

Dispatch Times

March 2021
Volume 8, Issue 3

Inside this issue:

Demeter Available For First Responder Mental Health

The City of Franklin Fire Division of Fire & EMS welcomed a new employee to their roster December 18, 2020. The first in our area and known first in the state, Demeter is our four legged, furry friend of feelings. Demeter comes to Franklin through a partnership with Circle Tail, Inc located in Harlan Township, with a focus on First Responder Mental Health. Demeter will be 2 in May and comes with advanced commands such as opening and closing cabinets and putting things in the trash. He is one of many facility dogs placed in the area by Circle Tail, but the first they have placed in a Fire Department. He lives at the firehouse with his family of First Responders and goes home with a handler for a 2 day break every week or so. Demeter is very loving and on more than one occasion has picked up stress from an individual he is around and pays extreme attention to them. He is very goofy, he will solicit the entire room and brings laughter and bonding to the station. Demeter knows Stop, Down and Roll, he knows how to touch a door to simulate checking the door for heat and he is working on his crawl low command, just to show kids touring the station some fire safety skills. Demeter is able to be called out for Warren County Agencies in the event of any traumatic event- personal or professionally to bring some extra comfort to our First Responders. A call to Warren County Communications will get Demeter and one of his handlers responding to the need.

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Demeter & Katie

Receiving a treat from Madden



Mark Your Calendar!



- March 14**
Daylight Savings Time
- March 17**
St. Patrick's Day
- March 20**
First Day of Spring
- March 26**
National Wear a Hat Day

Employee Spotlight

Working "As Designed" & It's a Good Thing

By: Supervisor Brian Holtel

On February 23rd at 16:25, Lebanon and Warren Co Communications Center took six different 911 calls for the same multi-vehicle crash on State Route 48 at Kingsview Dr. An off duty Hamilton County unit was on scene initially and the WCSO District 9 deputy arrived shortly there after to assist Lebanon PD and OSP. Due to multiple injured parties, Lebanon ended up requesting 4 additional mutual aid medics from Warren County (see image of CAD recommended units below). With the new CAD, we were able to see at a glance the closest medic units available and roughly how far they were to the scene. This turns out to be a valuable tool each day, since it takes into account not only which units are unavailable or assigned to other calls, but also if a unit is not in station. The AVL location is used to recommend it, not just the station to which it is assigned. This is particularly helpful for out of county mutual aid, like when West Chester calls for a Mason medic, Franklin calls for a JEMS medic, etc. The closest resource to the emergency is sent.

Date/Time	Vehicle/Unit	Activity	Location	Comment	Disp
2/23/2021 16:29:31		VisiCAD Recommendation		M42: 00:00:05, M46: 00:02:22, M58: 00:04:26, M76: 00:04:59, M31: 00:05:24, M77: 00:06:25, M41: 00:06:38, M57: 00:08:47, M51: 00:08:59, M52: 00:09:03,	ES3878 ▲

March Birthdays

Jonathan Bright - 20th

Brittany Carvalho - 21st



March Milestones

Amberlee Wilson 4 years 6th

Samuel LeMaster 4 years 11th

Rob Plummer 13 years 29th



LEADS

By: Chris Dill, Supervisor, LEADS TAC

LEADS COVID-19 Response

The Ohio Department of Health has been providing information on COVID-19 positive and suspected positive persons to law enforcement agencies through LEADS to prevent first responder exposure and ensure first responders have the necessary information to take appropriate protective action.

The information provided by the Ohio Department of Health is loaded into the LEADS Caution Ohio Police (COP) file and returned when a driver license, license plate, or wanted persons query matches on name and date of birth. Address information will also be returned in hit responses for identity verification.

The Cop entry is automatically removed from LEADS 14 days after the diagnosis date. This is a change from the previous 30-day retention period. The information should not be saved, printed, or documented elsewhere.

Access to the COP file is limited to laws enforcement agencies for the administration of criminal justice as defined in OAC 4501:2-10-1. This protected health information disclosed from confidential records is protected by state law.

Further disclosure shall be limited only to the information necessary to prevent exposure to first responders whose contact with the individual is imminent. This information remains protected health information pursuant to ORC 3701-170

EMA Spotlight

Warren County EMA has been working with stakeholders for the past two years to update the county's Hazard Mitigation Plan. In the plan, mitigation activities and projects were identified that will help the county reduce its risk against natural and man-made hazards.

To help remind stakeholders about possible mitigation activities and other ways they can reduce risk, the EMA has developed a publication called "Hazard Mitigation Minute". These newsletters will be published throughout the next few years to help encourage hazard mitigation and making our county more resilient against the effects of emergencies and disasters.

