



SECURE & PREPARED

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Cyber Security Awareness Month

October is Cyber Security Awareness Month, a national campaign to encourage everyone to protect their computers and our nation's critical cyber infrastructure.



Show your support by taking the Cyber Pledge at <https://msisac.cisecurity.org/cyber-pledge/>.

On the Calendar...

October

Cyber Security Awareness Month
 Fire Prevention Week (7-13)
 America's Safe Schools Week (21-27)

November

Winter Weather Awareness Day (8)
 Veteran's Day (11)
 Veteran's Day observed (12)*
 Thanksgiving Day (22)*
 Day After Thanksgiving (23)*

*State holiday.
 HSEMD offices will be closed.

Sutliff Bridge to reopen in October Johnson County bridge repaired after 2008 floods

The floods of 2008 wreaked havoc on numerous publicly-owned facilities all throughout the state of Iowa. The Sutliff Bridge, located in and owned by Johnson County, was just one of the casualties. The easternmost section of the bridge was completely washed away by floodwaters, and, the two remaining bridge sections, along with their respective stone piers, were severely damaged. Both the east and west bridge approaches received heavy damage as well.

Like many publicly-owned facilities in the state that were damaged or destroyed, as a result of this Presidentially-declared disaster, a majority of the Sutliff Bridge repairs are being funded by the Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program which is administered by FEMA, and managed by the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) Recovery Bureau. Currently, the PA Grant Program has obligated approximately \$2.1 million for the repairs of the Sutliff Bridge.

Obtaining the funding for the project didn't come without many hours of discussions between HSEMD, FEMA, and Johnson County officials. Originally,



Top: Sutliff Bridge during construction in August 2012. Below: The same bridge in September.

nally, FEMA had denied funding for the Sutliff Bridge as they believed the Sutliff Bridge Authority (a private nonprofit organization which had leased the Sutliff Bridge from Johnson County during the time of the disaster) was legally responsible for repairing the disaster damage to the bridge. Since the Sutliff Bridge Authority didn't meet the PA Program eligibility requirements for a

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Communications course offered by statewide board

The Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications Systems Board (ISICSB) is conducting a series of trainings across Iowa for those involved in emergency communications operations and planning.

This training will focus on the use of the Communications Assets Survey and Mapping tool (CASM) and local development of Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans (TICP).

CASM is a no-cost, secure, automated tool for all state/local public safety agencies to store, retrieve, and visualize their radio communications assets and the interoperability these assets can provide to using agencies. Password protected accounts can be requested and issued to agency authorized users, if you do not already have one.

A TICP is an interoperable communications plan that documents an interoperable structure, communication assets, usage SOPs and procedures on how communications assets are shared, prioritized, activated, and deactivated. The CASM tool can be used to populate a TICP template, which will be furnished to each registrant.

The training will require the active participation of the attendees as we will be populating the online CASM tool for your respective county. As such if you have a laptop with Wi-Fi capability and a listing of radio channels and frequencies used by the county, please bring them so our instructors can get you started on CASM by using your actual data.

Training will begin at 9 a.m. and be concluded by 3 p.m. A working



lunch is provided. Travel costs may be reimbursed according to Iowa State regulations.

Two sessions remain:

Oct. 16 – Waterloo

Oct. 30 – Mason City

Registration and details for any of the sessions listed can be obtained online at <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=lkjmoniab&oeidk=a07e6cjjrq0c4366aa8>. Ω

Spill response training draws participants from 7 states

Upper Mississippi River Spill Response and Wildlife Response Training was held Sept. 25-26 in Montrose, Iowa, and hosted by the Upper Mississippi River Basin Association (UMRBA). Approximately 68 were in attendance from Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Nebraska, Kansas and Iowa representing natural resources, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, state, local and federal response personnel, and industry such as Sinclair, civil engineers, Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railway, Keystone and Magellan pipelines. Vicki Morris from HSEMD and Rod-

ney Tucker with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources represented Iowa at the training.

UMRBA was created in 1991 and holds two meetings a year along with exercises involving states along the Mississippi River. Five states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Missouri) have governor's signed agreements which support emergency response on the Mississippi River. UMRBA is one of HSEMD's maritime contacts along with assisting in identifying critical infrastructure along the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers.

