

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2019



SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY  
**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

# OUR TEAM



**LARRY WOODS**  
*Director*



**QUENTIN BLACK**  
*Deputy Director*



**AMY RUSSELL**  
*Public Information Officer*



**LINDSEY MERICLE**  
*Planning Specialist*



**AUSTIN ARNOLD**  
*Area Municipalities Planning Specialist*



**LISA DAVIS**  
*Training and Exercises Specialist*



**WESLEY MANN**  
*Logistics Specialist*



**COURTNEY WHARTON**  
*IT Network Administrator*



**ROBBIN SAWYER**  
*Administrative Services Manager*



**AUBREY HARDY**  
*Administrative Coordinator*

# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



I am pleased to present the 2019 Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) annual report. This document outlines our determined progress over the last year as we aggressively endeavored to pursue our vision to become the most disaster-resilient community in America. In dedication and service to the citizens of our community, the OEM team worked diligently and continuously throughout the year to maintain a constant state of readiness so that our community is ready whenever disaster strikes.

In 2019 OEM focused more on our strategic vision of building a more prepared community. Through the continued efforts of building and strengthening our enduring partnerships, fostering new relationships with local businesses and community groups, carefully detailed planning for special events throughout the community and actively managing weather-related incidents throughout the year, 2019 was a picture of collaboration and community preparedness.

Strengthening Springfield and Greene County's ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters is our goal. Our sole purpose as an emergency management organization is to foster relationships and facilitate coordination with our public safety and community partners. To do this, we must continue to make this the mission of our organization in both attitude and action.

In 2019 we participated in a full slate of community events, weather-related incidents, a functional exercise and saw new faces start with us at OEM.

2019 brought us three new team members: a deputy director, a public information officer and an area municipalities coordinator, all who bring an air of enthusiasm and dedication into our department. Throughout the year, we provided logistical coordination and public safety communication support for several community events, including the Ozark Empire Fair, the Birthplace of Route 66 Festival and the Bass Pro Marathon. We also joined various community groups by participating in dozens of outreach and public education activities throughout the year, including the Severe Weather Awareness Expo and the Safe and Sound Expo.

2019 also brought its fair share of severe weather. Outside of the various flood, severe weather and tornado warnings, we were always anticipating the next move of every storm that entered Greene County. Although we could monitor the storms and alert the public to prepare, we cannot always control the storms' outcomes. In April, severe weather and tornadoes damaged the Rogersville community and neighboring Christian County.

Emergency management, disaster preparedness and community resiliency is a team effort. We look forward to the future with determined confidence as we focus on further establishing the OEM identity and our role in the community, continuing to develop and enhance whole community disaster response efforts and continuing to mitigate potential hazards and risks in efforts to reduce disaster's effects on our community.

We invite you to join us in preparing now so that our Greene County community can stand strong in the face of disasters and its effects. Together, we can better work to achieve our vision of becoming the most disaster-resilient community in America. We welcome your feedback and stand ready to assist you in your preparedness efforts.

**LARRY WOODS, DIRECTOR**

# OUR MISSION

We are committed to building our community's disaster resiliency by implementing best practices in emergency management in order to aggressively reduce loss of life, limit damage to property and minimize harm to the environment.

# OUR VISION

To be the most disaster-resilient community in America.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 Director's Message
- 3 Hometown READY
- 4 By the Numbers
- 4 Staff Additions
- 4 Recycling Program
- 5 OEM In the News
- 6 Year-Round Weather
- 7 Staff Highlights
- 8 Planning
- 9 Training & Exercises
- 10 CERT & CART Programs
- 11 Year in Review



# HOMETOWN READY

## DISASTER PREPAREDNESS. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.

**When disaster strikes, will you be prepared?**

A disaster-resilient community is one that is HometownREADY. Disaster preparedness training, accompanied by a focus on community engagement, incorporates three core public safety programs into our HometownREADY initiative that, together, promote the vision of OEM. Those programs include:



## COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT):

CERT is a national program sponsored by FEMA that is designed to help provide basic disaster preparedness and response training to people and their communities across the country. The CERT program provides citizens with disaster preparedness and response training so that they can serve as a vital resource to their community, providing help to neighbors in the aftermath of a major disaster. Trained CERT volunteers also assist OEM during both planned events and disaster incidents throughout the year and participate in training and community outreach events that serve to highlight the importance of preparedness. Housed within CERT is the **CERT Animal Rescue Team (CART) program** – a group of trained CERT volunteers who coordinate and specialize in animal response efforts during times of a disaster. The CART program partners with the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri to assist in the response to disasters involving the activation of animal search and rescue teams and animal sheltering activities.



