

VEMS 2017 Schedule

Day/Time	Session	Speaker	Title	Description
Day One Tuesday March 21, 2017				
11:00 am - 5:00 pm	Golf Outing (10:30) & Wine Tasting Tour (11:45)			
12:00 - 5:00 pm	Vendor Registration			
1:00 - 4:00 pm	IHE Meeting			
5:30 - 7:00 pm	Registration			
6:30 - 9:30 pm	Vendor Hall Grand Opening & Silent Auction Opening			
7:00 - 9:00 pm	Vendor Hall Reception			

Day Two Wednesday March 22, 2017

7:00 - 11:00 am	Registration			
7:30 - 8:15 am	Breakfast			
8:15 - 9:15 am	GS1	Mark Nugent-Emergency Services Coordinator, Middlesex County (MC); Williamsburg Fire Department Color Guard; Paul Freiling, Williamsburg City Mayor; Michelle Oblinsky, Virginia Emergency Management Association(VEMA) President; Honorable Governor McAuliffe; Secretary Brian Moran, Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security; Brett Burdick, Deputy State Coordinator for Disaster Services-Virginia Department of Emergency Management	Welcome, Color Guard, Invocation, Opening	Opening Ceremonies

9:15 - 10:30 am	GS 2	Stacie Neal, Critical Infrastructure Protection Program Manager-Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security; David Dowling, Deputy Director, Department of Conservation and Recreation	The criticality of Virginia's dams and harnessing technology to provide situational awareness	The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation has embarked upon a major upgrade to their dam monitoring capabilities. The Virginia Department of Emergency Management is partnering with DCR to ensure we have access to current dam safety information for use in preparedness activities and during emergency response and recovery efforts. The new DCR system will provide geospatial data on high-hazard dams in Virginia and will provide electronic access to the EAP or Emergency Action Plan that must be submitted by dam owner/operators every five years. The project is being implemented in phases. This session will provide awareness of the system and educate emergency managers on the long-term goals of the project.
10:30 - 11:00 am	Refreshment Break			
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	GS3	Bill Sammler, National Weather Service Wakefield; Erin Sutton - Deputy Emergency Manager Coordinator, Virginia Beach	Hurricane Matthew - Virginia Beach and their "Rain Event"	This presentation will provide a brief description of the meteorological impacts and evolution of Hurricane Matthew.
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Lunch			
1:00 pm	Silent Auction Closes			
1:00 - 3:30 pm	Registration			
2:00 pm	Vendor Hall Closes			
2:00 - 5:00 pm	Vendor Appointments			

Break Out sessions				
1:30 -3:00 pm	A1	Cheryl Lee - Grants Director, Virginia Department of Emergency Management; Michelle Oblinsky - VEST Director, Virginia Department of Emergency Management; Susan Mongold - Deputy Coordinator Mission Support, Virginia Department of Emergency Management	Virginia Department of Emergency Management(VDEM) Division Reviews	Areas for discussion include updates from VDEM's Grants, VEST and Regional Divisions. Grants Division representative will provide updates on the Fiscal Year 2017 grants, mitigation grant processes, peer review opportunities and the status of FEMA / state Public Assistance pay outs. Regional updates include new regional staffing model and their role in disaster response and recovery. The VEST Director will provide an update on the newly implemented VEST office.
1:30 - 3:00 pm	A2	Todd Biebel - Manager of Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery, Verizon Wireless	Verizon Wireless - "Emergency Response Capabilities & Preparedness"	The Verizon Wireless Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery (BC/DR) program focuses on identifying potential risks, implementing preventative measures, and by developing and testing BC/DR plans to reduce the impact of a disruption. Verizon Wireless works to keep our wireless network the Nation's most reliable, so we're ready for any disaster that may affect our customers and communities, and know these ongoing preparations matter. The Verizon Wireless network has been tested time and again when disaster strikes – be it hurricanes, wildfires, tornados or other disaster affecting our communities. We understand the importance of wireless communication in disasters and prepare year-round, so customer can rely on our network to keep them, their families, friends and employees connected – even when the unexpected strikes. By building solid Public / Private partnerships with the Emergency Response community, Verizon Wireless becomes an integral part of planning, response and recovery efforts. The importance of these partnerships can never be overstated and we will continue our efforts, so that our partners know firsthand they can rely on us to keep them connected, as they respond to those who are affected by disaster".

