

BOONE COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

OEM CHRONICLE

WINTER SAFETY



Car Winter Survival Kit Checklist



- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Flashlight & Extra Batteries | <input type="checkbox"/>  Blankets/Sleeping Bag | <input type="checkbox"/>  Extra Clothing
Hats, Mittens, Parkas, Boots |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  First Aid Kit | <input type="checkbox"/>  Non-Perishable Food
Granola Bars, Dried nuts, etc. | <input type="checkbox"/>  Sand/Kitty Litter
Used for Traction |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Snow Shovel | <input type="checkbox"/>  Bottled Water | <input type="checkbox"/>  Cell Phone & Charger |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Ice Scraper with Brush | <input type="checkbox"/>  Booster Cables | <input type="checkbox"/>  Flares/Triangles & other Bright Objects |

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SHOWMEBOONE.COM/OEM



WICHERN WISDOM

Hey everyone. Congratulations! You've made it through January. February is my least favorite month of the year; it is *way* too cold for me. Thankfully, it's also the shortest month of the year! Since I moved to Columbia in 2020, my mom and I have participated in the Stonegrinder 7K trail run and that's the one thing in February that I look forward to. It's always held on my mom's birthday weekend, and it gives my family a reason to come out my way to stay for a few days. After we're done with the run, we always ask ourselves why we do this and treat ourselves to Lakota coffee. LOL! It's not an easy trail but it's a nice tradition and a very scenic, snow-covered experience. Here's a picture of my mom and I after last year's run.

What are you looking forward to in February?

Hannah

MEET MATT, THE OEM PUN MASTER

MATT BROWN, TRAINING & EXERCISE SPECIALIST

Matt is a man of many interests and talents. His formal education is a Bachelors in Classical Civilizations from the University of Illinois (And at the risk of antagonizing the Tiger populace out there, GO ILLINI!) What's Classical Civilizations you ask? Good question, as many have asked with a confused look on their faces. To which Matt would say it's a combination of Roman and Greek history, archeology, linguistics, and language all wrapped up into one package. However, since Matt decided to pursue his longtime volunteer profession instead, all of that formal education became, well, ancient history, pun intended. Matt had long served as a volunteer in high school and college in the Air Force Auxiliary-Civil Air Patrol (CAP), Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Red Cross, and emergency management. Upon graduation it just made sense to follow this career choice, so he did just that working as an AmeriCorps VISTA, School Emergency Management Security Analyst, Red Cross Health and Safety Manager, and Red Cross Disaster Cycle Services employee (this one in TX, one of the most disaster-prone states in the country). Many of these roles took him on adventures to some of the largest and worst disasters in the country like Hurricanes Katrina, Harvey, and Michael. There he learned many valuable lessons; especially how important it was to be prepared. That is one of the reasons disaster preparedness is such a passion of his even outside of work. Throughout all of this he continued his volunteering in things like search & rescue, CERT, CAP, amateur radio, Knights of Columbus and occasionally church choir (yes, he sings!). And from time to time enjoys his hobbies of camping, hiking, hunting, rappelling, cooking, sci-fi book reading, and video games. Matt moved to Missouri about a year and half ago to be closer to family. He finds great joy in helping to keep his nieces and nephews safe through his role at the OEM. As he works towards building up the strong foundation of training and exercises in Boone County, Matt hopes to play his part in keeping the community safe by facilitating practice and acquisition of new skills for the served partner agencies in our First Responder community. And should he ever come to root for the Tigers, he might just become a "roaring" success. And at that punny statement, Matt wants all the readers to try to be Semper Paratus - Always Prepared. (Hint hint: visit ready.boonemo.org to help you do just that!)



Shoot him an email if you'd like at mbrown@boonecountymo.org

WINTER WEATHER SAFETY

If you want to be prepared for a winter storm no matter where you are - start by making an emergency kit for your home (or your car - see below). During winter weather it is possible that you could lose power or water. Having an emergency kit prepared allows for you to be ready whenever an emergency happens. Our emergency kit checklist is a great resource for all weather hazards. You should also make sure you have opted in to receive traffic and weather alerts through your Smart911 profile. This will allow you to receive text, voice, or email notifications about weather conditions and traffic incidents in your area. If you don't have a Smart911 profile yet, contact our office today to help you with creating one.

[I WANT SIGN UP FOR SMART911](#)

BUILDING AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT FOR YOUR CAR

WHY?
Because you never know when you will encounter winter weather or an emergency road closure

AMERICA'S *PrepareAthon!*

- Cell Phone Charger
- First Aid Kit
- Jumper Cables
- Spare Tire
- Flares
- Water, Snacks
- Full Tank of Gas
- Sand or Kitty Litter
- Mittens, Hat, Boots, Warm Clothes
- Flashlight
- Snow Shovel and Brush
- Blankets
- Tow Rope

WINTER CAR KIT

Winter weather causes an increase in traffic accidents. You could be stranded on the highway for hours due to an accident, traffic or maybe lose control of your own vehicle and end up in a ditch. Keep your gas tank half full and gather these necessary items to keep in your car today.

[VIEW FULL KIT CHECKLIST](#)



POWER OUTAGES

Power outages can be prepared for in advance. Follow the 4 steps of preparedness (see Boone County Ready section on page 5). It's a good idea to have several flashlights, extra batteries, lots of blankets, a back-up power pack for your smart devices, and, if possible, a generator.

