



NEWSLETTER

Tristate Disaster Volunteer Network

Hard Copy Version

May
June
2008

Preparedness is Everyone's Business

SAVE THIS DATE

September 22, 2008

Sharonville Convention Center



Be Prepared
Ohio

Be Prepared Ohio will inform and empower people with functional needs about how to be better prepared in case of an emergency.

Be Prepared Ohio is the first ever event in Southwestern Ohio where first responders, emergency management authorities, public health agencies, service providers and those with functional needs will learn and share together on how to become better prepared.

During Hurricane Katrina, we watched as some of our country's most vulnerable citizens – older adults and people with disabilities – struggled to get help or find care in the midst of chaos and confusion. Caregivers threw their hands in the air in desperation and exhaustion when medicine, supplies and transportation were nowhere to be found. These images are still fresh in our minds.

Be Prepared Ohio on Sept. 22nd, will focus on one of the toughest lessons learned during that difficult time: people with functional needs (older adults, people with disabilities, etc.) require more help than that which is provided through traditional emergency response systems. We know now that this vulnerable group needs help with advance planning – making an emergency plan, gathering supplies – and they will require special assistance during an emergency.

The event will include educational tracts for professionals (CEUs available), as well as the general public.

Additional info contact: Amy Leonhardt
(513) 345-3367 aleonhardt@help4seniors.org

Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio
<http://help4seniors.org/>

It is no coincidence that **Be Prepared Ohio** is scheduled for September. September is National Preparedness Month, a time when emergency response agencies work to increase public awareness about emergency preparedness, and Americans are encouraged to participate in planned activities.

SPOTLIGHT



Can your neighbor volunteer ?

Already a member of a volunteer disaster response organization but your neighbor isn't? How can they volunteer for the next disaster? The solution is simple.

The Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) is the coordinating agency to ensure that citizens who want to volunteer and help are used in the most effective and safe manner possible.

The VRC is a voluntary group which operates under the direction of the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Through the EOC, we receive requests for support from the various responding agencies, including Fire, Police, the Health department and even the Red Cross. We have a direct link with the commanders at the EOC and we match their needs with the various citizens who have volunteered. The VRC will provide a central clearinghouse at a location away from the disaster where volunteers can safely report.

We ensure that volunteers are sent to appropriate assignments. Medical and/or other licenses will be verified, background checks will be run to ensure we are not sending the wrong people to inappropriate settings. Volunteers receive safety training and the necessary guidance as to proper protocol at the disaster site, along with a daily VRC issued ID.

We need an inventory of trained individuals to run a successful VRC operation. Toward that goal, we are seeking organizations that wish to incorporate the VRC as one of their group projects. Organizations such as The American Legion, The Lyons Club, Church groups, and many more. We will completely train your group and provide all necessary VRC resources.

If you know of a group that would be appropriate for this Clermont County opportunity contact:

Contact us at vrc@ClermontCitizenCorps.org

or Corps@fuse.net

Training & Special Meeting Calendar

See web site for additional detail, latest updates, flyers and registration forms

The courses listed in this section are provided by the Cincinnati-Hamilton County Homeland Security and normally not for volunteers. If seats are unfilled, they have invited Amateur Radio Operators and CERT trained volunteers to attend. Check with Barry Webb for seat availability and see the web site for details.

June 5-6

Cincinnati-Hamilton County Homeland Security
ICS 400

July 8-9,

Butler County
Bioterrorism: Mass Prophylaxis

July 15-17

Cincinnati-Hamilton County Homeland Security
Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP)

August 12-14

Cincinnati-Hamilton County Homeland Security
Emergency Response to Domestic Biological Incidents

August 19-20

Cincinnati-Hamilton County Homeland Security
Public Information in a WMD/Terrorism Incident

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June 10

TriState CART, open to the public
Large Animal Handling and Safety
Winton Woods Parky's Farm

June 21,

Clermont County RACES
Milford Hamfest
Eastside Christian Church

June 16

Delhi Township CERT, open to all CERT groups
Duke Energy High Voltage Demo
Delhi Fire Department

June 13, 21 & 28

August 29, 30 & September 13

October 31, November 1 & 2
Clermont County, Miami Township
CERT Classes
Miami Township Fire/EMS

June 23

Clermont CERT, open to all CERT groups
Radio Communications
Leming House

August 5

Union Township Police
America's National Night Out Against Crime
Veteran's Memorial Park

ABOUT US

Welcome to the Tristate Disaster Volunteer Network's, e-newsletter produced by the Clermont County Citizen Corps. A hard copy is available on web site.

Serving the Greater Cincinnati and Tristate area, the DVN provides a directory (available on web site) for disaster preparedness and response volunteer organizations and a common distribution channel for the announcement of your organization's drills, exercises, training and special meetings.

The DVN encourages the sharing and networking of preparedness and response information among the various Tristate disaster response groups and with the public.

Send announcements for your volunteer disaster preparedness or response organization to
DVNnews@ClermontCitizenCorps.org