

2022 **ANNUAL REPORT**



**BOONE COUNTY
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

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ABOUT OUR OFFICE

Our Mission is to provide a comprehensive and integrated emergency management system that coordinates community resources to protect lives, property and the environment through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from all natural and man-made hazards that may impact our county.

The Boone County Office of Emergency Management is home to seven full-time employees and one part-time specialist. In addition to the dedicated funding provided by the Boone County sales tax, fifty percent of salary costs for approved positions are funded through the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program. Our office is housed in the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) and in 2022, we had 1,450 visitors to the ECC.

Our office is an integral part of the public safety network. We work behind-the-scenes to facilitate resource needs for our partner agencies during an emergency, inclement weather, or a disaster.

We plan and share information. We assist with trainings and exercises to test capabilities. We manage the post-disaster grant cycle from application to fund allocation. We educate the community on how to prepare for emergencies, weather, and disasters.

In 2022, we said farewell to Elizabeth Thompson as she went on to become our Region F Coordinator for the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), and we welcomed Paige Lewis to our team as our Planning & Preparedness Specialist in December of 2022.

Read our bios on the next page to learn a little more about each team member with our office.

Fostering
Partnerships.



Building
Resilience.

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS



Chad Martin

Director

Chad has served as the Director of Joint Communications since 2015 and the Director of both Joint Communications and the Office of Emergency Management since 2019. In his role, he oversees the operation of both departments simultaneously.

Chris Kelley

Deputy Director

Chris has served as the Deputy Director since March 2020; taking the job shortly before the COVID19 pandemic shut down the country. In his role, he oversees the day-to-day operations of the office.



**Not
Pictured**

Della Luster

Administrative Coordinator

Della has served as the office's Administrative Coordinator since the Emergency Communications Center was built in 2016. She keeps track of all of the office's expenditures, is well-versed in county policies and oversees payroll for the department. In her role, she also assists leadership in applying for grants.

Bart Messer

Administrative Assistant

Bart has served as our Administrative Assistant since November 2021. He ensures the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Incident Support Trailer (IST) computers are regularly updated and helps to prepare active shooter kits for our First Responder partners. Prior to this position, he worked for the county in Facilities Maintenance.



STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Hannah Wichern

Mitigation & Recovery Specialist

Hannah has served as the Mitigation & Recovery Specialist since 2020. In her role, she shares information on available hazard mitigation grants, and applies for and manages all public assistance for the county. She also oversees the office's marketing, digital content, and community outreach programs in addition to serving as the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Coordinator.



Matt Brown

Training & Exercise Specialist

Matt has been with our office as the Training & Exercise Specialist since 2021, after moving to Missouri to be closer to his family. He previously worked with the American Red Cross in Texas. In his role, he leads exercise development for partner agencies. In 2022, he also assumed the role of CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Program Manager.

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GRANT MANAGEMENT

Grants are monies from the State and Federal governments that are not required to be paid back. Several positions in our office are partially compensated by the below grant monies. The amount awarded for each grant varies by year.



\$166,105.10

Total Grant Monies for 2022

GRANT	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF)	Grant monies distributed by the Missouri Emergency Response Commission (MERC) to the Boone County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) in order to carry out group functions. The CEPF funds are collected from facilities in our county who must submit Tier II reports for hazardous materials.	\$12,159.19
Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)	Grant monies are used in Boone County to cover 50% of payroll and benefits for the EMPG personnel and 50% of outdoor warning siren maintenance costs.	\$130,462.53
State Homeland Security Program (SHSP)	Grant monies are utilized for deployable equipment and resources to support our county, region, and nation.	\$23,483.38

OUTDOOR WARNING SIREN (OWS) SYSTEM

During 2022, OEM recommended and budgeted \$300,000 for 10 new outdoor warning siren sites throughout the county. The sites are always selected based upon the identified coverage gaps in our communities. The Boone County Commission approved 10 proposed sites which are scheduled to be installed in 2023. We currently have 93 outdoor warning sirens throughout Boone County. Siren maintenance costs for the year totaled \$49,500, half of which was paid for by the EMPG funding.

