

“ GOT YOUR BACK TALK”

MABAS ILLINOIS



VOLUME 16.4

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

by Chief Jeffrey C. Macko

Well I hope everyone made it through the summer unscathed, being a die-hard Cubs fans it's been a great summer for me. I know you Cardinal fans are not happy but just look at it as our turn for a change.

It has not been a good summer for State Government, as there is still no State budget and no movement on our funding bill. I will tell you that the Elected Board and Staff have been working diligently to stay on top of situation to move forward with our funding bill. There will still come a time, and I hope it's soon, that we will need all of your help to meet with your State Legislators and promote our bill. And I thank you in advance for any help you can give us in that regard.

We are making headway on the contract addendum, but there are still about twenty percent of the MABAS departments that need to complete the process. It is in your communities best interest to get this completed as soon as possible.

I also want to say again that we have great people on staff and in the field that are there to help the Division with any questions and problems you may have. So get familiar with your Branch Chief, and don't be afraid to reach out to them. They are there to assist you.

Our next Executive Board Meeting is in Bloomington Normal February 8th. Hotel conference room 1:00. I hope to see all Divisions represented.

Thank you,

President Jeff Macko

“Go Cubs”

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Another Great year for MABAS at the Illinois State Fair. Page 4

E-SPONDER... IT'S NOT JUST A SALES PITCH!

By: Mark R. Sikorski

Though the E-Sponder system is often referred to as a CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) system, it is actually a notification system, that MABAS-Illinois now uses for large deployments!

When RED Center/MABAS is made aware of a significant incident, or the potential deployment of resources, an event is created in the system. Once an event is created, the first of three possible messages, is sent out. This message notifies "EVERYONE" that RED Center and MABAS are aware of the event, that may or may not require a large scale deployment. At this point, we would also be in contact with Illinois Emergency Management (IEMA) and the Statewide Terrorism and Intelligence Center (STIC) in Springfield, to assist in anyway necessary.

The system has 3 event messages, that you may receive. They are sent in a voice phone call, an email, and via text to advise to check emails for messages. The 3 messages, in order, are:

Notification Message: This message notifies "EVERYONE" that RED Center and MABAS are aware of the event and are monitoring the situation. It also states, not to deploy any resources, not to call RED Center, and not to call MABAS. Not only is this an awareness message, it is a notification for each Divisional Executive Board to open a dialog within, and to contact their Divisional Dispatch Center to advise if their division will be able to assist with any resource deployment requests.

"EVERYONE" includes the MABAS-Illinois staff, every member of each Divisional Executive Board, every Primary and Secondary MABAS Dispatch Center and

the person/persons responsible for each of the dispatch centers.



Pre-Tasking Message: Once a definite request for deployment is received, the 'Pre-Tasking' message is sent. This message states that MABAS records indicate that you have a certain resource available for deployment, and said resource(s) are being requested. The "Pre-Tasking" message only goes to the divisions

that are being asked to deploy resources, based on availability and location. This message goes to the Primary and Secondary dispatch centers, and their divisional executive boards. It asks the dispatch center to answer YES or NO to a specific request, usually within 10 minutes. Only the dispatch center responsible for the division (at the time of request) and answer the request.

Tasking Message: This message states that the resource(s) in which your division has agreed to send is now due to respond. It includes more details, such as address, reception/staging location, routing, etc. It also directs the recipients to go to the MABAS-Illinois website (www.mabas-il.org) for proper

deployment documents. Again, only the dispatch center responsible for the

division (at the time of request) shall acknowledge the request.

A few things to REMEMBER!!!

- The messages may sound similar to an automated sales call, do not hang up... listen to the call for important information!

- 'Everyone' gets the initial '**Notification Message**', but nobody's moving yet! Phone calls between the Division Executive Board and the Dispatch Center must now take place!

- Only the divisions that are being asked to deploy resources will receive the '**Pre-Tasking**' message, and only the dispatch center can reply!

- Only one of the dispatch centers (Primary or Secondary) can answer YES or NO to a deployment request. Divisional Executive Board members and dispatch center directors also receive the '**Pre-Tasking**' message, but cannot directly accept or turn down a request!

- Though the '**Pre-Tasking**' message states that you only have 10 minutes to reply, you probably have had hours to decide if you can respond. This is why it is crucial to have contact between the division's executive board and the dispatchers after receiving the initial '**Notification Message**! If your request is not acknowledged, your division will be skipped for this request.



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A Message from MABAS-Illinois

By: Chief Jay Reardon

On October 12th the MABAS Executive Board met in Peoria and discussed a number of topics. Accordingly, here are some of the highlights from the agenda.

MABAS Annual Training Summit – February 2017

The Annual Training Summit for MABAS is scheduled for February 6-10, 2017 in Bloomington-Normal Illinois. Registration will be available on-line beginning in December, 2016. We will send out an email notice. Don't wait as the sessions and presentations will draw strong attendance. An overview of topics include:

- The Dallas Sniper – Presentations for fire chiefs and dispatchers reference each of their lessons learned.
- Sandy Hook School Shooting – Hear from a surviving mother of one of the murdered children her experience dealing with the first response community.
- San Bernardino Terrorist Shootings – Hear from fire officials as this tragedy played out throughout their city.
- Mumbai Multiple Rolling Terrorist Attacks – Hear from the FBI the lessons learned from this new challenge.
- Paris Attacks at Multiple Near Simultaneous Locations – Hear from IAFC Chiefs and DHS Intelligence Analysts how the event unfolded and lessons learned.

