

The GOHSEP FOCUS

Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness

April 2015 • Volume 1 • Issue 1

Directors Message



We are excited to present our "new" agency newsletter, *THE GOHSEP FOCUS!* This

newsletter will be disseminated on a bi-weekly basis and I am hopeful we will provide staff with beneficial information and news items.

Over the last decade GOHSEP have become known as a leader in emergency management and it is my intent to highlight the contribution and achievements of our team members.

If you have any information or news of interest that you would like considered for the newsletter, submit your topic and/or articles to Allison Hadley or Mike Steele.

Annual State Exercise



With the upcoming start of the Atlantic Hurricane Season, GOHSEP along with local, state and federal partners participated in a four (4) day full scale exercise. All Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), as outlined in the State's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) were activated and reported to the State's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on Wednesday, April 15th and Thursday, April 16th. The State also activated the Joint Information

Center (JIC) on Thursday, April 16th, wherein communications staff from supporting ESF's reported to GOHSEP to test coordination efforts. A Unified Command Group (UCG) meeting was also held on Thursday by the Governor with all supporting ESF leads in attendance. A full scale exercise took place on Saturday, April 18th at the Naval Air Station/Joint Reserve Base-New Orleans and the Acadiana Regional Airport included helicopter and boat search-and-rescue (SAR) operations, restoring civil order, medical support and evacuations, commodities distribution and re-establishing communications.

The 4 day full scale exercise allowed the State to test a variety of response efforts in order to ensure that the established procedures and systems will support response efforts during an event.

Special Enrollment for OGB Insurance

A premium increase to OGB healthcare coverage will take effect on **July 1, 2015** as follows:

- Magnolia Local Plus 12%
- Magnolia Open Access 10%
- Magnolia Local 4%
- Pelican HAS775 4%
- Pelican HRA100 4%

A special enrollment period beginning Friday, April 10th through Thursday, April 30th will be given to Magnolia Local Plus & Magnolia Open Access members only. Members enrolled in the Magnolia Local, Pelican HAS775 & Pelican HRA100 are

not eligible to participate in this special enrollment period. During this special enrollment, Magnolia Local Plus & Magnolia Open Access members have three (3) options:

1. Choose a lower premium plan (effective July 1, 2015); or
2. Drop dependents (only if it results in a lower premium); or
3. Cancel their OGB health coverage.

If a member does not wish to make changes, no action is required.

OGB Members Can Save

If you are enrolled in a Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BCBS) health plan through OGB, you can save \$120 annually by participating in the Live Better Louisiana wellness program.

To qualify for the discount, complete the following steps by **August 15, 2015**:

1. Participate in an on-site wellness check-up (or at your primary care office)
2. Complete your Personal Health Assessment (PHA) on the [BCBSLA website](#)

Training/Workshops

getting it right!



Courses of Interest are listed below:

(please check our GOHSEP Training site for all listings)

Response

- ⇒ LEPC: Emergency Planning + Response Workshop
- ⇒ LA CBRNE: Chemical + Biological + Radiological + Nuclear & Explosives

Louisiana FirstNet

- ⇒ FN 001: FirstNet Outreach

Preparedness Classes

- ⇒ AWR 310: Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders
- ⇒ G 318: Mitigation Planning Workshop for Preparing Local Plans
- ⇒ ICS 300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents for Operational First Responders
- ⇒ MGT 310: Jurisdictional Threat & Hazards Identification Risk Assessment
- ⇒ MGT 416: Continuity of Government Operations Planning for Rural Communities
- ⇒ Intermediate Social Media Tools and Techniques
- ⇒ L0311: Hurricane Preparedness for Decision Makers

Disaster Proof Your Financials

Being ready for a disaster is more than having water and supplies... You will also need to be financially ready should a disaster strike!

The month of April is Financial Literacy Month, so now is the time to ensure that you have adequate insurance coverage and an alternate way to access financial and personal records during a disaster. Having your personal documents and contract information easily available following a disaster can help make your recovery quicker and less stressful.

The Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK), is a joint publication from Operation Hope and the FEMA Citizen Corps, which can be used to help you prepare now.

GOHSEP Employee Events

If you have a special event you would like to share with our GOHSEP Team, such as births, adoptions, birthdays, etc., just let us know and we will feature in our next issue of...

The GOHSEP Focus!

State Mitigation Plan Review

FEMA announced the release of the new [State Mitigation Plan Review Guide \("Guide"\)](#). The Guide clarifies federal regulations that apply to FEMA; policy; and guidance around state hazard mitigation plan for state agencies and other officials developing mitigation plans. It helps to ensure a consistent plan review process for FEMA and the states that aim to improve the analysis and integration of evolving risk, such as climate change.

