



northeast homeland security regional advisory council

NEWSLETTER

SERVING 85 COMMUNITIES IN NORTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

December 2019

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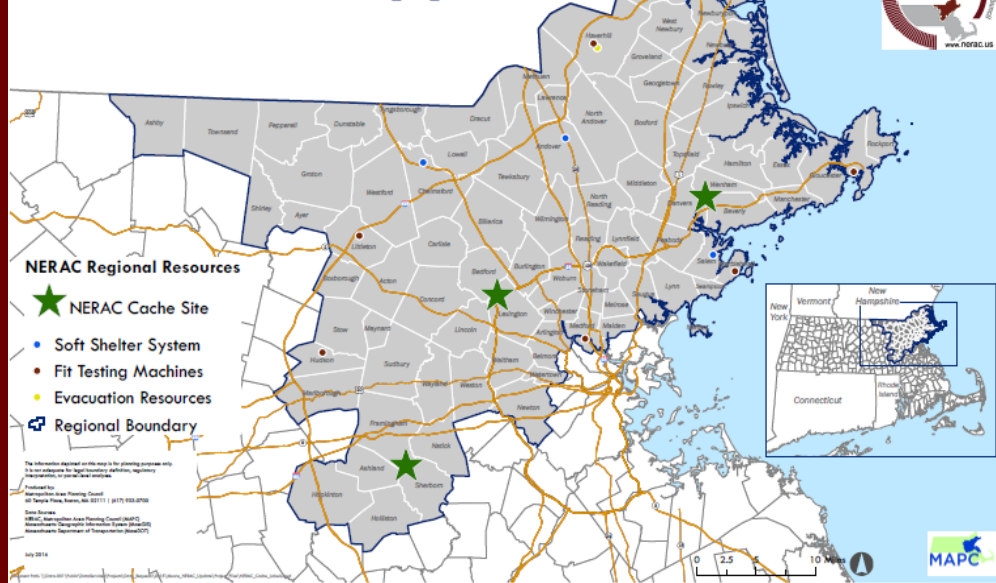
Government Administration

Paul Cohen
Town Manager, Chelmsford

Schools

Christopher Malone
Superintendent, Tewksbury Public Schools

Northeast Homeland Security Region Cache Sites and NERAC Equipment



In This Issue

- 2 Natick Mall Full-Scale Exercise
- 3 NERAC Cache System
- 4 Topsfield Fair Tabletop Exercise
Wenham Tabletop Exercise
- 5 Active Shooter Trainings
- 6 Continuously Available NERAC
Trainings
- 7 NERAC Meeting Schedule
- 8 NERAC Smartphone App
Instructions

Follow the NERAC Facebook and Twitter
page for up-to-date information on
trainings, exercises, and resources.



www.facebook.com/NERAC.HS/



[@NERAC_HS](https://twitter.com/NERAC_HS)

Natick Mall Full-Scale Exercise



On June 2nd, 2019, a NERAC funded full-scale multiple assailant active shooter exercise was conducted at the Natick Mall. The exercise brought together over 200 multi-disciplinary first responders from the region in order to evaluate the region's multi-agency response to a large-scale attack at a public venue. The scenario consisted of multiple active shooters entering the mall, inflicting harm on patrons and mall employees, while law enforcement, fire, and EMS personnel neutralized the threat, set up command, and handled patient care.

This full-scale exercise was the culmination of years of previous work and exercising originating with a tabletop exercise in September 2016 and a functional exercise in March 2017. Hosted by Natick Police and Fire, these two previous NERAC-funded exercises provided the region with the lessons and tools to make this full-scale exercise possible. Planning for the full-scale exercise began in October 2018 and brought together 15 local and state organizations. Planning members worked together to develop the scenario, the core capabilities and objectives to be tested, and evaluation criteria for the exercise evaluators.

This exercise was a rare opportunity for the agencies involved to run through a realistic large-scale, multi-agency response effort in real time. The exercise resulted in valuable lessons-learned for all of the organizations and agencies involved, as well as an After-Action Report with improvement items and corrective actions for the region. The exercise provided participants the opportunity to identify any gaps and areas for improvement in planning, training, equipment, and other related areas so they can better protect the communities they serve.



NERAC REGIONAL CACHE PROGRAM



Since its inception in 2007, NERAC has invested over \$4.4 million into its Regional Cache Program. The Cache Sites located in **Beverly**, **Lexington**, and **Framingham** contain hundreds of items available for use by first responders from NERAC communities.

