



## CHAMPAIGN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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TO: Justice Committee  
FROM: Bill Keller Director  
SUBJECT: June & July Activity Report  
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### June

We conducted the monthly radio tests with local agencies and IEMA. We participated and hosted part of the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District's community partner functional exercise dealing with an infectious disease outbreak. We meet with partners (CUPHD, Red Cross, PACE, Carle, Urbana Fire Department, Amber Glen) about a function needs (formerly special needs) registry for county residents in case of a disaster or emergency. We hope to have the registry up and online this fall. We met with a representative from Grainger about taking advantage of a free online tracking and supply database the company offers for resources in an emergency. We hope to have this up and running this fall. The Deputy Director attended and spoke at two breakout session at the 2011 Illinois Public Health Preparedness Summit in Oak Brook, Illinois. The sessions were about the project with CUPHD and the National Association of City and County Health Officials. We monitored several storm systems throughout the month without activating.

### July

We supported the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and 5K with the mobile command post. We conducted the monthly radio tests with local agencies and IEMA. We attend a meeting in Rantoul with Red Cross, Rantoul PD, airport personnel and a local Boy Scout troop about the August Boy Scout Space Jam in August. The Deputy Director attended the IEMA courses, Emergency Planning, Leadership and Influence, and Principles of Emergency Management in Lincoln and Bloomington. We attend the 2011 Champaign County Preparedness Summit at the I Hotel. We did a joint press release with CUPHD about the heat wave to include keeping cool and cooling center locations. We conducted a fire drill at the Brookens Administration Building on July 19<sup>th</sup>. We checked out and checked in a 100kW ITTF generator for McHenry County as result of wind storm damage and power outages in Northern Illinois. We hosted a monthly meeting in the Emergency Operations Center for Champaign County Medical Reserve Corps to familiarize the volunteers with emergency management and response. We hosted the Champaign City Council's team building meeting in the Emergency Operations Center to showcase the countywide emergency operations center and its capabilities.



The Champaign County Emergency Operations Center is located at 1905 E. Main St., in Urbana, IL. The structure was built in 1966 and completely remodeled and the operations area was updated with state-of-the-art technology at a total cost of over \$150,000 in 2011. The EOC complex also includes the Emergency Management Agency office, a dedicated communications room and conference rooms. The Metropolitan Computer Aided Dispatch (METCAD) operation is located on the first floor of the building.

New features in the EOC operations room include an 85-inch plasma display monitor and four 50-inch monitors. There is also a video projector and other video presentation tools. Two METCAD Telecommunicator positions and 12 PC equipped workstations are also present in the operations area. An additional 40-inch monitor is networked in the adjoining Public Information/Joint Information Center Room. There is generator power to keep the EOC operational for two-weeks without refueling.



The video screens can display any source called up by any of the PCs located in the room plus broadcast and cable television sources. For example during a severe weather situation, one screen might display weather radar, another an AMEREN power status map, a third the METCAD call log, the fourth a news channel and the fifth a map of storm spotter locations.

The new EOC has already been called into service for the Illinois Marathon, a major winter storm and exercises designed, in part, to familiarize public safety agencies and others with the updated facility.



Above: Representatives of the Illinois Marathon consult a map during that Spring 2011 event.

There are four operational levels at which the EOC would be activated. During a level one activation the emergency managers monitor an emerging situation and communicate with other public safety officials as needed. At level two operational personnel and others are notified that a more complete activation of the EOC may be necessary. During level three operational personnel such as radio communicators and the Public Information Officer report for duty and at level four there is a complete activation including public safety representatives, elected and appointed government officials, representatives of the University of Illinois and others depending on the nature of the emergency.

The EOC was originally constructed to provide a secure operational base for public safety during Cold War threats. The original construction included dormitories, showers, a small kitchen and storage for food and water for an incident lasting two weeks or longer.



Above: The EOC as it appeared during the 1960's.