– a group of trained CERT volunteers who coordinate and specialize in animal response efforts during times of a disaster. The CART program partners with the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri to assist in the response to disasters involving the activation of animal search and rescue teams and animal sheltering activities.

## CERT Animal Rescue Team (CART) program

– a group of trained CERT volunteers who coordinate and specialize in animal response efforts during times of a disaster. The CART program partners with the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri to assist in the response to disasters involving the activation of animal search and rescue teams and animal sheltering activities.



## BUSINESS RESILIENCE PROGRAM:

How quickly a community recovers from a disaster is largely dependent on how quickly businesses within the community are able to return to normal operation. The business resilience program provides the framework for business continuity and response in the event of a disaster. The program also includes the local emergency planning network responsible for tracking hazardous materials within the community and providing training and education on the importance of hazardous material awareness and safety.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM:

The community engagement program is a comprehensive approach to building disaster resiliency via outreach and education efforts. Combining a faith, school and community organization-based focus, children and adults alike are given the opportunity to learn more about disaster preparedness and enhance their awareness of severe weather and its effects. In addition, public education events, initiatives and resources serve to increase awareness of the importance of preparing now for disaster.

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BY THE NUMBERS

CONTRACTORS **2**

RESERVISTS **6**

INTERNS &  
VOLUNTEERS **9**

CERT  
GRADUATES **37**

COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH EVENTS/  
ENGAGEMENTS **45**

TRAINING  
COURSES  
HOSTED **312**

MEETINGS &  
TOURS HELD  
AT THE PUBLIC  
SAFETY CENTER **396**

**2,638**  
HOURS OF TRAINING HELD AT  
THE PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER

**12,703**  
VISITORS TO THE PUBLIC  
SAFETY CENTER

## OEM STAFF ADDITIONS

OEM WELCOMED THREE NEW ADDITIONS IN 2019.



**Quentin Black** joined the OEM team in November as the Deputy Director. Quentin served 17 years in the United States Marine Corps as an explosive ordnance disposal technician and served several combat tours to some of the most dangerous places in the world. He holds a bachelor of science degree in emergency management.



**Amy Russell** joined OEM as the Public Information Officer in September. Amy has previous work experience in marketing and event planning with professional services and the not-for-profit sector. Amy graduated in 2009 with a bachelor of arts degree in American political studies from Drury University and a master of arts degree in communications and leadership from Gonzaga University.



**Austin Arnold** joined the team in December as OEM's Area Municipalities Planner. Austin holds a bachelor's degree in emergency management from Drury University. He has several years of experience in emergency services as a 9-1-1 dispatcher for Newton County.

## OEM RECYCLING PROGRAM

OEM facilitates a county-wide recycling program, and in 2019 a total of **25,151 pounds of recyclable material** was collected from Greene County government campus buildings. These materials include paper, cardboard, plastic, metal, glass and electronics. Since its inception in 2013, this grant-funded program has collected a cumulative total of **76,953 pounds of recyclable material**. This amount was kept out of the landfill system.



# OEM IN THE NEWS

## OEM TRAINING FOR REAL-LIFE NATURAL DISASTER SCENARIO: TOXIC TWISTER I & II

Springfield-Greene County OEM, along with other public safety partner agencies including Springfield Fire Department, Mercy EMS, CoxHealth EMS, CoxHealth and Mercy Hospitals, American Red Cross and the 911 Emergency Communications Center, executed a planned exercise scenario at the Emergency Operations Center. This was a full-scale exercise planned for eight hours that evaluated coordination between local agencies, including mass care services.



The exercise scenario was based on a series of cascading events, beginning with a tornado that hit downtown Springfield resulting in a hazardous material spill, several fires and several casualties. It was designed to evaluate community response, specifically operational coordination, communication, fire management, triage, transport, decontamination, mass care, reunification services and fatality management services. The purpose of the full scale exercise was to analyze results, to identify strengths to build upon as well as areas for improvement.