Cache Equipment Spotlight : *Bleeding Control Training Supplies*



Standing Bleeding Control Training Kit

Training limb with hemorrhage control training supplies, for up to 10 people. Each kit includes:

- Instructional booklets on proper bleeding control techniques
 - Training CAT tourniquets (5)
 - Combat gauze moulage trainers (8)
- Hemorrhage control training limbs (2)
 - Protective gloves (12 pairs)

Bleeding Control Training Kit w/ Biofeedback

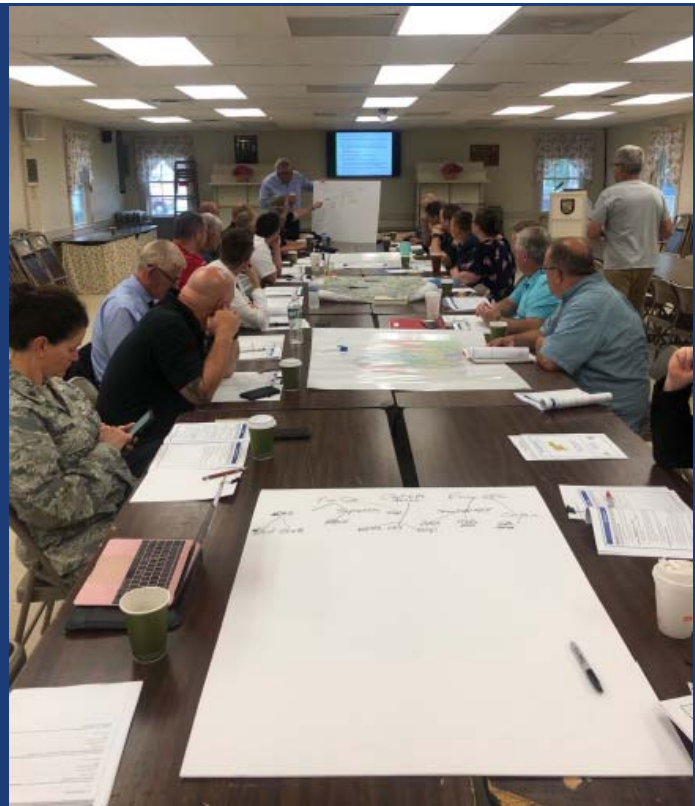
Training limb with a built-in pressure sensor that allows users to easily measure the amount of pressure needed to successfully stop bleeding, both with and without wound packing. The kit includes:

- Table Stand
- Lenovo Tablet with proprietary app
 - Pelican Case

Topsfield Fair Tabletop Exercise

The Topsfield Fair attracts approximately 500,000 visitors annually and is the largest event in Northeastern Massachusetts. This immense influx of visitors to a town with a population of roughly 7,000 presents a unique challenge for public safety officials, even when mutual aid and other participating agencies are taken into consideration.

To practice the current procedures and policies in place and enhance interagency interoperability, NERAC funded a discussion-based tabletop exercise on July 17th, 2019 which brought together local police, fire, MEMA, and fair officials to exercise the response to a large-scale mass casualty emergency at the fair. The exercise validated current plans and procedures and resulted in an After-Action Report assessing the exercise and an Improvement Plan to enhance the region's ability to respond to a large scale emergency at a large public event.



Wenham Tabletop Exercise



On September 10th, 2019, approximately 60 representatives from local police, fire and EMS, MEMA, State Police, National Grid, and Kinder-Morgan gathered in Beverly to conduct a tabletop exercise simulating the response to an explosion at a natural gas transfer station located on the Hamilton/Wenham border. The exercise tested existing response plans and mutual aid agreements between local police and fire departments. This day-long exercise provided the towns of Wenham, Hamilton, and Danvers the opportunity to run-through the response to a regional emergency, as well as the aftermath of a large-scale emergency. This tabletop exercise resulted in an After-Action Report analyzing the exercise and the participant's responses and identified actionable items that the participants can use to improve their multi-jurisdictional and multi-agency procedures.

All NERAC trainings are funded by FEMA through EOPSS Office of Grants and Research.

Active Shooter Trainings

Active Attack Integrated Response (AAIR) Course



NERAC sponsored two two-day Active Attack Integrated Response (AAIR) Trainings for police, fire, and dispatch personnel held in July in Georgetown, MA and in August in Weston, MA. These courses were instructed by Massachusetts-based first responders certified by the ALERTT Center at Texas State University. Texas State University designed the course to improve integration between law enforcement, fire, and EMS personnel during active shooter events, both through classroom-based instruction and field-based activities. The course has been adopted by the FBI as the standard for their special agent tactical instructors. The course includes several dynamic force-on-force scenarios that the classes ran through within the school classrooms and hallways. During these scenarios officers simulated responding to an active shooter event in small teams comprised of different departments, enhancing multi-jurisdictional interoperability.

AAIR Train-the-Trainer Course



In order to provide the Northeast Massachusetts region with a reserve of Active Attack Integrated Response (AAIR) trainers, in September 2019, NERAC held a five-day AAIR Train-the-Trainer course in Marblehead, MA that trained approximately 30 regional first responders as AAIR instructors. This roster of trainers will be utilized by NERAC to provide more active shooter trainings to the region, during a time when active shooter events are unfortunately becoming more common nationwide. If you are interested in scheduling an AAIR training for your community, please contact one of NERAC's program managers at cgraham@mapc.org or amurray@mapc.org.



Continuously Available NERAC Trainings

NERAC has sponsored several Train-the-Trainer courses and can connect municipalities with certified trainers who are available to lead the following courses:

Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE)

- Developed by the ALERRT Center at Texas State University, CRASE is a classroom-based, lecture-style training for students, businesses, and community members on what to do during an active shooter event.
- NERAC will provide the trainer(s) at no expense to the host community.