1:30 - 3:00 pm	A3	Phil Miskovic-Emergency Preparedness Planner Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Dr. Benjamin Keys-Executive Director, Green Cross Academy of Traumatology; Sarah Paige fuller-Executive Director, Norfolk Community Service Board	Disaster Behavioral Health Resources in the Commonwealth	A panel discussion and overview on disaster behavioral health services available to localities from local, state, and private sector partners.
1:30 - 3:00 pm	A4	Jeff Fletcher - Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Management, Loudoun County; Kelly Myers- Senior Policy Analyst, Loudoun County	The Butterfly Effect: How Small Changes Improve the Big Picture	We all work under conditions that might be considered chaotic. Part of the Chaos Theory is a belief that very small changes have a significant impact at a later time. A follow up to the 2015 break out session "THIRA- Using Partnerships to Succeed", this session provides tested and proven tools and processes designed to help attendees efficiently work through their list of strategic and planning initiatives (small changes) regardless of how they were identified. Content includes prioritization, establishing and managing work groups, developing project scopes, and tracking progress.
1:30 - 3:00 pm	A5	Cathie Hutchins- Virginia Senior Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General of Virginia	Legal Concerns	This session, led by the Commonwealth's Office of the Attorney General, will discuss legal issues facing localities in the area of emergency management. There will be open dialogue between the attorney and audience to allow for a better understanding of legal issues facing localities.
3:00 - 3:15 pm	Refreshment Break			

3:15 - 4:45 pm	B1	<p>Brittany Schaal - Director of Emergency Management, University of Richmond; Mike Mulhare - Director of Emergency Management, Virginia Tech; Tom Mayhew - Emergency Management Coordinator, Northern Virginia Community College</p>	Emergency Management in Higher Education – What does that really mean?”	<p>Although IHE's are part of the community in which the institution resides, emergency management practitioners regularly must focus on special considerations unique to the higher education environment when preparing students, faculty, staff and visitors for responding to, recovering from and mitigating against emergencies. Other roles may include special event management, infectious disease outbreaks, facilities concerns/management, student services, environmental health, academic instruction, safety and security. This panel discussion will provide an opportunity for IHE emergency managers to share the various roles they play on their campuses that are as diverse as the Commonwealth's localities. These practitioners face a difficult challenge each day and do the work of many small offices.</p>
3:15 - 4:45 pm	B2	<p>Lauren Stienstra - Deputy Coordinator, Arlington County Office of Emergency Management</p>	A Successful Six Pack	<p>Frustrated with fairs? Flyers and giveaways seeming tired and trite? The Arlington County Office of Emergency Management thought as much, as in 2015-2016, they knew they needed a fresh approach to reach targeted audiences. This session will provide you with six "off-the-shelf" ideas guaranteed to add a bit of bite and inspiration to any emergency preparedness outreach program. These high-value, easily-implementable projects address audiences ranging from difficult-to-reach pre-teens to enthusiastic pet owners. Emphasis is placed on novelty, engagement, and the utilization of pre-existing programs and partnerships- making outreach more fun, more newsworthy, and overall, more effective.</p>

