

# “ Got Your Back Talk”

## MABAS Illinois



VOLUME 17.3

### From The President:

By: Chief Jeffrey C. Macko

At our June Executive Board meeting, I announced that Jay Reardon will be stepping down as CEO of MABAS-IL on July 1st. Jay will continue to work for MABAS in a diminishing role until the end of this December, when he will retire. He will be assisting our new CEO Glenn Ericksen. Glenn is a retired Chief from Arlington Heights Fire and has been our Administration and Finance Chief for the past few years. Jay will be assisting Glenn with the transition as well as other projects until the end of the year. Glenn has done an excellent job for MABAS and the Board and I are confident he will continue to successfully move MABAS forward. I have known Jay Reardon since 1975; Jay and I worked together as firefighters in Cary, Illinois and became very close friends. He followed his passion for the fire service taking him to Michigan then Florida and then back to Illinois as the Chief of Northbrook Fire and a member of Division 3.

In 1999, He was elected President of MABAS-IL with twenty-five Divisions

operating in Northern IL. Well that's when the world changed for MABAS, through Jay's leadership and passion the organization grew by leaps and bounds. We went from running things out of a brief case to an office in Warrenville, and in 2008, the organization needed a full-time leader and he retired from Northbrook and became our first CEO. We are now 69 Divisions have a Readiness Center in Wheeling, have multiple special teams, millions of dollars in equipment, and are nationally recognized as one of the best fire mutual aid organizations in the country. There were a great number of folks throughout the years that contributed to the success of MABAS-IL, but there is no doubt that the catalyst for this organization's success is Jay Reardon!

Jay is now moving on to retirement, and to spend more time with his wife Darlene, his kids, and his new granddaughter. I know I have been proud to have worked side by side with Jay these past seven plus years as President, and I will miss that.

We wish him the very best!

Thank you!

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Chief Jay Reardon at 2010 IAFC Conference



# Maintenance Tips

By: Ed Gibis



Recipients of equipment are responsible for the proper use, care, maintenance and repair of granted equipment through its manufacturer's useful life span. Recipients of this apparatus shall follow the manufacturer's recommendations for routine maintenance and service. Reimbursement of cost associated with the equipment's use, repair, care, maintenance and replacement from MABAS or IEMA is neither inferred nor provided.

## How to determine the age of your tires

Not sure how old your tires are, and don't have the receipt from your last purchase? No worries -- this is a common issue and we can show you exactly how to find out.

## How to find the DOT number on your tires

If you look closely at the side of each of your tires, you'll see a bunch of letters and numbers. While this may just look like a confusing jumble, it's actually useful info. Look for a number that starts with the letters "DOT," followed by a series of 10-12 characters. This code, which is required by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), will tell you several things:

- Week, year, and place of manufacture
- Tire size
- Manufacturer's unique code



## For tires manufactured in the year 2000 – present

The date of manufacture is the last four digits of the DOT code. The first two digits are the week of manufacture, and the last two digits are the year. For example, if the last four digits of the DOT code are 0203, that means that the tire was manufactured during the second week of the year 2003. Pretty simple, right? However...if your tires were made before 2000, it gets a bit more complicated.



## Seeing an incomplete DOT number?

If you look at the tires sidewall and see a DOT number that appears to be incomplete, that's because the DOT's current regulations require the entire number to be branded on only one sidewall, while the opposite sidewall is branded with just the first few digits. To see the entire DOT number, just look on the other sidewall.

*Article recommended by Ed Gibis. Ed is responsible for maintaining all apparatus at MABAS readiness Center (MRC) as Logistics Branch*

*Information taken from TireBuyer.com*





## A Message from MABAS-Illinois

By: Chief Jay Reardon

Wow! Time flies when you're having fun! You may have heard my retirement was announced at the June 14, 2017 MABAS Executive Board Meeting. It's hard to believe, I've served as MABAS-Illinois' President and/or Chief Executive Officer for nearly twenty years.

Effective July 1, 2017 Chief, and now Chief Executive Officer Glenn Ericksen, will assume the leadership role. Glenn served Arlington Heights for over forty years retiring as their Fire Chief. When Glenn retired as their Fire Chief he migrated to MABAS-Illinois as the Admin and Finance Section Chief. Glenn has performed flawlessly and is well deserving of his newly appointed CEO position. I wish him all the best and ask all to support and assist him in his efforts.

It seems like it was yesterday when I was elected the President of MABAS-Illinois in 1999. Chief Larry McNanaman, MABAS President in 1998, was retiring and asked if I'd be interested in running for election to the position. After brief considerations, I accepted, not knowing what the future would hold for all of us, and the nation.

In the summer of 1999, I was informed of a group which had been formed by then Governor Ryan. The group was designated as Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) chaired by then IEMA Director Mike Chamness. The ITTF was charged with the single task of determining if Illinois was prepared with handling an emergency event like the April 19, 1995 Oklahoma City bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

The bombing killed 168 individuals (children and infants included) and injured more than 680 other individuals. The ITTF met and at the time involved only State of Illinois agencies.

I had reached out to Director Chamness and asked for a meeting. He accepted the request with open arms. Our first meeting involved basic information about MABAS at that time and the lack of any ongoing relationship between Illinois fire services and IEMA. Future meetings included exploring ways to better work together in a more formalized partnership.



At the time, August 1999, MABAS-Illinois had 25 divisions and around 270 member agencies. MABAS-Wisconsin had four divisions and functioned under the governance of MABAS-Illinois. Mike Chamness and his IEMA Operations Chief, Jim Watts, asked if MABAS, an intergovernmental cooperative structure under Illinois statute, would consider signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with IEMA, as allowed under Illinois IEMA Act. The MOU would allow Illinois fire service agencies to be activated as a state of Illinois asset by Governor's declarations of disaster.

A final legal review by the state and MABAS legal counsels paved the way for the first ever formalized agreement between IEMA and Illinois fire services during larger scale events and declarations of disaster.