- Orlando Pulse Murders – Hear how this lone terrorist took control and executed a horrific plan. Hear from Orlando fire officials and their dispatchers their lessons learned.
- Hear from an interactive instructor the dos & don'ts for first responders dealing with terrorist/lone wolf shootings and bombings resulting in mass casualties.
- Hear from the experts on how to pick up on suspicious indicators and what to do when you think they are real.
- Hear from the FBI on how to make things difficult for the bad guys by hardening your facilities.



The Annual Summit Specifics Include:

- Monday, February 6, 2017 – MABAS committee meeting and annual work plan development for 2017.
- Fire chiefs and command officer's sessions Monday, February 6-8, 2017
- Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 1:00PM MABAS Executive Board Meeting.
- Dispatchers and tele-communicators sessions, Wednesday, February 8-10, 2017.
- No overtime and backfill reimbursements are available this year due to grant fund reductions.

MABAS Work Group Drafts Released

MABAS enlisted the assistance of a couple dozen divisional representatives to research and provide recommendations on two policy matters. The policy matters involved the following:

- Review of MABAS member agency dues structure.
- Review and draft policy regarding MABAS division creations and separations.

Draft policies were released at the Board meeting and both work groups provided brief presentations of their recommendations, findings and observations.

- Both draft policies with letters of transmittal were included in MABAS division board packets. MABAS divisions are encouraged to review the draft policies and seek answers from MABAS HQ staff or work group co-chairs where needed.
- The policies will be considered for adoption at the MABAS Executive Board Meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2017.
- The October 12th full agenda and associated agenda item attachments are available at the MABAS-Illinois website.



Elected Board at MABAS Executive Board Meeting

Continued next page.

A MESSAGE FROM MABAS-ILLINOIS

By: Chief Jay Reardon

Continued

MABAS / ILEAS License Plate Legislation May Face Stiff Opposition

As a number of MABAS member agencies may be aware, MABAS and ILEAS has submitted legislation for a \$3.00 annual license plate renewal additional cost to generate statewide sponsored revenues for long term sustainment of the investments made to the statewide fire, EMS, law enforcement and emergency management disaster response system. The legislation has been submitted for each of the past three years and will again be introduced in 2017.

Unfortunately, the legislation has not gained traction in each of the past two years due to the ongoing state budget deadlock. Also, in an end of session, May, 2016, House and Senate action further threatens our attempts to secure the Legislative Initiative.

As you have probably seen the ads on televisions about the constitutional amendment question on the November 8th ballot regarding a "lockbox" on the use of transportation related revenues.



John Millner addressing MABAS members

That includes revenues from license plate renewal fees. If the question passes MABAS and ILEAS license plate fee additions could be blocked from ever occurring.

The constitutional amendment question on the ballot was supported by the Illinois Legislature to appease the road builders and associated industries. Should the question pass many unintended consequences, within state budgets, can be expected.

The MABAS Executive Board voted to give The Leadership Team the authority to support or oppose the constitutional amendment ballot questions. Our Lobby, John Milner, continues to attempt to have dialogue with the transportation lobby in assuring MABAS & ILEAS are not "Locked Out" of the sustaining revenues source.

Currently, MABAS has not taken a position regarding the ballot question. We will keep our member agencies informed should a position be taken.

2017 DHS Grant Funds to MABAS Reduced By 8.2 – 13.0%

MABAS received notice that IEMA was reducing the grant award requested by MABAS for the upcoming grant cycle for 2017 and 2018. The reduction equals a reduction between 8 – 13% less than the current, 2016 grant level. The proposed reduction will impact the annual conference and certain expenses associated with equipment. Additionally, the upcoming grant cycle will be 15 months in length but funded at a 12 month level.

The action of reducing Federal DHS grant funding levels by IEMA further strengthens the need to identify and fund a statewide sustainable revenue base for the statewide MABAS and ILEAS system.

MABAS Foundation – Non-For-Profit Entity in the Works

As a matter of need, the MABAS Executive Board gave its approval to pursue establishing a 501(c)(3), non-for-profit foundation. The MABAS foundation's goal is to provide an augmentive funding source to assist in sponsoring many MABAS-Illinois initiative.

As previously stated, IEMA has reduced funding levels within DHS grant sources including the majority of revenues towards the MABAS annual conference. The MABAS "Foundation" is being explored as an attractive, legal mechanism for accepting donations, running fund raising efforts and pursuing grants extended to non-for-profits by corporations and the like.

It is hoped to have the MABAS Foundation up and running by mid-2017. As it develops and stands up, we will keep MABAS member agencies informed of progress and established goals.

See all of you at the MABAS Annual Training Seminar in Bloomington-Normal on February 6-10, 2017. Registration open on-line at the MABAS website in December, 2016.

