staffed by trained emergency management professionals, and maintains situational awareness of events across the state, country and world, for the Executive Level of Maryland Government.



Maryland Joint Operations Center

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Extreme Weather Impacts Maryland

Maryland experiences some of the most extreme weather conditions, and 2009 proved to be no exception as the entire state saw what Mother Nature could produce throughout the entire year.

Cold temperatures froze the state in early 2009, as MEMA prepared for the Presidential Inauguration. Concerns over the subzero temperatures prompted warming centers to be opened state-wide and provisions to be put in place to shelter if necessary.

In the summer months, severe storms sprouted up as tornadoes, flooding, wind shears and thunderstorms made an impact on Maryland communities. The National Weather Service confirmed tornadoes touched down throughout the state on more than one occasion. MEMA Regional Administrators responded as necessary to support the local emergency managers and provide them with state resources when needed.



Severe Weather Impacts State



Debris and erosion on the beaches of Ocean City following a November nor'easter.

November and December produced some of the most significant weather events of the year. A nor'easter slammed the Eastern Shore and coastal sections of Southern Maryland, wiping out the beaches and dunes of Maryland's premier resort town, Ocean City. In conjunction with and support of Ocean City Emergency Management and Worcester County Emergency Management, MEMA surveyed the \$10 million in damages to the beaches. It is expected that in May 2010, the Army Corps of Engineers will begin the process of dune repairs and beach replenishment. Record snow fell in December, coating the entire State.

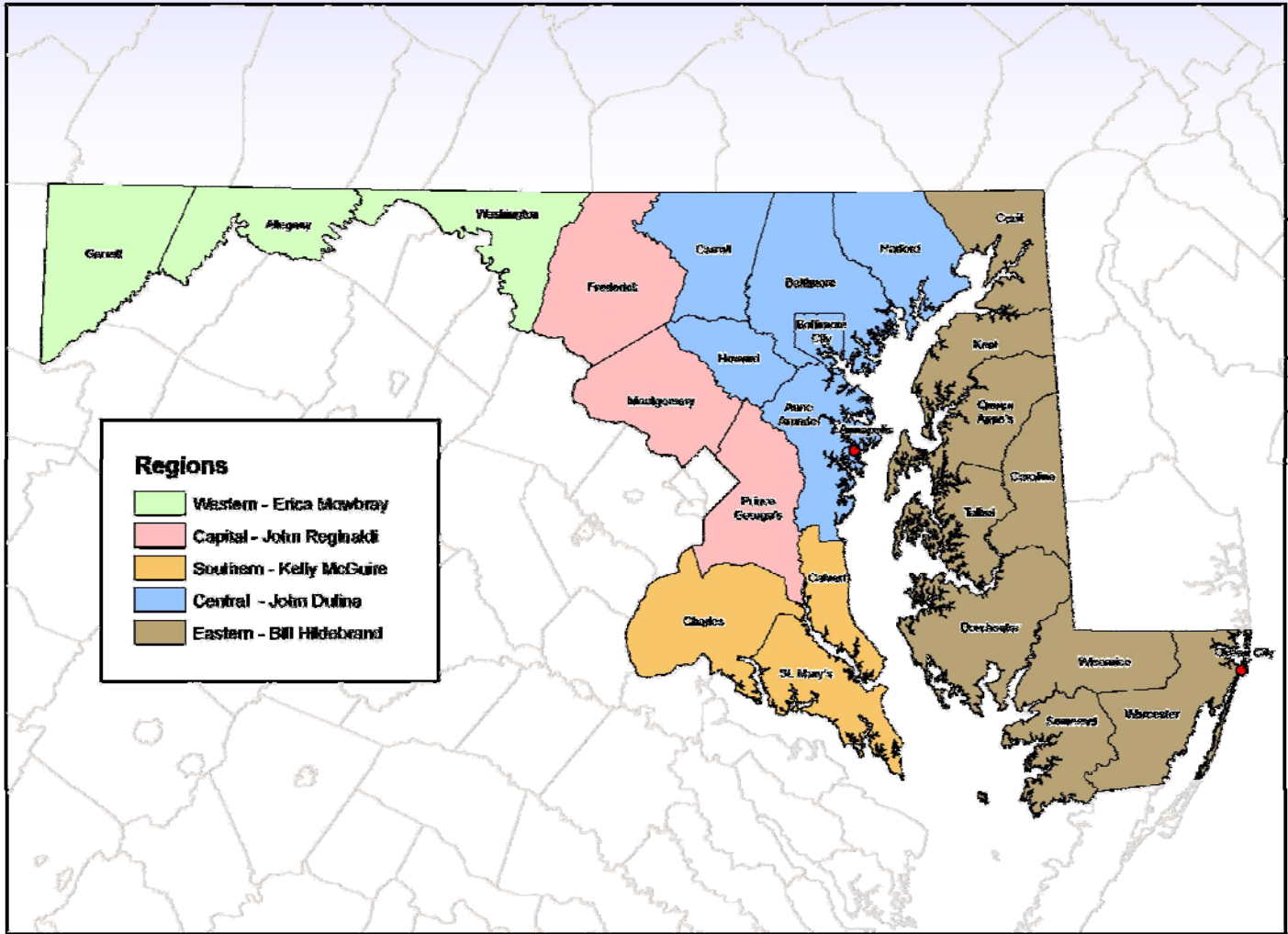
The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was activated to a Level 3 bringing in representatives from critical state agencies. In areas of the state, in excess of 30 inches were recorded by the National Weather Service. Maryland submitted for a Presidential Declaration and received confirmation of its approval in late February 2010. The State of Maryland will continue to work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to maximize the potential for reimbursement for all Maryland's jurisdictions.





