



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Office of Emergency Management Achieves Re-accreditation from EMAP

**SPRINGFIELD, Missouri** – The Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) was again granted full accreditation by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) on April 27 upon recommendation by the Program Review Committee and a vote by the EMAP Commission. EMAP is the only organization that accredits emergency management programs worldwide.

“The emergency management program in Greene County is well known for being a leader in emergency management best practices,” said Bob Cirtin, Greene County presiding commissioner. “This accreditation further proves that OEM’s detail to planning and preparedness directly contributes to our community’s high level of disaster resiliency.”

During the assessment team’s on-site visit, they interviewed numerous OEM staff members and conducted a thorough review of OEM’s emergency plans to ensure compliance with 64 industry-recognized standards. These standards include hazard mitigation, operational planning, resource management and public information and warning.

“Our accreditation was the result of a year-long process that included an extensive review of our emergency plans, making necessary updates and working with partner agencies to ensure a collaborative and comprehensive approach to mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters here in Greene County,” said Larry Woods, OEM interim director.

OEM achieved initial EMAP accreditation in 2012 and is required to apply for re-accreditation and submit to a similar review every 5 years to maintain accredited status. This marks the second successful accreditation review for OEM. The next review will be in 2022.

Currently, OEM is the first and only local emergency management program within FEMA Region 7, a four state region that includes Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska, to achieve EMAP accreditation and is one of only 41 accredited local emergency management programs in the nation.

“We are fortunate in our community to have the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management and a community that is serious about emergency preparedness. This accreditation is further proof of the excellence of the OEM programs and staff. Not many places in the country are as blessed as we are and we don’t take that for granted,” said City Manager Greg Burris.

Watch this [video](#) to learn more about OEM’s accreditation planning process.

For more information about EMAP, visit [www.emap.org](http://www.emap.org).

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