

Office of Emergency Management
Year End Report
2007

Major Incidents

The Office of Emergency Management responded to three incidents during the year.

- Hillside Avenue house fire.
 - Residents were sheltered with a neighbor
- Middle School gas leak
 - Evacuation was not required
- 300 gallon transformer oil leak on Watchung Avenue
 - Assisted the Chatham Borough Fire Department
 - Chatham Borough Police Department provided traffic control and detour route
 - Morris County Haz-Mat Team responded
 - NJ DEP responded
 - Morris County Road Department responded
 - The spiller contracted with a private company to provide clean up

Planning

Based on last years exercise of prophylactic medication distribution it was decided to form our own Medical Reserve Corps, (MRC).

The MRC is a component of the National Citizen Reserve Corps.

The Medical Reserve Corps is a major component of a local Point of Distribution, (POD).

If the mass distribution of prophylactic medications is required the services of the medical community will be required. That would tax our county resources. In order to provide a better service to our residents, the Borough has established our own POD at the Chatham Middle School. The Boroughs plan and facility have been approved by the State Department of Health and Senior Services.

With the assistance of the Board of Health and the Borough Mayor and Council we now have a MRC operating under our Board of Health.

Special thanks to John Theese, our Health Officer, for his time and support.

Drills and Exercises

This year the major exercise involved a lost person at Shepard Kollock Park and the use of our Community Emergency Response Team, (CERT) members. A table top exercise was conducted. A table top exercise is a round table discussion by participating members as to what is required in the event of an actual event.

Several weeks later the CERT members planned and conducted an actual search of Shepard Kollock Park. The National Incident Management System, (NIMS), was used to plan and run this exercise.

After the exercise a critique was conducted.

The office of Emergency Management also participated the Morris County and local Board of Health HYLER communication exercise. This was a test of the notification system from the State Department of Health and Senior Services down to the local level of government.

Operating Plan

Our Emergency Operating Plan, (EOP), was submitted for review to the New Jersey State Police, Office of Emergency Management. Chatham Borough's EOP has been approved until April 30, 2011. This office continues to review and update our plan.

Assisted the Police Department in their plan review prior to the CLEA inspection.

Assisted Garden Terrace Nursing Home in a complete review of their Emergency Operating Plan.

Emergency Operating Center

This year the Emergency Operating Center was not used for the full scale exercise. All communications for that exercise were done in the field. RACES continues to test our emergency operating systems.

Community Emergency Response Team

The CERT members continue to meet monthly, except for July and August.

The CERT members once again assisted at the Jaycee foot race.

This year in addition to having CERT members assist along the July 4th Parade route, several members were in the line of march.

The Newcomers Easter Egg Hunt was added to the list of assisted organizations this year.

The CERT members assisted at the annual Flu Clinic sponsored by the Board of Health.

All CERT members were trained in CPR and in the use of an automatic external defibrillator.

Each year the team continues to update their first aid and CPR skills.

Education

- Attended five Coordinators seminars hosted by the Morris County Office of Emergency Management

- Attended the New Jersey Emergency Preparedness Conference
- Attended the League of Municipalities Conference
- Attended a Morris County JIF-OEM Seminar
- Attended a one day Security Expo
- Attended a JCP&L and PSE&G seminar
- Attended a computer reporting seminar

Goals

- Continue to build on the CERT
 - Monthly training reviews and updates
 - Increase their first aid and CPR skills
 - Recruit new members
- Continue my education in relation to Emergency Management
 - Seminars
 - Training classes
 - County meetings
- Continue to review and maintain our Emergency Operating Plan
- Use of the Borough Web site and Bulletin Board to keep our residents informed

Comments

Once again, I would like to thank all of the elected and appointed officials, and department heads who assisted me with Emergency Management. They are a valuable and dedicated resource to the Borough and our citizens. The goals of Emergency Management are constantly changing and our Emergency Operating Plan is undergoing constant revision. I am looking forward to continuing this process for our residents.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. Nauta
Coordinator