

## Quarterly Newsletter



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

## Hinds County Board of Supervisors

~Robert Graham, District 1, Vice President ~ Darrel McQuirter, District 2, President ~  
~ Peggy Calhoun, District 3 ~ Mike Morgan, District 4 ~ Bobby "Bobcat" McGowan, District 5 ~

## Table of Contents:

- From the Director pg. 1
- Great American Shakeout pg. 2
- Weather Preparedness pg. 2
- Fire Services pg. 3
- New Rescue Equipment pg. 4



## EOC Staff

**Ricky Moore**  
Director/Fire Coordinator

**Joey Perkins**  
Assistant Director

**Lavonne Berryhill**  
Administrative Coordinator

**Tracy Funches**  
Operations Coordinator

**Kyle Greer**  
EMS Coordinator

**Robin Garrard**  
Planner Coordinator  
Newsletter Editor

**Kenneth Smith**  
911 Coordinator

**Brandy Martin**  
Administrative Assistant

## From the Desk of the Director

Although it does not feel like winter in Mississippi right now, there are things you should do to be prepared for the occasional bouts of cold weather we do have to endure. It is important to stay warm, if possible stay indoors, dress warmly and seal drafts from doors and windows. If you have to be outdoors there are things you can do to reduce health risks, such as wear loose-fitting layered clothes for more warmth, wear mittens rather than gloves—mittens are warmer, and cover your mouth to protect your lungs from extremely cold air. Rarely in Mississippi do we see conditions that warrant concern of frostbite or hypothermia but they do occur. It is a good idea to know the signs to watch for.

- **Frostbite:** Feelings of "pins & needles" followed by numbness. Skin may freeze hard and look white. When thawed out, skin is red and painful. Very bad frostbite may cause blisters or gangrene (black, dead tissue).
- **Hypothermia:** Uncontrolled shivering, slow speech, memory loss, stumbling, sleepiness and extreme tiredness.

If you think you have frostbite or hypothermia, do not eat or drink anything containing caffeine or alcohol—they can worsen your symptoms. Drink warm liquids. And though we don't see much snow around here, do not eat snow! It can lower your body temperature and help bring on hypothermia.

Vehicle maintenance is very important prior to the onset of winter weather. You should check the antifreeze and oil levels and be sure your brakes, battery, lights, heater/defroster and tires are all in good working order especially prior to a road trip. It is also a good idea to have preparedness kit in your car including: windshield scraper, flashlight, battery powered radio, extra batteries, water, snacks, matches, first aid kit, pocket knife, blanket, booster cables, flares, hats, socks, mittens, medications and rope or tow chain.

*Happy New Year,*

*The EOC Staff*



Ricky Moore, Director





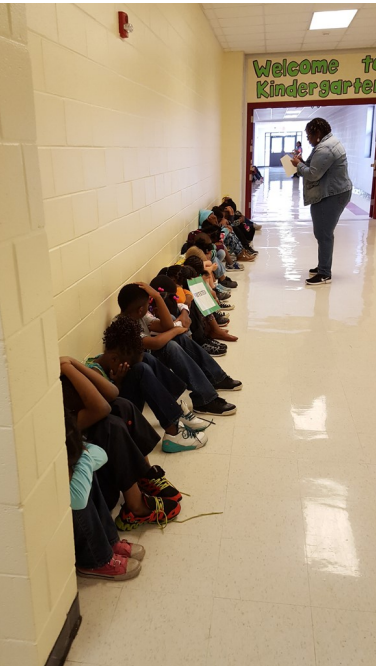
## Great American ShakeOut!

The Staff at the Hinds County EOC participated in the Great American ShakeOut on October 20, 2016. Federal, state and local emergency management experts along with other preparedness agencies agree that "Drop, Cover and Hold On" is the best course of action to avoid or reduce injury or death during an earthquake. The ShakeOut is a great opportunity to bring awareness to the community and encourages them to practice how they should protect themselves if ever faced with an earthquake.