Stop-the-Bleed

- A one-hour course on proper bleeding control techniques, including tourniquet application and other manual methods of controlling hemorrhages. The class combines discussion with hands-on, practical demonstrations.
- NERAC will provide training tourniquets, mannequins, gauze, and other equipment for deliveries of the Stop-the-Bleed course at no expense to the host community.



Contact NERAC's Program Coordinators for more information:

- ♦ Austin Murray, amurray@mapc.org, (617) 933-0755
- ♦ Caroline Graham, cgraham@mapc.org, (617) 933-0732

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NERAC MEETING SCHEDULE

NERAC Full Council

Date: 2nd Thursday of Every Month

Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm

Location: Burlington Town Hall Main Hearing Room

Training and Exercise Committee

Date: 2nd Thursday of Every Month

Time: 12:00pm-1:00pm

Location: Burlington Town Hall Main Hearing Room

Communications Interoperability Committee

Date: 2nd Tuesday of Every Month

Time: 9:30am-12:00pm

Location: North Shore Regional 911 Center (Middleton)

Regional Cache Committee

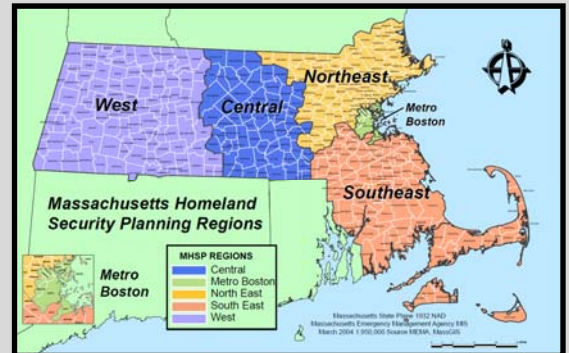
Date:	June 12th	Dec. 6th	March 7th	June 16th
Time:	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
Location:	Burlington Town Hall	Lexington DPW	Framingham DPW	Burlington Town Hall

All agendas and open meeting notices for NERAC meetings are posted at www.nerac.us. For questions regarding any of these meetings, please contact one of NERAC's Program Managers, Caroline Graham at cgraham@mapc.org or Austin Murray at amurray@mapc.org.



MASSACHUSETTS HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM

In 2004, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) designated 5 Homeland Security Planning Regions. EOPSS appointed multi-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional Advisory Councils for the Northeast, Southeast, Central, and Western regions. These groups represent all relevant public safety disciplines, including law enforcement, fire service, emergency management, public health, hospitals, emergency medical services, public works, transportation, corrections, communications, and local government.



The Advisory Councils serve as the policy making and administrative bodies for the Homeland Security Regions as defined by the Massachusetts Homeland Security Strategy developed by EOPSS. The regions receive funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security through EOPSS.

MAPC acts as the fiduciary for the Northeast, Southeast, Central and Western Homeland Security Councils, and also provides planning, facilitation, administrative support, and project management services to these regions.

NERAC Smartphone App

NERAC has developed a smartphone/mobile device application available for use by all public safety stakeholders and first responders designed to put critical information about NERAC in your hand when it is needed most. The app consists of the following three plans:

About NERAC

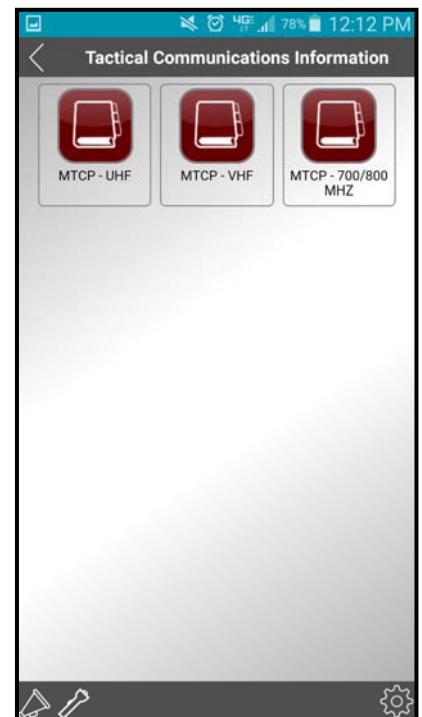
This plan contains general information about the NERAC region, the Council, the Council's projects and initiatives, and important contact information. It should be downloaded by anyone who has an interest in the Council's activities or a desire to become involved in the Council's work.

NERAC Regional Resources

This plan contains specific info on NERAC funded equipment that is available to communities in the region, including quantities, model numbers, capabilities, and contact numbers for access. It is designed for use by anyone who may be in a position to make a resource request on behalf of a municipality/agency.

Tactical Comm Info

This plan contains information on the Massachusetts Tactical Channel Plan (MTCP) for UHF, VHF, and 800 MHZ radio systems. It should be used by anyone who may be programming radios or repeaters for local or regional interoperability activities.



For instructions and passwords needed to download this application, please visit www.nerac.us or contact one of NERAC's Program Managers, Caroline Graham at cgraham@mapc.org or Austin Murray at amurray@mapc.org.