

Quarterly Newsletter



<http://www.hindscountymiss.com/departments/emergency-management>

Hinds County Board of Supervisors

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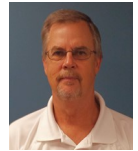
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From the Desk of Director Ricky Moore



As the Hinds County Fire Coordinator, I have been sitting here with the intention of writing a letter to you the citizens of Hinds County in regard to our desire to recruit new members for the Volunteer Fire Services in rural Hinds County. In searching for the right words I came across the following passage in FEMA's Retention and Recruitment training manual titled "The Nature of the Business – A Picture of What It's Like to Volunteer in the Fire Service"

The fire and rescue service is one of the most diverse and challenging professions today. It is the diversity that inspires most men and women to enter the service -both as volunteers and career employees. Imagine having to train to prepare yourself to cope with situations which range from building fires to childbirth to hazardous chemical spills to heart attacks, and almost any imaginable emergency situation in between. This diversity is coupled with the fact that these skills may be needed at any time of the day, seven days a week, in any kind of weather and very often under potentially stressful and emotional circumstances. These challenges contribute to our profession being personally rewarding.

As volunteers, we are here for two basic purposes. The first is to prevent fires or medical emergencies from occurring. This is achieved through fire prevention, health maintenance education, inspections, fire safety education, and code enforcement programs. Secondly, we are here to prepare ourselves to control fire or medical emergencies, should prevention fail. This is done through education, training, pre-incident planning, more training, state-of-the-art equipment, and more training. We are a paramilitary profession working in a "hurry up and wait" environment.

This business is not for everyone. You need more than just a desire to help people. You need courage and dedication, assertiveness, and a willingness to learn new skills and face new challenges. And you need to have the time for training sessions, meetings, emergency calls, maintenance of equipment, and other duties. The fire and rescue service is not for the meek or timid or for those who lose control during times of crises. Our service is one which calls on its members to perform hot, sweaty, dirty, and strenuous work, often in uncertain and hazardous environments.

The personal rewards and satisfaction received from the fire and rescue service are often beyond description. There is a sense of accomplishment after controlling a building fire, joy and elation when a child is born, compassion for accident victims, and fulfillment in teaching fire

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Continued— From the Desk of the Director

safety. This list goes on and on. The bottom line in our business is measured by the loss of life, pain and suffering, and property damage we have prevented or reduced. We are here and prepared for one reason, and that is to provide service to the people.

There are twelve volunteer fire departments within Hinds County which ensures that there is one near you. Maybe you have a desire to leave a legacy of service for your children and grandchildren. Maybe you are the grandchild of somebody who has served in fire service for their entire life and you want to be a part of that legacy. Maybe you have had a medical emergency or a fire at your home and volunteer fire personnel responded and you are so thankful that you want to give back to your community in the same way. Then this article was written just for you.

There are many roles to fill within Hinds County Fire Services. Everybody has a skill that can be used in one of our departments. Whether you are a nurse, EMT, paramedic or would like to fight fires there is a place for you. If you have administrative skills, are comfortable with maintenance, checking equipment regularly or cleaning up around the station there is a place for you.

Below is a list of departments looking for dedicated volunteers to join their ranks:

Bench Volunteer Fire Department, 7460 Old Port Gibson Rd., Utica, MS 39175

Bolton Volunteer Fire Department, 117 W. Madison St., Bolton, MS 39041

Brownsville Volunteer Fire Department, 8057 Bolton Brownsville Rd., Bolton, MS 39041

Byram Volunteer Fire Department, 2517 Davis Rd., Terry, MS 39170

Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department, 3660 Dry Grove Rd., Terry, MS 39170

Learned Volunteer Fire Department, 323 Front Street, Raymond, MS 39154

Maclean Volunteer Fire Department, 1367 Ross Circle, Jackson, MS 39209

Pocahontas Volunteer Fire Department, 1140 FOA Road, Jackson, MS 39209/ 1106 Pocahontas Rd., Pocahontas, MS 39072

Raymond Volunteer Fire Department, 109 Court St., Raymond, MS 39154

Terry Volunteer Fire Department, 2515 Old Hwy 51, Terry, MS 39170/2001 Tank Rd., Terry, MS 39170

Utica Volunteer Fire Department, 105 Depot Street, Utica, MS 39175/111 School St., Utica, MS 39175

West Hinds Volunteer Fire Department, 203 Main St., Edwards, MS 39066

If you believe you have what it takes to become a member of the Hinds County Volunteer Fire Services contact our office at 601.960.1476 for an application. After you return your completed application we will provide your information to the appropriate volunteer fire chief.

