



The Western Massachusetts Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (WRHSAC) is a seventeen member, volunteer Council charged by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to administer and coordinate the State Homeland Security Grant for the four counties of Western Massachusetts: Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire and Hampden.

Funded activities are regional in scope and build and enhance capabilities that enable the region to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from threats and hazards including domestic and foreign terrorist acts.

HOMELAND SECURITY INFORMATION FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

www.wrhsac.org

 www.facebook.com/WRHSAC

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➤ COVID-19 Response AAR

The Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (WRHSAC) will conduct an After-Action Report (AAR) of the region's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The AAR will focus on how the COVID-19 response worked (or did not work) at the local, county and Western Mass level (Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire and Hampden Counties). The outcome will identify things we can change to make the next response work better.

The first step of this project is to develop a scope of services to procure a consultant to complete the AAR and Improvement Plan (IP). The scope development is in the form of a strategic planning process to identify who should be involved in the AAR/IP process and what issues should be the focus of the AAR/IP. WRHSAC has engaged the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission's (BRPC) Public Health Program to facilitate this planning process.

WRHSAC seeks your input.

BRPC has develop a survey to gather your feedback. Please click the button to complete the survey.

[Click here to complete the AAR development survey](#)

WRHSAC's timeline for the project is to complete the AAR focus and scope of services for a consultant by early October 2021, with a consultant engaged by mid-December 2021. The AAR will get underway in January 2022. WRHSAC expects the AAR process will take nine months up to a year. It is anticipated that focused and region-wide interviews and conferences will be part of the AAR process to gather information from the region's responders. A final region-wide AAR/IP conference will be held to publicize the outcome and discoveries.

WRHSAC will use the IP to direct projects in the coming years. Thank you for your participation.



Large Animal Rescue Training

We still have some spaces remaining in the upcoming Large Animal Rescue Training. Two sessions are offered - Saturday, June 19 in Williamstown and Friday, June 25 in Southampton.

[Click here to learn more and register.](#)

The training is free. Lunch will be provided. Co-sponsored by SMART and taught by MSPCA.

Chainsaw Skills and Safety Training

The first sessions of the Chainsaw Skills and Safety Training 2021 are scheduled and registration is open. This series consists of two training modules: *Basic Chainsaw Skills & Safety and Advanced Skills*.

The training is being held in Lenox, Ma. The basic training is two days - choose to attend on Monday & Tuesday, June 21 and 22, or Monday & Tuesday, July 12 and 13th. The advanced training is one day and will be held on Friday, July 30.



[Click here to learn more and register.](#)



Additional sessions will be held in Lanesborough and Lenox, likely in late summer/early fall. Announcements will be shared as soon as the dates are set.

Officer Down Rescue Recertification

Springfield Police Department is hosting an Officer Down Rescue Recertification Training. It is being held on Wednesday, September 15, 2021. This training is for those who have previously taken Officer Down Rescue and need a recertification.

Space is limited. Course cost is \$175.00. If you are interested please contact Eric Stratton at tacticalems625@gmail.com or 413.531.8699.

The Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (WRHSAC) was established in 2004 by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. WRHSAC is charged with administering the State Homeland Security Grant for western Massachusetts. Fifteen officials representing the first responder disciplines as identified by the Department of Homeland Security comprise the membership of WRHSAC. The disciplines and their representatives are:

Law Enforcement

- ◇ Chief Stephen Kozloski, Monson: skozloski@monson-ma.gov
- ◇ Chief Michael Wynn, Pittsfield: mwynn@pittsfieldch.com
- ◇ Chief John Paciorek, Deerfield: jpaciorek@police.deerfield.ma.us

Fire Services

- ◇ Chief John Dearborn, Longmeadow: jdearborn@longmeadow.org
- ◇ Chief Charles Burger, Great Barrington: cburger@townofgb.org
- ◇ Chief Jon Davine, Northampton: jdavine@northamptonma.gov

Municipal Government

- ◇ Carolyn Shores Ness, Deerfield: acornhillfarm@hotmail.com

Public Health

- ◇ Jeanne Galloway: jgalloway@townofwestspringfield.org

Emergency Medical Services

- ◇ Stephen Gaughan: gaughans@amherstma.gov

Public Safety Communications

- ◇ Nina Barszcz, Westfield: nina.barszcz@cityofwestfield.org

Correctional Services

- ◇ Sheriff Thomas Bowler, Berkshire County
- ◇ Lt. Col Thomas Grady, Proxy, Berkshire County
thomas.grady@sdb.state.ma.us

Regional Transit Authority

- ◇ Jamin Carroll, PVTA: carroll@pvtransit.com

Hospitals

- ◇ Monica Wynne, Baystate Health: Monica.Wynne@baystatehealth.org

Emergency Management

- ◇ Robert Hassett, Springfield: rhassett@springfieldcityhall.com

Department Of Public Works

- ◇ Chris Bouchard, South Hadley: cbouchard@southhadleyma.gov

K-12 Education

- ◇ Marty O'Shea, Longmeadow: moshea@longmeadow.k12.ma.us

Higher Education

- ◇ Vacant



Key Statewide Contacts

Mass. Emergency Management Agency (MEMA):
<http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/>
Phone: 508-820-2000

Mass. Department of Public Health (DPH):
www.mass.gov/dph/
Phone: (617) 983-6800

Mass. Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP):
www.mass.gov/dep/
Emergency Notification 888-304-1133

Massachusetts State Police (MSP):
<http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/msp/>
Regional Dispatch (Northampton) (413) 587-5700
Regional Dispatch (Shelburne Falls) (413) 625-8200
Regional Dispatch (Cheshire) (413) 743-4700
Regional Dispatch (Lee) (413) 243-0600

Mass 2-1-1:
<http://www.mass211help.org/>

Serving the Western Massachusetts
counties of Berkshire, Franklin,
Hampshire and Hampden

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