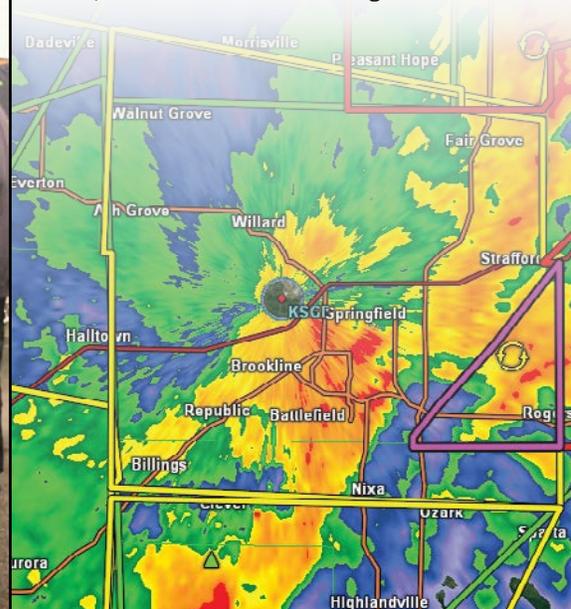
This exercise provided an opportunity to test community emergency response plans. The exercise demonstrated the community's capabilities in operational coordination; operational communications; fire management and suppression; public health, healthcare, and emergency services; environmental and hazardous material response/health and safety; mass care services; and fatality management services.



## MULTIPLE TORNADOES RESULT IN DISASTER DECLARATION FOR GREENE COUNTY

On April 30, severe thunderstorms came through the Ozarks, including parts of central and southeastern Greene County. This storm produced an EF-2 tornado that hit outside of Rogersville along the Greene and Christian County line. The tornado caused significant damage in the area, including destroying several homes and uprooting thousands of trees. Three people sustained injuries during this event. The National Weather Service measured a path 10 miles long from the tornado and estimated peak wind speeds of 134 mph.

The Willard area in central Greene County also experienced two EF-1 tornadoes on April 30. While these tornadoes were smaller than the one that impacted Rogersville, there was still significant damage to farm houses, trees, and several outbuildings.



# OEM ACTIVELY MONITORED WEATHER YEAR-ROUND

2019 was an active year for various forms of severe weather, both nationally and locally. But, for the most part, weather was relatively moderate when compared to years past.

## THROUGHOUT 2019 THERE WERE:

- 28** – SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS
- 21** – FLOOD WARNINGS
- 16** – DENSE FOG ADVISORIES
- 14** – WINTER WEATHER ADVISORIES
- 13** – WIND ADVISORIES
- 12** – FLOOD WATCHES
- 11** – TORNADO WARNINGS
- 10** – SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCHES
- 8** – TORNADO WATCHES
- 4** – HEAT ADVISORIES
- 3** – WIND WARNINGS
- 3** – RED FLAG WARNINGS
- 2** – WIND CHILL ADVISORIES
- 2** – FROST ADVISORIES
- 1** – FREEZE WARNING

OEM staff actively monitored these severe weather events, communicating with the National Weather Service, 911 and public safety partners to receive real-time weather updates.

The Emergency Operations Center was activated to an Operation Condition Level 3 on multiple occasions throughout the year to help assist partner agencies with managing severe weather.

# STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

## OEM DIRECTOR LARRY WOODS DEPLOYED TO WASHINGTON D.C. TO ASSIST WITH 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION



Staff at OEM is frequently called on to deploy to areas affected by disaster. In the past, Director Larry Woods has deployed to areas hit by hurricanes like North Carolina, Puerto Rico and Hawaii. However, as in our normal operations in Springfield, special events involving domestic and foreign dignitaries and large-scale celebrations also call for assistance. In 2019, Director Woods deployed to Washington, D.C. to assist with the national celebration for the 4th of July holiday.

In Washington, D.C., he was part of a full-incident management team that primarily handled the medical and veterinary response teams used to provide care to those attending the event and those working to support it. Additionally, the veterinary teams were there to provide care to law enforcement K9 units and horses as part of the mounted patrol.

Director Woods also attended training in Atlanta, Georgia.

## OEM LOGISTICS SPECIALIST WES MANN TAKES LEAVE TO PURSUE ADVANCED TRAINING IN CYBER INTELLIGENCE WITH THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD



Wes Mann, OEM's logistics specialist, completed a five-month advanced training course in cyber intelligence with the Air National Guard. Mann has been a member of the Air Guard since May 2017 and is currently working on a degree in emergency management with an emphasis on homeland security. Not only will this training help him in the military, but it will benefit his community disaster readiness role at OEM.

