

Quarterly Newsletter



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

Hinds County Board of Supervisors

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

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From the Desk of the Director

Hinds County Emergency Management will be hosting a **STORM SPOTTER CLASS**, it will be presented by the National Weather Service - Jackson. Class is open to Hinds County employees and first responders.

Date: October 18, 2018 Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Hinds County EOC, 300 N. State St., Jackson, MS 39201 (corner of State & Mississippi in the basement of the Eudora Welty Library)



Ricky Moore, Director

SKYWARN is the National Weather Service (NWS) program of trained volunteer weather spotters. Storm spotters come from many walks of life, including fire fighters, law enforcement, and amateur radio operators. SKYWARN spotters coordinate with local emergency management officials and send reports of weather based phenomena to the NWS.

In addition to serving as a community's first line of defense against dangerous storms, spotters provide important information to warning forecasters who make critical warning decisions. SKYWARN storm spotters play a critical role of giving the NWS vital ground truth data, which helps the NWS perform our primary mission, to save lives and property.

The National Weather Service Forecast Office in Jackson maintains communications with area emergency managers, law enforcement and spotters who report via amateur radio during severe or adverse weather events.

(Source: <https://www.weather.gov/jan/spotter>)

Seating is limited so contact the office at 601.960.1476 to be added to the roster.

Sincerely,



EOC Staff

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Administrative Coordinator

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Brandy Martin
Administrative Assistant



HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS



WALK SAFELY

1. Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.
2. Look left, right and left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.
3. Put electronic devices down and keep heads up and walk, don't run, across the street.
4. Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
5. Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible.
6. Children should walk on direct routes with the fewest street crossings.
7. Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.

TRICK OR TREAT WITH AN ADULT

Children under the age of 12 should not be alone at night without adult supervision. If kids are mature enough to be out without supervision, they should stick to familiar areas that are well lit and trick-or-treat in groups.

KEEP COSTUMES BOTH CREATIVE AND SAFE

1. Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.
2. Choose face paint and makeup whenever possible instead of masks, which can obstruct a child's vision.
3. Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
4. When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls.

DRIVE SAFELY ON HALLOWEEN

1. Slow down and be alert in residential neighborhoods. Excited children may move in unpredictable ways.
2. Take extra time to look for kids at intersections, on medians and on curbs.
3. Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully.
4. Eliminate distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.
5. Drive slowly, anticipate heavy pedestrian traffic and turn your headlights on earlier in the day.
6. Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 to 9:30 pm so be especially alert for kids during those hours

Source: www.safekids.org



Fire Services Training Update

Confined Space/Rope Rescue Training

Hinds County Emergency Management held a Confined Space/Rope Rescue Class for the Volunteer Fire Departments which started in July and ended in August. We had 15 volunteers participate from 5 different departments around the County. We held a practical exercise day at the USES training facility on I-55 on Saturday September 22, 2018. This exercise also included members from the first class that was trained a couple of years ago. Hinds County Emergency Management has formed a specialized team made up of these volunteers. The team is called the Hinds County Special Operations Squad. We have members from almost all of the 12 volunteer fire departments in the County. These volunteers have dedicated many hours for specialized training in Confined Space Rescue, Rope Rescue, Overland Search and Rescue, Boat Operations, and Hazardous Materials Response.



Fire Services Training Update

Boat Operations

The Hinds County Emergency Management Department held a Boat Operations Class on September 13, 2018 at the Ross Barnett Reservoir. The students were trained in basic Boat Operations. We had participants from, Hinds County Sherriff Office, Jackson Fire Department, Jackson Police Department and the Clinton Fire Department. As well as several members of the volunteer fire departments around the County.



9/11 Memorial Walk

The Brownsville Volunteer Fire Department conducted a walk of remembrance in honor of the victims lost in the tragedy on September 11, 2001. On September 11, 2018 several members of the Brownsville fire Department walked 5.4 miles in full turnout gear to remember those that gave the ultimate sacrifice 17 years ago.



Volunteers NEEDED for Hinds County Fire Services

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 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." Passage was taken from FEMA's Retention and Recruitment manual titled "The Nature of the Business – A Picture of What It's Like to Volunteer in the Fire Service".

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.

If you believe you have what it takes to become a member of the Hinds County Volunteer Fire Services and you live in the rural areas of Hinds County contact our office at 601.960.1476 for an application. You may also apply on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/HindsEOC

After you return your completed application we will provide your information to the appropriate volunteer fire chief.





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
Station 1: 8057 Bolton Brownsville Rd.
Bolton, MS 39041

Station 2: 4675 Farr Rd.
Edwards, MS 39066

Byram Volunteer Fire Department
2571 Davis Rd.
Terry, MS 39170

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

Learned Volunteer Fire Department
323 Front St.
Raymond, MS 39154

Maclean Volunteer Fire Department
1367 Ross Circle
Jackson, MS 39209

Pocahontas Volunteer Fire Department
1140 FOA Road, Jackson, MS 39209

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

Terry Volunteer Fire Department
Station 1: 2001 Tank Rd.
Terry, MS 39170

Station 2: 129 Railroad Ave.
Terry, MS 39170

Utica Volunteer Fire Department
Station 1: 105 Depot St.
Utica, MS 39175

Station 2: 111 School St.
Utica, MS 39175

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



Shake Out. Don't Freak Out.



DROP! COVER! HOLD ON!
October 18, 10:18 a.m.

**Shake
Out**[™]

Register at www.ShakeOut.org

- ◆ Register to participate at: <https://www.shakeout.org/register/>
- ◆ Day of drill: **DROP** to ground, take **COVER** under a table or desk, **HOLD ON** to it as if a major earthquake were happening (stay down for at least 60 seconds). Practice now and often so that you will automatically know what to do in the case of an actual earthquake.

MEMA 101: Preparing for Tomorrow's Disasters Today

On September 18, 2018 the staff at the Hinds County Department of Emergency Management attended a class facilitated by the Training Bureau from the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. MEMA 101 is currently a requirement to meet the standards, set forth by FEMA, to receive funding from the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG). This particular course is focused on reminding the local emergency manager of what they can expect from MEMA prior to, during and following an incident or event in their county.

Items covered during this training included:

- ◆ Mission Statement
- ◆ Describing MEMA's organization and capabilities
- ◆ Awareness regarding their organizational structure
- ◆ Breakdown of the seven different offices within the organization
- ◆ Reviewing the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS)
- ◆ Brief overview of Emergency Management Law, the Stafford Act, HSPD-5, PPD-8 and EMPG
- ◆ Identifying MEMA's situational awareness products and tools

The Hinds County EOC will continue to utilize the resources provided by the MEMA Training Bureau in the future. We are thankful for the wide variety of training options that are available to our staff and other agencies. It is vitally important for the emergency management community to further their education regarding protection, prevention, mitigation, response and recovery. Situational awareness and adequate training is a must during these uncertain times.

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[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>

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Prevention ~ Protection ~ Mitigation ~ 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 prepare for, protect against, mitigate against, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other manmade disasters.