



[New Location for NCEM website \(www.ncem.org\).](http://www.ncem.org)

The NC Division of Emergency Management website has merged with the NC Department of Crime Control & Public Safety (CCPS) website. All information from the previous www.ncem.org site has been imported to the new site. The CCPS website is www.nccrimecontrol.org.

[A 2008 Spring Conference Coming Up.](#)

The North Carolina All-Hazards 2008 Spring Conference will be held March 2nd – 5th at the Sea Trial Conference Center located in Sunset Beach, NC. Topics at this year's conference include: Debris Management, Project Life Saver, WebEOC, Special Needs Transportation, Higher Education, Children in Disaster and many others. Presenters include NC Emergency Management, Public Health, NC National Guard, Lowe's Management and US Coast Guard. Visit the NC Emergency Management Association website at www.ncema.org for more details.

[FY2008 Homeland Security Grant Programs in North Carolina](#)

[Buffer Zone Protection Program \(BZPP\)](#)

The BZPP program provides funding to States and territories with eligible critical infrastructure/key resources (CI/KR) such as dams, nuclear and electric power plants, chemical facilities, and other high-risk areas.

[Emergency Management Performance Grant \(EMPG\)](#)

The EMPG program provides resources to assist State and local governments to sustain and enhance all-hazards emergency management capabilities. States have the opportunity to use EMPG funds to further strengthen their ability to support emergency management activities while simultaneously addressing issues of national concern as identified in the National Priorities of the National Preparedness Guidelines.

[Homeland Security Grant Program \(HSGP\)](#)

The Department of Homeland Security rolled out the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) on February 1, 2008. HSGP helps states fund planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise activities that support federal plans and programs. The total amount available to states and territories for FY 2008 is \$1.69 billion.

[Port Security Grant Program \(PSGP\)](#)

The PSGP provides grant funding to port areas for the protection of critical port infrastructure from terrorism. PSGP funds help ports enhance their risk management capabilities, domain awareness, training and exercises, and capabilities to prevent, detect, respond to, and recover from attacks involving improvised explosive devices and other non-conventional weapons. North Carolina port areas of Morehead City and Wilmington will receive \$1,683,035 and \$5,398,899 respectively. Additionally, the Morehead City North Carolina Ferry System is eligible to apply for part of \$5.5 million with 18 other ferry systems across the nation.

[Transit Security Grant Program \(TSGP\)](#)

The TSGP provides grants to the Nation's key high-threat Urban Areas to enhance security measures for their critical transit infrastructure including bus, rail, and ferry systems. This year, the TSGP will also provide funding to Amtrak for continued security enhancements for its intercity rail operations between key, high-risk Urban Areas throughout the United States. Charlotte is classified as a Tier II Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) area, and their Charlotte Area Transit System qualifies under this grant program.

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The Emergency Management Assistance Compact – An Introduction.

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), administered by the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), is an agreement among all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands to provide emergency assistance across state lines when a disaster occurs. Local and county governments that want to offer aid must work through their state emergency management office. EMAC follows the emergency management standards of incident command and control and the compact does not allow for deployment of individuals acting on their own accord. EMAC deployments are legal contracts, not arbitrary mobilizations. To protect state sovereignty, the compact uses established protocols that allow reimbursement from the requesting state to all assisting states. EMAC also has procedures to resolve workers compensation, licensure and liability issues.



How EMAC Works:

Two events must happen before assistance can be provided by the states under EMAC:

- 1) The governor of the impacted state declares a state of emergency
- 2) The impacted state must ask for help.

Then, the following process begins:

- NEMA EMAC Coordinator or the National Coordination Group (NCG) is notified, and if needed, an EMAC coordinating team known as an A-Team (Advance Team) works with the impacted state in determining its needs.
- Other member states are notified about the event and resource requests.
- The A-Team helps the impacted state determine the availability of requested resources and the costs through the Requisition for Assistance (REQ-A).
- Member states offer resources in response to those requests
- The impacted state and the A-Team review all responses, often accepting resources from the closest states first to speed up assistance.
- The impacted state completes the REQ-A accepting the resources for the estimated costs therein.
- Resources are sent to the requesting state.
- NEMA EMAC Coordinator tracks all requests, including fulfilled and cancelled requests on the EMAC Operations database for all member states to review.
- The assisting state asks for and receives reimbursement from the impacted state.
- Reminder: EMAC doesn't move resources from county to county, city to city or locality to locality.