## OEM STAFF ATTENDS CENTRAL STATES COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISE

Most of the OEM staff took Skylab, our Region D Communications Vehicle and our Field Command Post to Downstream Casino in Quapaw, Oklahoma Sept. 25-27. The overall objective of the exercise was to increase interoperability throughout the Central States region and increase networking among communications professionals.



## OEM TEAM MEMBERS TYREL FLOYD AND COURTNEY WHARTON EARN GREENE COUNTY TOP BRANCH AWARD



Courtney Wharton was awarded the Greene County Top Branch Award in August 2019. She received the award because of "her can-do attitude and friendly nature" that helps her positively deal with the public, co-workers and government officials even under stressful deadlines. She was nominated due to her commitment to repairing equipment in our Emergency Operations Center that saved Greene County a great deal of money and showcased her extraordinary commitment, self-motivation and superb job performance.

During the severe weather that impacted our area on April 30, Tyrel showed his dedication to Greene County by consistently going above and beyond the call of duty.



He was assigned to perform damage assessments, a key component of receiving a disaster declaration for the community. Tyrel spent several days talking to citizens and collecting data. He continued going back into the field as new damages were reported. He was instrumental in briefing the incoming FEMA representatives on where the worst damages occurred. His commitment did not end there. Tyrel also presented several new damage assessment strategies and ideas that will help Greene County become even more efficient throughout this process in the future.

Tyrel Floyd was awarded the Top Branch Award in December 2019. Tyrel left OEM shortly after due to a family relocation.

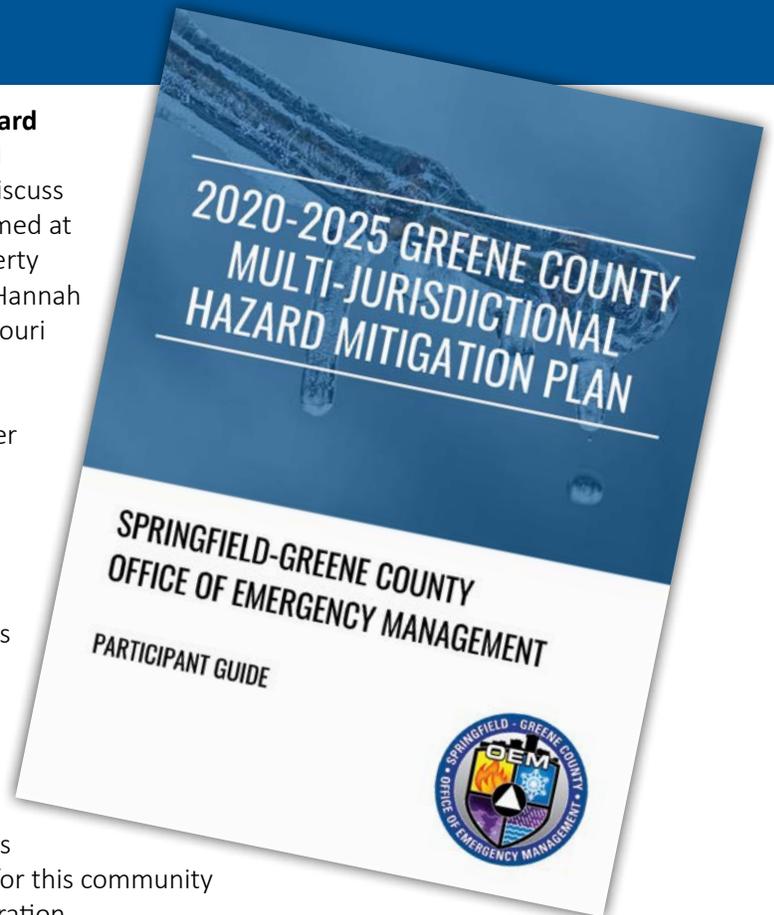
# PLANNING

Every five years, the **Greene County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan** undergoes a complete rewrite. In 2019, OEM collaborated with over 25 jurisdictions in Greene County to discuss mitigation planning and projects for the next five years, all aimed at reducing or eliminating long-term risk of loss of life and property from the full-range of natural disasters. Mitigation Specialist Hannah James was hired to rewrite the plan and submit it to the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for approval. Once approved, this plan will take effect in July of 2020 with another rewrite beginning in 2024.