In January 2000, MABAS-Illinois member agencies (25 divisions and approximately 270 member agencies) and Illinois Emergency Management Agency signed a Memorandum of Understanding allowing Illinois fire services to become a state controlled mobile support team during declarations of disasters. The MOU was renewed in 2006 and remains in effect today.

On April 20, 2004, the first official activation of the MOU by IEMA was made of MABAS, due to a line of tornados that struck four Illinois counties, LaSalle, Putnam, Will and Kankakee. The most notable tornado strike was to Utica, Illinois, where many locals sought shelter in the basement of the limestone constructed Milestone Tap. When the EF 3 tornado passed downtown Utica, including the Milestone Tap, many buildings were heavily damaged or destroyed. Utica's fire and EMS stations were heavily damaged and any type of response by Utica firefighters and EMTs was out of the question.

MABAS responded to Utica with firefighting task forces, technical rescue teams and ambulances. Primary and secondary searches of the downtown area and surrounding residential neighborhoods were completed. Efforts focused on the Milestone Tap where initial reports stated fifteen to twenty individuals were trapped in the basement. MABAS and CART technical rescue teams and task forces worked throughout the night finding seventeen trapped civilians. Unfortunately, eight victims died from the collapse yet another nine were rescued alive from the basement.

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## A Message from MABAS-Illinois IT Department

By: Frank Westmoreland

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, MABAS-IL corporate office was hit with an encryption virus on one of our servers. It appeared to come from a spoofed Google email. The virus was a variant of the WannaCry virus that affected companies a few weeks earlier in April. This particular virus was able to infect our terminal server where users remotely connect to check emails and access files. All general files had become encrypted and would have spread thru out the

Network, but we were able to pull network access to the machine before any further damage could be done. The IT staff spent the next several days accessing the damage and was able to restore the encrypted files from a backup that was taken several hours before the attack. Currently, only user personal folders have not been restored due to the lack of space on the current infrastructure. It was decided to restore these files to a temporary spot and then upload them to an external accessible SharePoint portal which will allow users access to their files as long as they have

internet connection. Going forward, we are in the process of decommissioning our 2010 Exchange server locally and moving and upgrading our email servers to O365, which will alleviate our local footprint and allow better management of filtering and scanning emails. This will also allow us to update our office suite of products to the latest version of the Microsoft Office Suite and provide Skype for Business which will allow our personnel to use video conferencing features, online instant messaging, and remote help desk support are among just a few of features that will be coming soon.



## A Letter from IL-TF1 Medical Team Manager

Dr. Bernard Heilicser

This issue of the MABAS newsletter, we want to remind all of our responders to be aware of heat related events in our communities, and to be vigilant in protecting our own health.

### What is heat exhaustion?

The body cools itself most efficiently by sweating and having that sweat evaporate. Should sweating be unable to meet the cooling demands of the body, heat-related illness can occur. This is a spectrum of conditions with minor symptoms such as prickly heat or heat rash, progressing to heat cramps, then heat exhaustion, and finally to heat stroke, a life-threatening medical condition.

The line between each diagnosis is not sharply drawn. Heat cramps describe involuntary spasm of the large muscles of the body, while heat exhaustion has more systemic complaints.

Heat stroke is a life-threatening situation where the body's cooling system fails. The body temperature spirals out of control usually greater than 106F (41 C), sweating stops, and there are mental status changes like confusion, seizure, or coma.

Heat exhaustion occurs when a person exercises or works in a hot environment and sweating cannot dissipate the heat generated within the body. Often dehydration occurs because the person hasn't replaced the water lost by sweating. Heat exhaustion also may occur if a person lives in a hot environment without adequate air circulation and does not drink an adequate amount of water.

### What is the difference between heat exhaustion and heat stroke?

There is no set line that distinguishes heat exhaustion from heat stroke. If a person is suffering from a heat-related illness such as heat exhaustion, and changes in mental status occur, he or she should be considered to be suffering from heat stroke.



This includes, confusion, lethargy, seizure, or coma. This is a medical emergency, and if treatment is delayed mortality can be greater than 50%. While victims of heat exhaustion sweat profusely, people suffering from heat stroke stop sweating and have dry skin. This is a warning sign of impending heat stroke.

### What are the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion?

Individuals with heat exhaustion tend to have symptoms such as

- Profuse sweating

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# MABAS and the 2017 Total Solar Eclipse

By: Chief John Michalesko and Chief Darin Beckman

On Monday, August 21, 2017, many parts of the US, weather permitting, will experience the rare opportunity to view a total solar eclipse. On this day the moon will pass between the sun and the Earth causing the moon to completely cover the sun. The eclipse will cross the nation along a 70-mile wide path beginning in Oregon and ending in South Carolina. Illinois will experience the effects of the eclipse from approximately noon until 3:00 PM. During the peak of the event, much of southern Illinois will experience a period of totality lasting more than 2 minutes and 40 seconds, during which daylight will become dark.

