



# EMergent News

Engaging You, Engaging the Community

May-June 2018



## BOOTS ON THE GROUND: 16-MILE FIRE

By Tim Knapp, Director,  
Pike County Office of Emergency Management

### WILD FIRE comes to Northeast Pennsylvania

On April 20, 2016 Pike County witnessed first-hand what our friends in the west see each year. I really never thought Pike County would be faced with a Montana-magnitude wildfire! The day started out as a normal day. There were a few small brush fires taking place in the county which is normal for a spring day with low humidity. The day also included a visit from PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Fire Warden Delling advising us the smoke we were seeing was from the Bear Town fire in nearby Monroe County.



*The fire, that began on April 20, was named for its starting point near Sixteen Mile Run east of Cresco, PA, about 30 miles north of Easton. The blaze continued for over a week. No injuries were reported.*

*Photo Courtesy: PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)*

The afternoon was unusually quiet in the county even with the warm temperatures and low humidity. As the evening approached, conditions changed drastically. We received a call from Warden Turner. He was at the scene of a large woods fire and requested additional fire units from the county to assist with fire attack.

The county 9-1-1 center dispatched an assignment that included two brush units and two UTV units to an area off Snow Hill road in Porter Township, Pike County. These units worked through the night trying to gain control of the rapidly growing fire. As morning approached, we were briefed on the size and rapid growth of the fire. That's when we realized we were not dealing with a normal Pike County brush fire. *(continued next page)*



State Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA

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## BOOTS: PIKE COUNTY *(continued from page 1)*



### LESSONS LEARNED

1. Western state type wild fires can and will happen in Pennsylvania!
2. Keeping the residents informed is a must. The county has improved their new emergency notification system since this event.
3. Lodging for a large amount of people in a small county can present a problem (as witnessed during the Eric Frein Manhunt in 2014). Pike County has partnered with camp complexes handle future issues.
4. Pike County is partnering with different news outlets to assure that proper information is being disseminated.
5. Coordination of VIP visits is time consuming. Assign someone to handle the coordination task.
6. Drones can be both an asset and a hindrance. While drones were flying, firefighting aircraft are unable to complete their missions.
7. The ICS system and NIMS provided a common language, which is essential when coordinating multiple agencies.
8. Investigation and confirmation of smoke conditions was time consuming. Smoke as far away as Orange County, NY needed to be investigated to confirm they were from the 16 Mile Fire.
9. Clear direction was needed to coordinate responders from 16 different states.

#### For more information, contact :

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[www.pikepa.org/oem.html](http://www.pikepa.org/oem.html)

*At 4,000 acres, the “16-mile fire” was the second-largest in Pennsylvania since 1990. In 1990, a fire in Sproul State Forest in Clinton County grew to more than 10,000*

The morning of April 22<sup>nd</sup> saw more rapid fire growth and the weather did not cooperate with fire containment. We decided to conduct morning briefings at 0700 in the Burnt Mills parking lot to review the fire growth and attack methods for the day. One of the first challenges was a radio system problem that was easily fixed by adding an antenna and repeater on High Knob 9-1-1 tower that was less than five miles away. Road closures were also a problem with the local residents moving barriers and driving in closed areas.



*Photo Courtesy: DCNR*

These issues were corrected by state police and DCNR law enforcement. The morning of April 23<sup>rd</sup>, fire units from PA, NJ and NY began to attack the fire. The crews were also assisted by a Hot Shot Crew from New Mexico. That isn't a typo. Yes, a real Hot Shot Crew was operating in Pike County!

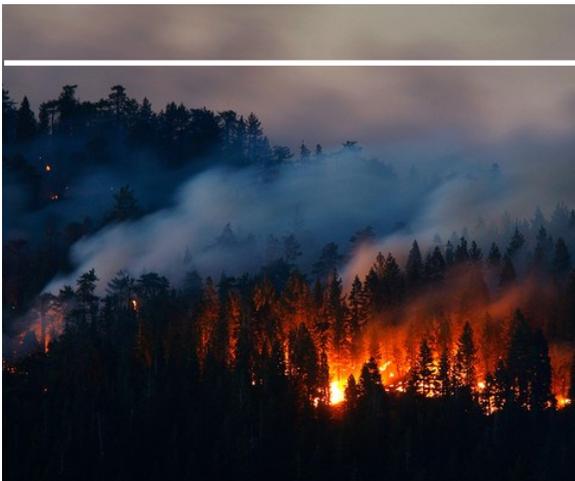
The fire was also being attacked by the air as well with an assignment of five fixed wing air craft and two helicopters, two bull dozers and an assortment of logging equipment cutting fire lines.

