



LEMA LEDGER

Quarterly Newsletter of the Lancaster County Emergency Management Agency

SPRING 2011 — "ALWAYS BE READY!"

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- For emergency management updates, keep an eye on our website at www.lemma.co.lancaster.pa.us
- Local Emergency Planning Committee meetings are held at the Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center. All meetings start at 1 pm. Meeting schedule is as follows:
 - April 7, 2011
 - June 2, 2011
 - August 4, 2011
 - October 6, 2011

QUARTERLY TRAINING

May 19, 2011 – 7pm – 930 pm.
The topic for this session will be Active Shooter Incidents presented by Matthew Shenk, LCWC Supervisor.

Other Quarterly Sessions

August 25, 2011

November 17, 2011

Quarterly Training Sessions start promptly at 7pm and are held at the Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center unless otherwise noted. Training topics are subject to change.

TRAGEDY IN JAPAN

Reinforces Local Preparedness Efforts



Aerial image of smoke billowing from the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant in Japan. Photo source ; Dailytelegraph.com.au

On March 11, 2011, an earthquake, registering 8.9 on the Richter scale, rocked Japan starting a series of unprecedented events that still have not been stabilized and will take years if not decades to recover from. What is occurring at its nuclear sites should not overshadow the devastating human toll it has taken with more than 18,000 potential dead and the hundreds of thousands displaced.

Japan's nuclear crisis has heightened controversy over nuclear power sources. However, no matter your stance on nuclear energy, we must prepare for potential emergencies at the facilities that exist. The

best way to be prepared is through education.

The situation in Japan comes on the heels of our annual exercise and preparedness efforts centered around nuclear power plants located in the Commonwealth. On March 9, Emergency Management Staff along with County Agriculture and Geographical Information Systems personnel participated in a 50-mile ingestion exercise from a theoretical radiation release from the Limerick nuclear power generating station located in Montgomery County PA.

Our nuclear preparedness continues on April 12, 2011, counties and municipalities

within the Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) of Three Mile Island (TMI) will participate in the bi-annual exercise. Next year, because of the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station (PBAPS), located in southern York County, we will test and refine our skills to manage an incident originating from there.

LEMA's Nuclear Planner Ashley Morrison has been steadfast on preparedness efforts even before the crisis in Japan. She has been working with the local municipalities and risk facilities on preparedness plans. She has and is working with local responders to ensure skill proficiency in decontamination procedures and related operations. Additionally she worked to ensure that county-owned / issued radiation detection equipment is current on calibration and in proper working order.

Federal, state, private and local entities are carefully monitoring the events in Japan not only to prepare for any potential fallout exposure, but to learn the lessons and apply them to our preparedness efforts.

See information inside related to nuclear preparedness and visit www.ReadyPA.org



Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station located in southern York County.



“While there is no imminent threat to Pennsylvania, the earthquake and tsunami in Japan serve as vivid reminders that everyone should take steps to learn what to do in an emergency, be it a fire, flood, nuclear incident or a chemical spill.”

EXELON SPECIAL BULLETIN

Exelon is closely monitoring the situation in Japan as it continues to unfold. While there is still a great deal we don't know, from all information the company received so far, it appears that the damage to the Japanese plants was primarily related to the tsunami, not the earthquake.

Exelon Chairman and CEO John Rowe said, “The earthquake and tsunami in Japan are a national tragedy. The events at the Fukushima power plants are a source of grave concern. At Exelon, we are following the tireless efforts of the employees of the Tokyo Electric Power

Company as closely as we can; our hearts are with these dedicated people. Meanwhile, we continue to learn all we can about these events.”

“Our plants are safe, particularly given the different seismic patterns in our regions and the absence of tsunami-type events where we have operations. Still we watch, we learn, and we will work with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and other policymakers, as well as industry colleagues, on what, if anything, should be done to apply what can be learned from this unprecedented situation,” said Rowe.

All of Exelon's nuclear facilities are designed to American seismic and flood standards, reflecting their local geography. Exelon's nuclear plants are equipped with numerous and redundant safety systems designed to protect them against earthquakes, flooding and other natural disasters.

“Our plants are operating safely, and our plant neighbors are safe,” said Rowe.

