GET READY GORGE

Barbara Ayers
Hood River County Emergency Manager
GET READY
GORGE

Are we Ready?
Preparedness. Resilience. Nice to have (some day) or Must have (essential?)

HOOD RIVER COUNTY 2016 – 2017:

3 County & State Emergency Declarations

- Drought – summer 2016 (Statewide crisis)
- Winter storm – January 2017 (Presidential dec.)
- Eagle Creek Fire – Sept. 2017 (Statewide fire emergency)
It happens when we least expect it

Labor Day weekend.
With 162 day hikers on the trail
Eagle Creek Fire

Became #1 fire in the country

Both sides of the Columbia River
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAY 1</th>
<th>PLAY 2</th>
<th>PLAY 3</th>
<th>PLAY 4</th>
<th>PLAY 5</th>
<th>PLAY 6</th>
<th>PLAY 7</th>
<th>PLAY 8</th>
<th>PLAY 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notification, Activation and Authorities</td>
<td>Life Safety Missions</td>
<td>Damage Assessment</td>
<td>Mass Care and Sheltering</td>
<td>Logistics and Resource Management</td>
<td>Planning and Prioritization</td>
<td>Emergency Repairs</td>
<td>Outside Assistance</td>
<td>Begin Recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(0 – 30 min)</td>
<td>(0 – 72 hrs)</td>
<td>(1 – 72 hrs)</td>
<td>(6 hrs – 30+ days)</td>
<td>(12 hrs – 30+ days)</td>
<td>(18 hrs – 30+ days)</td>
<td>(20 hrs – 7 days)</td>
<td>(1 – 30+ days)</td>
<td>(8 – 180+ days)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Initial response in the event of...**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier Rank</th>
<th>Essential Service</th>
<th>Restore Time Operating Hours</th>
<th>Personnel</th>
<th>Essential Equipment</th>
<th>Critical Networks Server Systems</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
<th>Vital Records Documents Databases</th>
<th>Supplies Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sheriff’s Office Patrol &amp; Emergency Response</td>
<td>ASAP 24-hour opns</td>
<td>Sheriff/Chief Deputy, Patrol/Parole officers, 3 Admin Assistants, SAR officers &amp; Volunteers, Water rescue officers</td>
<td>vehicles, computer, radio, boats, MDT’s in cars, SAR equipment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sheriff’s Office</td>
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Yes, we do preparedness outreach.

But... are we ready?
Cascadia ready?
Statewide Cascadia drills  
Hood River: 14 drills  June 2016

Rotary – First responders - EOC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hood River County Emergency Management - Cascadia Rising June 6-10</th>
<th>Extent of Play</th>
<th>(Pg 3 of 3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday June 6</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tues June 7 (day 1)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wed. June 8 (Day 2)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full scale Operational drill:</td>
<td>Six HRC EM tabletop and functional exercises:</td>
<td>Four tabletop, functional and workshop exercises:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Public Health and Medical services</td>
<td>- Critical Transportation,</td>
<td>- Situational Assessment,</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Situational Assessment</td>
<td>- Operational Coordination</td>
<td>- Public Health and Medical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Operational Response</td>
<td>- Operational Communications</td>
<td>- Operational Response and Coordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Operational Coordination</td>
<td>- County COOP (Continuity of Operations)</td>
<td>- Mass Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Health and Medical</td>
<td>- Health and Medical</td>
<td>- Situational Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Mass Care</td>
<td>- Mass Care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Partnership with Wasco and Hood River counties, HPP region 6</td>
<td>- Situational Assessment</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Yeah, we have drills....

But look what happened the weekend before!
This is not a drill. In this moment, everything changed. Oil train derailment - in our front yard.

Barbara Ayers / June 4, 2016
What train disaster and Cascadia have in common

- No warning
- Crippling lack of transportation access
- This was not even a Hood River incident!
Rapidly expanding – dozens of agencies respond

Secondary problems happening or possible
  ◦ Wildfire / home fire risk
  ◦ How it impacts other utilities/hazards: water, sewer, propane, natural gas, other utilities
  ◦ HazMat / health
  ◦ HazMat environmental impacts
People impacts

- Immediate Evacuations – school and homes
- No water or sewer for residents
- Core infrastructure damage
- Not enough resources available
96 people - “Who’s Who” of Gorge area leaders

Working together – disaster response – public + private + citizens = whole community

It started during IEMC....
... and lasted *three months*!

*Dec 14, 2016 – Feb 22, 2017*

*County’s first full scale EOC activation in 20 years*
Lessons learned

- You can’t get around
- Running out of supplies and fuel
- Worse economic impacts on small communities
- Media perception of Gorge: *long term visitor impacts*
- State EOC priorities different than ours: *small vs. large*
- Need shelter plan inside communities
  - Neighbor to neighbor support – critical gathering places
  - In general - people don’t use shelters

*What if there had been a long term power outage?*
Emergency management – last phase: Disaster Recovery

- PDA – Public Damage Assistance
- Months of work to qualify
- Still pending FEMA / Presidential action

Then that little fire...

- 3 weeks of activation
- Months of follow up
- And this wasn’t The Big One
What Hood River County planners are now doing

- Planning: transition to alternately powered emergency response vehicles

- 100% of Oregon’s fuel is imported.

- There will be no fuel – statewide – in a large or widespread incident like Cascadia
What County planners are doing

- Essential services buildings need seismic retrofitting
- ES buildings need to be energy independent for weeks after a disaster
- Develop Community resource centers
  - Keep people sheltering in place
  - Share resources
- What about vulnerable populations?

Sustainability. Resilience: Nice to have or need to have?
1. Get a Kit of emergency supplies.
Be prepared to make it on your own for three days to three weeks. If possible, make a large kit for home and a small car kit.

2. Make a Plan for family emergencies.
Sit down together, plan and practice in advance. Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so plan how you will communicate and meet up and where you will go. If you evacuate, take your emergency supply kit and pets. Create an evacuation list of items to take for the recovery phase.

Set up family meeting points where you can find each other and leave messages if you are separated. Power may be out and cell phones may not be working. Text may still work when phone does not.

Have an out of state contact that all family members call. Make a long-distance call rather than call locally — it works better. Be sure everyone knows the number and has coins or a prepaid phone card.

3. Stay informed
Get Hood River County Citizen Alerts:
www.HoodRiverSheriff.com/events/emergency-alerts

EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food.
- Water, one gallon of water per person and pet per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation.
- Radio, battery-powered or hand crank with NOAA weather and tone alert
- Flashlight, headlamp, extra batteries, for radio and lights
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask or cotton t-shirt to filter air
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags, plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities. Know where and how to shut off valves.
- Manual can and bottle openers, plates, utensils, paper towels
- Maps and documents - insurance information, contact information, family emergency plan, etc.
- Coats, shoes, clothing
- Unique family needs - prescription medicines, glasses, infant formula, diapers, pet supplies, crates.
Our greatest strength: our people
Gorge small town community spirit