The outcome of this exercise not only focused on boom and wildlife issues but knowing your local, state, federal and industry partners prior to an event. Practicing what you do with these partners will relieve stress especially if you are under pressure.

If you have questions or would like information on spill response, contact:

Joseph Davis
U.S. EPA Region VII
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kan. 66101
(913) 551-7909
Davis.Joe@epamail.epa.gov Ω

Training opportunities

Incident Command System Overview for Executives/Senior Officials (ICS 402)

When: Oct. 17
6:30–8:30 p.m.
Where: Elks Lodge
1/2 S. Main St.
Fairfield

This course will address preparedness and response issues and challenges related to WMD/terrorism and other incidents of national significance.

For more information, contact Liz Manion at MManion@storycounty.com.

Basic Public Information Officer (PIO) Training (G 290)

When: Nov. 15-16
8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Where: 4529 Melrose Ave.
Iowa City

This training will equip participants with the basic skills needed to be a full/part-time PIO such as oral and written communications, understanding and working with the media, and basic tools and techniques. To register, visit www.home-land-security.iowa.gov and choose “H S E M D Course Registration” under the “Quick Links” tab. Ω



FEMA announces new funding opportunity, deadline is Oct. 26

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently announced that the application period is open for a new funding opportunity to build local resilience, through a “Whole Community” approach, in communities across America: the *Community Resilience Innovation Challenge*.

FEMA and its partners know that preparedness must continue in communities year-round. This new monetary opportunity is designed to continue to move community preparedness forward and assist local areas in building and revitalizing community-based partnerships to advance the nation’s resilience to disasters.

“The best resiliency ideas originate in our states and communities—not from Washington, DC,” said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. “The goal of this program is to empower communities to collaborate and develop innovative ways to effectively respond to disasters.”

The program is sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation and FEMA and will be administered by the Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Foundation. The maximum award is \$35,000, and applications are open to most local, state, and tribal agencies and governments; business entities; associations; organizations and groups. Submissions will be accepted through Oct. 26.



FEMA



Key assessment areas for the awards will be the applicants’ demonstration that their approach to community resilience is innovative, collaborative with community stakeholders, sustainable, repeatable—in that the approach enables other communities to replicate their successful outcomes—and beneficial to the community in measurable ways.

FEMA recognizes that a government-centric approach to disaster management is insufficient to meet the challenges posed by a catastrophic incident. To meet our Nation’s preparedness goals, the Whole Community must be actively involved in all phases of the preparedness, response, and recovery cycle. These awards are designed to invest in and enhance the Whole Community effort.

Find additional information on the Challenge program and download the application at www.ResilienceChallenge.org. Ω

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HSEMD Mission

Lead, coordinate, and support homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

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Sutliff Bridge to reopen in October

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private nonprofit organization according to federal regulation, FEMA funding for the repairs to the bridge was not an option. However, thanks to the diligent and persistent efforts of HSEMD staff, FEMA eventually agreed that Johnson County was the legal owner of the Sutliff Bridge and was responsible for repairing the flood damage.

Prior to the flooding in 2008, residents in Johnson County enjoyed the use of this historic structure as the main crossing over the Cedar River for pedestrians and bicyclists. The bridge crosses over the Cedar River at Sutliff, a Johnson County community northeast of Iowa City. The structure is a Parker truss bridge designed by G. W. Wynn and built by J.R. Sheely & Company in 1897-1898 at a cost of \$12,000. It was built to replace Allan Sutliff's ferry service after sandbars formed, obstructing the ferry's functionality.

Originally functioning as a wagon crossing, the bridge soon became an automobile bridge. It was a maintained county road from 1898-1983, when a modern replacement was built one half mile to the north. The Sutliff Bridge was then slated for destruction, but was ultimately saved upon which time the bridge was repur-

posed for recreational use. On May 15, 1998, it was added to the National Register of Historical Places.

To date, repairs to the bridge have not been completed. However, the engineering firm hired by Johnson County officials anticipates the bridge to be completed by mid-October 2012.

One thing is certain. Hard work and dedication by HSEMD, FEMA, and Johnson County officials and citizens will soon lead to the reopening of this historic gem. It's great when a plan comes together! Ω

[Contributed by Rick Biondi, HSEMD]