If there's something to be learned with wildfires, it is not a matter of if, but when.

## FIRE WEATHER

By Jeff Jumper, State Meteorologist  
Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency

**Fire Weather** is a term used to describe the weather conditions that influence fire ignition, behavior and suppression. Fire weather season in Pennsylvania typically occurs in two separate periods – spring and fall. During the spring months, prior to the trees and grasses “greening up”, fires can spread rather quickly when several factors come together at the same time.



### CONDITIONS FOR WILDFIRE

In Pennsylvania, **three weather conditions** for rapid fire spread include:

- Wind of 20 mph or stronger for at least two hours
- Relative humidity of 30 percent or lower
- Moisture content in small twigs of less than 10 percent for a few days or more

### KNOW YOUR TERMS

The National Weather Service (NWS) in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), provide fire weather forecasts for the entire Commonwealth. When the wind, humidity, and fuel moisture thresholds are reached, the NWS will issue alerts to warn of the potential for rapid fire spread.



**Fire Weather Watch:** A term used by fire weather forecasters to notify agencies, usually 24 to 72 hours ahead of the event, that current and developing meteorological conditions may evolve into dangerous fire weather. A watch is a preparation or “heads up”.



**Red Flag Warning:** Term used by fire weather forecasters to alert of an ongoing or imminent critical fire weather pattern. The NWS issues a **Red Flag Warning** when the three favorable fire weather conditions are occurring or just about to occur, usually during the middle of the day. This is an “act now” message, meaning you should not have any open flames or heat sources outdoors which can spark a rapidly spreading fire. A discarded cigarette or an ember from a smoldering campfire can be all it takes to start a multi-acre blaze.

### PA FIRE FACT

According to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), lighting-caused wild fires in Pennsylvania are relatively rare. 98% of PA’s wildfires are caused by people. In 2015, the number of wild fires reported to DCNR were: 817, affecting 4165 acres.



## SPOTLIGHT - COOPERATIVE TRAINING PLAN

By David Elmore, Deputy Coordinator/Operations and Training Officer, Luzerne County EMA  
Jessica Shoup, Deputy Coordinator/Operations and Training Officer, Columbia County EMA

Operations and Training Officers Dave Elmore and Jessica Shoup recently came together to work on a plan to continue to provide quality training to their counties in light of the declining training budgets at the state and county level. A new cooperative training plan is in its first stages of development. Operations and training officers from both counties have been working towards an innovative approach to solve the current trend in declining training budgets.

Elmore and Shoup are currently working toward earning the certifications for instruction as required by PEMA for county and municipal emergency management staff. After these certifications are completed, both training officers will work together to ensure that their counties are able to secure those required trainings at no cost to PEMA.

Funded by their individual counties, Elmore and Shoup will conduct courses at either county based upon which courses they are certified to instruct. For instance, if Columbia County needs to hold a "Basic Public Information Officer" course and Elmore is able to instruct this course, he would come and provide the training at no cost to Columbia County. If Luzerne County needs a course that Shoup is able to instruct, they would do the same.

“As funding streams change over time, practices that have remain the same in the past now need to be revisited. The emergency management offices made a decision to ensure they continue the tradition of providing quality instruction to both their county and local emergency management staff and first responders.”



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For help, please contact [TRAINPAsupport@pa.gov](mailto:TRAINPAsupport@pa.gov)