The OEM planning specialist also, in cooperation with community and public safety partners, updates the **Greene County's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)** each year. The EOP is a thorough emergency response plan that provides guidance for departments and agencies in the event of an emergency or disaster. The EOP lays a framework that allows Springfield and Greene County the best possible opportunity to save lives, minimize injuries, protect property and the environment, preserve the functionality of government and maintain economic activities essential to the community's recovery from the effects of disaster. The review and editing for this community response plan is a year-long process that involves the collaboration of all OEM staff.

OEM's **partnership with the municipalities** throughout Greene County continued this year with the update and approval of an EOP for each city. OEM helped to lead the implementation of an elected and senior official's training and exercise program for these municipalities. In addition, the planning partnership with Springfield Public Schools also continued with the update of their EOP and a total of 25 SPS building safety walk-throughs. These site visits allow OEM staff to meet with administrators to collaboratively identify areas of refuge and review safety-related topics.

OEM hosted nine **interns and volunteers** this year completing a combined total of 1,210 hours, equivalent to a part-time employee, saving about \$15,000. Interns and volunteers undertake projects on a variety of topics including vulnerable populations, accommodations for religious minorities, and research on tornado sheltering best practices.



# TRAINING & EXERCISES

OEM staff participated in a diverse range of exercises and training events throughout the year that helped to strengthen and reinforce preparedness efforts to better serve the Greene County community.



Twice a year, in the spring and fall, OEM teaches **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) courses** at the Public Safety Center. CERT training consists of three classes that teaches citizens how to respond to disasters in their community. Throughout the training, participants learn basic disaster preparedness skills in the classroom and in the field. In 2019, 26 Greene County citizens graduated from the CERT program, which grants them eligibility to become an official CERT volunteer with OEM for a variety of roles during disasters (ice storms, tornadoes, floods, etc.) or pre-planned events (fairs, parades, concerts, etc.).



This year's annual **Missouri statewide tornado drill** was held on March 3. The statewide drill proved to be a successful exercise opportunity as OEM activated Greene County's outdoor warning sirens and encouraged Greene County residents to practice their sheltering plans and ensure readiness in case of a severe weather emergency.

