

THE HOOSIER RESPONDER

AUGUST 2019



STATE FIRE MARSHAL DEDICATES 50 YEARS TO FIRE SERVICE



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- Campus Fire Safety
- First Responders Day at the Indiana State Fair
- Surviving Hoosier Heat
- *Girls Go CyberStart* Winners Announced
- More Grant Application Periods Approaching



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ENCOURAGE COLLEGE STUDENTS TO PRACTICE CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY

by Jenna Marron, IDHS Public Affairs Intern

College students are a tough audience when it comes to fire safety, so it is critical to know how to properly inform and communicate with students about fire safety in an engaging way.

Many factors can increase the risk of campus fires, such as large numbers of people living in one building, increased microwave usage, heavy use of drugs or alcohol and high smoking rates.

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), alcohol was a factor in 76% of fatal campus fires from 2000–2015.

Indiana University (IU) is making great strides to engage their students in fire safety. They host fire safety and fire extinguisher training in residence halls. In addition, they make sure their residential assistants are well educated on fire safety through many programs such as “Great Escape,” in which 240 residential assistants are put through smoke-filled hallways, and “After the Fire,” which all residential assistants are required to attend.

“Our philosophy has changed to make all of our fire safety training student focused. We go

to them in the residence halls and present the opportunity for them to interact with us and learn fire safety tips. A fire in one of our residence halls is likely our most significant vulnerability. Indiana University has made it a point to implement new measures that we hope mitigate that risk as much as we can,” said Maj. Brad Seifers, IU Police.

Three in four fires in dormitories, fraternity or sorority houses and barracks begin in the kitchen or cooking area.

Purdue University also is doing many things to ensure student fire safety. Both students and their parents at all freshmen orientation programs are given a chance to meet with Purdue University Fire Department (PUFD) and Purdue University Police Department (PUPD). In addition, on their first day on campus, freshmen students are given a safety presentation by both agencies.

“Always evacuate when a fire alarm is sounded, and close the door behind you,” said Kevin M. Ply, chief for PUFD. “Follow rules and restrictions on what to keep/not keep in your dorm room (i.e. candles). When considering off campus housing, choose an apartment with a fire

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alarm and fire sprinkler system, and, lastly, parents should be actively involved when their child is considering campus housing options.”

Utilizing social media platforms, in particular Twitter, is a great

way to reach students and catch their attention. Occasionally sending out friendly safety reminders and information through Twitter could be very beneficial and effective in keeping college students safe from campus fires. In addition,

Twitter is a quick and effective way to disseminate information to the public.

For more information regarding fire safety, please visit GetPrepared.in.gov.


Indiana Homeland Security
 @IDHS ⚙️ Follow

Make sure not only to create but also to practice your fire escape plans while on campus. [#firesafety](#)







11:11 AM - 7 August 2019


Indiana Homeland Security
 @IDHS ⚙️ Follow

Before choosing housing and moving to campus, be encouraged to ask questions about fire safety. [#firesafety](#)







11:11 PM - 7 August 2019


Indiana Homeland Security
 @IDHS ⚙️ Follow

Each time you do laundry, make sure to clean the lint trap before and after use. Buildup can cause a fire hazard.







11:11 AM - 7 August 2019


Indiana Homeland Security
 @IDHS ⚙️ Follow

When setting up your dorm room, keep safety in mind. Be conscious of extension cords, lamps, furniture and decorations.







11:11 PM - 7 August 2019

FIRST RESPONDERS DAY



The Indiana Department of Homeland Security is sponsoring First Responders Day at the Indiana State Fair on Monday, August 12, 2019. Join us for a fun day at the fair with free entry for first responders and their families.

AMUSEMENT RIDE SAFETY

Everyone, regardless of age, should follow a few basic guidelines to stay safe on amusement rides.

- Follow posted rules on all rides and when an operator is giving instructions, listen.
- Check for current permits issued by IDHS.
- Use all safety equipment that is provided, such as belts, harnesses, lap bars and others.
- Know your personal health, and if it could be aggravated, do not board the ride.
- For more amusement ride safety tips, please visit dhs.in.gov/3819.htm.