3:15 - 4:45 pm	B3	Robert Campbell - President/CEO, Alliance Solutions Group, Inc.; Darren Goodbar - UAS Program Coordinator, Virginia Department of Emergency Management	Cleared for Take-off: The Future of Small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS) in Emergency Response	With take-off clearance from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the use of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) is on pace to expand exponentially for a variety of applications. The presentation will address operational requirements, challenges and procedures for integrating small UAS in emergency response operations with discussion on use of volunteers, sUAS pilots, and lessons learned. Over the last decade, UAS operators have employed a variety of sensing technology to support emergency response and recovery operations such as search and rescue, damage assessments, fire fighting operations, and medical supply delivery. This presentation will build on recent case studies and share the latest best practices for utilizing UAS in emergency and Hazmat response operations as a tool to support public protective actions and incident objectives while minimizing exposure to responders.
3:15 - 4:45 pm	B4	Beth McAteer - Senior Emergency Management Consultant, Witt O'Brien's; Michelle Oblinsky - VEST Director, Virginia Department of Emergency Management	February 2016 Tornado Response and Recovery	Witt O'Brien's will conduct a review of the After Action Report for the twelve (12) localities affected by the response operations to the severe weather event and tornado outbreak which occurred throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia on February 24, 2016.

3:15 - 4:45 pm	B5	Creig Moore - Emergency Management Coordinator, Gloucester County; Mark Nugent - Emergency Services Coordinator, Middlesex County; Rebecca Morgan-Director, Middlesex County Social Services, Beth Barry- Director, Gloucester County Social Services; Kasey Meinecke- Lead Planner, The Olson Group; Dawn Brantley-Sheltering Coordinator Virginia Department of Emergency Management; Emma Strong- Disaster Program Specialist - American Red Cross of Capital Virginia	Development of a Regional Interim Shelter Plan	The purpose of this presentation is to describe the process used to develop a regional plan to assist localities to transition from County managed shelter operation into a Regional Interim Shelter managed by the American Red Cross. In a collaborative effort, the counties of Gloucester, Virginia, and Middlesex, Virginia working with the American Red Cross (ARC) and the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission (MP PDC) decided to address the challenges and fill the gaps.
8:30 - 10:00 pm	Paradigm's Hospitality Suite (Time subject to change)			

Day Three Thursday March 23, 2017				
7:15 - 11:00 am	Registration			
7:30 - 8:30 am	Breakfast			
8:15 - 8:30 am	Announcements- Mark Nugent			
8:30 - 9:30 am	GS4	Dr. S. Hughes Melton - Chief Deputy Commissioner, Virginia Department of Health; Jeff Walker - Northern Region Public Health Coordinator, Virginia Department of Health; Craig Camidge - Executive Director, Near Southwest Preparedness Alliance	Virginia Department of Health(VDH) Overview - Public Health and Healthcare	VDH will provide an overview on their ESF-8 role. This will include an overview of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) and Hospital Emergency Preparedness (HPP) grant. Speakers will discuss the role of local health departments and the role of Healthcare Coalitions and Regional Healthcare Coordinating Centers (RHCCs).
9:30 - 10:15 pm	GS5	April Taylor, Deputy Emergency Manager, City of Orlando	Orlando Pulse Nightclub	Overview of EOC operations and opening/operating a FAC for a mass casualty event. The Orlando Pulse Nightclub mass shooting on June 12th, 2016, took the lives of 49 people and injured at least another 53 people.

10:15 -10:45 am	Refreshment Break			
10:45am - 12:00 pm	GS6	Don Keldsen-Federal Coordinating Officer, Federal Emergency Management Agency	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region III and Virginia – Policy, Program, & Issues Update	FEMA Region III and Virginia – Policy, Program, & Issues Update
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Lunch/ General Membership Meeting			
1:30 - 3:30 pm	Registration			
Breakout Sessions				
1:30 - 3:00 pm	C1	Kelly Parker - State Hospital Preparedness Coordinator, Virginia Department of Health; Donna Ruth-Emergency Healthcare Coordinator, Portsmouth, Virginia Department of Health; Cindy Shelton-assistant Director, State Strategic National Stockpile Coordinator, Office of Emergency Preparedness, Virginia Department of Health	Virginia Department of Health(VDH) Town Hall/Overview	This session will explore the ASPR emPOWER initiative and how this data impacts localities ability to prepare and responds to the needs of electricity dependent individuals. It will discuss the difference between closed and open points of dispensing (PODs) and the Center for Disease Control and Preventions (CDC) Strategic National Stockpile (SNS).
1:30 - 3:00 pm	C2	Brett Burdick - Deputy State Coordinator for Disaster Services, Virginia Department of Emergency Management; Chris Thompson-Information Technology Manager, Crisis Applications and Communications Technology Virginia Department of Emergency Management; Jay Nelson-Operations Planning Branch Chief, Virginia Department of Emergency Management	Developing a Situational Awareness System for Virginia	This presentation discusses how Virginia Department of Emergency Management(VDEM) is developing a Situational Awareness tool based upon sound scientific principles. We will review the requirements and limitations of SA users; outline the history of SA tool development in Virginia; describe how the tool was developed using these principles and how it works; and how it is implemented for use in the Commonwealth. At the end of the presentation attendees will better appreciate the utility and limitations of a Situational Awareness tool in emergency management.