[LEARN MORE](#)



FEBRUARY

1st: Outdoor Warning Siren Test, 12pm

8th: Annual LEPC Functional Exercise, 1pm - 5pm *Volunteers needed

9th: Monthly CERT Meeting, 6:30pm - 8:30pm at the ECC (bls/cpr training)

13th: office closed

15th: Career Expo, 11am - 2pm at Columbia College

20th: Office Closed



MARCH

1st: Outdoor Warning Siren Test, 12pm

6th - 10th: Severe Weather Preparedness Week

7th: Statewide Tornado Drill with Outdoor Warning Siren Test, 10am

8th: Quarterly Region F EMD Meeting, 10am-12pm at Emergency Communications Center

8th: Integrated Planning Preparedness Workshop, 1:30pm - 4:30pm at Emergency Communications Center

9th: Monthly CERT Meeting, 6:30pm - 8:30pm at the ECC

22nd: Career Expo, 2pm - 5pm at Battle High School



PLAN REVIEW

Are you interested in having the OEM come to your organization to conduct a site-visit, review your current plans and procedures, and offer suggestions for improvement?

[VIEW ALL EVENTS](#)

[EMAIL US YOUR INTEREST](#)

IN THE NEWS



Boone County received another winter weather event the last full week of January causing the National Weather Service in St. Louis to cancel the scheduled Storm Spotter class in Columbia.

A severe weather outbreak spawned dozens of destructive tornadoes across the southern United States.



RESOURCE CORNER

Leaving this here for another month as winter weather will continue through February and this resource is a great tool for drivers and travelers wanting to plan their routes and stay informed of road conditions.

The Missouri Department of Transportation (MO DOT) offers a free resource for Missouri residents called the Traveler Map. This allows users to check their planned routes to make sure road conditions and traffic flow are favorable and safe for the drive.

You can view the traveler map by visiting:
traveler.modot.org/map

FIND OUT MORE



DO 1 THING

February's Do1Thing is to have a 3-day supply of water for your entire household. Whether you get water from a municipal water system, or your home has a private well, your water supply depends on having power to operate the system. During a power outage—or any disaster that can cause a power outage, such as high winds, ice storm, or flood—you may find yourself without drinkable water.

- Purchase and store a 72-hour supply of drinking water.
- Bottle and store a 72-hour supply of water for hygiene purposes.
- Plan for 1 gallon of water per person/pet per day for drinking, sanitation and hygiene.
- Learn how to supply a safe source of drinking water for your household in a disaster.

DO 1 THING WEBSITE

BOONE COUNTY READY

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.

In case you missed it last month, here's how you can become #BooneCountyReady for winter weather:

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 so you can stay informed of weather conditions.

2. Make a Plan

Talk to your household about what to do if you are separated during an emergency or stranded in cold weather. Make an evacuation plan. Talk to your doctor for advice on storing medicine or using power-dependent devices.

3. Build a Kit

Have a car kit in your vehicle at all times, and a well-stocked emergency kit in your home (for each household member) in the event of a power outage or consecutive snowed in days.

4. Get Involved

Educate yourself on the signs of hypothermia and frostbite and learn how you would treat them. Install carbon monoxide detectors with battery back-up throughout the house. Ensure you have fire extinguishers in your home and that everyone knows how to use them (Google P.A.S.S.) Know how to shut off your main water valve in case a pipe bursts from the cold.



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

The first month of 2023 is officially behind us! Our office has had many activities keeping us busy throughout the month. We even had a visit from Commissioner Justin Aldred and State Representative Adrian Plank to tour the Emergency Communications Center (ECC)! We love having visitors to the ECC. Reach out if you would like a tour of the facility.

Below is a brief recap of a few of our staff's activities during the very busy month of January!



Paige has been continuing to attend classes and achieve certifications that she will use for her work. She has been working on creating relationships with potential partners for emergency shelters in the community. Her time has also been spent helping Hannah with outreach events around Columbia.

Sherril spent the majority of January working on edits to the Boone County Hazard Mitigation Plan and helping Paige get settled in. Sherril and Paige have been discussing the history of planning for OEM and what direction Paige would like to go with the existing plans she maintains. Sherril and Paige also made a requested visit to Chance Elementary School in Centralia to provide some thoughts regarding emergency procedures in their school. Sherril is looking forward to assisting Matt as an evaluator for the annual LEPC exercise which is right around the corner!

Chris has been working on expanding our outdoor warning siren (OWS) system by drafting siren agreements and attending public hearings for proposed new siren sites.

Matt has been working on creating policies and procedures for the county's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and spearheading the upcoming annual Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) exercise between Boone, Callaway and Cole Counties. He gave a community presentation to the Kiwanis group and is working toward increasing our community's shelter capacity with Paige, Hannah and the American Red Cross. Last month, Matt graduated a group of six CERT Basic Training participants and ALL of them are joining our CERT team!

Hannah maintained our social media accounts, participated in a few outreach activities including three media projects with our radio partners, a presentation to an independent senior living facility, a youth preparedness presentation to a local school, and an informational & Smart911 sign-up booth at the Senior Activity Center. She coordinated the first quarterly meeting for the Boone County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). She also worked towards obtaining point of contact (POC) forms from all of our ESF stakeholders to ensure emergency communications are maintained. She participated in several conference calls with our Region F and local stakeholders to share information about the winter weather on January 24th - 25th. She is also looking forward to participating in the upcoming LEPC exercise.



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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