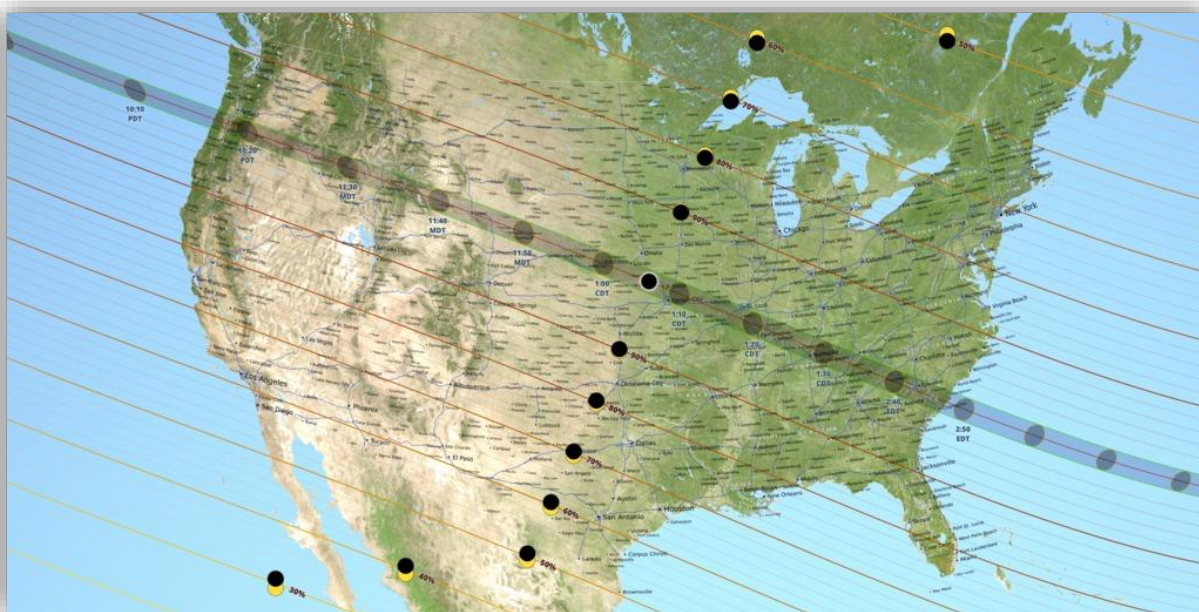
While many Americans recall viewing an eclipse as a child, it was more than likely only a partial eclipse. Most of our

from Texas to Maine. This rare occurrence is drawing great attention to Illinois because the paths of two total eclipses will intersect over the southern part of the state just a few miles south of Carbondale. Spectators and scientists from around the world are expected to flock to southern Illinois in the days leading up to August 21<sup>st</sup> to witness the first of these two spectacles.

Although nobody knows for sure how large crowds will be, the simple fact that an estimated 300 million Americans live within an easy drive of the path of totality makes this event attractive to many. Most communities within the Illinois viewing area will host events and festivities ranging from rock

popular attractions as well. Most lodging south of Effingham has been booked for months and campgrounds are at capacity. Adjacent states including Missouri, Kentucky and Indiana have also experienced similar demands for accommodations.

Southern Illinois communities have been preparing for more than a year and providing for the health and safety of residents, as well as visitors, will be no easy task. MABAS Divisions across the region continue to plan for the increased call volume and extended operations that so often accompany events of this magnitude. Communications centers are sure to be busy and cellular systems are



nation has not seen a total solar eclipse since 1918. Normally a once in a lifetime opportunity, Illinoisans will have not one but two opportunities to view a total eclipse. On Monday, April 8, 2024, a second total solar eclipse will cross the nation following a path

concerts to a live NASA broadcast from Southern Illinois University featuring science demonstrations, balloon launches and high-resolution video and images of the sun beamed back to the stadium big screen. Southern Illinois

anticipated to be operating at or near capacity. In addition to local planning, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) has become the lead agency in planning efforts for the eclipse.

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## A Message from MABAS-Illinois

### *Continued From Page 3*

MABAS fire and EMS forces became the Utica Fire and EMS Department for seven days following the tornado strike. The seven days allowed the Utica volunteer firefighters and EMTs to reconstitute their services, their homes and their community to a safe, livable state. Then IEMA Director Bill Burke told me days following the tornado, that without a doubt, MABAS had saved the day and delivered what was promised – Great Work! Great Partnership to Have!

Another notable event occurred before Utica's tornado: September 11, 2001. I was on my way to teach a FOIL class in Lincolnwood when the first aircraft struck one of the two World Trade Center towers. When I arrived in Lincolnwood, the televisions were on and the unthinkable happened with the world as witness. The second tower was struck and both towers eventually collapsed. One student Lieutenant asked me if I thought the firefighters got out in time. I shook my head no. The world had changed. Our lives had changed.

September 11th spurred some good in the long run. MABAS growth in Illinois went from 270 fire agencies in 25 MABAS divisions to nearly 1200 fire agencies in 69 divisions. A presence in all 102 Illinois counties.

Other notable memories from this wonderful journey include;

- President Bush visited Illinois to see what Illinois fire services had accomplished. On July 22, 2004, President Bush came to NIPSTA to see MABAS and ILEAS response demonstrations. I had the pleasure to be the greeter and guide throughout his stay. The President also spoke to first responders from throughout Illinois to say, "Thank You".
- August 2005, a thing called hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, metro area. MABAS became part of a six week deployment involving over 900 Illinois firefighters to service Louisiana's New Orleans and eleven surrounding parishes. A job well done with 41 substantial lessons learned by MABAS-Illinois. All 41 lessons became part of future year's process improvement plan. All have been corrected to the best they can.
- September 2008, MABAS-Illinois is called on again to assist Louisiana following hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Although a smaller response by a 250 person task force, a three week deployment period met the mission. Louisiana fire services have built a mutual aid model to serve the state since hurricanes Gustav and Ike. We remain partners with our Louisiana colleagues.
- August 26, 2010, MABAS was called upon by the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) to validate our statewide plan through a demonstration exercise broadcast to McCormick Place hosting the 2010 IAFC annual conference. MABAS demonstrated an exercise mobilizing 33 task forces, nearly 1000 firefighters and over 270 fire apparatus from four states (IL, WI, IN, MI) to three

different locations (south, west, north) around the city of Chicago completing the task in less than 90 minutes during rush hour without lights and sirens. Job Done! Mission Accomplished!

- February 3, 2016, MABAS takes possession and ownership debt free of the 4.3 acre, 75,000 square foot MABAS Readiness Center in Wheeling, Illinois.
- As I was cleaning out my office at the MRC, I came across the MABAS budget for 1998. Total budget for 1998 = \$692.00. MABAS has processed over \$135 million dollars in grant funds between 2003 – 2017. I guess things have changed over the past fourteen years. In 2008, I was asked to become the first paid CEO for MABAS. The action followed a year where grants exceeding \$14 million were awarded to MABAS. Time to take it seriously. I didn't have a plan to share a jail cell with anyone!!! Get my point?  
So I retired from Northbrook as Fire Chief and said I'd take the job as CEO for maybe five years. I've been in the CEO's position for nearly ten years (2008 – 2017) and served as MABAS President while Northbrook's Fire Chief for nearly an additional ten years (1999 – 2008).