1:30 - 3:00 pm	C3	Erin Sutton - Emergency Manager, City of Virginia Beach; Robb Braidwood-Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Management, City of Chesapeake; Jim Redick- Director of Emergency Management, City of Norfolk; Ed Porner-Director of Recovery and Resilience Division, Virginia Department of Emergency Management; Don Keldsen- Federal Coordinating Officer, Federal Emergency Management Agency	The storm has passed...Now What?	A panel discussion on Preliminary Damage Assessment and Individual Assistance after Hurricane Matthew. What can localities do to prepare, what to expect and lessons learned from Chesapeake, Norfolk and Virginia Beach. We will include best approaches for a locality to support PDA, how Crisis Track was used and how can we use it in the future. Also, how does a locality support a Disaster Recovery Center and supporting the needs of FEMA in identifying a location?
1:30 - 3:00 pm	C4	Lauren Stienstra - Deputy Coordinator, Arlington County Office of Emergency Management	Alerting + Data = ? Leveraging Partnerships to Improve Mass Notification Policies	Mass Notification is one of the most difficult needles to thread in Emergency Management. What percentage of your population needs to be subscribed to your system? How many alerts can we send before people tune out? Arlington County partnered with the Virginia Tech to explore these questions and more. Join us to discuss the study, our results, the evidence-based policy changes, and the overall outcomes from this year long journey and learn how your system can be mined for data-driven improvements.
1:30 - 3:00 pm	C5	Emily Ashley- Emergency Management Coordinator, Chesterfield County; Carolyn Sears - Library Services Administrator, Chesterfield County Public Library; Sue Medeiros - Director of Clinical Services, Chesterfield Mental Health Support Services	Facing the Challenge of Developing a Local Family Assistance Center (FAC) Plan	With the recent trends towards active threats Chesterfield County has worked to go beyond a family assistance center template and develop a FAC with trained staff. This panel includes Emergency Management who leads the organization during emergencies, Libraries who provides the physical infrastructure and logistics staff and Mental Health who staff's the FAC's. This group worked meticulously developing a draft over the course of 15 months before putting the plan into place through a rigorous training and exercise protocol. The system in place allows for a Library in every corner of the County to be opened and staffed as either a reunification center or family assistance center.