## UPCOMING TRAINING—June/July

Session Name	Course	Date	Location
PER908 Radiological Series, Train the Trainer (presented by CDP)	1077012	6/4/18	East Mountain Business Center
G402 Incident Command System (ICS) Overview for Executives and Senior	1070136	6/4/18	Castle Shannon Borough Building
Active Shooter Exercise Development Workshop (PRE100)	1076995	6/5/18	Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center
Central Area In Service Training (IST)	1067085	6/5/18	Toftrees Golf Resort & Conference
G300 Intermediate Incident Command System (ICS) for Expanding Incidents	1067423	6/12/18	Montgomery County Public Safety Training Cam
SCTF Risk Management Workshop 12 JUNE 2018	1077540	6/12/18	Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center
SCTF Risk Management Workshop 13 JUNE 2018	1077687	6/13/18	Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center
G191 ICS/EOC Interface Workshop (G-191)	1066898	6/13/18	Chester County Public Safety Training Campus
PEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Meeting	1077314	6/13/18	Butler County Community College
L146 Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (L0146)	1067228	6/14/18	PEMA Headquarters Rm 112 (Elmerton Ave)
PEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Meeting	1077314	6/14/18	Murrysville Community Center
G235 Emergency Planning (G-235)	1067107	6/20/18	Erie County Department of Public Safety
P236 CEM Planner Train the Trainer	1076073	6/20/18	PEMA Headquarters Rm 112
AWR148 Crisis Management for School-Based Incidents (RDPC)	1068867	6/21/18	Franklin County Public Safety Trng Center
L967 NIMS ICS All-Hazards Logistics Section Chief (L-967) (EMI format)	1077036	6/25/18	Hershey Vol Fire Company
G191 ICS/EOC Interface Workshop (G-191)	1066898	6/25/18	Columbia County Emergency Management
G191 ICS/EOC Interface Workshop (G-191)	1066898	6/26/18	Columbia County Emergency Management Age
G400 Advanced Incident Command and General Staff - Complex Incidents (I)	1062436	7/10/18	Montgomery Co Public Safety Training Center
MGT345 Disaster Management for Electric Power Systems (MGT-345)	1075178	7/12/18	Chester County Public Safety Training Campus
Flood Proofing Workshop (Afternoon format)	1077436	7/17/18	Oakdale Borough Municipal Building
US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nonstructural Flood Risk Management	1077526	7/17/18	Oakdale Borough Municipal Building
G271 Hazardous Weather and Flooding Preparedness	1068228	7/18/18	Pike County Training Center
Flood Proofing Workshop (Afternoon format)	1077436	7/18/18	Bradys Bend Township Municipal Building
G386 Mass Fatalities incident Response Course	1067302	7/23/18	Beaver County Emergency Services Center
G393 Hazard Mitigation for Emergency Managers	1066977	7/31/18	Clarion University

Visit TrainPA at <https://pa.train.org> for a complete list of available training.

## PRIVATE SECTOR INTEGRATION

*Robert Kagel, Director*

*Chester County Emergency Services*

In 2003, Chicago FIRST (Fostering Industry Resilience & Security through Teamwork) was formed mainly amongst financial institutions to foster collaboration and focus on homeland security and emergency management issues with the public sector. Chester County FIRST, was established in October 2006 by the founding firms of Vanguard, Siemens Medical Solutions USA, and Wyeth/Pfizer Pharmaceuticals with the overall mission being to provide the opportunity for business, local, and regional organizations to get together for networking, information sharing and coordinating plans to respond to an emergency or contingency event in Chester County and surrounding areas.

The Chester County FIRST model took a different approach from Chicago FIRST and sought to involve all of the private sector and not just financial institutions. The vision was to enhance resiliency of the Chester County community by addressing homeland security issues requiring a common coordinated response on the part of business and community institutions, working with government agencies to better understand how their approaches to various emergencies may impact the businesses in the community, and helping to identify mutual aid opportunities. Essentially, Chester County FIRST became a foundation for a robust public-private partnership helping to ensure collaboration between the public sector and the Chester County business community

In considering the development of a similar group in another jurisdiction one should consider finding a champion, or a few champions, in larger businesses or organizations within the community that will work with the public sector to launch the public-private collaboration. Chester County was fortunate to have that champion in the businesses listed above. The group should focus on involving

business continuity and security professionals along with emergency management professionals and first responders across multiple sectors. In terms of membership the institution or organization becomes a member and not an individual with a volunteer chairperson organizing the group's activities. Each member organization is expected to share costs and resources by hosting meetings and sponsoring guest speakers. The collaboration, sharing of best practices and lessons learned, and overall information sharing that has resulted from this partnership has proven to be a great success and can easily be implemented in any jurisdiction.

## PEMA GRANTS UPDATE

The Bureau of Grants Management continues to lead the electronic grants management initiative for PEMA and has successfully launched the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), Hazardous Materials Response Fund (HMRF), and the Radiological Emergency Response Fund (RERF) grant programs in the Electronic Single Application (ESA) system. The grant agreements will be housed within ESA, and county signatory officials will receive an email each time there is a grant agreement ready for their review and electronic signature. We anticipate that the HMRF and RERF grant agreements will be issued for electronic signature in June, followed by the HSGP in July.



