## COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Law Enforcement**

Chief Robert Picariello
*Marblehead Police Department*

Chief John Fisher
*Carlisle Police Department*

Chief John LeLacheur
*Beverly Police Department*

**Fire Services**

Chief Jason Gilland (Chair)
*Marblehead Police Department*

Chief Thomas Judge
*Concord Fire Department*

Chief Brian Moriarty
*Lawrence Fire Department*

**Emergency Management**

Mark Foster
*Director, Beverly Emergency Management*

**Public Health**

David Ouelette
*Health Agent, Town of Dracut*

**Public Works**

John Sanchez
*Director, Burlington Public Works Department*

**Emergency Medical Services**

Jon Brickett
*Executive Director, Northeast EMS*

**Hospitals**

William Klag
*EMS Coordinator & Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, North Shore Medical Center*

**Public Safety Communications**

Chris Ryan
*Dep. Director, North Shore Regional 911 Center*

**Correctional Services**

Kevin Coppinger
*Essex County Sheriff*

David Spinosa
*Communications Director, Essex County Sheriff's Department*

**Regional Transportation Authority**

Joseph Costanzo (Vice-Chair)
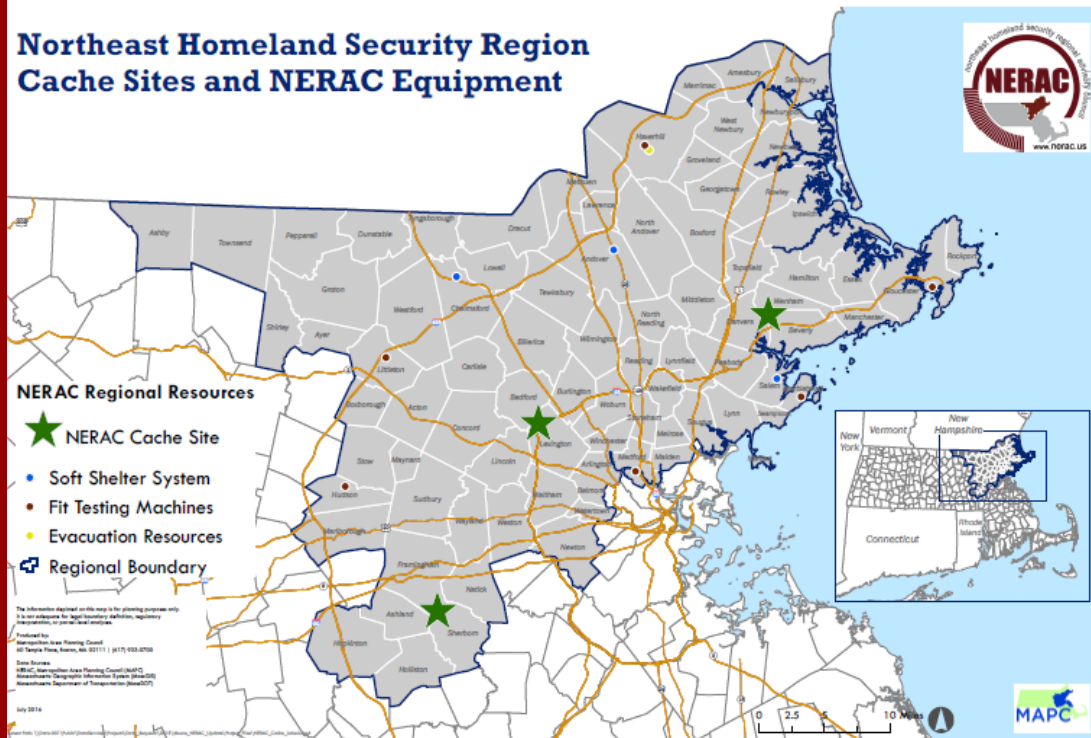*Administrator, Merrimack Valley RTA*

**Government Administration**

Paul Cohen
*Town Manager, Town of Chelmsford*

**Schools**

Christopher Malone
*Superintendent, Tewksbury Public Schools*

**Northeast Homeland Security Region Cache Sites and NERAC Equipment**

**NERAC Regional Resources**

- ★ NERAC Cache Site
- ● Soft Shelter System
- ● Fit Testing Machines
- ● Evacuation Resources
- ⊡ Regional Boundary

## In This Issue

*For more information on NERAC, please visit www.NERAC.us or contact either of NERAC's Program Managers:*

- *Austin Murray at amurray@mapc.org*

- *Caroline Graham at cgraham@mapc.org*

The NERAC Regional Cache Program, which enables communities to rent equipment purchased with federal homeland security funds for 0.1% of the original purchase price, has been utilized throughout the regional response to the COVID-19 pandemic. To assist with their response operations, municipalities and hospitals have rented inflatable shelters, respirator fit-testing machines, programmable message boards, and pedestrian barricades for testing sites and other activities.