IDHS MITIGATION STAFF PRESENTED WITH GIS AWARD

Mitigation staff members with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and The Polis Center recently were presented with an award recognizing Special Achievement in GIS. The award was presented by the Indiana Geographic Information Council (IGIC) at the annual Indiana GIS Conference. This is the first time IDHS has been recognized with this award, which followed the work to update the State of Indiana’s Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

“We’re all extremely proud to have been selected,” said Torrey Glover, state Hazard Mitigation officer with IDHS. “Our mitigation program has made great strides in working with our partners across the state to bolster our hazard resiliency, so the recognition is very much appreciated.”

According to the IGIC, the Special Achievement in GIS Award “recognizes special geospatial projects developed through teamwork that

demonstrates commitment to working with others in the Indiana GIS community toward a common goal, while performing important, often pioneering work, to create an outstanding information resource.”

For more information on IGIC, visit IGIC.org.

For more information on IDHS Mitigation and the State Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, visit the [IDHS Mitigation webpage](#).



Left to right: Kavya Urs Beerval Ravichandra (Polis Center), Melissa Long (Polis Center), Kayla Swoveland (Polis Center), Torrey Glover (IDHS), Jim Sparks (Polis Center), Mary Moran (IDHS), Marianne Cardwell (Polis Center), Phil Worrall (IGIC Executive Director)



SURVIVING THE HOOSIER HEAT

As all Hoosiers know, summer time in Indiana brings extreme heat, which occurs when temperatures reach 90 degrees Fahrenheit or higher for at least two to three days. Overexposure to extreme heat can result in a hazardous extreme heat illness if left unmonitored.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), more than 600 people in the United States are killed by an extreme heat-related illness each year. Children, the elderly and individuals with chronic medical conditions are more susceptible to extreme heat illnesses.



Dr. Gardner

Stephanie Gardner, EMS medical director for St. Vincent EMS, CCT, StatFlight, Hancock Regional Hospital and AMR Central Indiana, explained extreme heat illnesses are a result of the body's inability to function correctly at high temperatures.

"The body has the ability to cool itself with internal mechanisms like sweating," Gardner said. "When heat becomes too extreme, the body's ability to cool itself is overrun and the body core temperature will rise. This leads to patients experiencing symptoms like fatigue, headache and heart racing."

There are three different heat illnesses an individual can experience:

Heat Cramps: The first indicator that the body is suffering from extreme heat. Symptoms include a rise in body temperature,

flushed looking appearance and muscular spasms in the abdomen or legs.

Heat Exhaustion: Occurs when the body sweats and loses too much salt and water. Symptoms include that of heat cramps, in addition to having a rapidly weak pulse, excessive sweating and nausea or vomiting.

Heat Stroke: Occurs when the body has reached the point where it can no longer cool itself. Symptoms include a body temperature of more than 103 degrees Fahrenheit, warm skin, headache, no sweating, a rapidly strong pulse and nausea or vomiting.

While all three heat illnesses are a cause for concern, heat stroke is the most dangerous.

"With heat stroke, a patient's core body temperature is dangerously high, which causes abnormal neurologic symptoms," Gardner explained.

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“If left untreated, it can lead to seizures and even death.”

Aaron Hedges, EMS Certification and Compliance Section Chief for Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS), previously worked as a navy corpsman and an EMT prior to joining IDHS. During his time as a corpsman, Hedges was stationed in Texas and Florida and was trained on how to treat military personnel suffering from heat illness.

“While I was in Texas and Florida, I was constantly treating people who were dealing with some type of extreme heat illness,” Hedges said. “Most of the time, these people weren’t drinking enough water and staying hydrated.”