Sincerely,



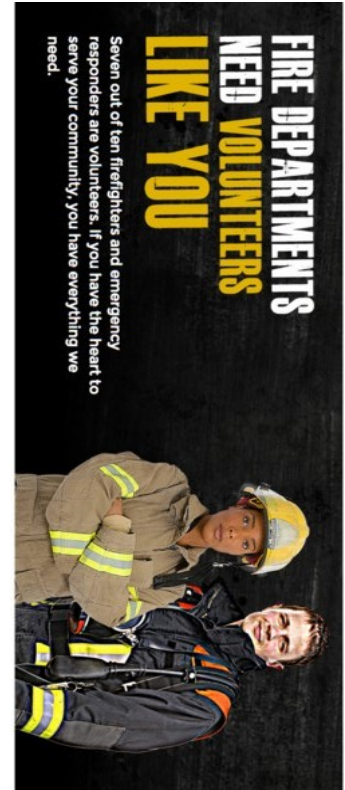
What's Happening in Fire Services

- Seventeen (17) students completed the Rope Rescue Technician course in April. At the end of the course they participated in a wilderness exercise scenario that involved a rescue from a creek. The course covered high angled rescue, basic ropes & knots information, rigging, simple mechanical advantages, patient packaging and hauling systems. The students were representatives from the following volunteer fire departments:

Bench Volunteer Fire Department
Bolton Volunteer Fire Department
Byram Volunteer Fire Department
Pocahontas Volunteer Fire Department
Terry Volunteer Fire Department
Utica Volunteer Fire Department

- Sixteen students completed Certified Volunteer Firefighter Level 1 course in April. The course was held at the State Fire Academy. The students were representatives of the following volunteer fire departments:

Bolton Volunteer Fire Department	Pocahontas Volunteer Fire Department
Brownsville Volunteer Fire Department	Raymond Volunteer Fire Department
Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department	Terry Volunteer Fire Department
Learned Volunteer Fire Department	Utica Volunteer Fire Department



Public Management & Leadership Program

Hinds County had the honor of having another employee selected for the spring session of the Jackson State University (JSU) Center for Public Management and Leadership (PML) "Certificate Program". The PML Center is an affiliate operation and function of the Institute of Government at JSU.

The PML Center recognizes that a critical and necessary focus is needed on the "importance and readiness" of middle-management and lower-level supervisors in achieving the success of an organization. Research and observation suggest that there is an under-readiness within middle and lower-level administrative personnel, especially in understanding its organization's purpose, mission, duty and accountability, and management responsibility. The PML Center acknowledges the need to better prepare personnel in middle and lower-level leadership roles to help insure the success of the organization, and in particular public organizations.

Eligible applicants must be currently employed in a government or public/non-profit agency in a middle management or lower-level administrative position or are aspiring to move into such positions.

- Core subjects are offered in fall and spring sessions. Areas cover key professional development topics.

- Five (5) core topics, from the list to the right are offered in each session and are designed to fit the cohort profile. Each session totals 16 weeks—15 weeks of 5 core subjects and 1 week of assessment.

- Applicant costs—\$2,500 for admittance, 5 core subject areas, and all instructional materials. *Installment option available

It was truly an honor for our employee to participate in this program.



Hurricane Season 2016

The 2016 Atlantic Hurricane season began on June 1, 2016, preparing for severe storms is an important part of ushering in the hot summer days. The Atlantic Hurricane Season runs from June 1 – November 30. An average season is expected this year, however it only takes one storm to make it a bad season. Below is a list of tropical terms and a list of names that will be used during this season.

- **Tropical Depression:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 38 mph (33 knots) or less.
- **Tropical Storm:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph (34 to 63 knots).
- **Hurricane:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 74 mph (64 knots) or higher. In other basins they are called typhoons, cyclones, etc.
- **Major Hurricane:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 111 mph (96 knots) or higher, corresponding to a Category 3, 4 or 5 on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale.

2016 Storm Names

Alex	Bonnie	Colin	Danielle	Earl
Fiona	Gaston	Hermine	Ian	Julia
Karl	Lisa	Matthew	Nicole	Otto
Paula	Richard	Shary	Tobias	Virginie
Walter				

History teaches that not being prepared and aware are common denominators before, during and after a major hurricane disaster. There are many forms of hazards that come from hurricanes, including heavy rainfall, high winds, tornadoes, inland flooding, rip currents and storm surge. Everyone needs to be prepared for the unexpected. Your friends and family may not be together when disaster strikes. How will you find each other? Will you know if your children or parents are safe? You may have to evacuate or be confined to your home. What will you do if water, gas, electricity or phone services are shut off?

