



Local Emergency Planning Committee City of Holyoke

Alex B. Morse
Mayor

Hazardous Material Emergency Drill - Tabletop Exercise Announcement

The City of Holyoke Local Emergency Planning Committee will be conducting a "Department of Transportation (DOT) Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Disaster Tabletop Exercise" on Thursday, September 25, 2014 at Fire Department Headquarters located at 600 High Street. The Tabletop Exercise will begin at 8:00 AM and is scheduled to last until approximately 12:00 PM.

This exercise is intended to provide an opportunity for the City of Holyoke to test abilities in response to a hazardous materials (HazMat) incident. It will also provide the opportunity to identify the response and coordination issues that could arise during a hazardous material disaster scenario and make the decisions needed to resolve those issues.

This drill will train responders to use the hazardous materials plan and facilitate real-life problem solving discussions to improve our plan. The goals of this exercise include:

- To validate coordination and communications capabilities for HazMat incidents.
- To verify policies and procedures for responding to HazMat incidents.
- To identify the overall strengths and weaknesses of our hazardous materials plan.

The objectives of this exercise are:

- Demonstrate the ability to direct, coordinate and control emergency activities using the Incident Command System (ICS).
- Demonstrate the ability to alert, mobilize and activate personnel for emergency response and maintain operations until the situation is brought under control.
- Demonstrate the ability to mobilize, track and demobilize equipment, people and other resources in support of emergency operations.
- Develop and maintain coordinated action plans to accomplish operational objectives.
- Identify and implement appropriate actions to protect emergency workers and the public.
- Coordinate and disseminate timely and accurate information to the media and the public.