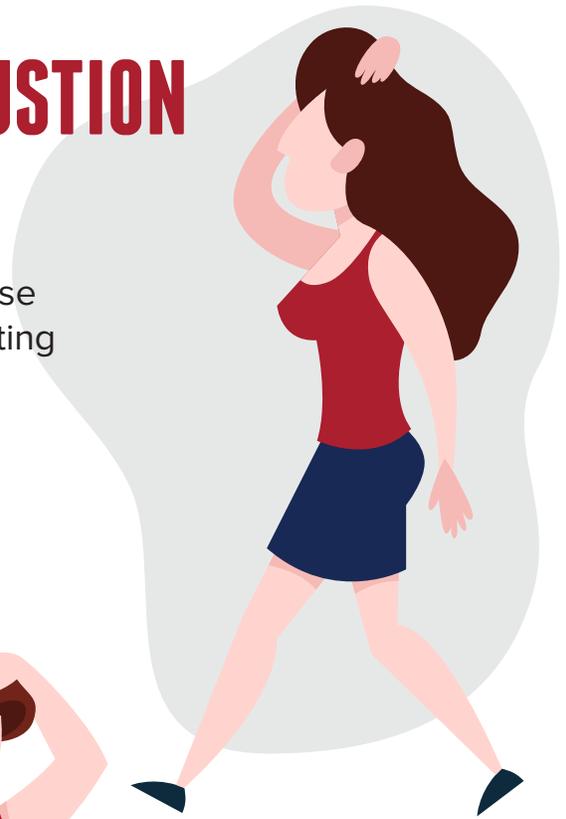
While the heat is hard to avoid while working and recreating outdoors, staying educated on extreme heat illness symptoms and taking the time to stay hydrated can make a major difference in staying safe.

“Heat Injury is a dangerous medical condition, and you cannot just ‘power through it,’” Gardner said. “Keeping yourself healthy is more important than looking tough.”

To learn more about extreme heat and extreme heat illnesses, visit GetPrepared.in.gov.

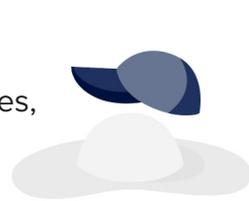
HEAT EXHAUSTION

- Rise in body temperature
- Rapid, weak pulse
- Excessive sweating
- Nausea
- Vomiting



HEAT STROKE

- Warm/red skin
- Headache
- No sweating
- Rapid, strong pulse
- Nausea
- Vomiting



WEAR PROTECTION



MORE WATER



NO SILK AND DARK CLOTHES



LIMIT OUTDOOR



STATE FIRE MARSHAL DEDICATES 50 YEARS TO FIRE SERVICE

During five months of intense pain and grueling physical therapy, rumors and questions spread through the firehouse about whether or not Jim Greeson would be able to continue as a firefighter.

It was 1988 when Greeson was injured battling a blaze at the Murat Theatre at Old National Centre. The fire was nearly extinguished when the second floor mezzanine collapsed on Greeson and 12 other firefighters.

“It knocked me out for a little bit, and when I regained consciousness I was confused

about what happened, but I remember saying, ‘Help me, Rick, I think I can get this off



of me.’ He replied with ‘Jim, you have no idea what you’re trapped under,’” Greeson said.

For approximately two hours, fire crews worked to rescue him; however, since they were unsure of the extent of his injuries, Greeson’s wife and children were notified and advised they should go to the theatre. Greeson left the scene with full thermal burns on his back, broken ribs, a collapsed lung, a bruised kidney, a bruised liver and crushed legs.

“Some people questioned if I could continue in the fire service,” Greeson said. “I never

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had a doubt. I knew I would come back.”

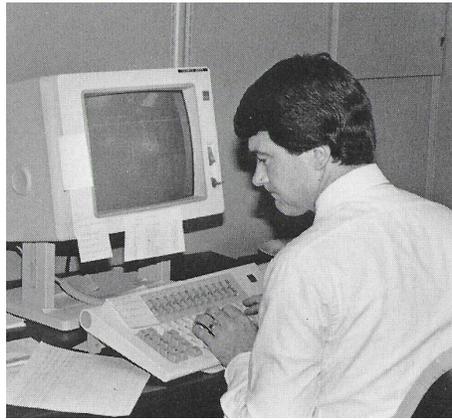
Now in his 50th year of fire service, Greeson has a legacy of giving to his community and dedication to the safety and security of Hoosier citizens. On Sept. 6, Greeson will retire from the State Fire Marshal role, a position he has held for more than a decade. Gov. Eric Holcomb has not announced a successor.