An announcement regarding PEMA's implementation of the ESA electronic signature process and requirements will be sent out to each County, to include an invite to an ESA electronic signature training webinar to be held in June 2018.

### Important Dates:

July 15<sup>th</sup> - EMPG 3rd Quarter Report due

July 31<sup>st</sup> - HRMF Final Report due

July 31<sup>st</sup> - RERF Final Report due

For questions, please contact:

[RA-dgmhmgrants@pa.gov](mailto:RA-dgmhmgrants@pa.gov)



## CERT NEWS

By Joel Landis,  
Hazmat Logistics/Training  
Officer, Somerset County  
Dept. of Emergency Services

The Somerset County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training was held at the Somerset County Technology Center (SCTC) on April 3rd through the 5th. The course is administered by the Somerset County Dept. of Emergency Services. The SCTC Somerset and Bedford Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program, consisting of 36 adult LPN students and a school district guidance counselor, were educated by three local instructors about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area. The training includes basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not yet able to help. CERT members are also encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community. A guest speaker from the American Red Cross Disaster Response Team was brought in to speak about local volunteer opportunities. "Since 2013, we have now



*There have been several success stories from our previous students who have graduated from the program. Some have used their skills in emergencies and localized disasters for the communities they live and work in. - Joel Landis*



successfully trained 174 Licensed Practical Nursing Students in the CERT program. Everybody from the Somerset County Technology Center, to our volunteer CERT instructors and the organizations that supported us in the financial gaps from the lack of state funding we have again prevailed to continue to offer this beneficial program," Said Joel Landis, Training Officer. "The nursing students happen to

be a great audience to train in the CERT curriculum. The timing is perfect as there already committed to the adult learning process since their already students and being in the nursing field they grasp the concept of doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people."



Somerset County CERT Team April 5<sup>th</sup> Graduates at Somerset

## JUNE IS...

### National Pet Preparedness Month



Pennsylvania's animal laws can be confusing. The PA State Animal Response Team offers a quick guide on who to call, and when:

1. There is a **dog running around town** – Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement (BDLE) for a dog warden.
2. That dog is running around town because his **house is on fire** – CART team.
3. That dog is running around town with a collar **embedded in his neck** – contact the Humane Society Police Officer (HSPO) via the Department of Agriculture website's county listing.
4. That dog leads you back to an abandoned house where there are **276 other dogs** living in filth – Contact the HSPO, the BDLE and then possibly CART.

Neglect charges could be filed by the HSPO. It's possible there is an illegal kennel being operated (Dog Law). If the shelter that is willing to hold the animals for the humane police officer or Dog Law needs help transporting such a large number, then CART is available to assist. For more questions please contact PASART at [www.pasart.us](http://www.pasart.us).



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Westburn Majors

Legislative Liaison, PEMA

### Title 35 Update

PEMA has been working with our stakeholders (County Commissioners Association of PA [CCAP]; PA Association of Township Supervisors [PSATS]; County Commissions Association of PA [CCAP]; PA Association of Boroughs [PSAB]; and Keystone Emergency Management Association [KEMA]) on the rewrite of Title 35, Senate Bill (SB) 1019. On January 22nd and January 29th, 2018, the Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee held public hearings to receive testimony on the bill. For the last few months conversations have continued with stakeholders to make technical changes to the legislation to address concerns that are raised at the hearings. In recent weeks, a meeting was held with CCAP, PSATS, and PSAB to receive additional feedback and language changes that they would like to see. The General Assembly currently stands in recess until the week of May 21<sup>st</sup>, following the May 15<sup>th</sup> primary election. During this two-week hiatus, PEMA will be meeting with Senate Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee staff on SB 1019 in an effort to see movement on the bill in the Senate when the Legislature returns to session.