Follow these guidelines to protect yourself:

- **DROP** where you are, onto your hands and knees. This position protects you from being knocked down and also allows you to stay low and crawl to shelter if nearby.
- **COVER** your head and neck with one arm and hand. If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl underneath it for shelter. If no shelter is nearby, crawl next to an interior wall (away from windows). Stay on your knees; bend over to protect vital organs.
- **HOLD ON** until shaking stops. If you are under shelter, hold on to it with one hand, be ready to move with your shelter if it shifts. If there is no shelter, hold on your head and neck with both arms and hands.

Source: [www.shakeout.org/dropcoverholdon/](http://www.shakeout.org/dropcoverholdon/)



## Fall Severe Weather Preparedness Week

Throughout the 2016 Fall Severe Weather Preparedness Week, the National Weather Service, MEMA and local emergency managers, including the Hinds County Department of Emergency Management presented educational information via email and social media outlets. Midland Radio donated five NOAA Weather Radios to give away as prizes for answering trivia questions on Facebook. Each day of the week highlighted different areas of preparedness.

- **Monday, October 24:** Discussed ways to receive hazardous weather advisories, watches and warnings.
- **Tuesday, October 25:** Discussed severe thunderstorms. Lightning, large hail and damaging winds from severe thunderstorms are much more frequent than tornadoes in the south.
- **Wednesday, October 26:** Emphasized tornado safety. Repeatedly, people survive tornadoes by knowing weather safety rules and by taking appropriate and timely action. A statewide tornado drill was conducted at 9:15 a.m. (CDT). Schools, businesses and other agencies were encouraged to participate with the goal of helping everyone learn life saving rules.
- **Thursday, October 27:** Drew attention to hazards of flooding and flash floods. Flooding is the number one cause of weather-related fatalities behind heat. Always remember...Turn Around, Don't Drown!.
- **Friday, October 28:** Focused on winter precipitation, extreme cold, and wind chill as winter events can affect the Magnolia state before winter officially begins in late December.



Hinds EMA: Lavonne Berryhill, Brandy Martin, Robin Garrard, Ricky Moore  
Madison EMA: Jennifer Carpenter, Tom Lariviere  
Rankin EMA: Bob Wedgeworth, Brian Grantham  
National Weather Service: Joanne Culin

A staff member from the Hinds EOC was honored to attend the Statewide Tornado Drill and Gary Road Elementary in Byram, MS on October 26, 2016. The staff and students are well trained and prepared in the event of an actual tornado.

America's PrepareAthon! ran in tandem with Severe Weather Preparedness Week and for it to have been their first time participating it was a huge success for Hinds, Rankin & Madison Counties. The three offices of Emergency Management recruited schools, colleges/universities, businesses, county offices and even hospitals to participate in the events of the week. We would like to thank each and every one of you reading this newsletter for your participation. We look forward to providing continuing education and opportunities for you to practice what you learn in the future.

# What's Happening in Volunteer Fire Services?

## Two Fire Protection Classes Lowered

Hinds County officials have been diligent in working towards reducing fire ratings in all rural areas of Hinds County. Protection Class Ratings in the areas outside of the municipalities of the Town of Terry and the Town of Learned have been lowered from a ten to a seven. Lowering public protection classifications will create home insurance savings for the citizens who live in these areas.

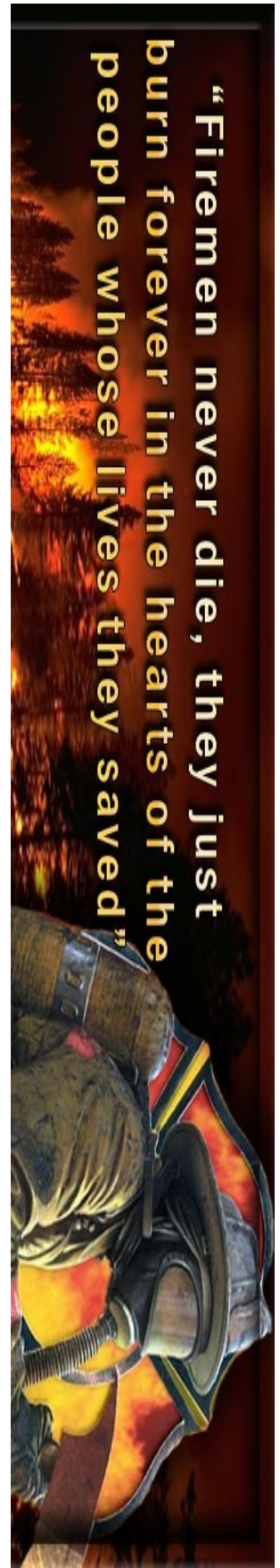
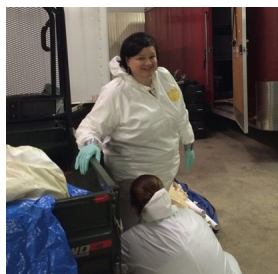
## National Traffic Incident Management Training

