

March 2007

DHS' OG&T Has A New Newsletter

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of Grants and Training (OG&T) has created a new information tool called "*The Advisor*." "*The Advisor*" is a newsletter that will run quarterly and is directed towards first responders, training partners and state administrative agencies. OG&T's Director, Sandra Webb has often said her office's mission is to establish, coordinate and maintain the availability of a high quality, comprehensive preparedness training program for the nation. "*The Advisor*" will help aid in this effort by informing all about the many initiatives, OG&T is undertaking. Topics in the just released [winter 2007 edition](#) include the Fiscal Year 2006 Competitive Training Grants Programs (CTGP) process and awards, a highlight of the training initiative by the Western Community Policing Institute (WCPI), frequently asked questions about web-forms and other important information, target capabilities course realignment project, multi-year training and exercise plan effort and many others.

The Advisor, Winter 2007 Edition: www.iml.org/cnt/docs/GTTrainingDivisionNewsletter-TheAdvisorWinter2007.pdf.

Mobile Field Hospitals Being Delivered.

North Carolina's Department of Health and Human Services' State Medical Assistance Team Type II Mobile Field Hospitals are currently being delivered to eight of North Carolina's trauma centers. Each hospital trailer is 53-feet long and can be deployed within eight hours. Each hospital trailer can support 50-beds and can increase capacity to up to 400-beds if needed by connecting to other mobile field hospitals. Each hospital's staff consists of medical teams based out of one of [North Carolina's eight Regional Advisory Committees](#) which are made up of doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other allied healthcare professionals. Each team also includes subspecialty personnel in the areas of burns, cardiac, neonatal intensive care and obstetrics.



Trailer set up to function as a command post and sleeping quarters.



System set up in Asheville when the Mountain Area RAC received the first unit.



The Mountain Regional Advisory Committee located at Missions Hospital in Asheville, NC received the first one in December of 2006 (pictured above). Mid-Carolina Regional Advisory Committee located at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill, NC and Southeastern Regional Advisory Committee located at New Hanover Regional Hospital in Wilmington, NC received mobile field hospitals in January & February of 2007. The remaining trailer hospitals should be delivered by May of 2007. Each unit cost \$500,000 and is purchased through a Federal Health Resource Services Administration Grant to increase medical surge capacity. Each Mobile Field Hospital and its team are part of North Carolina's three-tiered medical response system in the event of large scale emergencies. Each trailer comes with its own HVAC system and several other components such as hygiene stations, work areas, and a water purification system.

For more information: <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/pressrel/12-14-06.htm>

Question may be directed to Lyle Johnson at (252) 355-9026 or lyle.johnston@ncmail.net or NC Department of Health and Human Services at (919) 733-9190.



Community Colleges Offering Emergency Preparedness Technology Certificates and Degrees.

NCEM has established agreements with six community colleges that currently offer *Emergency Preparedness Technology (EPT)* degrees to offer North Carolina Emergency Manager Certification courses as program electives. This will allow emergency management personnel who are taking curriculum courses to work towards their North Carolina Emergency Management certification, their International Association of Emergency Manager's Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) certification (optional) and to receive college credit. This initiative is designed to standardized core training requirements across North Carolina and develops new emergency management major-oriented elective courses. The six colleges are Caldwell Community College, Durham Technical Community College, Fayetteville Technical Community College, Forsyth Technical Community College, Nash Community College and Wayne Community College. In addition, these colleges are working to embed continuing education courses (such as ICS 100-400) into curriculum courses. This enables the colleges to issue semester credit hours towards an Associate Degree in EPT. For more information, please contact our Training and Exercise Branch. For more information, Questions may be directed to Glenn Wisbey, (919) 715-8577 or gwisbey@ncem.org.

Enhancing Emergency Management Training In North Carolina.

NCEM has partnered with the NC Community College System (NCCCS) to enhance emergency management training in North Carolina. With a partnership with the N.C. Community College System, each of the 58 community colleges will be able to offer 17-emergency management courses at their facilities using NCEM approved instructors.

These *continuing* education courses include:

- ICS 100-400, 700, 800
- Basic Public Information Officer
- Community Mass Care Management
- EOC Management and Operations
- Homeland Security Planning for Local Governments
- Joint Information Center/Joint Information System
- Mass Fatalities Incident Response
- Mitigation for Emergency Managers
- Multi-Hazard Emergency Planning for Schools
- Resource Management
- Warning Coordination and Communication

Currently, each community college is completing a Request-For-Proposal (RFP) which will identify which courses each college wishes to offer. Reviews of the RFPs will be conducted on March 8, 2007 by NCCCS and NCEM. Once the community colleges obtain their grant award letters they can immediately start training. It has been requested that each community college work with their respective county Emergency Managers in identifying the training needs of the area. It is NCEM's intent to roll more courses out to the community colleges in the future. This program will allow first responders, emergency management personnel, government officials, etc. to take emergency management training at their local community college. By NCEM and NCCCS forming a partnership, the number of course offerings are expected to quadruple the number of offerings in the state on an annual basis.

For more information, Questions may be directed to Glenn Wisbey, (919) 715-8577 or gwisbey@ncem.org.



[Transferring from a 2-year college to a 4-year university with an Emergency Preparedness Technology degree will be easier..!](#)

NCEM is working with the North Carolina Community College System and the North Carolina University System to make it easier for students to pursue a four year Emergency Preparedness Technology / Emergency Management Certificate/Degree. This agreement, once finalized, will allow those individuals who have obtained a two year, Associate Degree in Emergency Preparedness Technology from any one of the six community colleges in North Carolina to immediately and seamlessly transition into a NC Baccalaureate Degree in Emergency Management at a four year university. Currently, Western Carolina University (*on-line only*) and North Carolina University at Chapel Hill (*Community Preparedness and Disaster Management*) are two universities that currently offer a version of an Emergency Management Certificate/Degree program. For more information, Questions may be directed to Glenn Wisbey, (919) 715-8577 or gwisbey@ncem.org.

[Statewide Tornado Drill is taken place March 14 at 9:15am](#)

The National Weather Service (NWS) will conduct a statewide tornado drill on March 14 at 9:15am. The test will be in conjunction with the Emergency Alert System's Regular Monthly Test. When NWS issues the alert, all 28-NOAA Weather transmitters will go off. At the same time, North Carolina's EAS will alert as well. All 22-LP-1/LP-2 radio stations will receive the alert and all other radio stations assigned to monitor their respected LP-1 and LP-2 will be notified as well. In addition to the alert being sounded, North Carolina Department of Crime Control & Public Safety is planning to have speakers at various schools talking about serve weather during that entire week.

[DHS Awards \\$194 Million to states for Emergency Management Performance Grant](#)

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has released \$194 million to help states and local governments prepare and implement emergency management activities through the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program. Emergency managers have been awarded more than \$750 million since fiscal year 2004 through the program. The NC allocation (\$4,754,351) represent 2% of the total allocation.