For information on what is occurring in Japan, visit the Nuclear Energy Institute's website: www.nei.org.

A Message From The State

The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and the state departments of Environmental Protection and Health are working with federal partners to monitor the situation at Japan's damaged nuclear reactors.

“We receive regular updates from federal agencies that are working closely with the Japanese authorities,” said PEMA Director Glenn M. Cannon. “At this point, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has given us no indication that radiation from Japan poses a threat to Pennsylvania residents.”

The Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Radiation Protection is maintaining close communications with the

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, or NRC, regarding the worsening situation in Japan.

Although little, if any, radioactive material is expected to reach the continental U.S., DEP has an extensive environmental surveillance program in place around Pennsylvania's five nuclear power plant sites that would be able to detect if any radioactivity from Japan reached the state.

The NRC requires that U.S. nuclear power plants be designed and built to withstand the most severe natural phenomena historically reported for each specific site and surrounding area, such as earthquakes and even tsunamis.

The best way for residents to stay safe is to stay informed and monitor local media, Can-

non said. If necessary, health and emergency management officials would alert the public as to what action they should take.

“While there is no imminent threat to Pennsylvania, the earthquake and tsunami in Japan serve as vivid reminders that everyone should take steps to learn what to do in an emergency, be it a fire, flood, nuclear incident or a chemical spill,” Cannon said. “Visit ReadyPA.org to learn how you and your family can be better prepared.”

Information such as checklists for emergency kits and templates for emergency plans, as well as other information and volunteer opportunities, is available at

www.ReadyPA.org or by calling 1-888-9-READYPA (1-888-973-2397).

FAQ's—POTASSIUM IODIDE

Pennsylvania's five nuclear power plant sites are closely regulated, secure and well maintained. In the unlikely event of a radiological release, appropriate protective actions will be determined by the Governor of Pennsylvania. There are several types of protective actions including sheltering-in-place, evacuation and administering potassium iodide (KI) tablets.

In the event of a radiological incident, the Governor of Pennsylvania will determine the appropriate protective actions for residents. These decisions are based upon many factors including sensitivity to the ill effects of radioactive iodine. In regard to KI, the Commonwealth is prepared to respond quickly as it maintains an inventory of potassium iodide tablets.

Free KI tablets will be given to people who live and work within a ten-mile radius around the five nuclear power plant sites in the Commonwealth. You can get KI during normal business hours at Department of Health designated sites. To find the office in your area, visit www.health.state.pa.us or call 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258).

What is Potassium Iodide?

Potassium iodide (KI) is a salt compound. The element iodine is added to table salt to make it "iodized." KI is available over-the-counter in tablet form without a prescription.

What will KI do?

Taking KI will help to protect the thyroid gland, located in the front of your neck, against the harmful effects of radioactive iodine that may be released in a radiological emergency. The thyroid gland is the only part of the body that KI protects.

How will I know when to take KI?

State health officials and the Governor will make an announcement telling citizens when to take KI.

When there is a serious incident at a nuclear power plant, the warning sirens will be sounded for approximately three to five minutes followed by an Emergency Alert System message on your TV or radio. Listening to these messages is critical because they will tell you what is going on at the plant, what you need to do, and if you should take KI.

Do not take KI unless Pennsylvania state health officials and the Governor instruct you to do so.

Not all radiological releases involve radioactive iodine. When Pennsylvania state health officials and the Governor tell you to take KI, follow these instructions: **ADULTS** should take **TWO** 65 mg tablets together (at the same time) **CHILDREN** should take **ONE** 65 mg tablet Taking more tablets than recommended in a 24-hour period will not help increase KI's effectiveness, and may increase the risk of side effects. **You should not take KI during a test of the Emergency Alert System or during a test of the sirens located within the ten-mile radius of the nuclear power plant sites.**

Who can take KI?

Anyone who is not allergic to iodine can take KI. It is safe for pregnant women, women who are breastfeeding, people on thyroid medicine, and children and infants, unless they are allergic. If you are unsure if you should take KI, talk with your health-care provider.

Is KI safe?

