

WRHSAC
Western Region Homeland
Security Advisory Council



Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council Newsletter August 2022

Registration is now open for WRHSAC's Inaugural
First Responder Mental Health Conference



**Western Region
Homeland Security Advisory Council
of Massachusetts**



First Responder Mental Health Resilience Conference

Join us on consecutive Thursdays in October 2022 for this exciting virtual series of leading edge keynote speakers and workshops. Attend all sessions or pick and chose what interests you. Click the button below to learn more and register.

Registration is now open! [Click here to register](#)

We are using Zoom Events to host this Conference. Zoom Events works a little different than regular Zoom. [Click here for some helpful navigation hints.](#)

Underwater Remote Operated Vehicle

WRHSAC has added a remote underwater operated vehicle (ROV) as a regional asset.

The ROV is a self-propelled, highly portable underwater vehicle that is controlled from the surface. It is equipped with a 250 foot tether. It has self-contained lighting and pan tilt front and rear cameras for illuminating and documenting an incident. With its sonar scanner and a manipulation arm, not only can the operator locate a victim or object in zero visibility but also they could recover them without having to assemble teams and deploy divers. The sonar can detect objects up to 60 meters away from the ROV and can be used in areas or

situations that are not conducive to towed systems like ice rescue, confined spaces or areas without boat access.

The ROV can also be outfitted to perform other tasks such as locating metal objects including explosive devices, inspecting and recording things like dams, bridges or any other underwater structure or areas that needs to be monitored. The ROV can also be deployed to collect samples or document conditions in underwater environments without risk to divers.

The ROV is housed, maintained and run by the Southwick Police Dive Team. To have the ROV team respond, a requesting Department should contact the Southwick Police Department at (413) 569-5348 (press 0) for Dispatch. The dispatcher will take down the information from the requesting department. The Southwick Dive Team will be in contact with the requester to further coordinate response.

The Southwick Police Department can respond in an emergency situation immediately or can schedule a response for non-emergent situations. Depending on the nature of the request and staffing situations, the Southwick P.D. will send at least two operators to run the R.O.V. If needed, additional assets may be available to include the Dive Team or a Marine Patrol Unit. See [WRHSAC's Resource Guide](#) for more information.



Southwick Police Dive Team members being trained on ROV capabilities.



The ROV in the training pool.



Remotely operating the ROV and watching what it sees with its front and back cameras.



The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Region 1 (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont) invites you to join a two-hour security webinar to enhance awareness of and response to an active shooter event.

Preparing employees for a potential active shooter incident is an integral component of an organization's incident response planning. Because active shooter incidents are unpredictable and evolve quickly, preparing for and knowing what to do in an active shooter situation can be the difference between life and death. Every second counts.

Who should Participate?

- Corporate and facility security professionals from the private and public sectors
- Supervisory first responders
- Human Resource managers
- Community Response and Liaison officers
- Health organizations
- Faith-based leaders
- School administrators and security officers
- Homeland security representatives

Registration is free

[Click here to register](#) for Wednesday, August 31 Webinar at 1:00pm EDT

[Click here to register](#) for Wednesday, September 21 Webinar at 1:00pm EDT

Upcoming Trainings

Here's a brief overview of several trainings coming up this fall. Watch your email and WRHSAC's website for more information and the ability to register.

Search and Tracking Training

September 21 -23, 2022 in Amherst and Hadley.

Honed tracking skills are applicable as a primary response skill. It helps to verifying witness statements, to establish the last know place of a subject and their purpose or intent and path of egress or exit routing. Enhanced visual tracking can help to reveal physical evidence and to follow an evasive or threatening subject.

The training includes both classroom and field work.

Advanced Medical Life Support Training

Two sessions in Easthampton, MA. Likely November. Exact dates to be announced soon. NAEMT's Advanced Medical Life Support (AMLS) course teaches EMS practitioners and other pre-hospital providers the use of the AMLS Assessment Pathway, a systematic tool for assessing and managing common medical conditions with urgent accuracy. AMLS teaches students to recognize and manage common medical crises through realistic case-based scenarios that challenge them to apply their knowledge to highly critical patients.

Vehicle Stabilization and Lift Training

Springfield in early November. Exact dates to be announced soon.

Stabilizing, lifting & capturing are the three vital components associated with a successful rescue operation when dealing with a confirmed vehicle pin. Remove any one of these, and the results could be disastrous for the victim and rescuers. The objective of this training is to build a solid operational foundation based on the three aspects of lifting (stabilization, lifting, & capturing) and tie them together to insure a positive outcome. The training includes classrom and hands-on field work.

USFA O-305, Type 3 All-Hazard Incident Management Team Training

November 2 - 6, Greenfield Community College

A five-day course which provides students with a solid foundation of the activities, processes, leadership elements, and the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to function within the framework of a Type 3 AHIMT deployed to an incident or planned event.

Tactical Emergency Casualty Care Training

WRHSAC offered sessions of Tactical Emergency Casualty Care Training in early summer 2022. This NAEMT course teaches EMS practitioners and other pre-hospital providers how to respond to and care for patients in a civilian tactical environment. Essential life saving skills which can be utilized in active shooter incidents or other incident with severe casualties were taught. The video below shares some reflections from the instructors and participants.



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