

SARATOGA COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



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County EOC Operational

After seven months of construction and modification, the Office of Emergency Services is proud to announce the completion of the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The new state-of-the-art facility features are: Main Coordination Room complete with Wifi, visual/audio equipment, NOAA weather information and IAM Responding systems; a Management Section Room, Communications Room and two storage rooms.

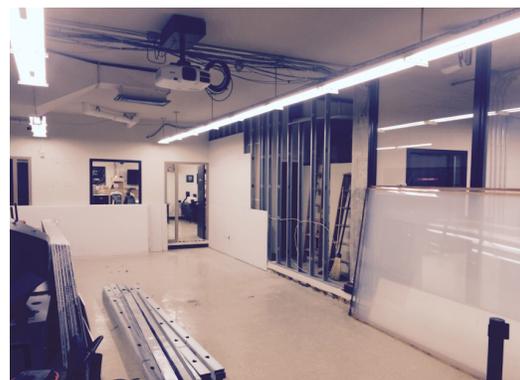
The EOC will be the County's central command and control facility responsible for carrying out the principles of emergency preparedness and emergency management, or disaster management functions at a strategic level in an emergency situation, and ensuring the continuity of operation of a company, political subdivision or other organization.

The EOC does not command or control on-scene response efforts, but does carry out the coordination functions through:

1. Collecting, evaluating and disseminating incident information;
2. Analyzing jurisdictional impacts and setting priority actions; and
3. Managing requests, procurement and utilization of resources.

The decisions made through the EOC are designed to be broad in scope and offer general guidance on priorities. Information is disseminated through the EOC Manager and tactical decisions are coordinated from field response personnel.

If your department or agency would like to tour the new center, please contact our office at 518-885-2232 or email us at: emergencyservices@saratogacountyny.gov



The 'Fishbowl' prior to being renovated into the County's new Emergency Operations Center.



The County's renovated 'Fishbowl' area, now the new Emergency Operations Center located in the Office of Emergency Services.



Saratoga County Sheriff's Communications Desk Sergeant, Steve Gordon shows off the back-up communications center to members of Round Lake Fire, as part of a tour of the EOC.

SARATOGA COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

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May 2015

SARATOGA COUNTY FIRE SERVICES



Ed Tremblay, is the Saratoga County Fire Coordinator and Deputy Director of the Office of Emergency Services. Ed is also a Life Member of both West Crescent Fire Department and Clifton Park Halfmoon Ambulance. Ed can be reached at: etremblay@saratogacountyny.gov



Rail Car Incident Response Course

This awareness level course has been developed to educate rural emergency responders of freight rail car incidents involving hazardous materials. Through this course, participants will gain an understanding of potential hazards at a train derailment, the properties of specific chemicals and various incident control, confinement and containment mitigation techniques.

Location: Westmere Fire Department
1741 Western Avenue
Albany, NY 12203

Time: June 4th -- 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Cost: There is no fee for the course. Food, lodging & transportation costs are the responsibility of the participant.

REGISTER: The Statewide Learning Management System (SLMS) will be used for course registration <https://nyslearn.ny.gov/index.html> if you already have an account within SLMS please choose SLMS Login, if you are new to the system please choose First Time Logging. Or, you can email: OEM.training@dhses.ny.gov

Click this link to learn more about the course objectives and prerequisites. <http://www.tinyurl.com/pno2mnn>

Classroom and Facility Calendar Now On-line

The Office of Emergency Services is pleased to announce that you can now view the availability of the fire training classroom and training facilities on-line. You will still need to call OES at 885-2232 to reserve space. View the calendar by clicking on the link: <http://www.saratogacountyny.gov/oesCal/>

HazMat Team Trains



Members of the Saratoga County Hazardous Materials Response Team prepare to install the A Kit from the Chlorine Leak Kit on a simulated leaking cylinder at a drill held recently.



Members of the Saratoga County Hazardous Materials Response Team go through the decontamination process at a recent drill.

Fluid Fire Training



Firefighters move in to contain a simulated leaking fluid fire during the Live Fire Class B Foam Operations class held at the Saratoga County Fire Training Center.