The Guide will go into effect in approximately March of 2016, for all state mitigation plans submitted to FEMA for review and approval. The transitional period allows for FEMA and the states to work together to support their familiarity and understanding of the updated Guide.

JFO - FEMA Security

Effective immediately, FEMA Security will require prior notification for any/all visitors at the Baton Rouge Joint Field Office (JFO). All employees/contractors will need to submit a Visitors Form at least 24 hours in advance.

The Visitor Form can be located in SharePoint at the [Policy & Forms](#)

LRO VISITORS-Louisiana Recovery Office

PLEASE DOWNLOAD A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION

1500 Main Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

VISITORS INFORMATION

DATE OF VISIT: _____

Visitor Name: _____

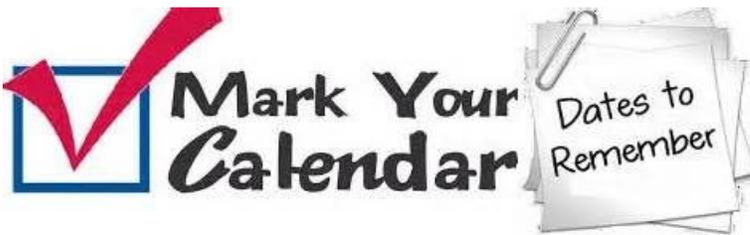
New Hires or Appointments

Appointments

- ⇒ Jill Ruth, PA Team Lead-Public Schools & Higher Education
- ⇒ Alexis Williams, HM Team Lead, Grants Management
- ⇒ Sean Wyatt, Assistant Deputy Director, Grants and Administration
- ⇒ Jason Lachney, Section Chief, Operations
- ⇒ Allison Hadley, PRO, DR Management

Welcome to Our NEW HIRES!

- ⇒ Andrea Hebert, PA Closeout Specialist
- ⇒ Dawn Holmes, PA Closeout Specialist



Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Deadline to complete the mandatory safety training and submit your course Acknowledgement Form for "Drug Testing-Drug Free Workplace Policy". Contact your immediate supervisor with any questions or concerns.

Friday, May 8, 2015

Deadline to submit orders for GOHSEP embroidered shirts with the new seal. Complete your Shirt Order Form and submit to Daniel McLaughlin by COB on Friday, May 8th.

Monday, May 4, 2015 thru Thursday, May 7, 2015

The 2015 Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Association LEPA/GOHSEP Workshop will be held in Lake Charles at the Golden Nugget. More information is available on the LEPA webpage. <http://www.lepa.org>

Federal Risk Management Standards

On January 30, 2015, the President issued Executive Order 13960, "[Establishing a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and a Process for Further Soliciting and Considering Stakeholder Input](#)".



Future federal investments in, and affecting floodplains, will be required to meet the level of resilience established in the [Federal Flood Risk Management Standard](#). This will include projects where federal funding is used to build new structures and facilities, or to rebuild those that have sustained damage. These projects make sure that buildings are constructed to withstand the impacts of flooding, improve resilience, and protect federal investments in the future.

Between 1980 & 2013, the US suffered more than \$260 billion in flood-related damages. Flooding accounts for approximately 85% of all disaster declarations. Currently, the public comment deadline on the "[Draft Guidelines for Implementing the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard](#)" has been extended until Wednesday, May 6, 2015.



What is EMAC???

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) is a formal agreement between states to provide assistance to each other during a governor declared event. EMAC was established in 1996 to allow states that are *not* in the decelerated area to aid those states in need.

In previous years GOHSEP's highly trained teams have been called upon to assist in emergencies such as Hurricane Irene in Maryland and Vermont, flooding in Tennessee and North Dakota, the

2011 tornado in Alabama, winter weather in Maryland, ice storm in Kentucky and most recent Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

EMAC is now offering multiple interactive online courses for target audiences such as:

- State Emergency Management Personal
- State Fiscal/Administration Personal
- State Grant Officers
- National Guard Commanders, Operations, Logistics & other staff
- Response & Recovery Resource Providers/Personal



[America's PrepareAthon!](#) is an opportunity for individuals, organizations, and communities to prepare for specific hazards through drills, group discussions, and exercises.

National PrepareAthon! Day is **April 30, 2015** and will revolve around taking the actions to prepare for these six specific hazards: Earthquake; Flood; Hurricane; Tornado; Wildfire and Winter Storm.

This is a great opportunity for GOHSEP Team members to *Get A Game Plan* and begin your preparations for this season!

Request For Articles

If you would like to include your information/article in future issues of *The GOHSEP Focus*, please contact:
Allison Hadley or Mike Steele
(225) 718-1815 (225) 925-3966

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Websites: gohsep.la.gov or getagameplan.org
Facebook: [gohsep](https://www.facebook.com/gohsep)
Twitter: [@gohsep](https://twitter.com/gohsep)