Hazard Mitigation Minute

Winter Hazards

DEFINITION:
A winter storm is a combination of heavy snow, blowing snow, and / or dangerous wind chills. Winter storms can be life-threatening.

DAMAGES AND IMPACTS FROM WINTER STORMS:
Winter storms can affect roadways, utilities, the economy, and can cause loss of life, frostbite, and freezing conditions. Winter storms can also cause loss of power, impassible roads, and employee unavailability which could affect operations of critical facilities. Cascading effects from winter storms could also include flooding (following significant snow melts) and ice jams (that occur when a rapid melt follows an ice event).

While cold temperatures and power losses can render a structure uninhabitable for a time, they are unlikely to cause structural damages. Snow and ice accumulation, however, can impact structures and infrastructure. Older structures (those constructed before 1970 in particular) are more susceptible to the impacts from winter weather due to older construction and insulation methods.

Project	Will help mitigate	Points to Consider
Evaluate and retrofit older buildings, especially large span buildings that may have inadequate snow load tolerances.	Unbalanced snow loads can place a lot of weight on rooftops. Large spans of unsupported roofing can buckle under the pressure, resulting from the weight of snow and ice. Retrofitting older buildings that may have large spans of unsupported roof can help mitigate collapse from snow/ice.	The weight of one inch of fresh snow ranges from 3 pounds per square foot for light, dry snow to 21 pounds per square foot for wet, heavy snow. An inch of ice weighs approximately 57 pounds per square foot. Roofs with large open spans and flat roofs are susceptible to damage from the heavy weight of snow/ice.
Install roof and wall devices on public buildings to prevent damage from ice dams	Removing conditions that cause ice dams will help mitigate injuries from falling snow/ice and structural damages from water infiltration.	Examples of ice dam prevention measures include electric heat cables, improvements in roof ventilation systems, and reduction of heat sources inside roof surfaces.
Install or plant snow fences or "living snow fences" (rows of trees or vegetation) to limit blowing and drifting snow over critical roadway segments	Snow fences will help limit the amount of snow that blows over the roadways (which cause accidents).	Consider line of sight at intersections when installing snow fences. Living snow fences can take time to develop. Living snow fences can also become a natural guardrail.
Enhance existing snow removal equipment and supplies.	Having good quality equipment will help with quick and efficient snow removal operations. Clear roads and bridges are safer for heavy traffic commutes.	Review best practices from other cities who have deal with heavy snow/ice loads. Some reference information is listed below.
Develop a resource manual that can be used to inventory emergency resources that can be deployed to aid in the event of a severe winter storm.	Having a resource manual of resources that can be called upon in emergency situations will reduce time searching for equipment/personnel. Combining the manual with Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) outlining responsibilities and reimbursement gets them to work quicker to mitigate damages.	Resource manuals need to be updated often and MOUs should be reviewed by your legal department and updated annually or bi-annually.
Develop or enhance public outreach materials to help citizens and businesses reduce their risk to the effects of winter hazards.	When homeowners mitigate their own damages they rely less on public services and resources for help. Towns who engage citizens in preparedness efforts are more resilient against disasters.	Consider improving social media posts through the use of videos and infographics. Follow Warren County EMA on Facebook and Twitter and share their safety posts. Engage with schools and businesses to help promote winter safety topics.

Did you complete a hazard mitigation project to help reduce risk? Email us at wcema@wco.net to let us know and it will be included in the Hazard Mitigation Plan update!

Resources:
There are many benefits to installing a snow fence, the first of which is the reduction in snow removal costs. Snow fences trap snow, can improve driver visibility and reduce ice on the roads. Some resources for installation of snow fences can be found at:

- <https://home.howstuffworks.com/how-to-install-snow-fence.htm>
- <https://www.usnetting.com/fence/snow-fence/installation/>

Improving snow removal equipment/operations:

- Article: [How Cities Can Optimize Snow Removal To Boost Road Safety And Save Dollars](#)
- Ohio Department of Transportation Snow and Ice Practices—<https://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/Operations/>

Hazard Mitigation Minute

Winter Hazards

Resources:

WHAT ARE ICE DAMS?

Ice dams result from snow that has melted and then refrozen. They typically form when heat from the attic transfers through the roof and begins to melt the layer of snow. When droplets of melted snow and ice reach the edge of the roof they refreeze. As additional snow melts and runs down, the layer of ice continues to build and creates a literal dam or barrier that prevents water from running off the roof.

Ice dams can pull gutters off of structures, loosen shingles, and cause leaks or ceiling damage. Removal of snow from rooftops will mitigate ice dams. Chunks of ice can be broken up with mallets or melted off professionally. Be careful not to stand under the ice when breaking it up as it may pull large chunks with it that will crash to the ground.