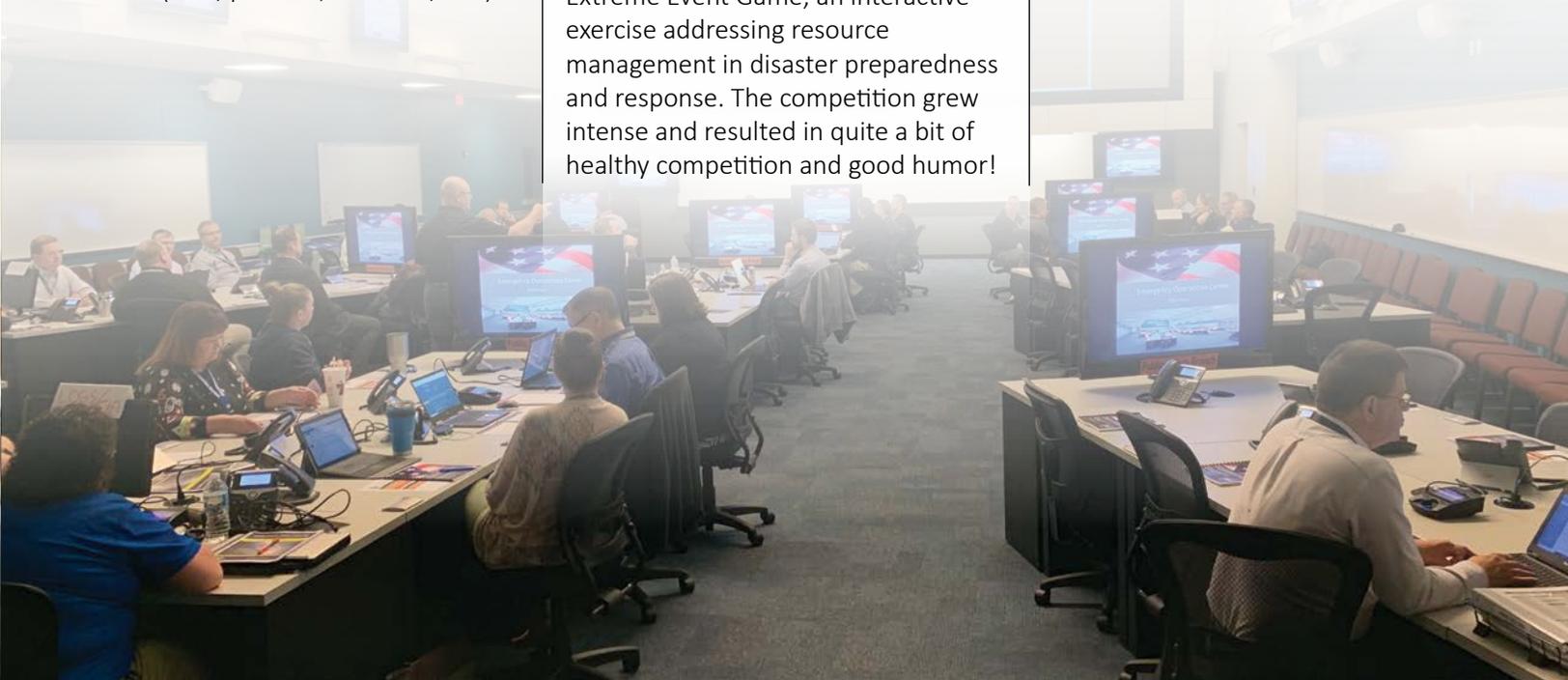


OEM held our **Annual EOC Workshop** in March of 2019. This year's workshop events included a dynamic and engaging presentation by Keith Stammer, the Jasper County Emergency Management Director during the 2011 EF-5 Joplin tornado. In addition, the more than 75 workshop attendees played the Extreme Event Game, an interactive exercise addressing resource management in disaster preparedness and response. The competition grew intense and resulted in quite a bit of healthy competition and good humor!

In October 2019, OEM hosted the **Region D Functional Exercise**. The Region D Exercise committee coordinates two exercises per year to assist Emergency Management programs funded by the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) in meeting the grant's requirements. The objectives of this year's exercises were to increase the communications and resource management capabilities of emergency managers and partner agencies in a disaster.



The annual **Great ShakeOut earthquake drill** took place this year on Oct. 17. The event provides citizens the opportunity to practice how to be safer during big earthquakes and highlighted the importance of "Drop, Cover, Hold On!" OEM actively promoted the importance of disaster preparedness through a social media campaign that drew local media attention, resulting in a news story.



# TRAINING & EXERCISES CONTINUED

The National Weather Service and the Missouri Department of Transportation gave a **regional winter weather training seminar** that helped to provide insight and awareness on how winter weather forecasts are produced and the types of winter weather hazards commonly experienced in southwest Missouri. Attending these weather-related trainings with our partner agencies helps OEM to better understand winter weather behavior and its effects.



**Regular staff training** on emergency operations center equipment, functions and procedures ensured that OEM watch officers and on-call staff members were ready to coordinate future disaster activations. These ongoing staff trainings allow OEM staff the opportunity to gain further insight into each OEM staff member's roles in the Incident Command System, the system that is used when the Emergency Operations Center is activated during a disaster or emergency.

# CERT/CART PROGRAMS STRENGTHEN CITIZENS' ABILITY TO RESPOND TO DISASTERS

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a national program sponsored by FEMA that is designed to help provide basic disaster preparedness and response training to people and their communities across the country. The Greene County CERT program trains citizens to learn and practice basic disaster preparedness skills, basic first aid and light search and rescue techniques. This training emboldens individuals to respond quickly during times of disaster when emergency officials may not be able to immediately assist.

In 2019, a total of 26 graduates successfully completed CERT training. CERT members assisted OEM staff with a variety of special events, trainings and community speaking engagements throughout the year.

Members of the CERT Animal Response Team (CART) shared important pet disaster preparedness information with visitors to various community events.



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## STORM SPOTTER TRAINING COURSE

The annual storm spotter training course took place this year on Feb. 19. OEM staff and meteorologists from the National Weather Service led the course to help educate the public in attendance about the importance of providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service. The course was open to community members of Greene County and included topics such as the role and function of a trained storm spotter, severe weather safety tips, thunderstorm basics, fundamentals of storm structure and supercell formations. The training was held in coordination with Missouri's annual Severe Weather Awareness Week.

FEB.

## SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS EXPO

OEM and the National Weather Service (NWS) attended the annual Severe Weather Awareness Expo at the Battlefield Mall on Saturday, March 2. The expo allowed for local agencies and partners to teach members of the community how to prepare for the upcoming severe weather season of tornadoes, flash flooding and severe storms. OEM and NWS provided expo attendees with disaster preparedness and severe weather safety resources.