As he looks back at his career, Greeson remembers the pride of the job. The brotherhood. The service to the community and the support of his family. He never wanted anything else.

“I grew up down the street from a fire station and another station was also close to my home,” Greeson said. “They would always drive past my house, and seeing the department’s trucks go by my home is a big factor in my desire to become a firefighter.”

After earning an associate degree in computer technology



in 1968 at the former Mallory Technical Institute, now IVY Tech, he started his career as a computer programmer at Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance. He also worked on programming for the military before starting his firefighting career with the Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD) at the age of 21.

“I was the youngest guy there and realized I didn’t know much going into the recruitment course,” Greeson said. “However, after I passed the course, it felt good joining the station. I was apprehensive but also excited to do everything I could.”

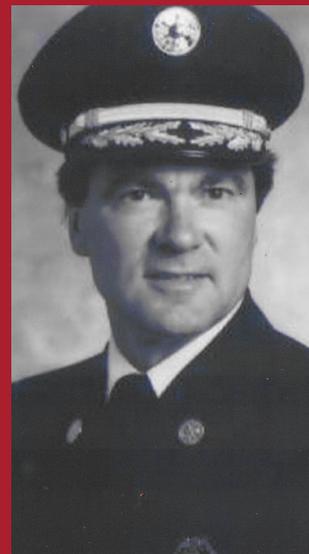
After 16 years as a private, Greeson began to rise through the ranks with IFD. He was promoted to lieutenant in 1986, then captain in 1989. In 2004, Greeson was promoted to fire chief. He was appointed to his current role as State Fire Marshal in 2008 by former Gov. Mitch Daniels.

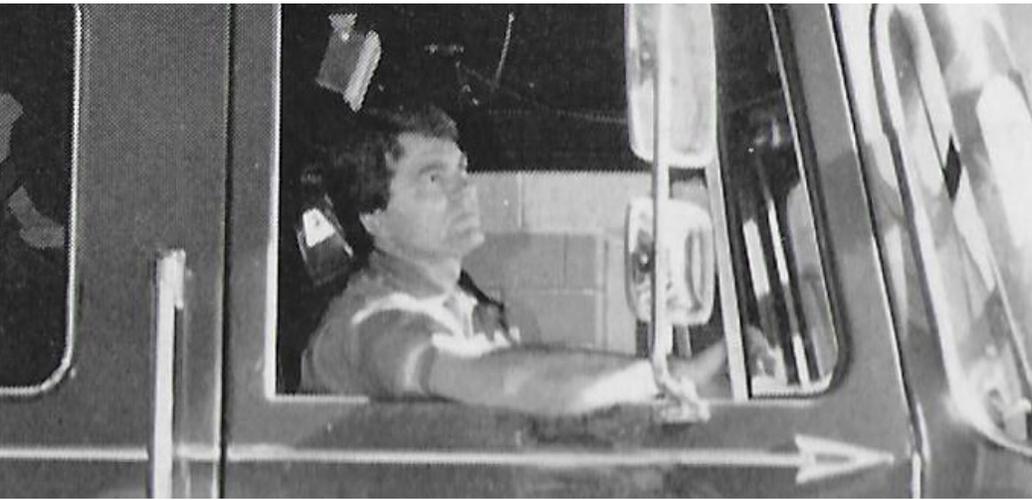
“I had no aspirations to be in as many positions as I have,” Greeson said. “My aspirations never went beyond wanting to be a private at a fire department and then retiring. I was content with being a private, but I am grateful for the amazing opportunities I was given.”