EMAC BACKGROUND: Following Hurricane Andrew 1992, then Florida Governor Lawton Chiles suggested that the 19 members of the Southern Governors Association establish some type of formal mechanism for states to help one another in times of disasters. Originally known as the Southern Regional Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the agreement grew and evolved into EMAC. In the response efforts to the Gulf Coast region following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, more than 66,000 personnel and \$830 million in equipment were sent under EMAC.

For more information, related to NC, contact Carolyn Freitag at (919) 715-9213 or Cfreitag@ncem.org.

For more Information on EMAC, visit www.emacweb.org.

Tri-County Community College to host Man Tracking and Sign Cutting Course.

On March 25-26, 2008, Semper Fi International, Inc. in conjunction with Tri-County Community College (TCCC) will host a Man Tracking and Sign Cutting Course at the TCCC-Fontana Village in Fontana, NC.

Tuition is free to North Carolina Fire and Rescue Personnel and \$55.00 for out of state personnel.

The course will teach the following topics: rural operations, tracking formations, using a tracking stick, line of travel determined with ground disturbance, preservation of a crime scene in order to employ a tracker team, determining options for locating a "lost track" and many others. For more information or to register, contact Bill Bateman at (828) 835-4251 or Bbateman@tricitycc.edu.

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[Companion Animal Sheltering Infrastructure Success.](#)

In July 2006, NC Emergency Management (NCEM) set out to meet the standards of the Pet Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act. The North Carolina State Animal Emergency Response Team (NC START) raised and donated \$130,000. With the money, NC START developed a mobile pet sheltering infrastructure. Currently, there are nine Companion Animal Mobile Equipment Trailers (CAMETs) distributed throughout North Carolina and 12 more will be purchased this year by the NCEM. The first nine are located in Catawba, Cherokee, Chowan, Lenoir, Mitchell, Moore, Rockingham, Vance and Wake.



The next 12 trailers will be positioned across the Western, Central and Eastern branch regions of NCEM. Each trailer consists of 55 crates, a generator and durable equipment needed to maintain an animal shelter. The CAMETs will be positioned in close proximity to human shelters. For more information, contact Robert Mann at (919) 715-4077 or Rmann@ncem.org.

[National Response Framework \(NRF\) Training Released.](#)

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) released the on-line IS-800.B *National Response Framework (NRF), An Introduction* training course. The NRF, which focuses on response and short-term recovery, articulates the doctrine, principles and architecture by which our nation prepares for and responds to all-hazard disasters across all levels of government and all sectors of communities. At the end of the course, students will learn:

The purpose of the National Response Framework.

The response doctrine established by the National Response Framework.

The roles and responsibilities of entities as specified in the National Response Framework.

The actions that support national response.

The response organizations used for multi-agency coordination.

How planning relates to national preparedness.

No pre-requisites exist for the course and course length is about three hours to complete.

Individuals may contact the Independent Study office via email Independent.Study@dhs.gov or contact the call center at 301-447-1200 or toll free at 1-800-238-3358, extension 1200. Independent Study Program office hours are 7:30a.m.-7:30p.m. (EDT). To access the course visit, <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS800b.asp>.

[First Statewide Nanotechnology Safety And Response Seminar To Be Held.](#)

On Monday April 14th, the Local Emergency Planning Committees of Lee, Wake and Guilford counties will host a Nanotechnology Safety and Response Seminar. This seminar will include information on the hazards, planning and response, safe industrial practices, and cleanup guidance regarding nanotech material releases and spills. Seminar topics include: Decontamination and Site Cleanup Planning and Operations; Contaminant Control; Nanotechnology Hazards; Nanotech Material Spill Planning and Response Operations; and many others. Speakers are leaders of their respective fields. The seminar will be held at the Dennis Wicker Civic Center in Sanford, NC and will last from 8 am to 2 pm. For more information, contact Eric Griffin, Lee County EM at (919) 775-8279 or Egriffin@leecountync.gov. To register, visit www.readylee.org.

