

BOONE COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

OEM CHRONICLE

IT'S NOT LUCK



JOIN NOW!
2023 CERT BASIC TRAINING

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SHOWMEBOONE.COM/OEM

WICHERN WISDOM

Happy March!

For those that are wondering, the Stonegrinder was awesome! In lieu of snow there was mud. My mom took 2nd place for her age group and neither of us fell down this year! Progress, people.

Sharing this gorgeous photo I captured on the back of my horse, Cody, this winter. Taken near the Chain of Rocks, Missouri, a hidden gem. I recently signed up for a subscription box for horse owners, it's called Saddle Box and I got to say I LOVE IT. Not only do all sales support horse rescue shelters but the box has useful stuff (at least for new horse owners), horse and people treats, *and* its great value.

We have a full event calendar for the OEM and social media calendar for Boone County Ready for March so make sure you check that out and follow Boone County Ready on Facebook & Insta if you're not already doing so.

Many of you probably noticed my name mix-up last month; I referred to Commissioner Justin Aldred as Jason. For whatever reason my brain has decided his name is Jason Aldean and I have to regularly remind myself that he is, in fact, not Jason Aldean. Lastly, I have incorporated a game into this issue! See below to learn more and play. GOOD LUCK!

Hannah



LUCK VS. PREPAREDNESS

PLAY TO EARN ENTRIES INTO THE MARCH GIVEAWAY!

To play the game answer any or all of the questions &/or complete the actions.

Email Hannah Wichern at hwichern@boonecountymmo.org your responses by March 31st to be entered.

LUCK (1 entry per question answered correctly)

1. When is the statewide tornado drill?
2. What does CERT stand for?
3. Where is your safe place at your home/work/school?

PREPAREDNESS (2 entries per preparedness action completed)

1. Confirm your registered for Smart911.
2. Send us a #SafePlaceSelfie to include on social media.
3. Send us a picture of your emergency kit, go-bag, or car kit.



SEVERE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS

Severe weather including strong winds, hail, thunder, lightning, flooding, and tornadoes. Missouri and severe weather go hand in hand. It's important to discuss severe weather preparedness and safety before severe weather season to ensure we are all on the same page and safety is front of mind for all of us. The week of March 6th, Boone County, and the entire state, participate in Severe Weather Preparedness Week. Each day focusing on a different severe weather hazard. We use this week to educate our community and encourage everyone to participate in getting prepared for the season. A prepared community is a resilient community. Tuesday our office will be participating in the statewide tornado drill at 10am. At this time, the NOAA weather radios, and the outdoor warning siren system will be activated (weather permitting). Use this time to identify your safe place at your home and work.

Check out page 6 to learn more about how you can be Boone County Ready this severe weather season.

[PREPARE TODAY!](#)



COMMUNITY TRAINING

Our office is hosting the annual Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Basic Training during March and April. The deadline to register for the in-person training is March 3rd but online training options are available. Training is free and a great way for citizens to get involved and be informed. This training provides attendees with the skills they need to respond to emergencies.

[SIGN ME UP!](#)



SAFE PLACE

Part of being Boone County Ready is making a plan for all hazards. When planning, discuss with your household where to go during different severe weather incidents like tornadoes, hail, lightning, strong winds and thunder. Your safe place should be indoors if possible and away from windows. Having safe places identified can keep you and your loved ones safe during severe weather.

[LEARN MORE](#)



MARCH

- 1st: Outdoor Warning Siren Test, 12pm
 - 3rd: Deadline to register for in-person CERT Basic Training
 - 6th - 10th: Severe Weather Preparedness Week
 - 7th: Statewide Tornado Drill, 10am
 - 9th: Monthly CERT Meeting, 6:30pm - 8:30pm at the Emergency Communications Center (ECC)
 - 15th: Boonslick Kiwanis Presentation, 6:30am
 - 17th: Columbia Home Show 1pm - 6pm
 - 18th: Columbia Home Show, 9am - 5pm
 - 22nd: Career Expo, Battle High School 2pm - 5pm
 - 28th: Region F MOSWIN Radio Test, 9am
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APRIL

