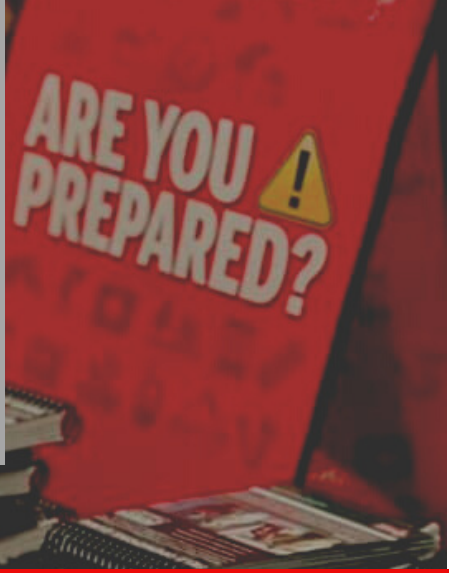


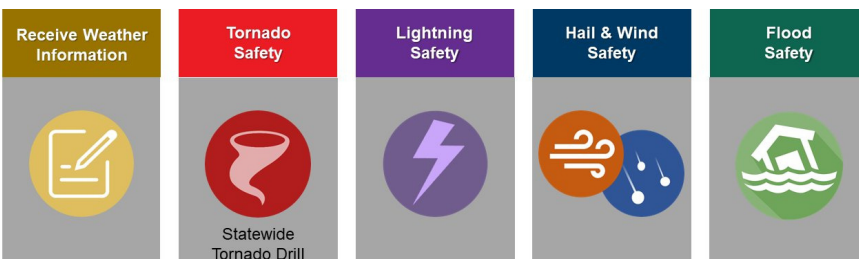
CLAY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Monthly Newsletter



Prepare for Spring Weather

Spring is the time of year when many things change—including the weather. Temperatures can swing back and forth between balmy and frigid. Sunny days may be followed by a week of stormy weather. Sometimes extreme weather changes can occur even within the same day.



March 6, 2022 marked the 5 year anniversary of the Smithville tornado. The Smithville Police Department reminded the community "While we cannot control the weather, we CAN control our response to severe weather to help mitigate the impact it has on our families.



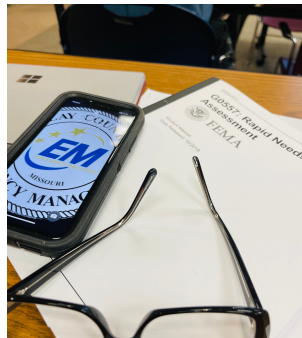
Severe weather can happen anytime, in any part of the country. Severe weather can include hazardous conditions produced by thunderstorms, including damaging winds, tornadoes, large hail, flooding and flash flooding, and winter storms associated with freezing rain, sleet, snow and strong winds.

When severe weather hits unexpectedly, the risk of injury and weather-related death increases, so planning makes sense. Prepare for storms, floods, and tornadoes as if you know in advance they are coming, because in the spring, they very likely will. Spring is the time of year when many things change—including the weather.



TRAINING

The State Emergency Management Agency coordinates with local and regional partners to offer training to our emergency management and community partners. Director Evans and Specialist Poelzl spent a few days at the Platte County Resource Center attending the G556 - Local Damage Assessment and the G557 - Rapid Needs Assessment courses. The Local Damage Assessment courses provide information and resources that will enable participants to plan an effective Damage Assessment Program and conduct rapid and effective damage assessments in order to save lives, protect property and the environment, and begin the process of recovery and mitigation.



STEMS

SEMA Training & Exercise Management System

<https://sematraining.com/>



This month, members of the SEMA - Emergency Human Services team helped instruct a Local Volunteer & Donations Management course hosted by The Salvation Army USA at Camp Mihaska in Bourbon, Mo. This class is designed to strengthen the abilities of local communities to prepare for & support the successful management of these resources during disasters.



Emergency management is the organization and management of the resources and responsibilities for dealing with all humanitarian aspects of emergencies.

- Preparedness
- Prevention
- Response
- Recovery
- Mitigation



Prevention

Prevention focuses on preventing human hazards, primarily from potential natural disasters or terrorist (both physical and biological) attacks. Preventive measures are designed to provide more permanent protection from disasters; however, not all disasters can be prevented. The risk of loss of life and injury can be limited with good evacuation plans, environmental planning and design standards.



Recovery

Recovery consists of those activities that continue beyond the emergency period to restore critical community functions and begin to manage stabilization efforts. The recovery phase begins immediately after the threat to human life has subsided. The goal of the recovery phase is to bring the affected area back to some degree of normalcy.



Response

Response is comprised of the coordination and management of resources (including personnel, equipment, and supplies) utilizing the Incident Command System in an all-hazards approach; and measures taken for life/property/environmental safety. The response phase is a reaction to the occurrence of a catastrophic disaster or emergency.



Preparedness

Prevention focuses on preventing human hazards, primarily from potential natural disasters or terrorist (both physical and biological) attacks. Preventive measures are designed to provide more permanent protection from disasters; however, not all disasters can be prevented. The risk of loss of life and injury can be limited with good evacuation plans, environmental planning and design standards.



Mitigation

Mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters and emergencies. Mitigation involves structural and non-structural measures taken to limit the impact of disasters and emergencies. Structural mitigation actions change the characteristics of buildings or the environment; examples include flood control projects, raising building elevations, and clearing areas around structures. Non-structural mitigation most often entails adopting or changing building codes.



Accomplishments

01 Pandemic

Created standard operating procedures for each division for the COVID-19 pandemic and future needs

02 Vaccines

- Helped with initial planning for mass community vaccination site
- Coordinated Detention vaccination clinic with community partners

03 Community

Delivered numerous community presentations virtually and in-person on preparedness and safety

04 Plan

Reviewed and updated the 540-page Local Emergency Operation Plan, turning it into a digital document

05 Internships

Implemented an internship program. Three people have gone through the program so far.

06 Siren

Installed and activated a new outdoor warning siren near Holmes Creek subdivision

Thank you, US National Weather Service Kansas City Missouri Meteorologist, Andy Bailey for teaching the annual Storm Spotter training.

Thank you to our awesome volunteers, HAM radio groups, and community partners who took time to #BePrepared.



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Wireless Emergency Alerts Can Save Your Life



EMERGENCY PLAN