A NERAC inflatable shelter outside Lowell General Hospital



The Beverly Cache Site houses three respirator fit testing machines. These machines are utilized by first responders to evaluate the security of the seal between a respirator's facepiece and the end user's face.

# Hospital Surge Equipment

In order to support hospital surge capabilities during the COVID-19 outbreak and future mass casualty or terrorism incidents, NERAC has allocated funding to purchase 27 portable ventilators for hospitals within the NERAC region. These portable ventilators will be a regional asset available to all hospitals within the region.

Portable ventilators are useful for transporting patients who require artificial ventilation and will increase hospital ventilation capabilities during surge events.

The original cache of portable ventilators was established by NERAC using homeland security funds during the response to the H1N1 outbreak. Since 2011, as ventilator technology improved, the Council allocated over $300,000.00 in March 2020 to purchase new units that can be used to support COVID-19 related surges and other terrorism-related incidents (anthrax, chemical attacks, mass casualty incidents, etc.)

# NERAC REGIONAL CACHE PROGRAM

NERAC has invested over $4.5 million into its Regional Cache Program, which was established in 2007. The three cache sites located in **Beverly, Lexington, and Framingham** contain hundreds of items available for use by first responders in NERAC communities and even other homeland security regions upon request. Types of equipment available for rent include light towers, generators, message boards, radios, and more. Cache equipment is loaned at a daily rate of 0.1% of the original purchase price. More information regarding equipment stored at the NERAC cache sites is available at www.nerac.us.
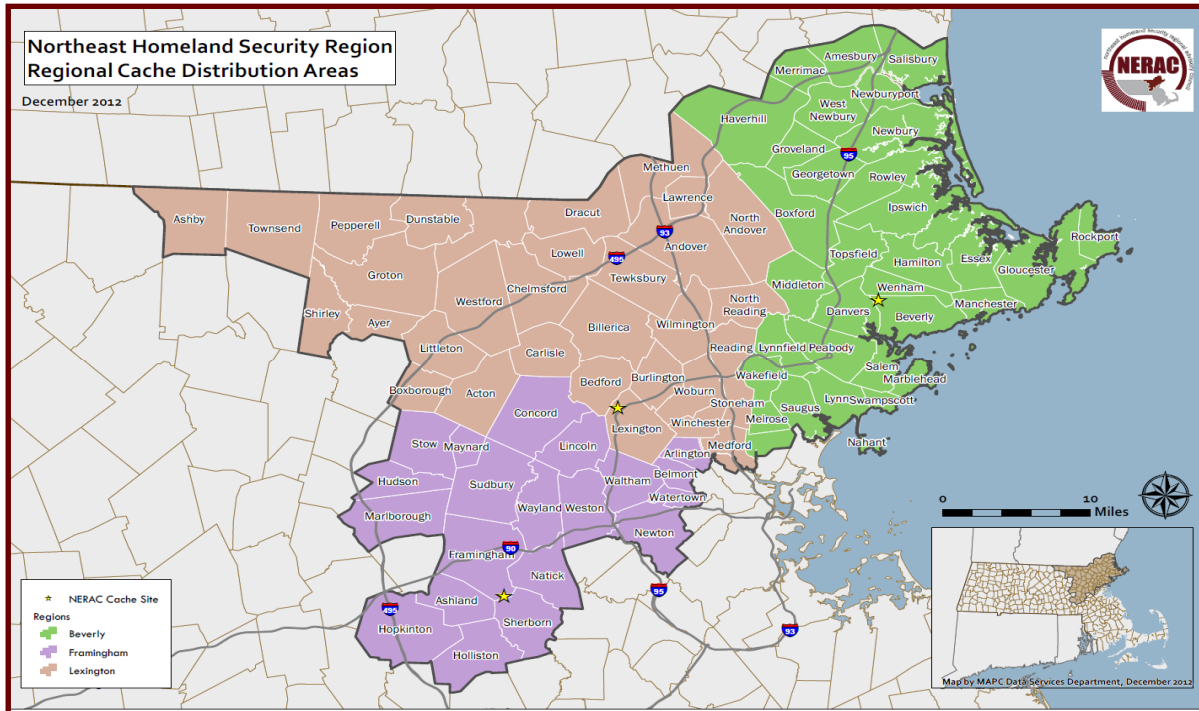


## Cache Equipment Spotlight:  Programmable Message Boards



Each Cache Site houses several different sizes and models of electronic messages boards, all of which are rented for just $15.00 per day. The message boards are  solar powered with customizable message creation via built-in computer systems. To rent a board simply call the NERAC cache site nearest to your community:

**Beverly Cache Site**
43 Airport Road
Beverly, MA 01915
978-922-5680

**Framingham Cache Site**
100 Western Avenue
Framingham, MA 01702
508-532-6044

**Lexington Cache Site**
60 Hartwell Avenue
Lexington, MA 02421
781-862-1618

## Cybersecurity and Teleworking

In light of the recent increase in remote working due to COVID-19, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has released telework best practices and guidance for keeping your information secure and protected. Click on the hyperlinks below to access the guides, or visit www.https://www.cisa.gov for more information.