KI is safe. However, adverse reactions are possible in persons with existing thyroid conditions or those with an allergy to iodine. Anyone considering the use of KI for themselves or their family should follow the directions for storage and use included with the product. If you have more questions about KI, call your health-care provider or your local health department at **1-877-PA-HEALTH**.

How do I store the tablets?

The tablets may be stored in a dry place with a controlled room temperature between 68degrees and 77degrees F. Make sure the storage place is easy to get to and remember.

How should I dispose of my expired KI?

You may throw your expired KI tablets in the regular trash. The tablets should not be flushed down the toilet or a sink drain. For additional information on proper disposal, visit www.fda.gov.

Can I get KI if I do not live, but work in the ten-mile radius?

Yes. Workplaces or businesses within the ten-mile radius will be able to get two tablets (one adult dose) for each employee. Interested businesses should contact the Department of Health to arrange pick up.

Where can I find more information? For more information about KI, you are encouraged to visit the Department of Health's website at www.health.state.pa.us, or call **1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258)**.

The only FDA approved 65mg potassium iodide tablet:



Photo of a packet of potassium iodide tablets. Source: Ashley Morrison.

INTRA-STATE MUTUAL AID



Working together is what it is all about.

The PA Office of the State Fire Commissioner (OSFC) is working on the Pa Intrastate Mutual Aid System, or PIMAS for short. The goal of this program is to better coordinate local resources for deployment of emergency mutual support throughout Pennsylvania.

The program will include a structured activation plan for entities that

opt in the program and will require resources (vehicles and personnel included) to be typed in accordance with prescribed typing criteria.

There are many aspects to consider including local municipal endorsement for emergency service organization participation.

To help administer the program locally, there will be a county mutual aid coordinator appointed. The proc-

ess is in its early stages and requires careful attention to workers compensation and liability issues. Other issues include logistical support, deployment procedures, accountability and mission tracking.

Future newsletter issues will outline program progress as information becomes available. Lou Ann May is the OSFC staffer leading the effort.

New Independent Study Programs



“The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) offers self-paced courses designed for people who have emergency management responsibilities and the general public. All are offered free-of-charge to those who qualify for enrollment.”

The Emergency Management Institute based in Emmitsburg Maryland recently released several new on-line, and free, Independent Study (IS) programs. The IS program is an economical and convenient means to improve emergency management competencies. The self-paced programs allow the student to complete each program at the students convenience. Most programs, upon successful completion, provide a certificate of completion.

Listed below are brief descriptions of some of the newer programs;

IS-907—Active Shooter— This course provides guidance to individuals, including

managers and employees, so that they can prepare to respond to an active shooter situation. Participants will be able to: describe actions to take when confronted with an active shooter and responding law enforcement officials; recognize potential workplace violence indicators; describe actions to take to prevent and prepare for potential active shooter incidents; and describe how to manage the consequences of an active shooter incident.

IS-244.a (an updated version) Developing and Managing Volunteers—The course provides procedures and tools for building and working with voluntary organizations. Topics include: benefits and challenges of using volun-

teers; building a volunteer program; writing job descriptions; developing volunteers through recruitment, placement, training, supervision and evaluation; coordinating with voluntary agencies and community-based organizations and special issues including spontaneous volunteers, liability, and stress.

IS-75—Military Resources— This provides an overview of U.S. military resources potentially available to assist civilian authorities, and procedures for obtaining and integrating military resources into disaster response and recovery operations.

For more information on these programs as well as the dozens of other free on-line offerings, please visit <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>

STATE OF THE TASK FORCE

The weekdays of March 8-11, 2011 marked the ninth annual South Central Task Force (SCTF) Homeland Security Conference. During the week there were many sessions related to understanding Islam, improvised explosive devices, animal management and case study review of extraordinary incidents and exercises that occurred in the United States.

One session, a mainstay of every conference, is the annual State of The Task Force report delivered by SCTF Program Manager Greg Noll. Many of you who are involved in the emergency services or are avid readers of this newsletter are likely aware of the existence and some workings of the SCTF. As you tend to your daily duties you may not recognize the accomplishments or future vision that the task force as a whole has engaged.