The Mississippi State Fire Academy conducted the National Traffic Incident Management System 12 hour fire school at the Raymond Fire Department in October. This class had participants from many departments across the county. It gave instruction on how to operate at emergency scenes on highways and roadways.

## Hazardous Materials Technician Training

The Hinds County Department of Emergency Management conducted an OSHA certified Hazardous Materials Technician (HAZWOPER) class for 11 members of the Hinds County Volunteer Fire Service. The class consisted of 10 night of class room and hands on activities. Throughout the 40 hours of instruction, students were presented with many real life situations and simulations of various hazardous situations. The final night consisted of a final examination and a practical, full scale, hands on exercise.

Photos below are actual students in the class.



## Rescuers to Use New Life Saving Device



Hinds County's emergency medical responders will soon begin using **new** machines which automatically provide consistent, uninterrupted chest compressions and free up rescuers to carry out other lifesaving care more efficiently. It's a big step forward in Hinds County's EMS system. Each of the 20 devices cost close to \$14,250. The purchase of these devices was made possible by \$285,000 in grants from the Mississippi Department of Health. The grants were from the Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund managed by the State Bureau of EMS.

Called the LUCAS 2® Chest Compression System, the device is one of a number of mechanical CPR machines invented and tested over the past several years. Physio-Control manufactures and markets the LUCAS machines.

On December 13, first responders from Jackson Fire Department, Clinton Fire Department, Byram Department and Hinds County's 12 volunteer fire departments plus their counterparts at AMR learned how to use the devices and how to teach their co-workers to use them.

The device arches over the patient's chest. From the top of the arch, an adjustable pylon extends down ending in a suction cup. Rescuers place the suction cup at the correct site on the chest. The bottom of the device goes under the backboard and attaches to it. When the device is started, the pylon repeatedly pushes the suction cup down, compressing the chest and lifting it back up. The compressions continue until the rescuer turns the machine off.

**Find us on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/Hinds EOC](http://www.facebook.com/HindsEOC)**



**Follow us on Twitter at  
[www.twitter.com/Hinds EOC](http://www.twitter.com/HindsEOC)**

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

**Staff Email Addresses:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Lavonne Berryhill: <a href="mailto:lberryhill@co.hinds.ms.us">lberryhill@co.hinds.ms.us</a> | Kenneth Smith: <a href="mailto:ksmith@co.hinds.ms.us">ksmith@co.hinds.ms.us</a>     |
| Ricky Moore: <a href="mailto:rmoore@co.hinds.ms.us">rmoore@co.hinds.ms.us</a>               | Tracy Funches: <a href="mailto:tfunches@co.hinds.ms.us">tfunches@co.hinds.ms.us</a> |
| Brandy Martin: <a href="mailto:bmartin@co.hinds.ms.us">bmartin@co.hinds.ms.us</a>           |   |
| Joey Perkins: <a href="mailto:jperkins@co.hinds.ms.us">jperkins@co.hinds.ms.us</a>          | Robin Garrard: <a href="mailto:rgarrard@co.hinds.ms.us">rgarrard@co.hinds.ms.us</a> |
|   | Kyle Greer: <a href="mailto:kgreer@co.hinds.ms.us">kgreer@co.hinds.ms.us</a>        |



*Mitigation ~ Preparedness ~ Response ~ Recovery*

Physical: 300 N. State St.  
Jackson, MS 39201  
Mailing: P.O. Box 22568  
Jackson, MS 39225-2568  
Phone: 601.960.1476  
Phone: 601.968.6771  
Fax: 601.355.9943

*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.*