Greeson collected many memories across his career. Some are joyful—winning the Bronze Medal for Track and Field in the 2001 World Police and Fire Games—and some are bittersweet.

One of his fondest memories occurred in 2005, the 60th

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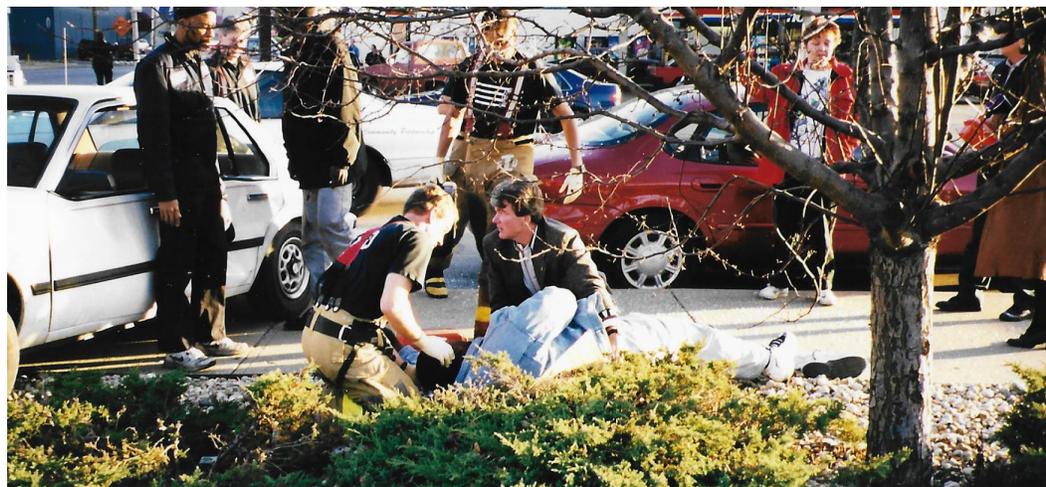


anniversary of sinking of the USS Indianapolis. Surviving crew members were making plans to honor the 60th anniversary of the ship's sinking during World War II and wanted to include a flyover of a model of the plane that rescued them. When the flyover appeared to be too expensive to pull off for the event, Greeson, who once was stationed with a survivor during the early years of his career, came up with a solution.

"When I heard about their problem, I immediately thought of James O'Donnell," Greeson said. "He never talked about his experience, and I can't imagine the struggles he and the others endured. I wanted to help out... so the firefighters of IFD and I started a collection to pay for the flyover.

"We didn't tell them until it came close to the commemoration day. The members were so excited and grateful, and it is one of the best moments of my life."

A funeral program positioned prominently on his desk reminds him of another notable career moment. A young IFD firefighter stationed with Greeson approached him just before he was deployed to Iraq.



"The night before he was scheduled to leave for Iraq, I was getting ready to leave the firehouse after my shift when I saw him and said the usual, 'Good luck and be safe over there,'" Greeson said. "In that moment, I decided to give him a hug, because I got a feeling that moment was important."

A few months later, Greeson (recently appointed as Marshal) received a call from the firefighter's parents. They asked him to speak at the firefighter's funeral. Before the young man deployed, he left a note stating if he died in Iraq he wanted Greeson to speak at his funeral.

"I was shocked. I had no clue about this letter," Greeson said. "I always rooted for him. Before he became a firefighter, he ran into some disciplinary troubles. But he turned himself around and dedicated himself to his work. I'm honored he would want me to be a part of his funeral service."

Greeson said he has learned so much, been a part of many exciting projects and had the ability to interact with wonderful Hoosiers in every corner of the state. He is proud of the agency's daily work and the efforts made to ensure large events, such as Super Bowl XLVI, are safe for those

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attending. It's the staff, however, that he appreciates the most. "Our staff is what makes our agency unique. We cover a broad range of services, but everyone is dedicated to keeping citizens safe. I hope everyone knows I find it an honor to have worked with them," he said.