Since the SCTF inception in 2003, more than \$38 million in Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants have been allocated. Noll's presentation highlighted ten Strategic Benefits which are briefly outlined below. It is important to remember that in our business the status quo is not acceptable and we must always strive to improve. The results of our labors are not always tangible, etched in stone, or black and white, but is a constant process of developing, practicing, evaluating and implementing concepts, procedures, skills, tools and coordination.

A summary of the ten Strategic Benefits is listed below:

Strategic Benefit #1—Improved Response Capability

The regional task force concept coordinates local resources through a shared organizational structure and operational procedures and non-duplicative equipment procurement.

Strategic Benefit #2—Regional Mutual Aid System

The SCTF has a regional based mutual aid system encompassing local and inter-county response to support incidents that exceed local capabilities as well as for extraordinary incidents during the initial 72-96 hours of a long term event.

Strategic Benefit #3—Training

The SCTF has supported / sponsored more than 1,000 "all-hazard" training programs to members and staff of affiliated agencies. In addition this effort has supported more than 200 exercises and the delivery of nearly one hundred ICS 300/400 programs.

Strategic Benefit #4—Technology Based Tools

The SCTF has invested much money and time into the development of incident preparedness and management systems consistent for use and interoperability within the region. Some programs that will be rolled out in the near future include Everbridge Aware, which is a responder alert and notification system; South Central Alert, an electronic public warning system; WiseTrack, a regional asset inventory program and coordinated inter-county Geographical Information System capabilities.

Strategic Benefit #5—Private Sector Partnerships

A SCTF group works with critical infrastructure and key resource managers to plan, respond and recover from all-hazard response scenarios.

Strategic Benefit #6— Medical Interoperability

The SCTF has worked with the regional medical community both pre-hospital and hospital disciplines to better network and collaborate for higher regional medical preparedness. This includes sharing of resources and integrated emergency operations.

Strategic Benefit #7—Communications Infrastructure

Communication is a consistent incident inhibiting factor and the SCTF has worked to enhance local, regional and state interoperability and networking.

Strategic Benefit #8—Law Enforcement Capability

The SCTF has developed and implemented several regional programs within the law enforcement community to respond to large and complex incidents including the development of a Mobile Field Force.

Strategic Benefit #9—Special Operations

The SCTF has developed a region-based integrated special operations program for hazardous materials (terrorism) and technical rescue disciplines including operational procedures, training requirements and consistent equipment procurement.

Strategic Benefit #10— Mutual Collaboration

The SCTF is a vehicle that fosters inter-agency collaboration as well as enhanced pre-incident networking of diverse groups agencies and individuals.

It is important to remember that ALL OF US make up the SCTF. It is not an individual or single organization.

TRAINING CENTER CHANGES



Craig Elmer, director of the Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center recently announced the hiring of Dave Gribble as Fire Training Coordinator. Gribble assumes the position on March 28, 2011. The post was vacated late last year by Jim Kimes.

Gribble's experience in the emergency services is vast as he has been a long-time volunteer of the Ronks Fire Company

where he currently serves as an assistant chief. He has worked as a career firefighter for the Lukens Steel Mill Fire Department (Chester County), Kimber-ton Fire Department (Chester County) and most recently with the Amity Township Fire Department (Berks County).

Gribble also serves as the fire coordinator and emergency management coordinator for East Lampeter Town-

ship.

His duties at the training center will include coordinating fire training program delivery including certification training and testing. In addition he will coordinate training prop use for company level training.

For more information on training center activities, please visit:

www.lcpstc.org

BLUE ROCK FIRE RESCUE STATION 90

This organization is the consolidation of the West Lancaster, Millersville, Washington Boro and Highville fire companies.



MTFR Station 20

The new year has brought with it some changes to the organization and administration structure of seven fire agencies in the county. As of January 1, 2011, Blue Rock Fire Rescue went into service as Lancaster County Station 90. This organization is the consolidation of the West Lancaster, Millersville, Washington Boro and Highville fire companies.

Each station maintains a consistent leadership core of a station chief, deputy chief, captain, two lieutenants and a safety officer. All fire apparatus has been renumbered in accordance with the new scheme. As an example, former West Lancaster Engine 6-8-1 is now Engine 901; for-

mer Millersville Rescue 6-5 is now Rescue 905; former Highville Engine 6-2-1 is now Engine 903; and former Washington Boro Tanker 7-8 is now Tanker 907. While not the first fire services consolidation in Lancaster County history, it was the first involving more than one municipality (Manor Township and Millersville Borough).