Next MABAS Board Meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2016 at 1:00PM at the Annual Training Summit in Bloomington-Normal



MABAS

WOULD LIKE TO SINCERELY THANK ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME TO MAKE THE FIRE SAFETY EXHIBIT A SUCCESS, AT THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S FIRE SAFETY EXHIBIT



Left to right: Don Durbin Div. 50, Lisa Alfaro Div. 24, Darin Beckman MABAS, John Michalesko MABAS, Michael Graves MABAS, Jennifer Valentine Div. 32, Erick Harris Div. 32, Brent Saunders Div. 32, Top of stairs Derick Beckman MABAS, Lenore Victor Div. 24, Joni Haywood MABAS, Debbie Michalesko MABAS, Continue left to right Darin Taylor, Bruce Workman Div. 43, Les Siron Div. 41, Kevin Lyne USAR, Mark Crooks Div. 43, David Volkert Div. 48, Dave Haywood MABAS, Kim Szlak MABAS, Sean Szlak Div. 3. Not shown: Jonathon Paholke MABAS, Jack Cunningham.

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

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

If Interested in Volunteering in 2017 Please contact Dave Haywood 708-878-5232

E-SPONDER... IT'S NOT JUST A SALES PITCH!

By: Mark Sikorski

Continued from page 2

- Only the divisions that have agreed to deploy will receive the 'Tasking' message.
- Proper deployment documents must be forwarded to RED Center, prior to deploying, so RED can contact the Team Leader/Group Leader with further information and the Security Validation Code!
- E-Sponder works directly with the CIMS (Contact Information Management System) built into the MABAS-Illinois website. It is crucial that this information is properly entered, and kept up-to-date,

to ensure proper notifications and deployment of resources. It is the responsibility of each division to maintain their own CIMS entries.

- E-Sponder must have direct access to a standard 10-digit phone line, that is answered 24/7 by the dispatchers!

- RED Center has the main control of our E-Sponder, and has the capability and authority to alter responses, based on time constraints, availability of resources, and to avoid depleting resources below the "80-20 rule" in any division or region!



In September, we instituted SCHEDULED testing of the E-Sponder system. Testing takes place on the Fourth Tuesday of each month, rotating between the 3 eight hour shifts.

A test 'Notification Message' is sent to all responsible parties, and then we test the divisions within 2 Operation regions, per month, with the 'Pre-Tasking' and 'Tasking' messages. NOTE: Only the dispatch centers will be involved in testing during overnight hours.

If you have not had the pleasure of being involved with one of the tests, you probably will in the near future!

DISASTER? IT WILL NEVER HAPPEN HERE!

By: Dave Havwood

But what if it does? Are you prepared? Does the leadership in your agency and jurisdiction know how to request a disaster declaration following a large scale incident? The Illinois Fire Service enjoys the benefits of mutual aid and receiving help from our neighbor agencies on a daily basis, but what happens when your box card is exhausted or the incident expands into your neighbors' jurisdiction? Following a large scale incident, a local damage assessment should be conducted and consider all forms of public safety: law enforcement, fire, EMS, debris removal, health and welfare and others. At a certain point the local public safety leaders should request the chief elected official of the effected jurisdiction to declare a disaster. The declaration allows the local Emergency Operations Center (EOC) be staffed and operations can be guided thru the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) annex specific for that type of event. The declaration also allows for emergency spending processes normally not allowed for

local governments, and allows the local chief elected official to request a County Disaster Declaration thru the County Emergency Management Agency. It is important to request a county disaster declaration early in the incident because only the county can escalate the incident and request a state declaration from the Governor thru the Illinois



Emergency Management Agency (IEMA). It is also significant because county resources like Emergency Management Agency, Sheriff's Department, Department of Transportation, Health and Hospital, and others can be requested and respond with assistance and resources to your incident.

Each level of declaration must meet a certain eligible financial threshold before reimbursements are permitted based on the jurisdictions population. That's why it is extremely important to conduct a preliminary damage assessment and begin collecting accurate records on spending, personnel accountability, individual, and business damage assessments, vehicles and associated costs (fuel, tires), etc. The recently distributed MABAS contract Addendum allows for fire service reimbursements to begin after the first eight hours of activation. Without submitting a signed contract addendum, a jurisdiction may not be eligible for their reimbursements. Continual damage assessments should be conducted to monitor the impact on individuals and personal property, business interests, critical infrastructure, and essential services.

Continued on next page

DISASTER? IT WILL NEVER HAPPEN HERE!

By: Dave Haywood

When an incident escalates to a County Declaration, the additional resources that the County provides for emergency response are also considered to meet the reimbursement threshold. To determine your local threshold, contact your County EMA for the per capita amount of eligible cost and multiply that figure by the population of your municipality, then by your counties population, and so on. It is estimated that more reimbursement requests are denied because of poor or inaccurate record keeping and not exceeding the threshold, than any other reason.



If your request is denied, you may re-submit NEW information to the original request and ask for ask for re-consideration. After responding County resources have been depleted, the County Board President may request a

Disaster Declaration from IEMA, and continue escalating to a Federal declaration from FEMA. Only the chief elected official or their designee at each level holds the authority to consider and declare a disaster and request a declaration to the next level. Each additional level permits the additional resources of that level of government to respond.