MARCH

## MITIGATION PLAN REWRITE BEGINS

On April 1, OEM welcomed area partners to discuss the Mitigation Plan re-write process with a kick-off meeting. Learn more about the Mitigation Plan rewrite on page 8.



APRIL

## TEEX INSTRUCTORS VISIT

On April 2 and 3, TEEX instructors visited our Public Safety Center to instruct a course on sports and special events management. Several people from across the region attended the course. Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) is a state extension agency that offers training programs and technical assistance to public safety workers, both in Texas and around the world.



## MOEMA CONFERENCE HOSTED BY DRURY UNIVERSITY

Drury University hosted the MOEMA Conference on April 11 which was attended by the majority of OEM staffers. The Missouri Emergency Management Association Conference is an event designed to bring together like-minded professionals in the pursuit of gaining practical knowledge to use in their daily work. As emergency managers maintain one of the most diverse work environments it is important to understand best practices, leading technology, and network opportunities.





## SAFE AND SOUND EXPO

On Saturday, April 13, members of the Greene County community visited the Ozark Empire Fair E-Plex to attend the annual Safe and Sound Expo, hosted by KY3/KSPR. The event afforded attendees the opportunity to speak with OEM and other public safety-related organizations to learn more about safety and preparedness. OEM hosted a comprehensive exhibit space that included representation from Greene County CERT, Greene County ARES, Springfield-Greene County 911 and the National Weather Service, Springfield, MO. OEM team members provided tours through "Skylab," OEM's mobile communication vehicle, and provided visitors with important preparedness information.

MAY

## MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY GRADUATION

OEM staff assisted in Missouri State University's Emergency Operations Center in support of commencement ceremonies on May 19.



JUNE

## MISSOURI LAW ENFORCEMENT FUNERAL ASSISTANCE TEAM

OEM staff members Courtney Wharton and Lindsey Mericle traveled to St. Louis as part of the Missouri Law Enforcement Funeral Assistance Team to assist with the funeral of an area police officer killed in the line of duty.



## MERCY LIFE LINE 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SAFETY EXPO

OEM Staff took Skylab to the June 29 Mercy Life Line event in Springfield and offered tours to those in attendance.



## FELLOWSHIP FREEDOM FEST, ROGERSVILLE

Also on June 29, OEM staff assisted with the 4th of July fireworks celebration Fellowship Freedom Fest in Rogersville with dispatch communications using Skylab.



JULY

## LIGHT THE WAY FESTIVAL, ROGERSVILLE

On July 14, OEM staff were on site for the Light the Way Festival in Rogersville. OEM helped coordinate public safety communications and support with the Region D Mobile Communications Support Vehicle, Skylab. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members also operated the first aid booth at the festival. (Photo below by Mike Fain, CERT volunteer.)





## 83<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL OZARK EMPIRE FAIR

From July 25 to Aug. 3, OEM staff were on site for the 83rd Annual Ozark Empire Fair to help coordinate public safety communications and support from the Region D Mobile Communications Support Vehicle, also known as Skylab. Along with OEM staff, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members operated the first aid booth, providing assistance to fair attendees with minor medical issues.



**AUG.**

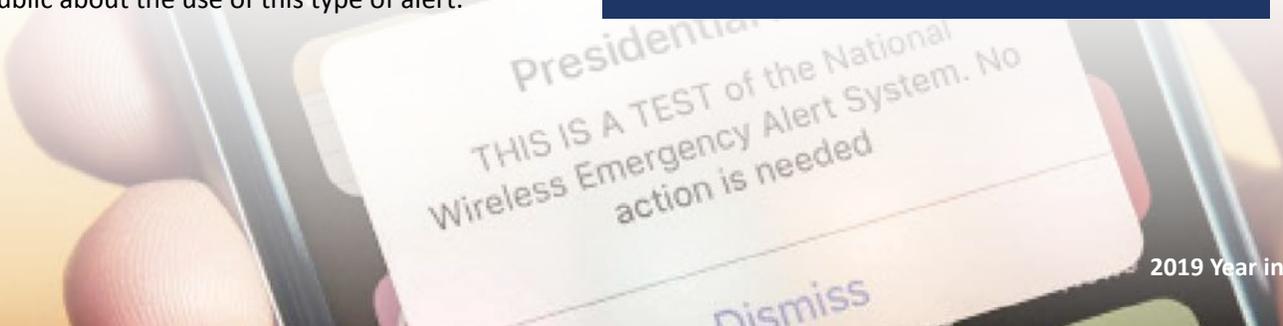
## 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BIRTHPLACE OF ROUTE 66 FESTIVAL

Approximately 65,000 people came out to the 9th Annual Birthplace of Route 66 Festival in downtown Springfield on Aug. 9 and 10. OEM staff helped manage public safety communication throughout the two-day event, as well as provide logistical assistance and support to event staff and organizers. CERT members volunteered their time providing first aid assistance for minor medical issues.



