

Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council Newsletter

August 2021



WMTRT Structural Collapse Exercise Series

WRHSAC has provided funds to the Western Mass Tech Rescue Team (WMTRT) to drill and exercise their Structural Collapse capabilities. A workshop, tabletop, and drill have been held. The series will wrap up with a full-scale exercise in early September.

A main focus of the series is to expand interagency cross training and establish relationships across multiple teams and disciplines to facilitate response to complex incidents. Throughout the series WMTRT has exercised along with the Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad, District 4 & 5 Hazardous Materials Response Teams, and several other participating Fire Departments. WMTRT is also focusing on improving gaps identified in previous exercises, one of which is improving ability to provide medical care, such as applying tourniquets in a confined space.

The photos are from the drill held in late July in Southwick. Photo credits PublicSafety Multimedia.





Chainsaw Safety Training

We have a few spaces left in the remaining sessions of Chainsaw Safety Training. This will be the last time WRHSAC offers the training in the region, so if you are interested, register soon. Sessions with available space include one in September in Lanesboro, and two in October in Erving. Follow the link to learn more and register.

Learn More and Register





Building Healthy Workplaces

WRHSAC is offering another virtual session of its *Building Healthy Workplaces – How to Promote Mental Health in First Responder Organizations* training.



This training has been specifically built for first responder leadership and provides tools and best practices to support leadership in promoting positive mental health in their agencies.

The eight-hour training will be offered in four 2-hour sessions on Thursdays in October as follows: October 7, 14, 21 & 28 10am – noon.

Learn More and Register

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