The time is right. Thank you for the honor to serve all of you. We all did great work and produced a lasting institution. I will leave without having the last word. Please accept the following summary of MABAS President Jeff Macko's remarks at the June 14th, 2017 Executive Board meeting regarding my retirement.

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MABAS ILLINOIS

233 W. Hintz Rd.

Wheeling, IL 60090



## A Message from MABAS-Illinois

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At Yesterday's June 14, 2017 MABAS-Illinois Executive Board Meeting, a change in MABAS Leadership and transition plan was announced by MABAS President, Chief Jeff Macko. The actions have been a topic of discussion over the past 18 months between the MABAS Leadership Team and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) James (Jay) Reardon. A summary of the announcement by President Macko yesterday is as follows.

CEO Jay Reardon and the MABAS-Illinois Leadership have been in discussions for some time regarding his retirement from MABAS including an organized transition plan with new leadership. Accordingly, effective June 30, 2017, Chief Reardon will be stepping down as MABAS-Illinois CEO and Chief Glenn Ericksen, current MABAS Administrative and Finance Section Chief, will assume the duties of the Chief Executive Officer for MABAS-Illinois. CEO Reardon will assume the position as an Advisor to the Leadership Team and Executive Board effective July 1, 2017 and serve in the position with decreasing work hours until December 31, 2017.

CEO Glenn Ericksen retired approximately three 3 years ago from the Village of Arlington Heights, Illinois, as Fire Chief after serving forty (40) years with the Village. Upon his retirement, Glenn accepted his current position as MABAS Section Chief. CEO Reardon has strong confidence in Chief Ericksen's abilities and skills to lead MABAS -Illinois through future challenges while taking the organization to the next level of excellence and intergovernmental cooperation service commitment. The MABAS Leadership Team supported Chief Ericksen's CEO appointment unanimously.

President Macko stated Jay was elected as MABAS-Illinois President in 1999 while serving as Fire Chief for the Northbrook Fire Department, Illinois. Following Jay's election was an invitation for MABAS to become a member of Illinois Terrorism Task Force as the Fire Services Operational and mutual aid advisor for fire, EMS and Special Operations Teams. On January 16, 2001 MABAS-Illinois and Illinois Emergency Management Agency signed a first ever Intergovernmental Agreement allowing MABAS Local Agency resources to fall under the control as a State of Illinois Governor's direction as a mobile support team for Declarations of Disasters.



As all know, on September 11, 2001 the world changed and so did MABAS-Illinois—Jay embraced all the challenges and expanded citizen service expectations guiding MABAS-Illinois to truly a Statewide Mutual Aid system which became known as one of the best of the best Nationwide. In August 2005,



MABAS was tasked through an EMAC interstate mutual aid request to provide operational resources to New Orleans and eleven Parishes in Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina. Over the following six weeks MABAS -Illinois successfully served the Louisiana mission with over 900 Firefighters and approximately 250 fire/rescue vehicles. Several years later, MABAS-Illinois assisted Louisiana once again in support of Hurricanes Gustav and Ike

In 2008, Chief Reardon retired from the Northbrook Fire Department and was selected as the first full Time Chief Executive Officer for MABAS-Illinois. Chief Reardon has accomplished a lot for MABAS since 1999, including: establishing an organization with over 1180 member fire agencies, 95 Statewide response capable Special Operations Teams, Administrative Coordination for over \$ 135 Million Federally awarded grants for MABAS capabilities and full ownership of a 74,000 square foot MABAS Readiness Center the headquarters for Statewide MABAS operations.

Chief Macko concluded his remarks by remarking the Leadership Team tried repeatedly to talk Jay out of Retiring as CEO—But he also stated how appreciative MABAS is for Jay's efforts and Leadership over the years. Chief Reardon expressed his appreciation to MABAS and the Executive Board for the opportunity, trust and encouragement throughout his time with MABAS. Jay also remarked he'll miss all the MABAS Staff but you know when it's time to pass the baton. Jay and his wife Darleen look forward to being full time retirees and spending a tremendous amount of time spoiling their new granddaughter, Breanna. ***Thank You MABAS—it was a great ride!***

## A Message from MABAS-Illinois

By: Chief Ericksen



Chief Executive Officer, Glenn Ericksen

This will be my first effort writing this column as the Chief Executive Officer of MABAS Illinois. I first would like to express my great appreciation for the position and the confidence the Elected Board and Chief Reardon have in me as I take on this new role. It certainly will not be an easy task following Jay as CEO, but I am looking forward to the new challenges and opportunities MABAS faces.

Fortunately, I will not be thrown in the deep end of the pool right away as Jay will be staying around in reduced roles until the end of the year assisting in the transition. For those who do not know me, I started my fire service career in 1973 as a volunteer firefighter with the Buffalo Grove Fire Department and as a dispatcher for the Arlington Heights Fire Department in 1974. In 1981, I joined the Arlington Heights Fire Department as a full-time firefighter/paramedic. I had the opportunity to be the Team Leader for the Hazardous Materials Response Team and Director of Schools for the Arlington Heights Fire Academy. In 2004, I was appointed Fire Chief for Arlington Heights and during this time, I had the opportunity to serve as president of MABAS Division 1 for two years. I retired as Chief in February of 2014 and moved to MABAS as the Section Chief – Administration.

As Section Chief, I have had the unique opportunity to understand how MABAS works and the relationship between MABAS and various governmental agencies. MABAS is no different from any other fire department or district as we continue to face an uncertain future regarding funding. Priorities in Washington and Springfield are constantly in flux and keeping MABAS at the forefront for continued funding is a constant challenge.

I continue to live in Arlington Heights with my wife Lori. We have two daughters who are married and live in Roselle and Hanover Park, along with one grandson.

