VOLUME 2, ISSUE 11 **NOVEMBER 2022** 

# OEM CHRONICLE

A monthly newsletter brought to you by the Boone County Office of Emergency Management





Happening soon...

November 2nd, 12pm, Outdoor Warning

November 7th, 11:30am, Caregivers & Grief Support Group Community Presentation

November 9th, 10am, National Weather Service Winter Weather Outlook Webinar

November 11th, Veterans Day, Office Closed

November 12th, Boone County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (BCARES) Exercise

November 10th, 6:30pm-8pm, CERT Meeting at the Emergency Communications Center

November 16th, 4pm, Alpha Hart Boys & Girls Club Youth Preparedness Presentation

November 21st, 4pm, Battle Boys & Girls Club Youth Preparedness Presentation

November 22nd, 4pm, Derby Ridge Boys & Girls Club Youth Preparedness Presentation

November 24th & 25th: Thanksgiving, Office

November 30th, 4pm, Boys & Girls Club Youth Preparedness Presentation

## Looking ahead...

December 1st, Missouri Parks & Recreation Association Community Presentation

December 7th, 12pm, Outdoor Warning Siren Test

December 8th, 6:30pm-8pm, CERT Meeting at the Emergency Communications Center

# Boone County Ready, Powered by Smart 911

#DYK that when you have a Boone County Ready Safety Profile, you can share your information with emergency managers so that we can better prepare and plan for emergencies?

Your safety profile allows you to enter information for every member of your household, including your pets! This way if you need to call 911 from one of your household's registered devices, our dispatchers can see your profile and relay any critical information to first responders.

Your profile also lets you choose what notifications you want to optin for and how you would like to receive those notifications.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like assistance setting up or updating your Boone County Ready Safety Profile.

**#BooneCountyReady** 

# DO 1 THING

Each month complete ONE of the suggested activities from this section and by the end of the year—you will be better prepared for emergency and disaster.

#### **November Goal:**

Remember important items that may be overlooked when leaving your home in a disaster.

#### Suggested Activities:

- 1. Store your emergency kit in your safe place or other accessible location.
- 2. Create an emergency kit for your pet, car, workplace, and school.
- 3. Complete your emergency financial first aid kit so your important documents are gathered together in a safe and accessible location.

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# Partner Spotlight

Last month, Boone County saw a significant increase in outdoor fires during a period of high winds, low humidity and drought. The outdoor fires that we saw in our county were managed by our highly trained, experienced and dedicated first responders.

Thankfully, the fires were contained quickly and no one was killed.

Boone County is home to four different fire departments, three of which are staffed primarily by volunteers, Boone County Fire Protection District (BCFPD), Centralia Fire Department (CEFD), and Southern Boone County Fire Protection District (SBCFPD). The Columbia Fire Department (CFD) is staffed with paid career firefighters.

These men and women regularly train and participate in continuing education to ensure they are at their best every day.

Do you have what it takes to be a firefighter?
Firefighting is a dangerous occupation, it's physically demanding, and requires commitment. It's rewarding and exciting, yet challenging. Learn more about becoming a firefighter for Columbia and the benefits this career holds.

BCFPD is always looking for new volunteers who are called to serve their community. The Recruit Training Program includes approximately 450 total hours of training during an initial 6 month period. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter, visit their webpage for more information.

### Gobble 'til You Wobble

On <u>Thanksgiving</u>, the kitchen is the heart of the home.

During this time, there is a lot of extra activity in the kitchen, making safety even more important than usual.

#DYK Thanksgiving Day is the leader in reported home fires involving cooking equipment?

Test your smoke detectors before your Thanksgiving celebrations to ensure if something does catch fire, everyone can be alerted and exit the home safely.

Many kids enjoy being involved in the cooking activities; check out <u>age appropriate ways the kiddos</u>
<u>can help out safely.</u>

As always, you should never leave the stove unattended while it is on and keep the floors clear of fall hazards and dry from spills to prevent trips, slips and falls.

If you are going to try frying your turkey this year, there are plenty of <u>turkey tricks and tips</u> to prevent injury and property damage.

- 1. Make sure your turkey is COMPLETELY thawed.
- 2. Keep kiddos and pets far away (at least 5 feet) from the fryer.
  - 3. Fry outdoors.
  - 4. Keep a fire extinguisher nearby!
- 5. Let it cool—fryer oil will stay hot for hours after you're done cooking.
- 6. Check the <u>weather forecast</u>—don't fry in the snow or rain.

Learn more about Thanksgiving Fire Safety on the National Fire Protection Association's website.

### What are you thankful for?

November is here and thus my favorite holiday—Thanksgiving! I love November. During this month, I am reminded to center myself and take a personal inventory of all that I am thankful for, all the good that has happened to me in the past year and focus on the blessings I have been given.

MO Task Force one returns home after 2 week deployment to Florida following Hurricane Ian.

Wooldridge, a small town in Cooper County not far from Columbia, was evacuated due to a wildfire that destroyed nearly 20 homes.

A large natural cover fire sparked in south Columbia, an area that saw large natural fires three days in a row.

Cuteness Break! Not emergency or disaster related BUT —Warm Springs Ranch welcomed two newborn Clydesdales! A colt & a filly. Aren't they the cutest! Warm Springs Ranch is open to the public, so feel free to go see them up close. I will definitely be looking for them when I go there for the Holidays with the Clydesdales later this month.

In global news—an estimated 1.4 million people have been displaced by recent flooding in Nigeria in which 27 of their 36 states are affected and over 600 people have died.

Pakistan is still grappling with flood waters that have yet to recede, killing 1500 people and displacing nearly 7 million.

If you are reading a paper copy of this newsletter, I'm glad you're here! You can subscribe to our newsletter email distribution list by reaching out to me at the number or email below.

Lastly, we are seeking feedback on our newsletter, please complete our survey, <a href="https://surveymonkey.com/">https://surveymonkey.com/</a>
<a href="https://surveymonkey.com/">r/2022ChronicleFeedback</a>, by the end of November. You can reply unanimously or leave your contact information and be entered into both the November and December monthly giveaways! (P.s. County employees **ARE** eligible!)

### Hannah