All of Boone County's outdoor warning sirens are tested the first Wednesday of every month at 12:00 PM as long as the weather permits. For more information about the OWS system, visit our website, showmeboone.com/OEM.

Below is a list of the ten proposed siren sites:

No. 01 — O'Rear Road

Near Lisa Dr.

No. 06 —

High Point Lane

Near Cresskill Dr.

No. 02 — New Liberty Baptist Church

Palis Nichols Rd & Liberty Ln

No. 07 —

BCFPD Station #8

S. Providence Rd. and E. Hoedown Dr .

No. 03 — The Crossing Church

Grindstone and Rock Quarry Rd.

No. 08 —

Howard Orchard Rd.

Near Sedgewick Dr.

No. 04 — Easley River Road

Near Katy Trail

No. 09 —

South Gans Creek Road

Near E. Bonne Femme Church Rd.

No. 05 — Pueblo De Dios Church

S. Sinclair Rd. and Arrowhead Lake Dr.

No. 10 —

Baldrige

Near S. Hardwick Ln.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER (ECC)

The Emergency Communications Center (ECC) is home to the Boone County Office of Emergency Management, Boone County Joint Communications, and county IT support team. The ECC has several conference rooms and a large classroom which makes it an ideal location for community stakeholder meetings.

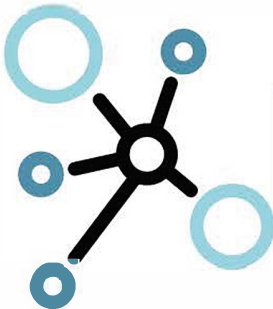
Despite the large increase in visits and external visits due to the COVID pandemic, we hosted external meetings for the Local Emergency Planning Committee, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), first responders, as well as county departments. We believe as more in-person meetings are held we will see an increase in interest in using the ECC accommodations once more.

1,450
Total Visitors



PLANNING & PREPAREDNESS

Our office is responsible for maintaining plans that support Boone County's emergency management phases of prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery. These plans include the local Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and Hazard Mitigation Plan. In 2022, our office worked together to develop and/or implement three new plans, including the first Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP) for Boone County. This plan was completed and implemented in 2022. The purpose of the IPP is to document Boone County's emergency preparedness goals and priorities for the 2022 - 2024 period. These goals and priorities were determined through the IPP Workshop held in December of 2021.



INTEGRATED PREPAREDNESS PLAN (IPP)

The office also developed a Strategic Plan for 2022 - 2024. This was finalized, implemented and approved by the Boone County Commission.

STRATEGIC PLAN



We also developed our county's first Disaster Recovery Plan. This is identified as a priority in the strategic plan and should to be completed by the end of 2024.



DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN (DRP)

PLANNING & PREPAREDNESS

In addition to developing and maintaining county plans, we also initiate, facilitate and participate in several preparedness and collaboration initiatives every year. In 2022, the National Weather Service hosted the first Integrated Warning Team (IWT) workshop for Region F since COVID-19. Two staff members from BCOEM attended this valuable workshop. Our office also developed a Dam Safety Workshop that was open to all dam owners and operators to learn about how they can develop an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for their dam and learn more about ways to mitigate risks commonly associated with dam failures. Lastly, our office coordinated with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to bring the Faithful Readiness Workshop to our county for all faith-based organizations to learn how they can prepare for and mitigate risks to their faith communities and facilities.



INTEGRATED WARNING TEAM (IWT)

FAITHFUL READINESS WORKSHOP

DAM SAFETY WORKSHOP



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TRAINING & EXERCISES

Staff

TRAININGS

In 2022, OEM continued to improve upon existing skills by participating in training related to their respective staff positions. Continuing education and training are a priority for our staff members who strive to serve their community to the best of their abilities.