Ice Jams are made up of large blocks of ice that break apart when rivers thaw and swell. These blocks of ice have trouble flowing down river and can get stuck in river bends, mouths of tributaries, near bridges, or along other obstructions in the waterway.

When ice jams form water can back up against them causing flooding upstream, and when the jam breaks the rushing flow of water can flood areas downstream. Jurisdictions can use boats to break up the ice or use heavy equipment to pick up the ice from shore if flooding is a threat.

If you suspect an ice jam will cause flooding please report it to EMA.

8. Determine policies and procedures.

- Who will authorize the opening and operation of the Center?
- Will assistance be requested from the American Red Cross or other organizations?
- How will the Center be financed?
- Does the facility and operation of the Center have appropriate insurance?
- Will personnel be paid, volunteer, or both?
- Will personnel be trained and credentialed?
- What will the hours of operation be?
- Will registration be required?
- What will the scope of service be (e.g., seniors only)?
- How will registration and attendees be accommodated?
- What is the policy for unaccompanied minors?
- Will food, snacks, beverages be served?
- How will food, snacks, and beverages be procured?
- How will needs requests to visit the Center be handled?
- How will you handle offers of donated food and other goods?
- Where will pets be housed? Another animal of Center facility or a different facility?
- How will pets be housed? (Service animals must be permitted to remain with owners.)
- Will emotional support animals be permitted in the Center?
- Animals cannot have fleas and must have up-to-date rabies vaccinations.
- Are toys, books, stuffed animals due to possibility of pest infestations (e.g., bed bugs)?
- What will the Rules of Conduct be?
 - Guests must check in at desk.
 - Request people, personal property, and privacy. No weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs, matches, or tobacco use.
 - Bi-photography may be taken.
 - Media must be accompanied by the Center Manager.
 - Fire conditions and emergency information will be posted at a designated location within the Center.
 - Prescription and over-the-counter drugs to original containers only.
 - Service animals permitted in Center. For other type animals in the area only.
 - Children must be supervised at all times.
 - Keep items on the floor to prevent trips and falls and for wheelchair accessibility.
 - Center are responsible for their own vehicles.
 - Center is not liable for loss or damage to personal vehicles or property.
 - Appropriate dress, including shirts and shoes, required at all times.
 - Show electrical outlets and charging stations.
 - Wash hands frequently, especially after using the facility and before handling food.
 - Management reserves the right to remove individuals from the Center for non-compliance with conduct rules.

Winter Flooding

Ice Jam Flooding

In winter, ice can accumulate on bodies of water. If ice gets more than 4' thick, a subsequent warm up and/or rainfall can cause the thick ice to break up and potentially jam up rivers, resulting in a damming effect upstream.

What to do:

- Report thick ice 14" or greater in thickness in areas where it can cause the thick ice to break up and potentially jam up rivers, tributaries, but rather where the river flow is slower.

Reports can be called in to Warren County EMA @ 513-695-1315 or by emailing wcema@wco.net.

Warren County Emergency Management Agency

Winter Warming Centers

Sometimes winter power outages occur that leave citizens in freezing temperatures for long periods of time. Jurisdictions can consider operating a warming shelter to provide a location for citizens to charge their devices, keep warm, or maybe eat a hot meal.

If your jurisdiction considers operating a warming shelter, there are some items to think about. Here are some tips for the operation of warming shelters that should be considered and planned out before opening the center up to the public.

Watch your email for a copy of our "Hazard Mitigation Minute" or check it out on our Social Media Pages!



Facebook @WCOHEMA

Twitter @WCEMAOhio

Where Am I?

If you know the location where this picture was taken, email us at melissa.bour@wcoh.net no later than March 31st. Everyone that has the correct answer will be entered into a drawing for a gift card. Include your name, phone number, department you work for with your guess of the location. Check back next month to see if your name was drawn.

Congratulations to Chief Scherer with Wayne Twp. Fire Department for guessing last month's picture which was the covered bridge at 5000 Middletown Rd. in Wayne Twp. Your gift card will be sent in the mail.



February 911 Dispatch Stats

	County	Franklin	Lebanon	Busiest Day of The Week	Busiest Time of The Day
Total 911 Calls Received in February	4,231	594	522	County Thursdays 646 calls	County 4:00 pm
Total 911 Calls Year To Date	8,715	1,138	1,075	Franklin Tuesdays 102 calls	Franklin 3:00 pm
Percentage of 911 Calls Answered Under 10 Seconds YTD	99.94%	94.09%	95.22%	Lebanon Tues & Weds 84 calls	Lebanon 2:00 pm



Warren County Emergency Services

520 Justice Dr
Lebanon, OH 45036
(513) 695-1315

Stay connected with us by:
Website: www.co.warren.oh.us/emergencyservices
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