- 5th: Outdoor Warning Siren Test, 12pm
 - 5th: #SafePlaceSelfie Day
 - 10th: Preparedness Presentation, Columbia Senior Activity Center, 10:30 - 11:30am
 - 13th: Monthly CERT Meeting, 6:30 - 8:30pm, ECC
 - 14th: Boone County Ready Information Table, Columbia Mall, TBD
 - 19th: Quarterly LEPC Meeting, ECC, 1 - 2:30pm
 - 23rd: Earth Day Festival, Peace Park, 12 - 6pm
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MAY

- 3rd: Outdoor Warning Siren Test, 12pm
- 11th: Monthly CERT Meeting, 6:30 - 8:30pm, ECC
- 12th: Boone County Ready Information Table, Columbia Mall, TBD
- 17th: Family Fun Fest, 6 - 8pm, Cosmo Park
- 23rd: Region F MOSWIN Radio Test, 9am
- 29th: Memorial Day, Office Closed

[VIEW ALL EVENTS](#)

IN THE NEWS



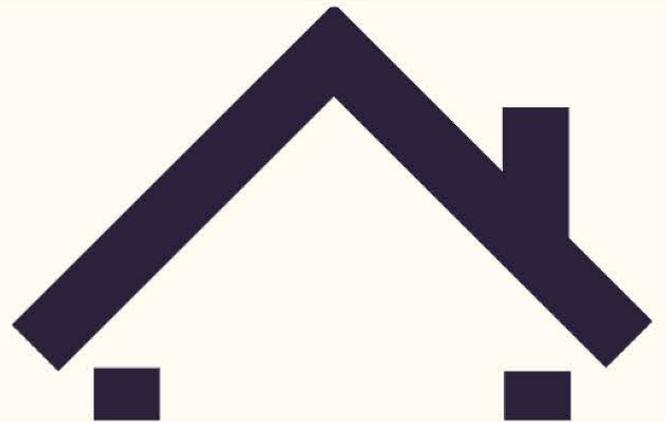
Winter storms swept through the West and North United States resulting in nearly 1 million power outages while the Eastern and Southern parts of the United States experienced unseasonably high temperatures for February. East Palestine in Ohio is continuing to deal with environmental and health concerns after a train carrying hazardous materials derailed in their community and forced citizens to evacuate. This emergency is bringing attention to the current laws that regulate the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s ability to help local communities severely impacted by technological and environmental emergencies. In California, Oakland is dealing with a series of ransomware attacks shining light on the vulnerability of local governments to cyber threats. Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) were sighted and shot down in the United States, China, and Russia last month.



RESOURCE CORNER

Smart911 is an easy-to-use safety tool that is free to you. By setting up your Smart911 profile, you can share critical information with dispatchers in the event you call 9-1-1. In addition, you can opt-in to share your information with emergency managers so we can plan for any special needs your household may have and access those needs during a large-scale response. Lastly, you are able to opt-in to receive weather alerts and emergency notifications to enable you to stay informed.

[LEARN MORE](#)



DO 1 THING

- Know how to respond safely when it is necessary to shelter in place or evacuate your home.
- Identify the best place to shelter in your home and practice going there with your household.
- Make an emergency kit for when you may need to shelter in place and a go-bag in the event you need to evacuate your home quickly.
- Identify alternative sheltering options for pets in the event you need to evacuate your home.
- Discuss safe places to shelter in the event you are outdoors when severe weather occurs.

[DO 1 THING WEBSITE](#)

BOONE COUNTY READY

Brought to you by
Boone County Office of Emergency Management

The mission of the Boone County Ready campaign is to enhance community preparedness, foster collaboration and build resilience by engaging our citizens in actively preparing for emergencies and disasters. The Boone County Office of Emergency Management wanted to provide the community with an opportunity to have a one-stop shop for becoming prepared for the hazards we face. Here's how you can become #BooneCountyReady for severe weather hazards including lightning, hail, thunderstorms, tornadoes, heavy rain and flooding:



1. BE INFORMED

Create a Boone County Ready, powered by Smart911, safety profile, opt-in for weather alerts, traffic alerts, emergency alerts and Boone County Ready non-emergency notifications. Purchase a battery-operated or hand crank NOAA weather radio for your emergency kit so you can stay aware if the other communication sources are down. Educate yourself and your household on safe places to shelter during the different severe weather hazards.



2. MAKE A PLAN

Talk to your household about where to shelter whether you are at home, work, school, or outdoors when severe weather is expected. Discuss where you will meet and how you will contact each other in the event cell phones are damaged or otherwise unavailable.