Office of Operations

MEMA Regional Administrators



The Regional Administrator (RA) program has been in place since October 2005. There are five regions: Western, Capital, Eastern Shore, Southern and Central. Each region has one Regional Administrator, with the exception of the Eastern Shore which has two (MEMA is currently recruiting to fill the second position). During major emergencies or disasters, the RA's provide critical coordination of information and resources in order to alleviate problems and to promote a return to normalcy.

The Regional Administrator has the ability to connect local jurisdictions with the appropriate programs and personnel within MEMA before, during and after a disaster. The RA is expected to have a working knowledge of each phase of Emergency Management -- Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Mitigation -- and familiarity with each functional area within MEMA. The responsibilities of the RA's are to ensure communications and facilitate information sharing- as well as a mutually cooperative planning and response effort- between the State and local jurisdictions in an all-hazards approach. They liaison and maintain contact with the public safety community, focusing on relationships with emergency management, homeland security, law enforcement, public works, public health and fire/rescue.

The Regional Administrator Program is the eyes and ears of MEMA executive staff, offering an unparalleled opportunity to promote strong relationships that enhance MEMA's ability to effectively partner with Maryland local jurisdictions in times of crisis.

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September 2009 - "Million Pound Move"

Two steam generators arrived in Port Deposit, Cecil County by barge and were unloaded and transported by ground to Three Mile Island. Eastern Shore RA, Bill Hildebrand was on location to provide support and coordination to Cecil County Emergency Management and state agencies involved in the move.

November 2009 - EPA Exercise

All seven Baltimore Urban Area Security Initiative jurisdictions participated in a multi-jurisdictional and agency Full Scale Exercise conducted in conjunction with the Environmental Protection Agency's Annual Conference held in Baltimore. Central Maryland RA, John Dulina participated in the exercise as a MEMA liaison to the local jurisdictions, state and federal agencies participating in the response.



November 2009 - Southern Maryland Nor'easter

A severe Nor'easter impacted parts of the Southern Maryland coastline, including the community of Huntingtown (pictured above). Southern Maryland RA Kelly McGuire was on location in the emergency operations centers of Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's Counties to assist with any unmet needs and coordinated with the State Emergency Operations Center.



March 2009 - Georges Creek HazMat Spill

Western Maryland RA Roger Bennett responded to an accident involving an overturned tractor trailer in Allegany County where 20-tons of coal and 120 gallons of diesel were spilled into the Georges Creek. RA Bennett supported the on scene Incident Commander by coordinating with the Maryland Department of the Environment HazMat Response Team and the State Highway Administration District Engineer.



July 2009 - Tornado Touches Down in Frederick County

Severe storms sprung up all over the state throughout the summer months. In Frederick County a tornado touched down in Adamstown destroying these farm buildings. RA Erica Mowbray provided liaison assistance through the SEOC in support of the operations on the ground.

Regional Administrator Program



Office of Operations & Preparedness

MEMA Increases Training & Exercise Opportunities

During 2009, the Exercise and Training Branch made progress in several areas which extended our outreach efforts to local jurisdictions and expanded the type of course offerings presented. Once again, the State of Maryland was 100% compliant with the annual NIMSCAST reporting process. MEMA's efforts to present or facilitate Incident Command System (ICS) trainings, especially ICS 300 and 400 are now focused on agencies requiring additional training of personnel by virtue of promotions, retirements, or reassignment. The initial effort to ensure statewide saturation, (and as a result compliance) is behind us and we are entering a "maintenance" phase.