[NCEM Eastern Warehouse Is Being Replaced.](#)

The NC Emergency Management Eastern Warehouse located in Rocky Mount, NC is closing. Items that were in the warehouse are being stored throughout the region to maintain operational readiness. When the State Property Office obtains a new warehouse for NCEM, everyone will be notified.

For more information, contact Glenn Wisbey at (919) 715-8577 or Gwisbey@ncem.org.

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[Emergency Alert System Handbooks Are Now Available In Spanish.](#)

The Federal Communications Committee has made available the Emergency Alert System (EAS) handbooks in Spanish. The handbooks contain instructions on how to follow Emergency Alert procedures in the categories of TV, AM & FM Radio, Cable Systems, Satellite and Wireline Video Providers. Occasionally, the FCC performs audits of broadcasters to ensure compliance to the North Carolina State EAS Plan and to FCC rules & guidelines.

To view the handbooks (English & Spanish): <http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/services/eas/handbooks.html>

For more information, contact Cory Grier at (919) 733-3824 or Cgrier@ncem.org.

[Floodplain Mapping Update – 61 Counties Effective](#)

The North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program (NCFMP) continues to make significant progress in its efforts towards updating all flood maps of the 100 counties contained within North Carolina. On February 20, 2008, Cleveland County received effective (official) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), making it the 61st county to complete the map revision process. In March, Iredell County will receive effective maps, bringing our total to 62 Counties with completed, updated FIRMs within the first 8 years of the program. Forecasting towards the end of the calendar year, the NCFMP anticipates up to 75-percent completion, with two out of every three counties in North Carolina receiving their effective updated FIRMs by the end of September. For more information, contact Randy Mundt at (919) 715-5711, ext 119 or Rmundt@ncem.org.

[Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps being released for Chowan, French Broad, Little Tennessee, and Yadkin River Basins](#)

The North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program continues to provide revised flood maps to counties. In February, Wilkes (2/1), Haywood (2/19), Swain (2/20), and Yancey (2/29) Counties received new maps. On March 12th, Yadkin County is due to receive Preliminary FIRMs. Meetings presenting and discussing Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps to local officials will take place in March for these counties on the following dates: Wilkes (3/12), Haywood (3/18), and Swain (3/19). Public Meetings presenting maps for Bertie County and Mitchell County occurred on February 28th.

For more information, contact Randy Mundt at (919) 715-5711, ext 119 or Rmundt@ncem.org.

[Caldwell County gets \\$352,000 for VIPER Program](#)

Tenth district Congressman Patrick McHenry presented Caldwell County with a check for \$352,500 in federal funding on Friday, February 22, 2008.

The funding will be used to purchase Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders (VIPER) subscriber units for all fire, rescue and EMS vehicles in the county. Caldwell County is a partner with the North Carolina Highway Patrol on two VIPER tower projects that are currently being completed, Hibriten Mountain and Butte Mountain. The Hibriten Mountain site is expected to become operational in early March.

Congressman McHenry secured the funding for this program in the Commerce, Science and Justice Appropriations Act, passed as part of the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2008.

Caldwell County has invested approximately \$900,000 in local funds as well as additional State grant funds toward their participation in the VIPER system. Every emergency response agency has been provided a base control station as well as multiple VIPER subscriber units. The County Communications Center has also been upgraded to allow for direct communication on 19 of its 26 local VIPER talkgroups. All primary communications will remain on its current VHF system, but planning has begun for a possible total transition to VIPER in future years. For more information, contact Robert Reid at (828) 757-1419 or rreid@caldwellcountync.org.