3. BUILD A KIT

Have an emergency kit ready for each member of your household. If possible, store them in your safe place so they are easily accessible during severe weather. Consider packing a separate go-bag that is easy to carry should you need to evacuate your home quickly.



4. GET INVOLVED

Educate yourself on safe places at your home, school, and outdoor recreational spots you frequent for the various severe weather hazards. Attend CERT Basic Training, available in-person and online, to learn valuable skills that could help you keep your household and neighbors safe during and after an emergency.

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

We have hard copies of preparedness materials available for you! Let us know what materials you need to accomplish your preparedness goals. For digital copies and information visit the Boone County Ready website.

573-554-7900 / EM@BooneCountyMO.org

READY.BOONEMO.ORG

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

February went by fast, and with very little winter weather at that! We had an internal EOC tabletop exercise that we found to be very engaging and a great learning experience. Kudos to our Training & Exercise Specialist, Matt Brown, for putting that together and honing our EOC operations skills as a team. We had a surprise visit from our Presiding Commissioner, Kip Kendrick, earlier this month. He stopped by and joined us for our morning stand-up. For me, it was the greatest commission interaction I've had since Commissioner Justin Aldred let me take his photo in front of the balloon wall at our first Ready Festival. Photo included for your viewing pleasure.

Here's a very brief look into the everyday life of the OEM team and a few things we were working on throughout the short month of February.

Bart worked on administrative tasks to keep our office well-oiled and running. He answers all of the phone calls to the ECC, updates EOC computers, checks the OEM vehicles biweekly, pays the bills, and visits siren sites to see if they need any landscaping maintenance.

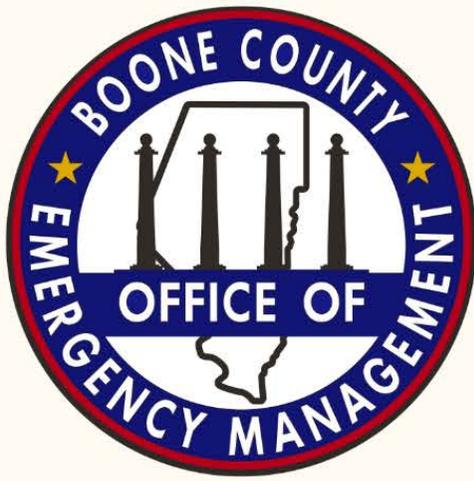
Paige has taken over the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) and has worked on it more this month. She is working on making it a simpler platform to understand before working with other Boone County employees and elected officials to complete the plan. She has been working with the American Red Cross to help develop emergency shelters for people displaced from their homes after a potential disaster in Boone County. She has also been expanding her knowledge on geographic information systems (GIS) to be able to work with and assist developing maps.

February was a busy month for Matt in the Training and Exercise world. Since it was American Heart Month, we hosted a CPR course for our CERT Team at our monthly meeting. We also facilitated the annual LEPC Exercise as a Functional Transportation HAZMAT Exercise with 2 other counties, Callaway and Cole. We also hosted an internal EOC Tabletop Exercise with our Emergency Management team. Finally, we started the process to get an incident command system instructor within our Emergency Management office.

Hannah continued to work on DR 4490 (COVID-19) and DR 4612 (2021 Flooding) public assistance grant management. In addition to maintaining the OEM and Boone County Ready social media pages, she also attended several public outreach meetings to discuss future plans for the office to strengthen our relationships with community partners. She coordinated and participated in media projects to promote the upcoming CERT Basic Training and met with various marketing partners to determine the best strategy for increasing citizen engagement and promoting preparedness in our community. She participated in the OEM's internal EOC tabletop exercise and attended a virtual Advanced Public Information Officer (APIO) training to further develop her communications skills during crisis. She is officially an APIO!

Sherril resigned from her part-time position with the OEM. We wish her the best of luck on her future endeavors.





WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

WE WANT TO COVER TOPICS THAT MATTER TO YOU!

The OEM Chronicle is a compilation of relevant seasonal information to help those who live, work, and play in Boone County become better prepared for emergencies.

What are you interested in learning more about? Do you have any topic ideas?

Don't live in Boone County? No worries!

Many of the resources that we have, and all 4 preparedness steps, can be utilized in surrounding counties.

If you would like to information about your local emergency management agency, let us know and we can get you in touch with them.

Contact us today!

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