I look forward to meeting with you in the future and working towards the betterment of mutual aid and the fire service in Illinois. Thank you for your support!

## A Letter from IL-TF1 Medical Team Manager

Dr. Bernard Heilicser

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- weakness,
- muscle cramps,
- headache,
- nausea and vomiting.

As dehydration increases from the loss of body water, lightheadedness may occur and fainting (syncope) may occur, especially if the affected individual stands up quickly (due to orthostatic

hypotension). The person also may have a low grade fever.

Heat exhaustion occurs when a person exercises and works in a hot environment and the body cannot cool itself adequately. Dehydration occurs with water loss from excessive sweating, which causes muscle cramps, weakness, and nausea and vomiting.

The nausea and vomiting makes it difficult to drink enough fluid to replenish the body's water supply,



and the lack of body water impairs further sweating, evaporation and cooling.

Relative humidity is an important factor in developing heat exhaustion. If the humidity is too high, sweat on the skin cannot evaporate into the surrounding air and body temperature cooling fails.

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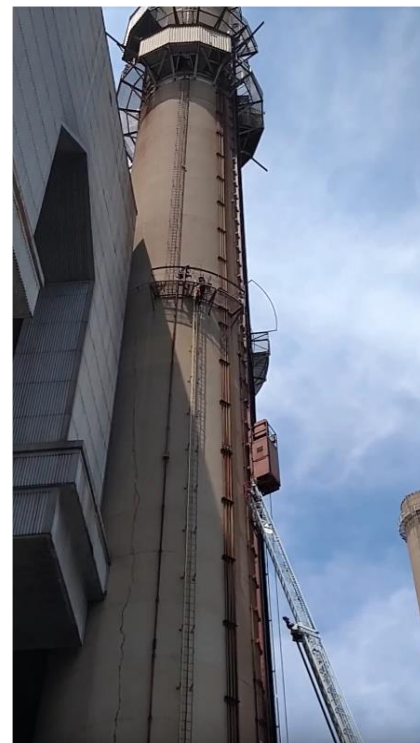


## Waukegan Fire Department High Angle Rescue

By Chief Steinqart



On July 21, 2016, the Waukegan Fire Department responded for a high angle rescue at the NRG coal power plant. The external elevator that rides on the outside of a smoke stack stalled 130 feet up with two people trapped inside with no other means of egress. The Shift Commander requested a MABAS box 16-52 for technical rescue. Rope Technicians from Waukegan and Gurnee ascended a ladder mounted to the stack and rigged for rescue from a cat walk located 150 feet up. Rescue personnel were lowered down to the stalled elevator car and prepared each person for retrieval. Once secured in a harness and rope, they were lowered to the aerial ladder and brought safely down to ground level.



## Wheeling Citizens Patrol Visits the MRC

By: Officer Scott Laverd

**Citizen Patrol Program** - This program is comprised of Wheeling residents who have graduated the Wheeling Police Department Citizens' Police Academy. Members donate their time and use of their personal vehicles as a community service to supplement the police department as "extra eyes and ears" on patrol. Not only are members looking for criminal activity, they look for safety hazards, burned out traffic control lights and street lights, etc. In addition to their monthly patrols, they assist with both traffic direction and pedestrian control at crash scenes and special events. The Citizens Patrol Program is beneficial to both businesses and residents in the community and its value cannot be underestimated.



Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA) - Dating back to the nineties, graduates of the Citizens Police Academy were so impressed with their experience, they wanted to do more. With that, the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association was born.



These volunteers of the CPAAA, (a 501c3 organization) meet monthly at the Wheeling Police Department to plan upcoming fundraisers. The money earned at these fundraisers is donated back to the Wheeling Police Department for the purchase of items that our agency doesn't have the funds for.

# IL-TF 1 Deployment Information

By: Kevin Lyne

In May, the Illinois Urban Search and Rescue Team (IL-TF 1) participated in the Indiana United Front Exercise in Merrillville, Indiana. This full scale exercise took place on the demolished Radisson Hotel and Convention Center adjacent to the Star Plaza Theatre. The hotel and convention center was torn down so a more modern hotel complex could be built.



Exercise participants included the local area fire, police and emergency management agencies, hospitals and the Indiana National Guard.



An Israeli military unit worked with the national guard unit. IL-TF 1 worked with urban search and rescue (US&R) teams from Indiana and Michigan as part of this exercise.



As part of this response, the State of Indiana initially initiated a state-to-state resource request from Illinois for a 7 person US&R Search Mission Ready Package (MRP) followed by a 22 person Type IV US&R Team.



The Search MRP included K9's and technical search specialists. A Type IV US&R team can perform immediate rescue work on heavy concrete structures.

These groups had a staggered response to reflect the escalating needs of a no-notice large scale incident. These groups were integrated into the incident command structure and worked an overnight operational period with the other agencies. More than 100 victims were staged for this exercise.

IL-TF 1 can deploy with various response packages or components with the capability to perform:

- Physical search and rescue operations in damaged/collapsed structures.
- Operations in a known or suspected weapons of mass destruction environment.



- Emergency medical care for entrapped victims, task force personnel, and search canines.

- Reconnaissance to assess damage and needs and provide feedback to other officials.

- Assessment/shutoff of utilities to houses and other buildings.

- Hazardous materials survey/evaluations.

- Structural and hazard evaluations of buildings.

- Stabilization of damaged structures, including shoring and cribbing operations.

- A 70,000-pound equipment cache, configured to quickly deploy with the team.



(Reference: FEMA US&R Task Force Capabilities)

There are many different types of response plans or MRP's IL-TF 1 can deploy. The Indiana United Front Exercise was IL-TF 1's first functional test of its Type IV and Search MRP. IL-TF 1 is continuing to develop its other response plans to meet the state's urban search and rescue needs.





## A Letter from IL-TF1 Medical Team Manager

Dr. Bernard Heilicser

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### What causes heat exhaustion?