In addition to changes being contemplated by PEMA, we have learned that the Senate may seek the following amendments to the bill:

- Requiring Senate confirmation of the PEMA Director (SB 193 – Sen. Baker)
- Eliminating the power of the Governor or municipal government executives to restrict the purchase and possession of firearms during a declared emergency (SB 36 – Sen. Hutchinson)
- Requiring Senate confirmation of the Homeland Security Advisor
- Incorporating the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) into Title 35

- Requiring county/municipal emergency management coordinators to have a designated deputy EMC
- The creation of a mechanism to provide the Secretary of Health and/or Physician General to declare a Public Health Emergency in the Commonwealth (SB 1001 – Sen. Costa)

### Office of State Fire Commissioner

The House and Senate are finalizing a resolution to extend the due date of a report of the Senate Resolution (SR) 6 Commission from June 30, 2018 to November 30, 2018. The SR 6 Commission is a special bipartisan, bicameral legislative commission to recommend improvements to the delivery of emergency services in Pennsylvania and to develop and promote legislation in furtherance of its recommendations. The committee has been meeting bi-monthly and requested additional time to come up with their recommendations to report to the Legislature. The extension is expected to pass when the General Assembly returns to session after the May 15<sup>th</sup> primary.

### Additional News....



*"FEMA Grants Governor's Transitional Sheltering Assistance Extension Request and Offers Transportation Back Home for Puerto Rican Survivors"*

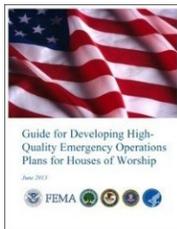
FEMA announced that it is granting Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Rossello's request for an unconditional extension of the Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) program until June 30 and will offer transportation back to Puerto Rico for families who remain in the TSA program in the continental U.S.

FEMA also announced that this will be the final extension of the program for Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

Individuals interested in taking advantage of transportation back to Puerto Rico, FEMA will conduct outreach to the applicants currently participating in the TSA program.

## FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Protect Your House of Worship With Free Resources



The Department of offers numerous resources to assist faith-based and community organizations with their efforts to prepare for all types of hazards, whether natural or human-made. Technical assistance is provided through presentations, workshops, training, webinars, tabletop exercises, and training. Access to these free resources can be found at [www.fema.gov/faith-resources](http://www.fema.gov/faith-resources). To access Active Shooter Resources, visit: <https://www.dhs.gov/active-shooter-preparedness>.

### DHS Center for Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships

The DHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships helps emergency managers engage with faith and community-based groups. Have a comment, question or looking for information? E-mail FEMA at [Partnerships@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Partnerships@fema.dhs.gov)



**FEMA**

FEMA has released the draft Individual Assistance Program and Policy Guidance (IAPPG) for 30 days of public comment. The IAPPG which is intended to provide a comprehensive policy resource for state, local, territorial, and tribal governments, non-governmental partners, and other entities who assist disaster survivors with post-disaster recovery.

Provide feedback on FEMA's draft IAPPG through June 7, 2018. The draft can be found for comment at <https://www.fema.gov/individual-assistance-program-and-policy-guide>. Please use the downloadable comment matrix and send your comments to FEMA by close of business Thursday, June 7, 2018. You may provide your comments or submit any questions to FEMA at [FEMA-IAPPG-Comments@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-IAPPG-Comments@fema.dhs.gov).

### OVERHEARD

June marks the beginning of hurricane season. The Editor of *Homeland Security Today* recently asked FEMA Region 3 Directors the following question:



**What will your Emergency Management team do differently this year to prepare for Hurricane Season 2018?**

*"Based on the unprecedented magnitude of the hurricanes in 2017, we plan for when, not if. No single agency can prepare, respond and recover. It takes pulling together the skill sets and resources of all of our partners from local responders and volunteers to businesses. We are working towards strengthening the Private Sector Integration Program to make sure our businesses get back to business when disaster strikes. Pennsylvania welcomed over 3000 survivors from Puerto Rico after the hurricanes last fall. Long after the winds died down, we remained - and still remain - very active working with FEMA and our local partners to assist survivors. We are strengthening our paths of communication from our federal partners to the community level so we are able to consistently learn of challenges and needs and be able to communicate solutions and resources."*

## PENNSYLVANIA DISASTER IN HISTORY

*Davenport Daily Leader Iowa 1893-05-31*

### FATAL AND SENSATIONAL DISASTER IN PENNSYLVANIA.

*Six men killed, seven badly hurt, the wild animals uncaged, and many killed and wounded -- Lions, tigers, and hyenas aboard, but most of them recaptured -- the owner of the show suffers a loss of \$100,000.*

Altoona, Pa., May 31. The wreck of the train carrying W. L. Mains's circus was in many of its features one of the most sensational disasters that ever occurred on the rail. There is in the first place a total of six killed to make the accident a tragic one and several others seriously wounded. The killed are:

Frank Crane, circus employee, Indianapolis  
 William Lock, Newport, Ky.  
 J. Strayer, Hontzdale, Pa.  
 William Multainer, Gainesville, Oh.  
 William Heverly, Brakeman, Tyrone, Pa.  
 an Unknown Man.