The Blue Rock Fire Commission is currently processing applicants for a new full-time paid administrator position to oversee daily administrative operations of the organization.

In Manheim Township, the three independent volunteer fire companies (Eden,

Neffsville and Southern Manheim Township) agreed to operate under the auspices of Manheim Township Fire Rescue (MTFR) Station 20, effective March 1, 2011. Unit designations changed as well. Southern Manheim Township Rescue 2-11 is now Rescue 201. Eden Truck 2-4 is now Truck 204. Neffsville Tanker 2-7 is now Tanker 207. Each station remains an independent organization and maintains its name, but are supported by a designated fire tax and a full-time township fire chief.

Additionally, MTFR is in the final stages of selecting a full-time deputy fire chief position.

FIRE WIRE 2011

LANCASTER COUNTY 2010

Recently Lancaster County-wide Communications (LCWC) published dispatch statistics for calendar year 2010. Overall the center processed 393,663 incidents in 2010 which is an increase of more than 9,000 incidents from 2009. Total 9-1-1 calls handled were 222,253; an increase of more than 10,000 from 2009. Dispatches for each emergency response discipline also were up.

Daily, an average of 609 9-1-1 calls were received with 808 law enforcement, 198 emergency medical and 72 fire events dispatched. The busiest month in 2010 for LCWC was July with 35,940 total dispatches.

The following are agency and unit dispatch statistics according to LCWC records. To view the LCWC 2010 Reports in full, please visit www.lcwc911.us.

2010 BUSIEST LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES



1. Lancaster City..... 69,880
2. Manheim Township..... 40,454
3. East Lampeter Twp. 18,035
4. Ephrata.....15,410
5. East Hempfield Twp.15,140

2010 BUSIEST E.M.S AGENCIES

1. Lancaster EMS Association..... 22,316
2. Susquehanna Valley EMS.....13,895
3. Manheim Twp. EMS..... 4,632
4. Northwest EMS..... 4,546
5. Ephrata ALS..... 4,159



2010 BUSIEST FIRE AGENCIES



1. Lancaster Bureau of Fire.....3,455
2. Eden Fire Co.....752
3. So. Manheim Twp. Fire Co.....749
4. Rohrerstown Fire Co.....739
5. Fire Dept. Mount Joy.....719

LCWC DISPATCHES

BUSIEST DAY OF WEEK: Friday

BUSIEST HOUR: 1600-1700

BUSIEST FIRE UNITS 2010



So. Manheim Twp. Engine 2-11-3 (now Engine 201) was the busiest volunteer engine company in 2010. (Photo courtesy of www.smtfc.com)

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Lancaster City Engine 6-4-1 | 756 |
| 2. | Lancaster City Engine 6-4-2 | 745 |
| 3. | Lancaster City Truck 6-4-2 (E) | 642 |
| 4. | Lancaster City Engine 6-4-3 | 641 |
| 5. | So. Manheim Twp. Engine 211-3 | 516 |



Elizabethtown Fire Co. Rescue Engine 7-4-1 was the fourth busiest rescue in 2010. (Photo courtesy of www.etownfire.com)

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Lancaster City Engine 6-4-1 | 524 |
| 2. | Lancaster City Engine 6-4-3 | 489 |
| 3. | So. Manheim Twp. Rescue 2-11 | 331 |
| 4. | Elizabethtown Fire Co. Engine 7-4-1 | 330 |
| 5. | Susquehanna Fire Co. Rescue 8-4-1 | 329 |



Eden Truck 2-4 (now Truck 204) was the third busiest truck in 2010. (Photo courtesy of www.edenfire.com)

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Lancaster City Truck 6-4-1 | 559 |
| 2. | Rohrerstown Fire Co. Truck 6-7 | 427 |
| 3. | Eden Fire Co. Truck 2-4 | 358 |
| 4. | Columbia No. 1 Fire Co. Truck 8-1 | 316 |
| 5. | Fire Dept. Mount Joy Truck 7-5 | 280 |

See all LCWC 2010 Reports at www.lcwc911.us

RESPONSIBLE SPRING CLEANING



The facility accepts old computer components. Photo courtesy of <http://www.lcswma.org/hhwfRecycling.asp>

It's that time of year where people start to clean out their attics, garages and sheds to rid of old or broken items. It is important to not just throw out all items in your curbside trash as some items are harmful to the environment.

The Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority maintains a Household Hazardous Waste facility at 1299

Harrisburg Pike. The site will accept *many (not all) household items free of charge* for proper disposal.

A comprehensive list of items can be found by visiting www.lcswma.org. Common items accepted at the HHW site include televisions, computer components, paint, motor oil, antifreeze, items containing mercury such as thermometers and thermostats, batteries, fluorescent

light bulbs, gasoline, kerosene and old propane tanks (gas grill types).

The facility has a drive-thru area for your drop-off convenience. The site is open Monday through Friday from 8 am until 4 pm and on Saturday's from 8 am until noon. Please review the website or call 717-397-9968 for more information on items and potential fees.

2011 WEATHER EXERCISE

On March 1, 2011, a strong line of thunderstorms passed through the central part of the county leaving a path of destruction for miles. County Emergency Management Staff along with local Emergency Management Coordinator's (EMC) from Lancaster City, East Petersburg Borough, Pequea, Rapho and West Earl townships initiated Emergency Operation Center (EOC) activities to coordinate efforts.

A tornado passed through Manheim Township into West Earl Township. Two elderly residents of West Earl Township died in a tornado ravaged home. There was widespread power outages and school bus delays were

issues that needed addressed. If you don't remember this, it was because it was part of the annual Spring Severe Weather Tabletop Exercise held in the county EOC.

The afore mentioned personnel in addition to amateur radio personnel, school services, fire and emergency medical service personnel congregated in the County EOC to review preparedness and response considerations to various scenarios and injects.

The thought-provoking exercise was developed and facilitated by LEMA Trainer David Boucher. While the exercise was "stress-free", it provided a means to forecast

potential issues related to inter-agency coordination and internal agency protocols.

Boucher prepared a detailed Situation Manual, as well as maps as he presented powerpoint slides of county venues to help visualize the scenarios.

Immediately following the exercise, he facilitated a "Hot Wash" that identified both things that went well, and things that may not go so well. He will process the data through the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) and develop a corrective actions schedule to rectify identified issues.



Cloud formation during storms that rolled through Lancaster County in March 2009. An F1 tornado struck an area west of Ephrata destroying several mobile homes and damaging hundreds of other buildings. Photo taken from area of Valley View Rd. on March 29, 2009. Photo by Diane Burkholder.

U.S. DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

National Take-Back Initiative— April 30, 2011

On April 30, 2011, from 10am to 2pm, the United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) will coordinate with state and local law enforcement agencies to remove potentially dangerous drugs from our nation's homes. A national take-back day will provide an opportunity for the public to surrender **expired, unwanted, or unused** pharmaceuticals and other medications to law enforcement officers for proper disposal. The program will provide an opportunity for law enforcement, prevention, treatment, health care professionals, coalition groups and the business community to establish safe collection sites for residents to use.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. According to the 2009 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health more than seven million Americans currently abuse prescription drugs. Each day, approximately, 2,500 teens use prescription drugs to get high for the first time according to the Partnership for a Drug Free America. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including the home medicine cabinet.

In an effort to address this problem, DEA, in conjunction with state and local law enforcement agencies throughout the United States, conducted the first ever National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, September 25, 2010. This effort was a huge success in removing potentially dangerous prescription drugs, particularly controlled substances, from our nation's medicine cabinets. There were approximately 3,000 state and local law enforcement agencies throughout the nation that participated and turned in over 121 tons of pills during this event.

Due to the overwhelming success of the first event, DEA is planning a second National Prescription Drug Take Back Day which will take place on **Saturday, April 30, 2011, from 10am to 2pm**. This will be a great opportunity for those who missed the first event or who have subsequently accumulated unwanted, unused prescription drugs, to safely dispose of them. Information about the April event, including a link to locate a collection site near you, is posted on the DEA website www.dea.gov or you may call 215-238-5172 (Eastern Pennsylvania).