IDHS Executive Director Bryan Langley added: "Marshal Greeson is a wonderful person with a proud history of service to his community. Hoosiers owe him a lot of respect and gratitude for the way he committed his life to public safety."

As he reflects on lessons learned, Greeson leaves advice he wants every member of the fire service to know.

"The fire service is the most self-satisfying career a person can have," Greeson said. "You can do something positive every day. You see a lot and need to take care of yourself. However, you have the chance to give back to your community and provide care in someone's time of need."



FOUR COUNTIES WORK TOGETHER TO CONDUCT HAZMAT DRILL



On July 31, four Indiana counties (DeKalb, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben) came together to participate in an operational emergency preparedness exercise. The exercise tested many capabilities, including response to a hazardous materials release and communication among multiple departments.

The scenario took place primarily at Carper Farm Supply in Ashley, IN, and included Ashley Fire Department, Emergency Management from each county and hazardous materials response teams from Angola Fire Department,

Auburn Fire Department and Kendallville Fire Department. Emergency Medical Services from DeKalb Health, Parkview Noble, Parkview LaGrange and Steuben County EMS also participated.

Each county Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) was required to participate. Involving four LEPC groups and three hazardous material teams helped to test how the organizations work together. Practicing in advance of a real disaster is especially important in rural settings, where groups don't always get a chance to work together.



GIRLS GO CYBERSTART WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Three Indiana teams placed in the Top 35 nationally in the 2019 *Girls Go CyberStart* challenge, a cybersecurity skills-based competition designed to encourage girls to become critical thinkers and explore a potential career in the growing field of cybersecurity.

Indiana Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch recognized the three Indiana teams in July at the Cybertech Midwest Conference in Indianapolis.

“It’s exciting to see young women taking an interest in the cybersecurity field, a field mainly dominated by men,” Crouch said. “Organizations like

SANS Institute and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security that are supporting efforts to skill up young females are such vital assets to our state and its workforce. The top three teams in Indiana have much to be proud of, and all teams have a bright future in front of them.”

The event, organized by the [SANS Institute](#), challenged the young women to solve cybersecurity-related puzzles and tested them on topics such as cryptography, programming and digital forensics.

“I am delighted by my team’s success in the *Girls Go CyberStart* competition,” said

Noblesville High School advisor Lisa Heid. “The young ladies had a blast working together using research, trial-and-error and creativity to solve the hands-on, engaging challenges. It was an awesome experience.”

With 656 young women (grades 9-12) competing this year, an increase of more than 250 from the previous year, Indiana ranked 6th among the 27 states competing this year. Last year, only 16 states competed. The program also expanded this year to include college-aged students. Both competitions included cash awards for the top three teams in each state.

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“I am so excited for these girls,” said WCC Cyber Warriors advisor Joshua Law. “They have worked so hard, and to see that work recognized is truly a special reward. I would highly recommend this program to any and all computer science teachers across Indiana.”

Just 11 percent of cybersecurity professionals working today are women, highlighting a serious gap in workforce development. *Girls Go CyberStart* seeks to spark that interest with the knowledge and excitement the field can offer them.

“I am extremely proud of our students and what they were able to accomplish,” said Whoosh Force advisor Pete Morey. “*Girls Go CyberStart* is a great opportunity for our students to push themselves and compete to build on what they are learning in the classroom.”

Since 2010, cyber jobs have increased by more than 75 percent, outpacing the talent pool and resulting in more than 1 million unfilled cyber positions nationwide. In Indiana, an estimated 2,300 jobs are unfilled, according to the [Cyberseek jobs tool](#).

For more information about *Girls Go CyberStart*, visit their [website](#).