Regardless of the level of declaration and the resources responding, the incident remains a local incident!

More information can be found at <http://state.il.us/iema> or www.ready.illinois.gov



A LETTER FROM IL-TF1 MEDICAL TEAM MANAGER

DR. BERNARD HEILICSER

We believe it would be helpful to bring the MABAS community up to date on what our medical component is capable of doing and describe the resources we have.

From the onset when the Task Force was created, Medical has established a medical presence that is in compliance with the FEMA requirements. This achieved goal allows us to relate to FEMA, and speak their language. Our medical cache is comprehensive and extensive. This deployment ready presence has taken significant work and dedication by the entire Task Force.

Medical carries a full range of supplies. This includes trauma, cardiopulmonary, and urgent medications and equipment. Examples are chest tubes,

amputation kits and laceration repair capability.

We are able to provide short term critical care with ventilatory capacity.



Picture of US&R 6

The Medical component also has a truck, Special Operations Medical (Truck 6).

This fully operational resource carries a FEMA Type 3 Medical cache, and is available as a mission ready package as part of a Task Force deployment, or on MABAS request. It is staffed at a minimum by a physician and two medical specialist, all FEMA trained. We utilize three emergency department type gurneys for 3 separate treatment stations, monitor defibrillators, suction, oxygen, antibiotics,

trauma and obstetrical delivery equipment, and many other supplies found in an emergency department.

Medical functions with a mission of responsibility to support the Task Force, followed by care for trapped victims, and then any others that would need medical attention. We are capable of self-sustained activity for 72 hours.

The Task Force, with the support of MABAS, has been fortunate to achieve this medical readiness to help the citizens of Illinois, and beyond.



Picture inside US&R 6

MABAS ILLINOIS SPECIAL EQUIPMENT



DECON TRUCKS

MASS DECONTAMINATION – UP TO 200 PEOPLE WITH SUPPLIES ON BOARD. SHOWER AND HYGIENE FACILITIES. EXTERIOR, UNDER-AWNING, MISTING NOZZLES FOR COOLING.

TWENTYFIVE (25) STATEWIDE



TENT CITY

SEMI TRAILER WITH 10 WESTERN SHELTER 19' X 35' TENTS, HVAC, COTS AND ACCESSORIES. BUILT IN GENERATOR TO POWER ALL TEN TENTS. ACCOMMODATES 200 RESPONDERS.



THREE (3) STATEWIDE



AIR COMPRESSOR CASCADE

COMPRESSOR/MANIFOLD SYSTEM WITH ADAPTORS FOR ALL SCBA AND SCUBA.

ELEVEN (11) STATEWIDE



WAREHOUSE TRAILERS

18,000 ITEMS - VARIOUS SUPPLIES, INCLUDING GENERATORS, CHAIN SAWS, SHOVELS, BROOMS, COTS, SLEEPING BAGS, TARPS, HAND TOOLS, GLOVES, GOGGLES, TRASH CANS, ETC.

SEVEN (7) STATEWIDE

MABAS DIVISION 1 WATER RESCUE TEAM HOSTS DEMO DAY

By: Spencer Kimura

On Thursday, September 8, 2016 members of the MABAS Division 1 Water Rescue Team hosted a Demo Day at Twin Lakes Recreation Area in Palatine. The event was attended by a number of chief officers from Division 1 departments, as well as by several local public officials, representatives from Northwest Central Dispatch (the MABAS Dispatch center for Division 1), personnel from MABAS-Illinois and local media. The purpose of the event was to demonstrate water rescue capabilities available to Division 1 member departments, familiarize command personnel with advances in equipment and techniques that have been adopted over the past few years, and to show how locally-owned and



MABAS assets can be used together in various water rescue scenarios. The day began for attendees with a briefing held in the Division 1 Western Shelter tent, and they then were taken to a number of stations set up along the shore of the lake. Demonstrations were given on dive operations (both surface-supplied and SCUBA), sonar sector scan and sidescan units, the Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), ice rescue, swiftwater / flood rescue, and boat-based operations. Throughout the demonstrations, emphasis was placed on increased levels of safety for rescue personnel, as well as increased efficiency and effectiveness obtained by embracing the new technology available. The formal program lasted for approximately one hour, after which attendees were given the opportunity to interact with rescue personnel, ask questions, or get more in-depth information on any of the stations.

MABAS assets that were demonstrated or used in conjunction with the event included the Division 1 / 3 Seabotix ROV (Remote Operated Vehicle),



Division 1's Marine Sonic sidescan sonar, Kongesberg sector scan sonar, twin-stack boat pack and Rapid Deployment Craft, Decon 1, UTV 1, a generator / light tower and Division 1's Western Shelter tent. Agencies that participated in the demonstration included the Arlington Heights, Des Plaines, Elk Grove Village, Hoffman Estates, Mount Prospect, Palatine, Rolling Meadows, Schaumburg, Streamwood and Wheeling Fire Departments and the Palatine Emergency Management Agency's Fire Rehab Team

IL-TF 1 DEPLOYMENT INFORMATION

By: Kevin Lyne

As a MABAS resource, the Illinois Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Team, IL-TF 1, is a deployable Mobile Support Team. Under pre-existing agreements, the State of Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) or the Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (CCDHSEM) can activate the team. This activation could be for in-state or out-of-state deployments. IL-TF 1 can be activated as a Type I or II US&R team with 80 members, a Type III US&R team with 40



members or other Mission Ready Packages (MRP's) of smaller components. Based on imminent or actual events, IL-TF 1 management will notify its members of a possible or actual deployment. Upon receiving this notification, team members have been directed to work with their fire department or employing agency to make them aware of the situation and get authorization for their participation.

