

**Office of Emergency Management  
Year End Report  
2008**

# Emergency Management

## Year End Report

### 2008



Prepared by  
**W. J. Nauta**  
Coordinator

## **Major Incidents**

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

- Gas leak on Summit Avenue
  - Assisted Chatham Borough Fire Department and Public Service Electric and Gas Company
  - Evacuation was not required
- Storm activity caused a utilities pole to break on Main Street
  - Street closed for several days
  - Emergency notification to residents
- Apartment fire on Main Street
  - Assisted Chatham Borough Fire Department
  - Notified and assisted Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross with temporary sheltering for two residents
- Oil spill on Coleman Avenue
  - Assisted Chatham Borough Fire Department
  - Notified Department of Environmental Protection
  - Assisted Department of Public Works with clean up directed by DEP
- Apartment Fire on River Road
  - Assisted Chatham Borough Fire Department
  - Notified and assisted Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross with the temporary shelter and assistance for three residents
- Water Main break and valve repair on Summit Avenue
  - Assisted the Department of Public Works with emergency notifications to residents through the Morris County Emergency Communications System
- Oil spill at the Madison Chatham Joint Meeting on N. Passaic Avenue
  - Spill originated in Madison
  - Department of Environmental Protection notified
- House fire on Weston Avenue
  - Assisted Chatham Borough Fire Department
  - Notified and assisted Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross in providing assistance to the residents

## **Planning**

Established a practice of conference calls with the Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross in preparation for anticipated storm activity

Attended a Borough Staff meeting in preparation for anticipated storm activity

Represented the Borough for a Federal Regional Planning Program

Participated in a Morris County School Safety and Planning Program

### **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.

The use and availability of the Morris County Emergency Notification System was added to our plan.

### **Emergency Operating Center**

This year the Emergency Operating Center was activated twice for storm related activity. As in the past RACES continues to test our emergency operating systems. E Team, a computer based reporting system has been put in use. This allows the County and State Agencies to monitor any emergency situation.

### **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 4<sup>th</sup> Parade route, several members were in the line of march.

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.

The CERT members have developed and utilize an emergency notification system for activation.

### **Education**

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

- Attended the New Jersey Emergency Preparedness Conference
- Attended a Debris Management Workshop
- Attended a Morris County training class on the guidelines and use of the Emergency Notification System
- Attended a one day Security Expo
- Attended Mitigation and Planning seminars
- Attended a computer reporting seminar (E Team)

### Mitigation

FEMA has mandated that each jurisdiction establish a written mitigation plan. To accomplish this goal the Morris County Office of Emergency Management has contracted with James Lee Witt Associates to oversee this goal. The Borough has agreed to participate in the endeavor. Much time has been spent with the Borough Engineer, Vince DeNave, in evaluating the strength and weaknesses within the Borough. Natural and man made events have been considered. Three surveys have been completed and submitted to Witt Associates. A resident survey was placed on the Borough Web Site for citizen input.

A draft of the plan is anticipated by the county in early 2009. After revisions the plan will be submitted to FEMA. This will meet the Boroughs requirements for the Federal mandate. It is hoped that this will lead to federal grants for mitigation purposes.

### Goals

- Continue to build on the CERT
  - Monthly training reviews and updates
  - Increase their first aid and CPR skills
  - Build on teamwork
  - 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
- Utilize 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, department heads, and the Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross 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