1st Place - Noblesville High School, advised by Lisa Heid, finished 19th nationally



2nd Place - “WCC Cyber Warriors” from Walker Career Center/Warren Central High School, advised by Joshua Law, finished 23rd nationally



3rd Place - “Whoosh Force” from North Wood High School, advised by Pete Morey, finished 31st nationally

GREAT CENTRAL U.S. SHAKEOUT QUICKLY APPROACHING

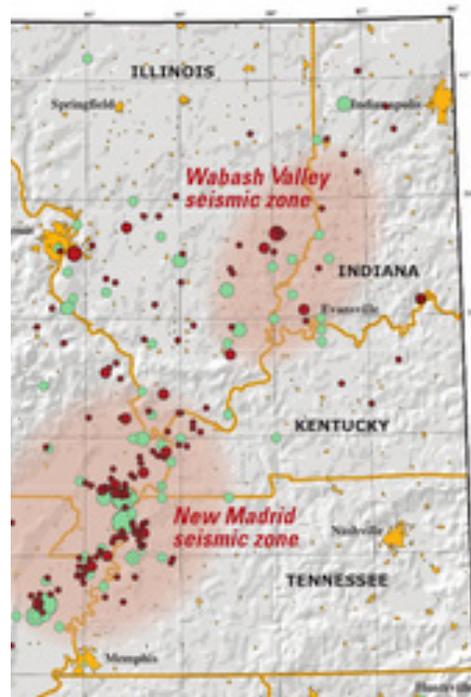
The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut will be here before you know it. At 10:17 a.m. on Oct. 17, Hoosiers are encouraged to drop to the ground, take cover under a sturdy table or desk and hold on as if a major earthquake was occurring.

EARTHQUAKES IN INDIANA?

Indiana is exposed to a serious threat of earthquakes from the New Madrid Seismic Zone, located 180 miles southwest of Evansville, and the Wabash Valley Seismic Zone, which encompasses

parts of southeastern Illinois and southwestern Indiana. If a 7.0 magnitude earthquake, like the one that recently shook California, occurred along one of these seismic zones, the result would be devastating.

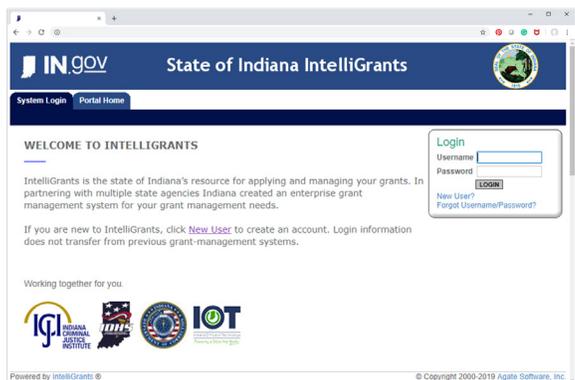
Indiana historically is among the top states in number of participants for this yearly earthquake drill. Please help the Indiana Department of Homeland Security spread the word and have Hoosiers sign up at shakeout.org/centralus. Registration is free and open to everyone.



MORE GRANT APPLICATION PERIODS APPROACHING

The grant application season continues as the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) prepares to release the applications for the Emergency Management Performance Grant and the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant Program. In the meantime, there are a few things organizations can do to prepare. Prior to submitting an application, an applicant must:

- Ensure the organization has a system administrator registered with IDHS IntelliGrants;
- Have a federal [Data Universal Numbering System](#) number;
- Ensure the organization is registered in the federal [System for Award Management](#);
- Have a [bidder number](#) registered with the state; and
- Ensure the organization is a [registered vendor](#) with the state.



NEW HELP SYSTEM LAUNCHED

To better assist grant recipients, IDHS has initiated a new ticketing system for grant-related questions and concerns.

To submit a support ticket for IDHS grants or IntelliGrants, visit dhs.in.gov/grants.htm.