IL-TF 1 members should review their department or agency reporting requirements and identify the person(s) who can authorize their participation. The team is made up of members from 70 fire departments across the state, each with their own requirements. IL-TF 1 members are responsible to make sure their department or agency requirements are followed in the event of an activation.

Continued Next Page.

IL-TF 1 DEPLOYMENT INFORMATION *By: Kevin Lyne*

Continued

The three general notifications members receive for a possible or actual deployment are Advisory, Alert and Activation. These notifications types and the actions taken by the team are listed below. Some considerations that the department should review are also listed.

I. ADVISORY notification:

- a. An event has occurred or is imminent. IEMA/CCDHSEM relays information only to MABAS and IL-TF 1.
- b. Member actions to take:
 - i. Available members should make preliminary notification to your fire department or agency
 - ii. No response or other action is needed

II. ALERT notification:

- a. An event has occurred or is imminent. IEMA/CCDHSEM notifies MABAS and IL-TF 1 of possible deployment. The team will send out notification to solicit member availability to develop a deployment roster.
- b. Member actions to take:
 - i. Members should reply when requested for deployment roster development as follows:
 - 1. Less than 12 hours before shift:
 - a. Reply as "unavailable"
 - b. Contact your fire department or agency
 - c. Update your status to "deployable" only if authorized by your fire department/agency
 - 2. On shift:
 - a. Reply as "deployable" only if authorized by your fire department/agency
 - i. Delay your reply until authorized
 - b. Reply as "unavailable" if you are not authorized
 - 3. Off shift:
 - a. Reply as "deployable" or "unavailable" based on your current status. Get authorization from your fire department/agency
 - ii. A deployment roster will be developed based on availability and mission type. This roster will be distributed to the team. Members on the deployment roster shall work with their fire department or agency to identify what needs to be done if an activation or deployment takes place

III. ACTIVATION notification:

- a. An event has occurred. IL-TF 1 has been requested to respond.
- b. Member actions to take:
 - i. Members on the deployment roster shall notify their fire department or agency of the deployment and follow their department's or agency's deployment procedures.
 - ii. Members should provide any deployment documentation to their fire department or agency
 - iii. Deploying members are to report with all equipment to the Personnel Processing Center (PPC) for in-processing

IV. Fire Department or agency considerations:

- a. Does the department authorize the IL-TF 1 member(s) to deploy?
- b. How many members does the department authorized to deploy?
- c. What is the procedure for IL-TF 1 member(s) deploying while on-duty?
- d. What is the procedure for IL-TF 1 member(s) deploying while off-duty?
- e. What is the procedure for the use of a department vs. a personal vehicle for member(s) to respond to the PPC?
- f. What is the procedure for the use of a fire department or agency vehicle on the deployment?
- g. What is the agency's procedure for IL-TF 1 member(s) not deploying but working at the PPC
- i. While on-duty?
- ii. While off-duty?
- h. What is the agency's procedure for IL-TF 1 member(s) not deploying but working in the Task Force Operation Center (TFOC)
 - i. While on-duty?
 - ii. While off-duty?

IL-TF 1 management is available to answer questions or to work with any department or agency to review their deployment procedures for IL-TF 1 members.

MABAS APPARATUS



First Vehicle Purchase 2006

MABAS purchased its first vehicle in 2006. The trailer is still in service.



MABAS currently has over 400 vehicles/trailers with license plates registered to MABAS Illinois.

FAST FACTS

95%

MABAS annual budget is from grant funds.

79%

MABAS agencies have met minimal submission requirements for the Contract Addendum.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