## FEMA CONDUCTS NATIONWIDE TEST OF THE WIRELESS EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

On Wednesday, Aug. 7, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) conducted a nationwide test of the Wireless Emergency Alert system, in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The 2019 test was to evaluate the readiness of the national alerting capability in the absence of internet connectivity. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) serves as a way for the President to communicate an emergency to the entire nation. OEM helped to promote the rationale and educate the public about the use of this type of alert.



SEPT.

## NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September is National Preparedness Month, which provided OEM the opportunity to remind our community to prepare now and throughout the year. All month long, OEM worked diligently to emphasize the importance of preparing for disasters by promoting helpful and easy-to-implement preparedness to the community. 2019's theme was "Prepared, Not Scared." Each week featured a different preparedness tactic and included topics such as making and practicing emergency plans, learning lifesaving skills, checking insurance coverage and saving money for emergencies.



# PREPARED, NOT SCARED

National Preparedness Month 2019

## OEM ASSISTS MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY IN THE MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR HOME FOOTBALL GAMES

Starting in September, for select games throughout the 2019 football season, OEM assisted Missouri State University (MSU) in the management and coordination of emergency services for home football games. In collaboration with the Springfield Police Department, Springfield Fire Department, MSU's emergency management team and emergency medical services, OEM helped to coordinate MSU's emergency management operations for home games throughout the season. Go Bears!



## ROCKIN' ROGERSVILLE CONCERT

OEM assisted in public safety communications coordination for the 2019 Rockin' Rogersville concert on Sept. 29 in Rogersville, Missouri. Hosted by the Community Foundation of Rogersville, about 2,000 attendees were treated to a live outdoor concert with performances by local music artists.



OCT.

## NATIONAL CYBER SECURITY ALLIANCE

Since 2014, the National Cyber Security Alliance and the United States Department of Homeland Security have worked collaboratively to create a campaign between government and industry to promote and make aware the resources every American needs to stay safer and more secure online. This year, OEM assisted in the promotion of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month by sharing insightful and valuable information about cyber safety. Themes for this year included basic online safety tips, rewarding job opportunities in cybersecurity, online safety at work and highlighting the importance of the nation's critical infrastructure.



# Homeland Security

## 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BASS PRO SHOPS MARATHON

In collaboration with Bass Pro Shops, OEM staff coordinated public safety efforts, working with race organizers, law enforcement, fire personnel and medical teams, to ensure the 13th annual Bass Pro Shops Marathon and half-marathon and News-Leader 5K races held on Nov. 3 were safe and enjoyable for both participants and spectators. More than 3,000 runners participated in this year's races.



NOV.

## OEM STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT

At the end of each year, OEM staff meet for an off campus strategic planning retreat. This retreat provides staff the opportunity to discuss projects completed for each position, to assess the effectiveness of OEM's emergency support operations for the community and to discuss strategic goals for the next year. This year, OEM focused on emphasizing the enhancement of community engagement, continuing the awareness around disaster preparedness and educating the public more about who OEM is, why OEM exists and how OEM works to benefit Greene County.



DEC.

## MISSOURI LAW ENFORCEMENT FUNERAL ASSISTANCE TEAM

On Dec. 12 two OEM staff members, Lindsey Mericle and Wes Mann, made the journey to Fayetteville, Arkansas to honor the life of fallen Officer Stephen Carr. Officer Carr was killed in the line of duty Dec. 7 and was laid to rest Dec. 12. Mericle and Mann are part of the Missouri Law Enforcement Funeral Assistance Team.



2020

## CONNECT WITH US



@SpringfieldGreeneOEM



@Springfield-Greene County  
Office of Emergency Management



@gcoem



@gcoem



@gc\_oem

[oem.greencountymo.gov](http://oem.greencountymo.gov)  
417-869-6040





**Springfield-Greene County  
Office of Emergency  
Management**

330 W. Scott Street  
Springfield, MO 65802

---

417-869-6040

---

[oem.greencountymo.gov](http://oem.greencountymo.gov)