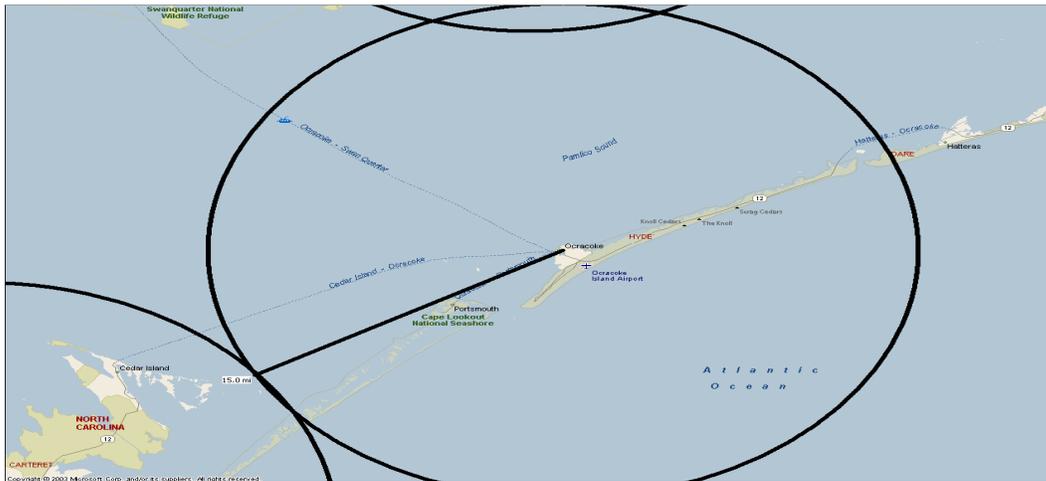
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VIPER Site Activations

Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders (VIPER) is a way for first responders and public safety officials to communicate with one another on a single radio system. When in place, interoperable communications will benefit all public safety agencies when dealing with daily emergency calls and large scale disasters. For more information on VIPER, contact Captain Alan Melvin, NC State Highway Patrol at (919) 662-4440 or amelvin@ncshp.org

The following VIPER sites have been established and are now operational:

<u>Location (City/County)</u>	<u>Date Activated</u>	<u>VIPER Site Made Possible Through</u>
Ocracoke Island/Hyde County	1/12/08	Hyde County, Ocracoke Sanitary District & the National Park Services



Note: map is not exact and are to be used as general reference.

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Special Mentioning-

Debbie Hatfield Joins NCEM's Central Branch.

Debbie Hatfield joined North Carolina Division of Emergency Management's Central Branch Office as a Multi-Hazard Field Planner. Debbie will be working with the counties in DPRR 4. Debbie comes to us from Rockingham County where she spent 10 years in Emergency Management. Debbie may be reached at (919) 575-4122 or Dhatfield@ncem.org.

Joe Stanton is promoted.

NCEM's Joe Stanton has been promoted to the position of Program Manager within NC Division of Emergency Management's Public Assistance Section. Joe has been with NCEM for four years. Joe's previous title was Public Assistance Supervisor. Joe's area of expertise includes debris management and assisting locals in recovery efforts. Joe may be reached at (919) 715-8000, ext 314 or jstanton@ncem.org.

Stewart Coates joins NCEM's Western Branch.

Stewart Coates has joined the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management's Western Branch Office as a Multi-Hazard Planner. Stewart comes to us from Madison County Emergency Management. Stewart brings to NCEM a wealth of experience from local & state law enforcement, fire, emergency medical and emergency management. Stewart may be reached at (828) 466-5555 or Scoates@ncem.org.

Quinn Woolard joins NCEM's Information and Planning.

Quinn Woolard has joined North Carolina Division of Emergency Management's Information and Planning Section as a Natural Hazards Planner. Quinn will work on the North Carolina Emergency Operations Plan, the Continuity of Operations Plan and others. Quinn comes to us from the Coast Guard reserve out of Wilmington, NC where he is a active member. Quinn may be reached at (919) 715-9242 or Qwoolard@ncem.org.

Brent Fisher is Nash County's Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator.

Brent Fisher is Nash County's new Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator. Brent has over fifteen years of experience in Emergency Services. Brent started his career with Nash County in the 9-1-1 center and advanced from Telecommunication associate to Shift Supervisor to Deputy Fire Marshal before coming Deputy EM Coordinator. Brent will be in charge of assisting the Emergency Services Director to ensure the effective development and management of the County Emergency Operations Plan. Brent can be reached at (252) 459-1204 or brent.fisher@nashcountync.gov.

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