SARATOGA COUNTY EMS



Mike McEvoy, PhD, NRP, RN, CCRN is the EMS Coordinator for Saratoga County, paramedic supervisor for Clifton Park & Halfmoon Ambulance, firefighter and chief medical officer for West Crescent Fire and EMS editor for *Fire Engineering* magazine. He is a nurse clinician in the cardiothoracic surgical ICU at Albany Med where he also teaches critical care medicine and chairs the hospital resuscitation committee. Mike also serves on the EMS Section Board of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the board of the National Registry for EMTs.

Council Recommends Radio Procedures Changes

A radio subcommittee of the Saratoga EMS Council has recommended some changes to EMS radio procedures and implementation began on February 18th, 2015. The major change is a routine assignment of a TAC channel to all EMS calls, in the same fashion as Fire calls have always been given a TAC. To improve interoperability, all updates on EMS calls will be provided exclusively on the assigned TAC. This means that, after calling enroute on EMS1, all units should switch to their assigned TAC and remain on the TAC until leaving the scene. The only exception would be if they need to reach EMS Dispatch, in which case, it is necessary to return to EMS1 (i.e., arrival on scene, departing for a hospital, clearing a scene in service, etc). Any communications between EMS units on scene or responding and/or fire units on scene or responding should occur on the assigned TAC. If EMS Dispatch is looking for units responding or on scene, they will switch to the assigned TAC to make contact.

It is hoped that this will resolve the continued lack of interoperability between fire and EMS. Currently, updates are being given to EMS on one channel and Fire on another. Both are asking Communications to relay messages rather than talking directly to the other. The change will have a side benefit of allowing EMS first responders to contact their responding ambulance directly on the assigned TAC without being delayed by (or interrupting) other calls in progress on EMS1. Contact EMS Coordinator Mike McEvoy with questions or concerns.

Congratulations Fred Fowler

Congratulations to Fred Fowler, well known to the Saratoga County EMS community, on assuming the Chief Operating Officer position at General Schuyler Rescue Squad. Fred's email is at GSES is ffowler@generalschuylerems.org. He began his position on March 4th.

Aeroclave Disinfection

Wilton EMS has acquired an Aeroclave disinfection unit (see www.aeroclave.com) that they are willing to allow other agencies to use on a cost-recovery basis. If you have an ambulance, piece of fire apparatus, patrol car, dorm room or other enclosed space that has been biologically contaminated, contact Chief Nash Alexander at n.alexander@wiltonems.org.

Iam Responding Update

With the addition of IamResponding screens to each Desk Officer console in Communications, EMS agencies are encouraged to keep their membership rosters up to date. Shortly, the EMS Council will issue a standardized template for reporting units in and out of service using IamR.

Saratoga Hospital ER VHF Radio

Work continues in an effort to resolve intermittent issues encoding the Saratoga Hospital Emergency Department VHF radio. Testing recently revealed some anomalies that may explain the intermittent nature of our inability to reach SHED. There appears to be a relatively high level of spurious RF (radio frequency) scatter in the area of the SHED base station. One source that is quite likely to be very close in bandwidth and extremely sporadic in transmitting is the hospital paging system. While relatively impossible to address directly, and especially since it is not the sole source of the spurious RF, Pittsfield Communications has through experience learned that some base stations are less likely to be bothered by these conditions than others. To that end, they have swapped out the SHED base station with a different brand unit that has been found to perform more robustly in like circumstances. This may (or may not) solve the problem. Thanks to everyone for your continued patience. Please advise your agency leadership or EMS-1 of any continued difficulties reaching SHED.



SHERIFF'S OFFICE



STOP DWI Night



Lt. R Daniel Jones and ADA Matt Coseo dropped the puck at the Adirondack Flames STOP DWI night at the Glens Falls Civic Center.

Deputy Welch Recognized



Sheriff Zurlo (right) presented Deputy Josh Welch a Certificate of Commendation for exemplary efforts performed during the course of his duties on February 10th.

Boating Safety Course

All individuals born on or after 5/1/96 are now required to successfully complete an approved course in boater education in order to operate a motorboat. Approved courses include those offered by NYS Parks, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or the U.S. Power Squadron. Click the link find a course in Saratoga County: <http://tinyurl.com/ntp67c8>

Annual EMS Awards

REMO is soliciting applications for the Annual EMS Awards. Each region selects winners who are then submitted to the State EMS Council for selection of State awards. Our own Ann Marie Cross (SHED Nurse Manager) was the State EMS Registered Nurse of Excellence previously and Joyce Eichorst (Saratoga County CIC) was a State EMS Educator of Excellence. Consider nominating one of your peers for recognition! Forms and instructions are on the DOH website at: www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/emsawards.htm.