UPCOMING TRAININGS

AUGUST

08/10	K9210 Basic Land Cadaver Search Tech for K-9s	BRAZIL
08/11	K9200 Basic Air Scenting Techniques for K-9s	BRAZIL
08/13	ICS 400: Advanced ICS Command & General Staff	ELKHART
08/13	ICS Forms Review Course (MGT347)	SOUTH BEND
08/14	ICS/EOC Interface G191	MADISON
08/15	ICS Forms Review Course (MGT347) (Sponsered by ISDH)	PLYMOUTH
08/19	L103 Planning: Emergency Operations	ELKHART
08/22	Senior Officials Workshop for All Hazards Preparedness (MGT-312)	VALPARAISO
08/24	SAR200 Ground Search III (Awareness)	BRAZIL
08/24	ICS 400: Advanced ICS Command & General Staff	VINCENNES

SEPTEMBER

09/06	K-9 Pretest	BRAZIL
09/07	K-9 Credentialing	BRAZIL
09/19	Local Volunteer and Donations Management (G0288)	CLARKSVILLE
09/20	Emergency Operations Plans for Rural Jurisdictions (MGT-383)	GREENSBURG
09/24	All Hazards Type III Comm. Unit Leader (COML)	INDIANAPOLIS

Register for classes on the ACADIS Portal: <https://acadisportal.in.gov/AcadisViewer/Login.aspx>

UPCOMING EVENTS

BACK TO SCHOOL MONTH

OBSERVED: AUGUST 2019

Practicing and observing school safety should happen the entire school year. However, Back to School Month offers school staff, parents and local first responders the opportunity to emphasize the importance of all-around safety practices.

The Indiana School Safety Hub is a great resource for educators and first responders for all forms of school safety information: <https://www.in.gov/schoolsafety/>.

INDIANA STATE FAIR

OBSERVED: AUGUST 2-18

Since 1852, Hoosiers have attended the Indiana State Fair to celebrate agricultural accomplishments and create fun family memories. The Indiana State Fair has entertainment option for all ages including concerts, amusement rides and agricultural competitions.

Don't forget to join IDHS at the Indiana State Fair for First Responder Day on Aug. 12 when first responders can receive free entry into the fair. See the story on page 4 for more information.

For information on amusement ride safety, visit GetPrepared.in.gov.

SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

OBSERVED: SEPTEMBER 2019

Every year, due to the trauma they regularly face, many first responders make the decision to take their own lives. The National Alliance on Mental Illness encourages everyone to use Suicide Prevention Awareness Month as an opportunity to share resources, learn and discuss suicide prevention and treatment options. IDHS encourages every first responder to complete the mental health awareness course available in Acadis.

<https://www.nami.org/Get-Involved/Awareness-Events/Suicide-Prevention-Awareness-Month>

UPCOMING EVENTS

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

OBSERVED: SEPTEMBER 2019

The annual National Preparedness Month is encouraging individuals to be “Prepared, Not Scared. Be Ready for Disasters.” Each week will have a theme that highlights key areas of disaster preparedness including how to involve children and the community.

Visit <https://www.ready.gov/september> for ideas on getting involved.

PATRIOT DAY

OBSERVED: SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

2019 marks the 18th year since the terrorist attacks that claimed the lives of many individuals on Sept. 11, 2001. Remind Hoosiers if they plan to host or attend a celebration that honors the brave men and women who were injured or lost their lives, that safety should be their first priority.

INDIANA EMERGENCY RESPONSE CONFERENCE

OBSERVED: SEPTEMBER 18-21, 2019

Each year Hoosier emergency response professionals gather at the Indiana Emergency Response Conference (IERC) to learn about emerging trends in the emergency response field, mental health and to have the opportunity to make professional connections.

Information about registration and award nominations can be found at <http://www.indianaerc.com/>.

“IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING” AWARENESS DAY

OBSERVED: SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security encourages citizens, private-owned organizations and government organizations to help spread the message of reporting suspicious activity. Sharing information about the importance of suspicious activity reporting on social media is one way to help keep communities safe.

For more information about what suspicious activity is, visit www.dhs.gov.

*The Indiana Department of Homeland Security works 24/7
to protect the people, property and prosperity of Indiana.*



*The Hoosier Responder is a publication of
The Indiana Department of Homeland Security.
Please direct any questions or comments to the
IDHS Office of Public Affairs at 317.234.6713 or pio@dhs.in.gov*

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