Those seriously hurt are:

Willis O. Bannon, David Jones, Frank Morse, William Evans, William E. Patchell, James William Haney, and Louis Champaign. All are residents of this state and New York. Many others were slightly hurt.



But the novel features of the wreck were those supplied by the animals, of which there were a large number. They all got out of their cages and many were wounded. Two sacred oxen were killed to put them out of their misery. A tiger killed a cow of Alfred Thomas, a farmer. Thomas killed the tiger with a rifle. Three lions escaped, but one was captured immediately. Another was lassoed and tied to a tree, biting the lassoer, James Chambers, severely on the hand. The other lion is at large, but is the quietest of the three.

## PENNSYLVANIA DISASTER IN HISTORY *(continued from previous page)*

A tiger, water buffalo, hyena, bear, alligators, and a large collection of snakes got away, but were captured. The elephants and camels were uninjured. A black panther, silver tiger, a lot of monkeys and valuable birds are at large. Almost every ring horse was killed. The total number of horses killed is forty-nine, with all the others cut and bruised. Mr. Main estimates the loss at \$100,000. The cars were sixty-five feet long, and built last year. The show was said to be the third best 3-ring circus on the road.

All the killed and injured except Crane and Heverly were helpers around the circus and cook tents. The snake charmer caught one of his big anacondas in the bushes. The scene at the wreck is a doleful one. Cars, wagons and chariots are smashed into firewood. The circus people are now encamped at the scene of the wreck. The neighborhood is greatly alarmed about the wild animals at large but the show people say there is no need for fear. It took two hours hard work to reach Crane, who was buried in the ruins of the ticket wagons. He was conscious to the end, but died as soon as released.



### PA's Most Dangerous Day – May 31

In ancient Roman days, it was "Beware of the Ides of March", but Pennsylvania has its own day which serves as an unwelcome reminder of some deadly historical events. "Beware of the Last Day of May."

**1889:** The Great Johnstown Flood. The failure of the South Fork Dam on the Little Conemaugh River caused a flash flood of the city Johnstown, taking the lives of over 2,200 people.

**1985:** PA's infamous tornado outbreak. Twenty tornadoes ravaged Pennsylvania, including the only F-5 tornado in Pennsylvania's history (Mercer County). This date holds the highest tornado death toll in state history at 75 people dead and hundreds more injured.

**1998:** May 31<sup>st</sup> marked the start of a three-day outbreak, bringing a total of 45 tornadoes to Pennsylvania, killing three and injuring over sixty.



## Need Ideas For Getting The Word Out?

Each month, the PEMA External Affairs Office distributes numerous preparedness resources designed to help make communicating to your communities about preparedness easy. We encourage everyone to share this valuable information with their partner agencies, schools, faith-based organizations, family and friends.

These tools are emailed each month and are also available on at [www.ready.pa.gov](http://www.ready.pa.gov).



**ReadyPA Monthly** - Community preparedness information designed for citizens. Forward to libraries, schools, local municipalities, etc.



**Fact Sheets** - One-page preparedness material about a specific hazard. Please make this easily printed information available to your community members, elected officials, civic organizations, and anyone who could benefit from this valuable information.



**Talking Points and Social Media Toolkit** - Graphics, tweet suggestions, and talking points for you to use on social media, websites, and when speaking to groups.

### Featured Emergency Manager Tool

Conducting detailed damage assessments to prepare for a SBA or Presidential declaration request can be time consuming and tedious. This is especially true after day two, when many individuals have returned to work. A new tool has been made available to county and local emergency management officials to assist with this process. The new Damage Assessment Door Hanger alerts residents that you have attempted to visit them to collect important information on how they may have been impacted and requests that they contact the local or county emergency management agency upon their return. The door hanger includes a space where a sticker or stamp indicating who locally can be contacted to report damages is included. The hanger has two printed sides, with one providing instructions in English, and the other in Spanish. These hangers will be made available to affected municipalities following a disaster through the PEMA regional offices.



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