Listed in the next column are Lancaster County collection points as posted by the DEA on March 23, 2011.

Lititz Borough Police Department

7 South Broad Street—Lititz PA 17543

Mount Joy Borough Municipal Building

21 East Main St.— Mount Joy PA 17522

Gehman Feed Mill Parking Lot (Denver-Ephrata Area)

(coordinated by the East Cocalico Twp. Police Dept)

300 block Main St.- Denver PA 17517

Giant Foods—Elizabethtown

(coordinated by Northwest Lancaster Co. Police)

1278 S. Market St—Elizabethtown PA 17022

Ferguson & Hassler Supermarket—Quarryville

(coordinated by Quarryville Police Dept.)

100 Townsedge Dr.—Quarryville PA 17566

Remember, each collection point will operate from 10am until 2 pm.

Please be aware of the following protocols.

- Controlled, non-controlled, and over the counter medications will be collected.
- This program is absolutely anonymous and all efforts should be made to protect the anonymity of individuals disposing of medications. No questions or requests for identification will be made by law enforcement personnel present.
- Participants will remove any personal information from bottles or packages that contain pills/capsules and liquids and place the bottles or packages into the disposal box.
- Sharpies and syringes will not be accepted due to the potential hazard posed by blood-borne pathogens.
- Illicit substances such as marijuana or methamphetamine are not a part of this initiative and should not be placed in the collection boxes. If an individual attempts to surrender an illicit controlled substance, law enforcement personnel should handle such material as abandoned property in accordance with department policy.

Lancaster County Emergency Management Agency

P O Box 219 * Manheim PA 17545-0219

Business Phone: 800-808-5236 or 717-664-1200 * Fax 717-664-1235

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The Lancaster County Emergency Management Agency maintains emergency plans for facilities that use or produce hazardous materials, dam failures, nuclear facilities, and for other types of disasters both man-made or natural.

The office also coordinates and directs actions that take place during large scale emergency situations. This coordination is performed at the Emergency Operations Center located within our facility. These activities are done in close cooperation with the County Commissioners, County Administrator, local Emergency Management Agencies (municipalities within the county), and emergency service organizations throughout the county.

Lancaster County Board of Commissioners

Scott Martin, Chairman
Dennis P. Stuckey, Vice-Chairman
Craig Lehman

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL EMERGENCIES PROGRAMS

Page 5 of this issue highlighted benefits of the SCTF efforts. One of those efforts was and is all-hazards training. Recently Lancaster County benefitted from SCTF training funds, specifically through the Agricultural Sub-Committee. A series of programs, centric to the agricultural industry, were sponsored by the SCTF and held at the West Hempfield Fire Rescue company.

In January 2011, the 16-hour Managing Agricultural Emergencies—Awareness program was conducted. The program was developed by the Pennsylvania State University (PSU) and taught by Eric Rickenbach.

The awareness program illustrated the many elements of the agricultural industry and reviewed processes, structures and animals as well as discussed agro-terrorism and the impact it would have. The program reinforced the importance of pre-planning and included tour-

ing a site as well as conducting a series of exercises to manage incident scenarios at agricultural sites.

In February, the 6-hour Agricultural Confined Space Emergencies Awareness program was sponsored which detailed the attributes, construction and hazards of various silo types, manure pits and other site-specific elements. This program was followed by the 8-hour Agricultural Confined Space Operations program which allowed participants to gain a hands-on perspective related to air monitoring, patient-care and extrication. Both of these programs were facilitated by Rickenbach.

In March, the SCTF funds enabled the 8-hour Managing Farm Chemical Emergencies program to be facilitated by PSU Instructor Dave Hall. This program targeted common types of farm chemicals used; their hazards; and the signs and symptoms of exposure. This program culminated into a functional exercise where students estab-

lished a structured incident command system; performed recon of a released product; researched the products for appropriate action; donned appropriate personal protective equipment; extricated victims and engaged in decontamination.

The programs were well-received by the students. PSU's Ag-series includes numerous other programs. For more information on the PSU Agricultural emergencies programs visit www.farmemergencies.psu.edu/.



Farm chemical storage area. Photo by Eric G. Bachman