Living in a hot environment may predispose a person to heat exhaustion. During a heat wave, the elderly, the poor, and those who live an isolated life may not have access to air conditioning and are at risk of heat-related illnesses.

### Who is at risk for heat exhaustion?

Heat exhaustion usually affects people who are working or exercising in a hot environment, and those who do not have access to adequate water. Those at risk for heat exhaustion include:

Infants and young children are at risk because their temperature regulation mechanisms are not fully developed. They also are dependent upon others for water and appropriate clothing.

The elderly are similarly at risk because of underlying medical conditions that limit the ability to sweat including poor circulation, skin changes, and chronic medication usage.

Socioeconomic issues increase the risk of heat exhaustion if access to air conditioning is limited. During heat waves, large cities often open cooling centers to help minimize the risk of large numbers of people succumbing to heat-related illness.

Certain medications such as antidepressants, antipsychotics, and tranquilizers may impair the ability of the body to sweat.

Alcohol consumption

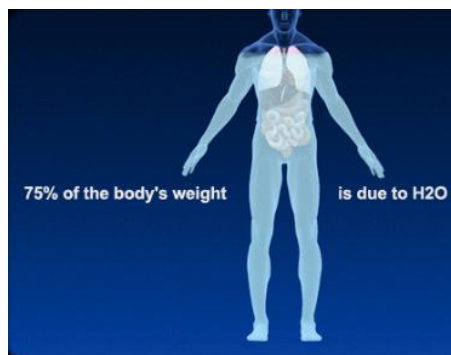
The overweight or obese

The body has the ability to acclimate to hot weather but if heat waves come suddenly, or if a person travels from a cooler environment to a hot environment, the risk of heat exhaustion increases.

It takes about 7 to 10 days for the body to adapt to hot weather. A non-acclimated person can produce a liter or almost a quart of sweat in an hour to assist in cooling the body. A person who is acclimated to the heat can produce 2 or 3 liters of sweat per hour, doubling or tripling the cooling potential for the body.

This water lost in sweat needs to be replaced for the sweating/cooling mechanism to work. A liter of sweat weighs 1 kilogram or 2.2 pounds.

Heat exhaustion should be treated with Water, electrolyte replacement solutions or sport drinks. IV fluids may be necessary.



Muscles cramps can be severe.

It is important to recognize that if the person stops sweating, becomes confused, or has a seizure, heat stroke, a life-threatening condition, may be developing. The affected individual should be moved to a cooler place, have their clothing modestly removed, and attempts should be made to cool the body with cold compresses, spraying or sponging the body with cool water and promoting air circulation with oscillating fans.

How is heat exhaustion diagnosed?

Diagnosis of heat exhaustion is made by clinically:

History (exercising or working in a hot environment, living in a hot apartment with no air-conditioning)

Symptoms (excess sweating, headache, weakness, nausea and vomiting)

Physical examination (signs of dehydration)

Laboratory tests may be performed if the health care professional is concerned about electrolyte imbalance or significant dehydration and kidney failure.

What are the complications of heat exhaustion?

Heat exhaustion is one part of the spectrum of heat-related illness, and symptoms should be reversible with treatment. However, some affected individuals do not recognize their symptoms and if they are not removed from the hot environment, cooled and rehydrated, the heat-related illness can progress to heat stroke, a life-threatening condition.

Individuals who have suffered from heat exhaustion are more prone to experience another episode and should be cautious when working or exercising in hot conditions.

### How can heat exhaustion be prevented?

Understanding one's environment is perhaps the most important step in preventing heat-related illness. If possible, strenuous activities should not be performed in excessively hot or humid environments. However, people often have to work in the heat of the day, or indoors in hot situations and need to make the effort to protect their bodies. These can include frequent breaks taken in a cooler areas, adequate fluid intake, and slowing the pace of work to decrease heat generated by the body.

A person at risk for heat exhaustion should watch their urine output to monitor their hydration status.

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# New to MABAS and IL-TF1



Ciolina Christopher

Ciszewski Richard

Clifton Thomas

Dorosz Mirosław

Duignan James

Gies John



Gray Richard

Hassan Chris

Keenan Joseph

Krause Richard

McCully Michael

Pienta James



Regan James

Rice Williams

Scheurich John

Schuldt Kris

White Devin

William Steven



Zilch Mark

Over the past few months, IL-TF 1 has added new Hazardous Materials and Logistics Specialists. Welcome, we look forward to your contributions to the task force!



## MRC VISITORS



## MABAS Illinois

Vince Kilcullen, Mark Doerfler, Joe Cronin, Our counterparts from the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN) visited the MRC on July 6th to discuss MABAS operations during disasters and state wide mobilizations. Productive discussions included awareness of an incident, dispatching, reception site and taskings, accountability of personnel and equipment and demobilization. Though our missions are different, our goal of saving lives and property are the same.

## Did You Know!!!!

MABAS has 94 Special Teams:

US&R  
Tech Rescue  
Swiftwater  
Surface/subsurface  
Hazmat

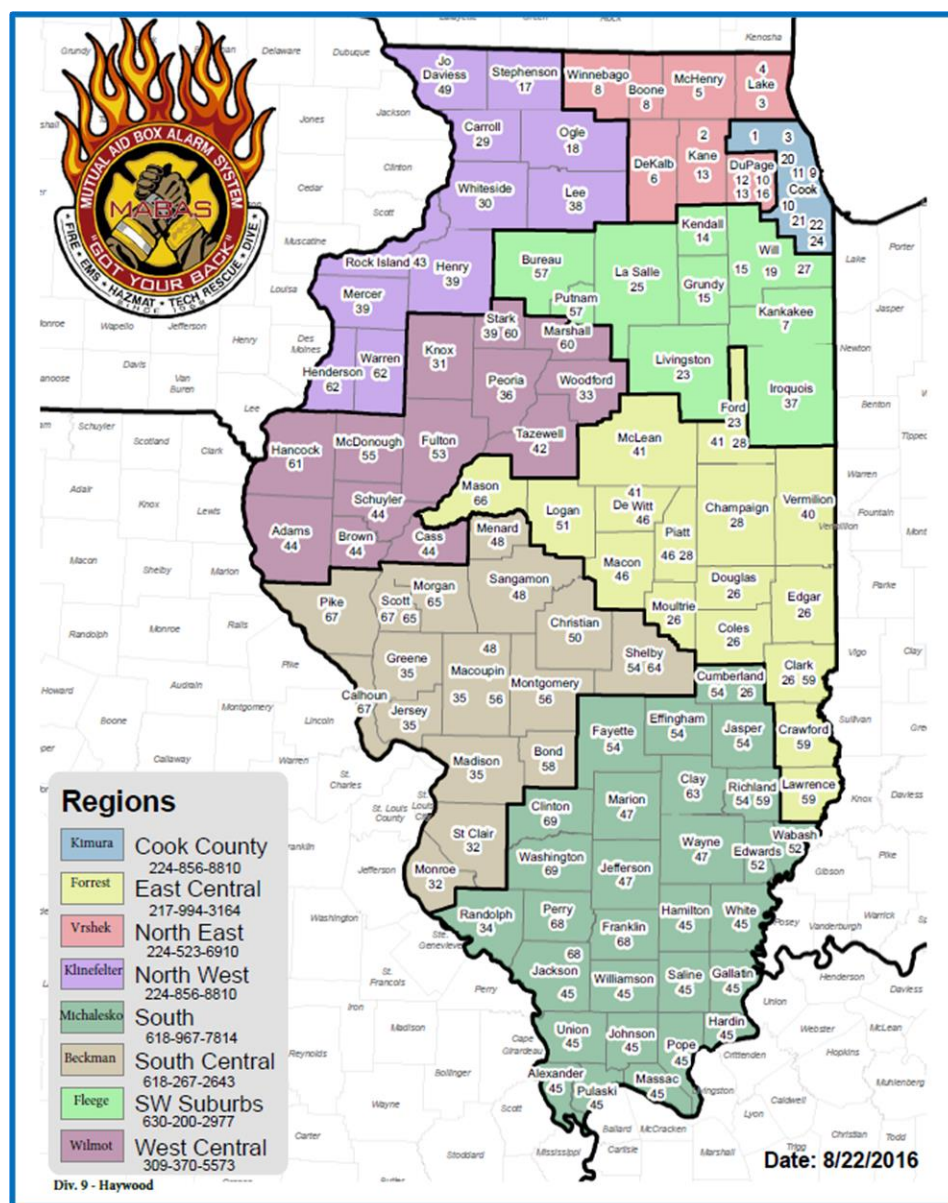
## UPDATE!!

Congratulations to MABAS Division 46 Tech Rescue for improving our statewide response capabilities!!!

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

MABAS, Illinois

847-403-0500

MABAS Division Map  
With Branch Chiefs

## Questions/Comments

*Has your Department/Division responded to a call or had a big event and you would like MABAS to add it to our newsletter, do you have any questions or comments about our quarterly issue of Back Talk please feel free to e-mail or call. We look forward to suggestions and comments.*

E-mail to: [Littlefield@mabas-il.org](mailto:Littlefield@mabas-il.org)

Littlefield @ 847-403-0511



## Do you know!!!



MABAS Branch Chief  
Chip Wilmot

Chief Wilmot began his fire service career with the Downs Community FPD in the early 1980's, while still in high school.

He attended Eastern Kentucky University where he earned a degree in Fire and Safety Engineering Technology. While at ECU, he participated in cooperative education and ran with the Madison County Fire Department.

He began working for State Farm Insurance in 1989, where he worked until 2015, primarily as a claim representative in State Farm's Special Investigative Unit.

Chip volunteered with both the Jefferson Fire Protection District and the Mt. Vernon Fire Departments from 1991 through 1995.

In 1995, he moved to Germantown Hills, and immediately began volunteering with the Germantown Hills FPD. He was appointed Chief in 1997, and still holds that position today.

Chief Wilmot currently represents MABAS Divisions  
31, 33, 36, 42, 44, 53, 55, 60, 61  
wilmot@mabas-il.org



## A Letter from IL-TF1 Medical Team Manager

Dr. Bernard Heilicser

*Continued from Page 11*

If the body is dehydrated, the kidneys will hold onto water, and make concentrated, strong smelling urine. If enough water is present, the urine will turn clear. PEE CLEAR!

Acclimating to conditions allows the body to perform in situations that would otherwise be difficult. The body will make physiologic changes allowing it to cool more efficiently, if it has gradual exposure to hot conditions. Moving from a cool to very hot environment quickly increases the risk of developing heat related-illness symptoms.

It is important to look after family and loved ones during heat waves. When the temperature rises, the elderly or those less fortunate may not have air conditioning or the ability to cool their homes. Cities often set up cooling centers when the heat index rises, and there is an increased risk of heat-related illness. In 1995, Chicago experienced a record heat wave that killed hundreds of people. Most were elderly and the poor who had no air conditioning or could not afford to use it. Some wouldn't open their windows for fear of crime.

**What is the prognosis for heat exhaustion?**

Most individuals recover well from heat exhaustion. The key to recovery is recognizing symptoms before they progress to heat stroke. The earlier the activity is stopped, the individual is cooled and hydration begins, the greater the likelihood that complications will not occur.

***Remember, to stay hydrated and pee clear.***

[http://www.medicinenet.com/heat\\_exhaustion/page6.htm](http://www.medicinenet.com/heat_exhaustion/page6.htm)

## MABAS Illinois Visits Washington DC



MABAS Illinois visited FEMA in Washington DC to take part in a National Mutual Aid Technology Exercise June 28-29. Representing MABAS was CEO Chief Ericksen, Operations Chief Haywood, and Plans Branch Chief Littlefield

Others in attendance:  
Fire, Search and Rescue, EMS, Law Enforcement, Critical Infrastructure, and National Guard.