First step for being prepared is to write a Family Emergency Plan. Before an emergency happens, sit down with your family and decide how you will get in contact with each other, where you will go and what you will do in an emergency. Keep a copy of this plan in your emergency supplies kit or another safe place where you can access it in the event of a disaster. You can **start working on your plan by going to Ready.Gov's emergency plan webpage** at <http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan> Another step to being prepared is to always have a family disaster kit ready. Disasters can strike at any time, and response could be delayed as much as 72 hours after the disaster, depending on the type. Plan beforehand what your family should do and be sure each family member knows. Be prepared for any disaster before it strikes because you likely won't have time afterwards.

Water: Store at least one gallon of water per person per day (two quarts for drinking, two quarts for food preparation/sanitation).

Food: Store at least a three day supply of non-perishable food. Select foods that require no refrigeration, cooking and preparation.

First Aid Kit: You should have two first aid kits - one for your home and one for your car. Check with the American Red Cross or your pharmacist about what to include in your kits. Be sure to include nonprescription drugs like aspirin, laxative, emetic, antacid, hydrogen peroxide, etc.

Clothing and Bedding: Include at least one complete changing of clothes and footwear for everyone. Include rain gear, blankets or sleeping bags, sunglasses, cold weather gear, sturdy shoes or work boots.

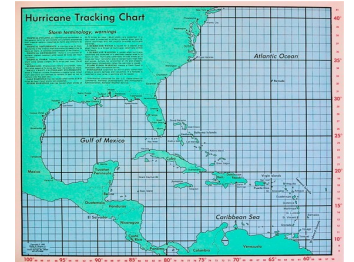
Tools and Supplies: Miscellaneous items are needed in your disaster kit also. These

Hurricane Season Continued

would include but are not limited to: mess kits or paper plates and cups, plastic utensils, radio and fresh batteries, flashlights and fresh batteries, can-opener, fire extinguisher (ABC type), tent, pliers and a shut off wrench, matches (in waterproof container), garbage bags, compass, aluminum foil, sanitation items, soap, household chlorine bleach, small shovel.

Special Items: Family members with special needs - such as infants, disabled individuals, or the elderly - will need certain items that you might not normally consider. Be sure that cash, medications, glasses, diapers, formula and bottles are included. Have some type of entertainment for children and adults. Keep important family documents or copies of such in waterproof, portable containers, such as wills, insurance papers, passports, immunization records, household inventories, birth\death certificates, bank\credit card information.

For more detailed information regarding Hurricane Preparedness go to:
www.ready.gov/Hurricanes



Beware of Snakes

Summer is here in Hinds County and along with the hot humid days, pop-up thunderstorms and the threat of hurricanes comes another aspect of nature, snakes are on the move. In the winter months they are very inactive and eat very little due to expending very little energy. As the temperatures begin to warm up they begin to venture out and bask in the sun. During the spring months they leave their winter habitat in search of foraging areas, to mate and to give birth. The males move extensively in late summer to find females for mating. Snakes are attracted to cover, water and prey (rodents). Removing these things is the best answer to encouraging them to pass on by and not stay around your yard.

Many snake-human interactions take place during the spring and fall when they are relocating from one seasonal habitat to another. If you encounter one in the wild or in your yard it is best to avoid it. If left alone most snakes are docile and will try to flee or remain still and blend into its surroundings. Most snakes will not chase you. Seventy-five percent of bites occur when humans harass, move or attempt to kill a snake.

It is important to learn to identify the snakes in your area. Identification will help doctors determine the treatment that is needed. If a bite occurs remain calm & seek medical attention. Remove restrictive clothing and/or jewelry near the bite and keep the area of the bite below the heart. Never cut the wound and attempt to suck the venom out, apply ice or cold packs or use a tourniquet or give the person alcohol or caffeinated drinks.

Venomous snakes have a triangular head, often multi-colored, some will have a rattle at end of tail and when swimming the whole body will float. Non-venomous snakes: Spoon shaped head, mostly one color and when swimming just the head shows.

If you are unsure if they are poisonous always err on the side of caution and avoid contact with the snake.





Importance of _____ **HYDRATION**

SYMPTOMS OF DEHYDRATION:

- THIRST
- DIZZINESS
- CONFUSION
- FATIGUE
- DRY SKIN/MOUTH
- LESS-FREQUENT URINATION
- INCREASED HEART RATE

Tips to hydrate

- DRINK AT LEAST 64 OUNCES OF FLUID PER DAY
- MINIMIZE THE CAFFEINE
- AVOID ALCOHOL AND SUGARY BEVERAGES
- WHETHER YOU ARE THIRSTY OR NOT, DRINK WATER BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER EXERCISING



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Mitigation ~ Preparedness ~ Response ~ Recovery

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Emergency Management protects communities by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other manmade disasters.