➡️ **Guidance for Secure Video Conferencing**

➡️ **Secure Video Conferencing for Schools, Staff, and Students**

➡️ **Cybersecurity Recommendations for Critical Infrastructure Using Video Conferencing**

➡️ **NSA & DHS Telework Best Practices**

## Upcoming Cybersecurity Events

Throughout October NERAC, along with the Western, Southeastern, and Central Homeland Security Regions, will be hosting a series of free webinars and virtual cybersecurity trainings. These trainings will be open to anyone in the state, and have been designed to educate municipal employees on cybersecurity best practices and recommendations on how best to improve your cyber defense.

Keep an eye on the NERAC Twitter and Facebook pages for more information and registration dates!

**f** @NERAC.HS

🐦 @NERAC_HS

## Contact NERAC's Program Managers for more information:

♦ Austin Murray — amurray@mapc.org — (617) 933-0755

♦ Caroline Graham — cgraham@mapc.org — (617) 933-0732

# Online Public Safety Trainings

Due to the restrictions on gatherings required by the COVID-19 outbreak, NERAC will be unable to provide in-person trainings and exercises for the foreseeable future. However, there are several free online resources that offer useful programming for public safety personnel, including trainings on topics like the Incident Command System (ICS), active shooter response, and cybersecurity, among others. Explore the list below for useful virtual public safety trainings and resources.

### Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
*Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS-100)*

- Introduces the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. This course describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- Available online **HERE**. Other ICS courses available online include **ICS-200**, **700**, and **800**.
- Additional FEMA courses available online via the Emergency Management Institute can be accessed **HERE.**

*Social Media in Emergency Management (IS-42)*

- Provides participants with best practices including tools, techniques, and a basic roadmap to build capabilities in the use of social media technologies in their own emergency management organizations.
- Available online **HERE.**

### Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)
*Cyber Incident Analysis and Response (AWR-169)*

- Provides various incident analysis tools and techniques that support dynamic vulnerability analysis and elimination, intrusion detection, attack protection, and network/resources repair. Participants will be presented with real-world examples and scenarios.
- Available online **HERE**. Other DHS-funded courses offered by TEEX can be accessed **HERE**.

### ALERRT Center at Texas State University
*Active Attack Event Response Leadership (LET-221)*

- This course teaches leaders in public safety strategic leadership and integrated response strategies that will prepare them to not only "stop the killing" but to also "stop the dying" during active attack/shooter events.
- Available online **HERE**.

# NERAC MEETING SCHEDULE

## NERAC Full Council

Date: 2nd Thursday of Every Month

Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm

Location: Remote Zoom Call until further notice

## Training and Exercise Committee

Date: 2nd Thursday of Every Month

Time: 12:00pm-1:00pm

Location: Remote Zoom Call until further notice

## Communications Interoperability Committee

Date: 2nd Tuesday of Every Month

Time: 9:30am-12:00pm

Location: Remote Zoom Call until further notice

## Regional Cache Committee

Date: December 2nd

Time: 10:00am-12:00pm

Location: Remote Zoom Call until further notice

All agendas , Zoom links, and open meeting notices for NERAC meetings are posted at www.nerac.us.

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

@NERAC.HS

@NERAC_HS

# 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.
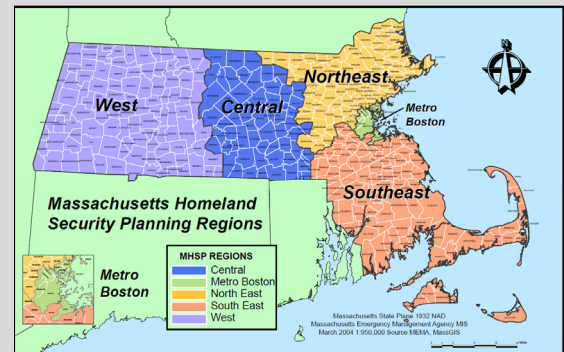


The Advisory Councils serve as the policy making and administrative bodies for the Homeland Security Regions as defined by the Massachusetts Homeland Security Strategy developed by EOPSS. The regions receive funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security through EOPSS.

MAPC acts as the fiduciary for the Northeast, Southeast, Central and Western Homeland Security Councils, and also provides planning, facilitation, administrative support, and project