Forklift Training, Basic Life Support, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Basic, Public Information Basics, and online independent study (IS) courses through the Federal Emergency Management Agency were just a few of the trainings in which staff members participated during 2022.

Each year our office works to sustain regular exercises with partners and stakeholders. We build our current capability through training and exercises. In 2022, our office assisted in the facilitation and development of ten exercises. These exercises included a Public Information Officer tabletop for the City of Columbia, a discussion panel and tabletop exercise (TTEX) for the Boone County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), and a full-scale exercise at the Columbia Regional Airport.

16

Trainings

145

OEM Employee Hours

External

EXERCISES

42

Total LEPC TTEX Participants

INCIDENT RESPONSE

Severe weather threatened our community on more than one occasion in 2022. In February winter storms resulted in the activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on two different occasions. The EOC was staffed with representatives from OEM, Columbia Police Department, Columbia Fire Department, Columbia Water and Light, National Weather Service St. Louis, and University of Missouri. During an EOC activation, OEM is responsible for staffing the EOC, which takes priority, but we continue to fulfill our everyday duties.

In addition to activating the EOC for inclement weather, our office also partially activated in 2022 to monitor the situation during Mizzou home football games. During home games, MU stands up their incident command, a standard practice for SEC sporting events that receive a large turnout. Our office supports the MU incident command by staffing our EOC as well. If something occurs during a home game, all responders are present, on the same page, ready to respond.



Emergency Operations Center (EOC) **ACTIVATIONS**

144

**OEM Employee
Activation Hours**

3

Operational Periods

98

**OEM Employee
MU Game Hours**

7

**MU Home Games
Monitored**

DISASTER RESPONSE & RECOVERY

DR 4490

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

In 2022, the OEM continued to support community response and recovery efforts for the COVID-19 pandemic. OEM coordinated with Columbia/Boone County Public Health & Human Services Department and Boone Health to support vaccination clinics.

30

OEM Employee Hours

\$48,705.10

2022 County Requested
Reimbursements



DR 4612

FLASH FLOODING

154

OEM Employee Hours

\$207,908.71

2022 Requested County
Reimbursements

Boone County experienced an unprecedented rainfall event in June 2021 which flooded many parts of Columbia including Providence Road and Twin Lakes Recreation Area. The widespread flooding across the state resulted in a presidential disaster declaration. The requested reimbursements are for Boone County government offices.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)

The Boone County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a volunteer program that educates citizens about disaster preparedness and basic response skills. Each year, the CERT Program Manager hosts a CERT Basic Training that is free and open to the public. Basic Training allows for more citizens to obtain these basic skills. Attendees of the training are invited to join the CERT team upon completion, but it is not a requirement. This year, we had 18 in-person participants and 8 complete the training online. CERT members meet monthly, on the 2nd Thursday, to develop their basic response skills.

In 2022, Matt Brown, Training and Exercise Specialist, stepped into the role of CERT Program Manager. CERT participants support both the community and the OEM through their volunteer service. This year, CERT supported local law enforcement at the MU Homecoming Parade and the Holiday Parade in Columbia. In addition, they collaborated with our local American Red Cross with building our community's shelter capacity. At the end of 2022, Boone County CERT was comprised of 22 total members.



540

CERT Volunteer Hours

18

Basic Training Registrants

15

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Boone County Office of Emergency Management is an active support of the Boone County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). We have a standing Service Level Agreement (SLA) in place that designates one OEM staff member as the LEPC Coordinator. The Coordinator attends all LEPC meetings and provides administrative support. The Coordinator is also responsible for tracking all of the Tier II reports that are submitted annually. OEM also supports the LEPC through regular attendance at the quarterly meetings, serving as a voting member for the Emergency Management component, actively assisting with the planning and coordination of the annual LEPC exercise, and assisting with the ESF 10 Hazardous Materials Plan updates.