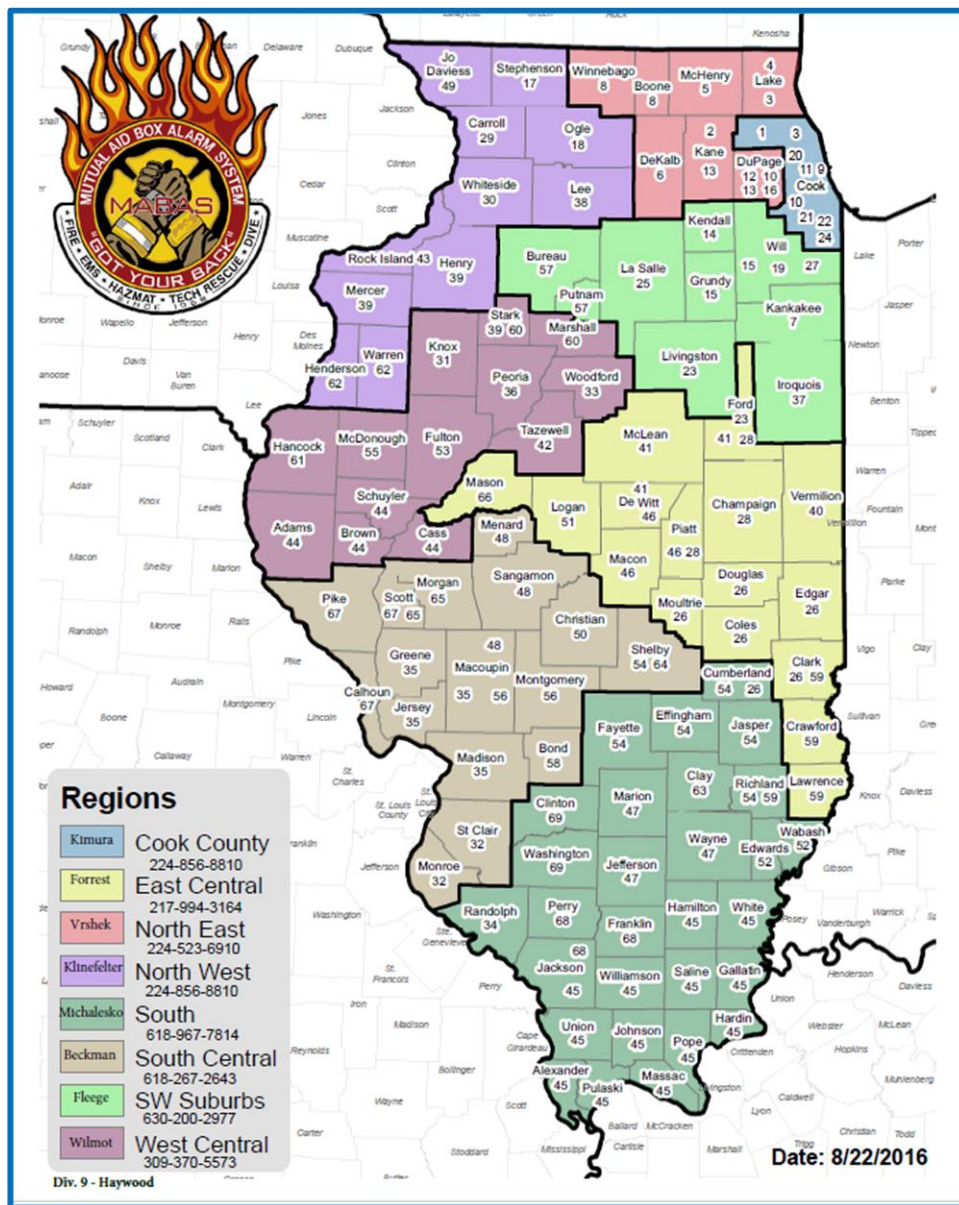
MABAS, ILLINOIS

847-403-0500



MABAS DIVISION MAP

WITH BRANCH CHIEFS

***DO YOU KNOW WHO REPRESENTS YOUR DIVISION?***

Contacting your MABAS-IL Operations Branch Chief

Above is a map showing the MABAS-IL Operations Branch Chief assignments and their cellular phone number. We encourage MABAS Division officers and special team leaders to store this information in your cellular phones so you can easily contact your branch chief for response matters; coordination issues; or other technical service matters.

This map and contact information can also be found on the MABAS-IL website under the MABAS DIVISIONS tab; MAPS: MABAS Divisions with Branch Chiefs Names section.

By: Chief Joe Cluchey

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

ALL DRESSED UP:

-Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Make sure that shoes fit well and that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, entanglement or contact with flame.

-Consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and trick-or-treat bags for greater visibility.

-Because masks can limit or block eyesight, consider non-toxic makeup and decorative hats as safer alternatives. Hats should fit properly to prevent them from sliding over eyes.

-When shopping for costumes, wigs and accessories look for and purchase those with a label clearly indicating they are flame resistant.

-If a sword, cane, or stick is a part of your child's costume, make sure it is not sharp or too long. A child may be easily hurt by these accessories if he stumbles or trips.

-Obtain flashlights with fresh batteries for all children and their escorts.

-Do not use decorative contact lenses without an eye examination and a prescription from an eye care professional. While the packaging on decorative lenses will often make claims such as "one size fits all," or "no need to see an eye specialist," obtaining decorative contact lenses without a prescription is both dangerous and illegal. This can cause pain, inflammation, and serious eye disorders and infections, which may lead to permanent vision loss.

-Review with children how to call 9-1-1 (or their local emergency number) if they ever have an emergency or become lost.

CARVING A NICHE:

-Small children should never carve pumpkins. Children can draw a face with

markers. Then parents can do the cutting.

-Consider using a flashlight or glow stick instead of a candle to light your pumpkin. If you do use a candle, a votive candle is safest.

-Candlelit pumpkins should be placed on a sturdy table, away from curtains and other flammable objects, and should never be left unattended.



HOME SAFE HOME:

-To keep homes safe for visiting trick-or-treaters, parents should remove from the porch and front yard anything a child could trip over such as garden hoses, toys, bikes and lawn decorations.