Mass Antibiotic Exercise

Saratoga County Public Health conducted a mass antibiotic dispensing exercise on Tuesday at Maple Avenue Middle School.

The purpose of the exercise is to test the county Public Health department's capacity to respond to a large scale-disease outbreak to protect the public. Several hundred volunteer participants of all ages — including individuals, school groups, community groups, senior centers and businesses — were recruited to participate. (Courtesy of the Times Union)

New EMT's

Saratoga County Sheriff, Chief Rick Castle, Communications Sergeant Steve Gordon and the Office of Emergency Services Director, Carl Zeilman and Deputy Director, Ed Tremblay recently, re-certified their New York State Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) credentials.

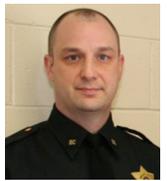
Training involved classroom time, practical skills assessment and a State exam. Certification is good for the next three years.

The primary focus of the Emergency Medical Technician is to provide basic emergency medical care and transportation for critical and emergent patients who access the emergency medical system. This individual possesses the basic knowledge and skills necessary to provide patient care and transportation. Emergency Medical Technicians function as part of a comprehensive EMS response, under medical oversight. Emergency Medical Technicians perform interventions with the basic equipment typically found on an ambulance. The Emergency Medical Technician is a link from the scene to the emergency health care system.

Those interested in finding out more information about EMS courses should visit: <http://www.saratogaems.org>



Castle



Gordon



Tremblay



Zeilman

Send Us Your Department Patch

The Office of Emergency Services works closely with fire, police and ems agencies from across Saratoga County protecting life and property.

As a way to show off our partnership, we are in the process of creating a first responder wall where we can proudly display your departments colors. To date, we have had 15 departments submit their patch to us.

If you would you like to provide OES with a patch for the wall, please send it to: The Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services, 25 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020.

Emergency 9-1-1 Notifications

Hyper-Reach is an emergency warning tool used to make rapid emergency telephone notifications to residents and businesses in precise geographic areas. Hyper-Reach will be used by Saratoga County emergency officials, during emergencies only, to deliver incident-specific information or potentially life-saving instruction to those in the affected area(s).

Hyper-Reach integrates mapping technology with phone databases, and will call listed and unlisted land line telephone numbers for Saratoga County residences and businesses.

Cellular phone numbers are not automatically included in the system database, nor are Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone systems. If you would like to receive these emergency telephone notifications on your cellular or VoIP phone, you must first register these phone numbers. You may register at the Self-Registration Portal by clicking <https://secure.hyper-reach.com/comsignup.jsp?id=22342>

If you are a Town 911 Coordinator or Supervisor and would like to set-up a training or refresher on how to utilize the Hyper-Reach system, contact Chuck Pasquarell, in the Office of Emergency Services at 885-2232.

Mobile / Portable Radio Service

Did you know that the Office of Emergency Services operates a web portal for reporting all radio (mobile/portable) equipment failure? You can also request radio service's to include installation and re-programming via this same portal.

To ensure that your request is met in an efficient manner, please conduct all radio requests through the radio web portal.

Please use the link below to learn more.

<http://radio.saratogacountyny.gov/>



Dam Safety Seminar



The Office of Emergency Services hosted a Dam safety presentation on Thursday, March 26th at the Fire Training classroom. More than 30 people from across the county attended the meeting that focused on Emergency Action Plans and preparing for a dam emergency and flooding.

Blue Friday Event in Wilton



Multiple police departments from across Saratoga County gathered Friday, April 24th at the Ninety Nine Restaurant in Wilton, to show support for Blue Friday, a day to honor fallen police officers.

Did You Know???

Saratoga County covers 814 square miles and consists of more than 20 two cities, 19 towns, and 9 villages. The approximate population is 224,000 people. Also contained within Saratoga County are numerous lakes, rivers, and streams which draw thousands of residents and visitors to their shores for various kinds of recreation.