Exercise & Training



ICS 400 Class offered in Worcester County

Exercise opportunities also increased by 25% over 2008, with 24 exercises state-wide. This increase can be attributed to our effort to assist locals and state partners in executing their exercises, rather than develop exercises independently. This change in approach permitted MEMA to start a library of exercises which can be modified and shared with local jurisdictions upon request. During 2009, the Exercise and Training staff were able to fill the Branch's remaining vacancy, the National Capital Region Exercise Lead.

In 2009, 162 training courses were offered, an increase of 21% over 2008. Most notable was the broader diversity of training programs offered based on feedback from local jurisdictions and state agency partners. New programs include, a series on Weapons of Mass Destruction, bioterrorism and agriterrorism, as well as a series on critical infrastructure protection/counter surveillance/soft target hardening through Western Oregon University.



Baltimore County hosted a Pet Sheltering exercise in September. MEMA E&T branch assisted with scenario development.

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State & Local Agencies Participate in Nuclear Power Plant Exercise

Maryland is home to Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant and as part of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Federal Emergency Management Agency nuclear power plant program, was mandated to participate in a federally evaluated nuclear power plant exercise in October.

The Maryland Emergency Management Agency, Maryland Department of the Environment, Calvert, St. Mary's, and Dorchester Counties, as well as other critical state agencies participated in the exercise.



Exercise & Training

Maryland exceeded the requirement, received excellent marks in many areas, and is being recognized as a “best practices” for the State Emergency Operations Center activation. Areas that are evaluated include command and control, communications, public outreach, alert and warning, evacuation and sheltering, and overall coordination among the local jurisdictions and state partners.



MEMA took a forward leaning posture by strategically positioning Regional Administrators within the local emergency operations centers (EOC), activating the State Joint Information Center, as well as participating at the Calvert Cliffs Emergency Operations Facility and near-site media center. These tactics allowed for up to the minute situational awareness and coordination with the local EOC's and plant operations.

“The state and local jurisdiction’s response within the scope of this exercise was exceptional,” states MEMA Executive Director Richard Muth. “It is because of the continued training and coordination among the partner agencies, that we are so successful in the execution of these federally graded exercises.”

The next federally evaluated exercise for the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant is scheduled to be held in September 2011.

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In January, the State Emergency Operations Center was activated for the duration of the President-Elect Whistle Stop Tour through Maryland until the last Inaugural festivity.



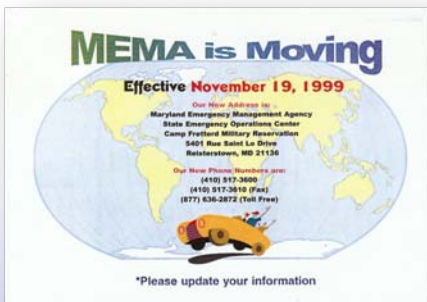
Ruth Mascari, Planning Branch Manager, was recognized as MEMA Employee of the Year. Ruth was nominated by her colleagues for extreme dedication to MEMA and the State of Maryland.



June 2009 - Ocean City Air Show



October 2009 - Executive Director Muth (center) and Brigadier General Adkins (left) met with Brigadier General Horst from Joint Force Headquarters - NCR (right) to provide a tour and overview of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency.



In November, MEMA marked its' 10 year anniversary at Camp Fretterd. It was just prior to Y2K, that MEMA settled into new digs at Camp Fretterd after spending more than 35 years on Sudbrook Lane in Pikesville, known to those who worked there as "the bunker".



In June, MEMA had the opportunity to meet with FEMA Region III to discuss programs and initiatives.

Tropical Storm Ida drenched the lower Eastern Shore in November. Below is a photo of the flooding that occurred in Ocean City.



MEMA was fortunate to have three interns from the University of Maryland Baltimore County. David Rinonos, Vanessa Yanavitch, and Lara Costello. While at MEMA, they worked on the Severe Storms and Tsunami Conference planning, Governor's Core Goal Four on Personal Protective Equipment, the review of ESF 11 guidance, and researched the Stafford Act, NIMS, HSPD's, NFPA 1600, and Emergency Management.

Maryland hosted the first East Coast Tsunami Workshop and Exercise in April 2009. Participants from states along the East Coast traveled to Maryland to discuss and evaluate their level of preparedness in responding to a Tsunami Alert, Watch or Warning, and become more familiar with the East Coast Tsunami Warning System.



MEMA Employees Dave Hill, Erin Holloway, and Eric White were recognized at the Maryland Military Department Awards Ceremony. Dave was honored for 25 years of State service, while Erin and Eric received the Adjutant General's Notable Employee award.



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