-Parents should check outdoor lights and replace burned-out bulbs.

-Wet leaves or snow should be swept from sidewalks and steps.

-Restrain pets so they do not inadvertently jump on or bite a trick-or-treater.

ON THE TRICK-OR-TREAT TRAIL:

-A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.

-If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when they should return home. Only go to homes with a porch light on and never enter a home or car for a treat.

-Because pedestrian injuries are the most common injuries to children on Halloween, remind Trick-or-Treaters:

-Stay in a group and communicate where they will be going.

-Remember reflective tape for costumes and trick-or-treat bags.

-Carry a cellphone for quick communication.

-Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk.

-If no sidewalk is available, walk at the far edge of the roadway facing traffic.

-Never cut across yards or use alleys.

-Only cross the street as a group in established crosswalks (as recognized by local custom). Never cross between parked cars or out driveways.

-Don't assume the right of way. Motorists may have trouble seeing Trick-or-Treaters. Just because one car stops, doesn't mean others will!

-Law enforcement authorities should be notified immediately of any suspicious or unlawful activity.

HEALTHY HALLOWEEN:

A good meal prior to parties and trick-or-treating will discourage youngsters from filling up on Halloween treats. Consider purchasing non-food treats for those who visit your home, such as coloring books or pens and pencils.

Wait until children are home to sort and check treats. Though tampering is rare, a responsible adult should closely examine all treats and throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.

Try to ration treats for the days following Halloween.

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DID YOU KNOW TIRES HAVE A SHELF LIFE...

[HTTP://WWW.TIRESAFETYGROUP.COM/TIRES-EXPIRE-IN-SIX-YEARS/](http://www.tiresafetygroup.com/tires-expire-in-six-years/)

MAINTENANCE

TIRES EXPIRE IN SIX YEARS



The evidence is clear: tires should have an expiration date. Older tires are substantially more likely to fail than newer ones. This is because tires are made mostly of rubber, and rubber degrades with age. Sunlight, heat, ice, and general wear and tear can accelerate the breakdown of a tire. Once a tire begins to break down, it becomes more likely to fail in the form of a tread separation—often at highway speeds, when the failure is most likely to cause catastrophic injuries or death. For most tires, this expiration date should be six years from the date of manufacture. Tires age dangerously because of a chemical process commonly referred to as oxidation, which simply means that as the tire components are exposed to oxygen, the oxygen particles cause the flexible components of a tire to harden and become brittle. Over time, the tire will simply fall apart under normal stress, just like an old rubber band. Because this process occurs naturally, it does not matter if a tire is being used, stored as a spare, or simply

waiting on a store shelf for an unsuspecting consumer.

In 1973, the average tread life of a passenger car tire was approximately 24,000 miles. Tire tread life has quadrupled over the last forty years and some currently sold tires promise 100,000 miles of tread life. As tread life becomes less of a factor in the service life of a tire, oxidation becomes a more serious concern—particularly in hotter climates, like Texas, Florida, Georgia, and Louisiana which are routinely the hottest states in the United States.

A LARGE BODY OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE SUPPORTS A SIX YEAR TIRE EXPIRATION DATE

Numerous studies written by or for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration support a finding that tires expire in six years.

These studies conclusively conclude the following:

- Tires begin to weaken and fall apart as they age.
- The tire aging process happens regardless of whether a tire is on a vehicle or in a temperature-controlled room.
- Most tires begin to significantly degrade around five years from the date of manufacture.
- Six years from the date of manufacture, most tires are no longer safe for use on a vehicle.

EXPIRED TIRES ARE A HIDDEN HAZARD

Tire aging is a “hidden hazard” because most consumers don’t know that tires expire in six years and it is difficult for most consumers to tell how old a tire is

without deciphering an 11 digit code that is imprinted on the side of the tire. Fortunately, you can crack the code on the side of a tire to determine a tire’s actual age. You can either obtain a free Tire Facts Report from this website or you can do it the old-fashioned way. Federal rules mandate that the tire’s D.O.T. code be clearly branded or etched on the side of each tire. For most tires, the D.O.T. number is typically 11 digits. If the tire has only 10 digits, the tire was manufactured before the year 2000. A current D.O.T. number looks like this for a tire made in the fifth week of 2011:



To view the Tire Safety Group's Guide on Locating and Interpreting a DOT code, [click here](#)

As you can imagine, most consumers either do not know that this code exists or do not understand its significance. A 2006 survey showed that only 4% of consumers are aware that tires become more dangerous as they age. A large body of scientific evidence supports that most tires should be replaced six years from the date they are manufactured. This six-year expiration date begins from the day the tire was manufactured at the plant—not the date it was sold to a consumer or the date that it was installed on a vehicle.