The LEPC meetings are held quarterly in January, April, July and October at the Emergency Communications Center. In 2022, the LEPC grew its active members and secured at least one voting member for each of the 14 discipline areas.

67

Active Members

91

Coordinator Hours

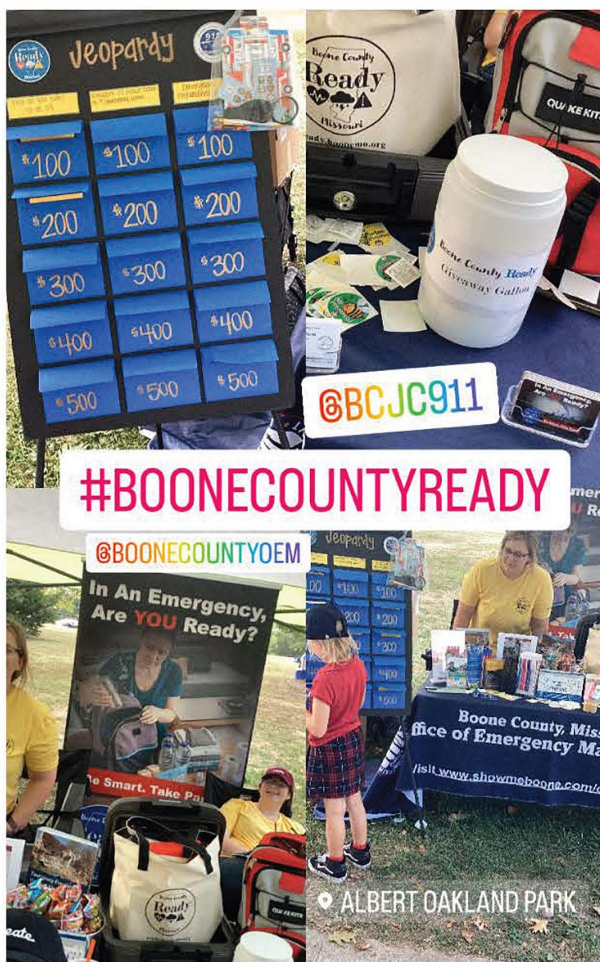


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SOCIAL MEDIA

Our office understands the changing climate in which citizens receive information. We strive to remain a consistent and reliable source of information through our webpage and social media accounts. In 2021, our office added YouTube, Instagram, Pinterest and Next-Door accounts to our online presence. In 2022, we focused on growing those accounts by being more active on each of the platforms. We also initiated monthly giveaways to encourage engagement and discussion about preparedness.

With the launch of Boone County Ready, our office also created a webpage and social media accounts for the campaign using the handle @boonecountyready on Facebook and Instagram and @boonecoready on Twitter. The below statistics are for the OEM social media accounts only.



FACEBOOK

6.6% increase in followers
128k users reached
235 posts
13% engagement rate



TWITTER

2.2% increase in followers
111k page & profile reach
175 posts
0.56% increase in engagement



INSTAGRAM

58% increase in followers
2.5k users reached
70 posts
9% engagement rate



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our office made a conscious and active effort to increase our community outreach activities throughout this past year. We participated in events, meetings, workshops, presentations, educational videos, and media engagement all with the purpose of increasing community outreach, engagement, and awareness.

521%

Increase in number of outreach activities



2,809

*Total Public Interactions**

380.5

Employee Hours



**Not including interactions made during the MU Homecoming Parade where an estimated 10k people were in attendance.*

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



As part of our efforts to increase engagement, preparedness and awareness in the community, our office has worked to bring new engagement and awareness concepts to fruition. Our office conducted a variety of activities throughout the year, including a Boone County Ready Community Preparedness Information Table at Columbia Mall each month, presentations to school through the Youth Preparedness Program, hosting a Faithful Readiness Workshop, presentations at Assisted Living Facilities, hosting a Dam Safety Workshop, participating in Trunk-or-Treats, attending community events, and supporting our community partners while advertising the importance of preparedness through sponsorships.

