

NEWS RELEASE: June 9, 2010

HAZ-MAT/bomb drill Thursday on MSU campus

The Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management is coordinating a hazardous materials and bomb response drill Thursday, June 10, beginning at 9 a.m. at Missouri State University's Hammons House, 1001 E. Harrison, Springfield.

During the drill, the Springfield Homeland Security Response Team, including personnel from Springfield Police Department, Springfield Fire Department, Logan-Rogersville Fire Protection District, emergency medical services from St. John's Health Systems and CoxHealth, and Fort Leonard Wood's 7th Civil Support Team, will respond to a simulated armed suspect entering a building with chemical weapons and a bomb.

The team will practice locating and apprehending the suspect, responding to casualties, removing hazardous materials and locating and safely removing the bomb. Volunteers from Springfield Police Department Cadets, Greene County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and MSU will play the parts of victims exposed to chemical weapons.

Passers-by may see uniformed responders near the drill site throughout the morning. Hammons House is currently unoccupied, and no students will be in any danger in the building during the drill. The drill is expected to conclude by early afternoon.

Members of the media may view the team entering the building 9-10 a.m. Exercise coordinators will also be available for interviews during this time, in the parking lot west of Hammons House. Members of the media will not be allowed inside the building during the drill.

For more information, contact Ryan Nicholls, Director of the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management, at 417-869-6040, or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-829-6019 or 417-224-5510.

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