TIRE MANUFACTURERS WARN THAT TIRES EXPIRE IN SIX YEARS

Many auto manufacturers have taken small steps to warn consumers by placing warnings within the owner’s manual of newer model vehicles. However, due to the cryptic code tire manufacturers use on tires, the warnings are of only limited use to consumers. Nonetheless, the following manufacturers have issued warnings on 2013 and newer vehicles about tire aging:

Written by : Matt Wetherington

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

EQUIPMENT TO KNOW

By: Spencer Kimura

The Oceanid RDC, Rapid Deployment Craft, is a non-motorized, ultra-buoyant, fast response water rescue boat that can be utilized for numerous water and ice related emergencies. It is one of the most versatile water rescue crafts available in the MABAS cache. MABAS Division 3 recently deployed the RDC to rescue stranded motorist on Edens Expressway during recent flooding.



"Rescues On The Edens" Channel 2 news.



Picture from Swiftwater Technician Class – McHenry, IL

The RDC is very stable and is self-righting in potential overturn situations. The RDC can be utilized in swiftwater, flood, and low head dam rescues. The rescuer can maneuver the boat's open end over the victim while the victim's head remains above water at all times. It also allows a rescuer to reach forward into a pour-over or opening in the front of the RDC while the rescuer remains safely centered in the boat. The floor is open at each end, allowing for 2 entry points.



Picture from Swiftwater Technician Class – McHenry, IL

The distance from the waterline or freeboard height is only inches, enabling a rescuer to easily move a victim into the boat.

MABAS has fourteen deployable Water Rescue Teams and each Team has an RDC's, each RDC costs \$4,700. For more information and photos go to: http://oceanid.com/rapid_deployent_craft.html

WESTERN SHELTER TENT

By: Michael Young

Just a bit of information that every Division should know about their Western Shelter Tent system. The Western Shelter system was designed to provide an easily transportable, simple to erect, and weather-secure working environment for operations in remote locations. The 1935 shelter system can be rapidly deployed in the field without the use of tools or lift s, making it an ideal component of both stand-alone operations and large scale interoperable systems.

Key Features and Benefits

- Rapid deployment without aid of ancillary equipment, set-up anywhere
- Can be configured with roof or walls only for maximum flexibility in deployment.
- Interior frame allows access to horizontal support bars capable of holding up to 50 lbs.
- Rigid double doors provide a large entryway with ramp, move gurneys, large equipment.
- Roof vent caps significantly reduces condensation.
- Framework design allows individual replacement of parts.
- Flame retardant vinyl is UV resistant for long life, resists mildew and abrasion.
- Lightweight frame, packaging allows shelter to be moved / stowed by two people.
- Vertical 6 ft. sidewalls maximize usable square footage.
- Sealable vinyl floor maintains



TAKING CARE OF THE TOOLS THAT TAKE CARE OF YOU!

By: Joe Cluchey

Probably one of the most commonly "shared" or used MABAS resource is the light tower generator units. Despite their common use, there are some "little known maintenance facts" about these units that EVERY Division should complete on a periodic basis. Basically, there should be some "routine maintenance" and periodic inspections completed by each Division to assure that your unit will be available during the time of need. Below is a list of tips:

1. Conduct a visual inspection of the unit.

- Look for any obvious body damage
- **Assure that the trailer welds are all intact (see examples below, the left picture shows a broken weld – the right shows the weld intact)**



- Inspect for any loose pieces, missing hardware / wires, etc.

- Confirm that your copper grounding rod and clamping screw is secure for transport and available for use
- Check for fluid leaks
- Check tire condition and pressure
- Check trailer hitch receiver

2. Light Tower

- Per the manufacturer, be certain to store and transport the unit with the lights hanging downward. Furthermore, the lights should be adjusted so there is no angle to them (they should be pointing straight down) to protect against shearing of the bulbs from the bulb sockets resulting from the bouncing of the boom. (There is a wire "spider" in the bulb reflector that helps reduce the shear factor and it is most effective when the bulbs face down). **Additionally, storing or transporting the unit with the lights up can result in damage to the boom due to contact with the extension reel (see picture)**



- **Inspect the "boom" welds to assure they are all intact. (note cracks below near the inside of right bolt)**



3. Conduct regular preventative maintenance (monthly suggestions)

- Check the fuel tank, all fluid reservoirs and inspect for leaks.
- Check the oil / change oil and filter at least once a year – or after prolonged use
- Check the spark plugs
- Check filters
 - i. Air filter
 - ii. Fuel filter
- Check the battery
- Clean your generator
- Assure that you have a spare bulb or two on hand – for use when one of your bulbs burn out.

Although conducting the above maintenance and associated repairs are considered "Divisional Responsibilities" for cost and labor – these simple steps will help ensure that your unit will run as designed when you need it!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

A large graphic for the MABAS-Illinois Training Summit. It features a central circular seal with a fire hydrant in the middle. The seal is surrounded by flames. Text is overlaid on the graphic. The seal itself contains the text: "MUTUAL AID BOX ALARM SYSTEM" at the top, "MABAS" in the center, and "GOT YOUR BACK" at the bottom. Around the bottom of the seal are the words "FIRE", "EMS", "HAZMAT", "TECH RESCUE", and "DIVE" separated by stars. At the very bottom of the seal is "SINCE 1968".

Welcome to the
2017
MABAS-Illinois Training Summit

February 6 – 10, 2017

Executive Board Meeting
February 8th. At 1:00

Marriott Hotel
Bloomington-Normal, Illinois

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