17

Events

11

Presentations



5

Media Projects

9

Educational Videos



20

BOONE COUNTY READY



Boone County Ready is our office's community preparedness campaign. It was launched in March 2022 with the roll-out of the Ready website, ready.boonemo.org, which serves as a one-stop shop for preparedness information, tools, and resources. The campaign focuses on four steps that can help citizens become more prepared for severe weather, emergencies and disasters. The four steps are outlined below.



BE INFORMED

Being able to receive emergency notifications and weather alerts from various sources, including one that is not reliant on power.

BUILD A KIT

Having an emergency kit for your home, car and a bug-out bag in case you need to evacuate your home quickly.

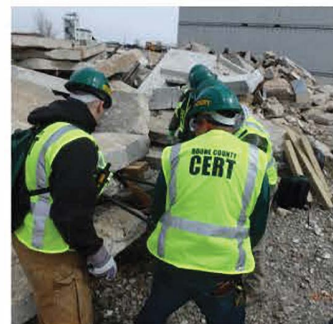


MAKE A PLAN

Know where you will go, who you will contact and where you will meet in response to different emergencies.

GET INVOLVED

Understanding the hazards your community faces and how to respond to them; being able to help yourself and neighbors until help arrives.



BOONE COUNTY READY POWERED BY SMART911

One of the fastest and easiest ways Boone County residents can be better prepared for an emergency or disaster is to be informed. Boone County Ready Alerts, powered by Smart911, is an opt-in mass notification system. The system is designed for all who live, work, visit, and study in Boone County. After creating a safety profile, users can customize the alerts to which they want to opt-in to receive from non-emergency preparedness messaging, including weather alerts through the National Weather Service in St. Louis, traffic alerts from Boone County Joint Communications, and emergency notifications from the Office of Emergency Management. Boone County Ready Alerts notify users through text, email or voice call notifications.



BE INFORMED.

Be Boone County Ready

584

Residents Opted-in to non-emergency messaging



Smart911™

959

Registered Safety Profiles

BOONE COUNTY READY FESTIVAL

The Boone County Ready Festival saw its 2nd year in 2022. It was renamed to align with the Boone County Ready community preparedness campaign; previously the festival was called the Preparedness Fair. Our office saw a substantial increase in interest from the community compared to 2021.

47%

Increase in attendance



22

Partner vendor booths

35

Raffle prizes given away



23

BOONE COUNTY READY FESTIVAL

For the second annual festival, our office worked to bring attractions that would encourage a variety of people to come to the event. Below are a few of the new attractions this year's festival included.

MAGIC SHOW



LIVE BAND

WEATHER BALLOON LAUNCH



150

Households received emergency kits

FACE PAINTING

LAWN GAMES

BALLOON TWISTING

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FAREWELLS



Chad Martin

Director

Chad served as the Director of Joint Communications since 2015 and the Director of both Joint Communications and the Office of Emergency Management since 2019. At the end of 2022, he began his transition back to oversee only Joint Communications.



Sherril Gladney

Emergency Management Specialist

Sherril was with our office since the Emergency Communications Center was built in 2016. She previously served as the Planning & Preparedness Specialist before going part-time. In her role, she assisted the office with various projects including updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan, Continuity of Operations (COOP) plan, and the Strategic Plan.

Paige Lewis

Planning & Preparedness Specialist

Paige joined our office in December. Prior to this, she worked as an intern with the Missouri Department of Transportation and is a volunteer firefighter for Boone County. In her role with our office, she worked under Sherril Gladney to learn the foundations of the county's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), and Continuity of Operations (COOP) plan.



CONNECT WITH US



@BooneCountyOEM

Fostering
Partnerships.



Building
Resilience.

Boone County Office of Emergency Management

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