# MABAS and the 2017 Total Solar Eclipse

By: Chief John Michalesko and Chief Darin Beckman

## Continued From Page 5

With initial planning efforts beginning last year, planning for the event has been ramped up over the past few months to include planning meetings once every two to three weeks to assure all agencies are on the same page. Through these, planning meetings a Commanders Update Brief (CUB) was established and is updated every couple of weeks. Along with the

MABAS Staff have put together an Incident Action Plan (IAP) for MABAS. This will help ensure all staff position responsibility for the event. MABAS has also been working closely with the Statewide Terrorism Intelligence Center (STIC) who will be playing a huge roll behind the scenes gathering intelligence.

Mainly due to the cost of moving all of the equipment. Keep in mind: every division has a Generator/Light Tower, Polaris 6X6 UTV, and an Expedient (Western) Shelter. As for Special Teams, probably a good time to discuss staffing availability for those on deployable rosters, remember this is a planned event.



CUB, a warning Order was created specifying objectives for all involved agencies.

As it looks now, there will be two State Area Commands, a Southern Area Command at the IEMA Region 11 Office in Marion and a Northern Area Command at the IEMA Region 8 Office in Fairview Heights. A State Unified Area Command (SUAC) located at the Armory in Mt. Vernon. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) will also be activated in Springfield. MABAS Staff will be staffing both Area Commands, the SUAC, and the SEOC with MABAS Staff as Liaisons.

Expectations of major traffic issues that will in no doubt cause gridlock on rural, county, and state highways. Communication may experience similar issues. STARCOM21 very well could reach its limits due to limited system capabilities with only two or three talk paths at tower sites. This is a prime example where the IFERN channel may be needed for net operations.

MABAS does not plan to pre-position a huge amount of equipment in Southern Illinois for this event.

With an estimated significant influx of population, as previously mentioned, there becomes a high concern that mutual aid will be widely used when a department becomes overwhelmed or finds themselves lacking resources. This is where being a member of MABAS will become a great benefit to the department and the community.

## MABAS - We "GOT YOUR BACK"

Photos from Web EOC, NASA, and <https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/eclipse-maps>

# Illinois State Fire Marshal's Fire Safety Exhibit

## M.A.B.A.S. Day at the State Fair

### Monday August 14, 2017

Join us at the State fair grounds for a fun day volunteering at the largest and best attended interactive fire safety exhibit in the state. Family members are welcome and encouraged to help us in the exhibit.

Kids of all ages enjoy the hands on displays- stop, drop, and roll training, fire pole, fire safety house, fire safety skits and demonstrations, fire extinguisher training, and more.

Make sure that your Department and Division are represented.

Volunteers will receive an admission ticket to the fair, parking pass, MABAS-II t-shirt, and lunch.

To sign up contact Mike Forrest at [Forrest@mabas-il.org](mailto:Forrest@mabas-il.org), or 217-994-3164



MABAS Volunteers at the 2016 Illinois State Fire Marshal's Fire Safety Exhibit

***M.A.B.A.S.-Illinois "Got your Back"***

# Amboy Fire Protection District

By: Chief Bryant

The Amboy Fire Protection District has concentrated on being prepared for all potential risks that could arise in our district. The attached flyer indicates our status at our annual meeting in May 2017.

Thru grants we have received nearly 2 million in local, state and federal grants since 2002. The grants have helped us try to be the lead to be capable of various response equipment and training. In addition, we have received \$250,000 in federal surplus property, which assists in response and assistance to the community during a disaster.

Both programs have helped better prepare us in a large scale event until MABAS can arrive to assist.

The drive to accomplish these grants is to leave this area better for the next group that will manage this department. With assistance of Chief Craig Haigh from Hanover Park in Strategic Planning, we will be capable of implanting a plan to continue the programs we have and broaden our scope as needed.



## Apparatus

Ambulance 1-H-21  
Ambulance 1-H-11  
Command 701  
Engine 702  
Engine 703  
Brush 705  
Utility 706  
Brush 707  
Tender 708  
Special Ops 709  
Gator 740  
Red Polaris 741  
Yamaha Mule 742  
EMS Polaris 743  
Boat 1 & 2  
Command Trailer  
Crib 1 & 2  
Welding Trailer  
Barricade Trailer  
Grain Bin Rescue Trailer  
Forklift  
Phase 1 & 2 Simulators  
Drone  
Pink Heals – Jessica \*coming\*  
"Pink Heals" – Anna \*coming\*

## What's been going on?

- Approximately 60 active members
- 430 calls from 5/1/16 to 3/31/17
- \$250,000 in federal property utilized
- \$1.8 million in total grants received
- FM Global grant for smoke detectors
- In August 2016, we became licensed to self-upgrade to ALS service
- Received new Genesis extrication tools
- Humvees were painted for a cohesive look
- Ballistic gear was purchased
- A Zodiac boat was purchased with help from the Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee
- Received a tan Polaris
- Back-up weather siren project began
- Hosted a 9/11 ceremony with over 200 in attendance
- Hosted an ARC Blood Drive
- Hosted a community CPR course
- Hosted a MABAS 38 training day
- New policies completed
- 10-Year Strategic Plan completed

- Upgraded protection equipment to be proactive in cancer prevention

## Looking forward 2017/2018

- ✓ Completed re-chassis of 1-H-11
- ✓ Grant/funding for:
  1. Update station generator
  2. Implement a sprinkler system
  3. Purchase another 12-lead EKG machine
  4. Purchase another auto-pulse machine
  5. Driving simulator
  6. Training simulator
  7. Drager/Swede/LP/car fire prop
- ✓ 145<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event/ Open House
- ✓ Complete Fire Academy Course
- ✓ Amboy Extrication School – April 2018

## DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Chief Jeff Bryant Sr.  
Asst. Chief John McGraw  
Asst. Chief Scott Wittenauer  
Deputy Chief Tracy Fleming  
Lieutenant Garrett Gerdes  
Lieutenant Kevin Glenn  
Lieutenant Duane Dickison  
EMS Lead Tammy Bryant  
EMS Lead Margaret Fleming