3:00 - 3:15pm	Refreshment Break			
3:15 - 4:45 pm	D1	Bill Sammler- National Weather Service, Wakefield; Phil Hysell- National Weather Service, Blacksburg; Chris Strong - National Weather Service, Sterling	National Weather Service (NWS) Town Hall	This session provides an informal discussion between the Warning Coordination Meteorologists of the Wakefield, Sterling, and Blacksburg NWS offices and the audience. You will hear about new initiatives at the NWS and have the opportunity to provide feedback on products and services. Case studies of recent significant weather events will be used as examples.
3:15 - 4:45 pm	D2	Paul Lupe - Emergency Management Specialist, Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management	Communication Challenges & Fairfax Public Alert	A look at best practices/lessons learned from the multi-faceted approach to public alert & warning in Fairfax County, VA. With a diverse population of over one million residents and close proximity to the nations capital there are many challenges to overcome with getting the word out during a large event or major crisis.
3:15 - 4:45 pm	D3	Victoria Kling-Regional Disaster Officer, Virginia Region of the American Red Cross; Greg Mack- Division Disaster State Relations Director for NC, SC, and VA, American Red Cross	Your American Red Cross	The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. In this workshop we will discuss the current capacity and capability of the Red Cross to deliver its mission to the people of Virginia and the Nation. Learn about our new organizational structure and enhanced Concept of Operations as we work together with government and non-government partners in local communities throughout the Commonwealth to prepare, respond, and recover from single family house fires to large catastrophic disasters.
3:15 - 4:45 pm	D4	Tom Mayhew - Emergency Management Coordinator, Northern Virginia Community College	The Federal Emergency Management Agency(FEMA) Disaster Grant Program (Stafford Act) for State Agencies & Colleges, What You Need to Know	The complexities of the Stafford Act and the FEMA disaster grant program sometimes become overwhelming. This presentation will prepare you for what you need to know, what you need to have, and the records required for a successful process in securing disaster grants when the FEMA shows up. Are your records complete? Is it a hassle? Is it worth the time? The short answer is YES! With a little knowledge and preparedness, you can navigate the FEMA waters successfully!

3:15 - 4:45 pm	D5	Aaron Lee - Disaster Response Coordinator, Virginia Baptist Disaster Response	Partnership with Volunteers After Disaster	When disaster strikes, how can localities serve homeowners affected by the disaster and unable to take care of their own cleanup? Lessons learned from the Virginia tornadoes and West Virginia floods and other events will help communities incorporate volunteers into their plans.
5:30 - 6:30 pm	VEMA Social Hour & Picture			
6:30 - 9:30 pm	Awards Dinner			

Day Four: Friday March 24, 2017				
7:15 - 10:30 am	Registration			
7:30 - 8:30 am	Breakfast			
8:15 - 8:30 am	Announcements- Mark Nugent			
8:30 - 9:00 am	GS7	Hui-Shan Walker - Legislative Chair, Virginia Emergency Management Association(VEMA); Marilyn Harris - Senior Policy Analyst, Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)	Legislative Update	Legislative Update
9:00 - 10:15 am	GS8	Stephanie Mantonek- Coordinator, Victim Services, Transportation Disaster Assistance Division, National Transportation Safety Board; Katy Chisom- Coordinator, Victim Services, Transportation Disaster Assistance Division, National Transportation Safety Board; Susan Reinertson, Amtrak Vice President and Chief, Emergency Management and Corporate Security; Mary Carlson, Amtrak Senior Manager Preparedness & Stakeholder Integration	Transportation Family Assistance Operations – National Transportation Safety Bureau (NTSB) & Amtrak Panel Discussion	The NTSB will discuss the evolution of their family assistance plan and model over the past 20 years, including the development of best practices for responding to transportation disasters. Attendees will learn the critical need for developing and exercising family assistance plans before disaster strikes. Amtrak provides passenger rail service serving more than 500 destinations in 46 states, the District of Columbia, and three Canadian provinces. Amtrak has implemented a comprehensive incident management program to respond to and recover from serious rail incidents. At the heart of this program is the Incident Response Team (IRT), specially trained members of Amtrak who have volunteered to ensure a consistent, compliant, and effective response s followed during critical incidents anywhere along the railroad. Family Assistance plays a critical role; the importance of care provided to customers has evolved at Amtrak with new procedures, an in-depth training program, and adjustments based on recent events.

10:15 - 10:30 am	Refreshment Break			
10:30 - 11:45 am	GS9- Keynote	Dr. Jeffrey Lating - Professor of Psychology, Loyola University	First Responder Stress Psychology	This session will use the concept that critical incidents are "toxins" that enter the mind and body, and that one of the best antidotes for these toxins is to provide first responders with accurate and helpful information in the form of cognitive appraisal, an understanding of basic physiology, and street management techniques, including psychological first aid (PFA).
11:45 am - 12:00 pm	Closing	Virginia Emergency Management Association Incoming President & Brett Burdick, Williamsburg Fire Department Color Guard	Closing Comments	Closing Ceremonies