



THE HOT ZONE

Official Newsletter of the North Carolina Association of Hazardous Materials Responders

Winter 2009/2010

OUR NEW NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the new newsletter of the NCAHMR. Hazmat responders can now stay updated between NCAHMR meetings via this quarterly newsletter. If you have any information to include in the newsletter, please forward to Secretary Sherry Rigouard at sherry.rigouard@dhhs.nc.gov

WEBSITE UPDATE



Our new website is now up and running! Visit www.nchazmat.com to access our enhanced website with many user-friendly features. Additional information and functions are being added to ensure that our website truly enhances our mission as an association. Also, please remember that the website is only as good as the information that is provided for inclusion. Forward any information, pictures, training information, or other items to Webmaster Joey Davis at tfd@tryon-nc.com

MEETING DATES/LOCATIONS



February 11, 2010 – Mooresville

May 2010 – At the NCSFRI Conference in Asheville

August 2010 (Annual Meeting) – At the NCSFA Conference in Raleigh

November 4, 2010 - Greensboro



GATEWAY X UPDATE



The Gateway X Conference was held on October 28th – 30th to determine focus issues for emergency responders in North Carolina. Among the issues discussed was the need for education regarding the need for Carbon Monoxide and Hydrogen Cyanide monitoring during structural firefighting overhaul operations and information on the hazards presented. It was decided that the NCAHMR would take the lead on this issue. The Gateway X Report will be published shortly.

TRAINING CALENDAR

Hazmat Technician

Cleveland CC March 22 – April 10, 2010 Contact Jimmy Hensley at (704) 484-6656

Raleigh Fire Department May 3 – 14, 2010 Contact Ian Toms at (919) 807-5159

Chemistry of Hazmat

Raleigh Fire Department June 7 – 18, 2010 Contact Ian Toms at (919) 807-5159

NCAHMR IN THE NEWS

The NCAHMR has been given the unique opportunity to feature a quarterly column in the Carolina Fire/Rescue/EMS Journal providing NCAHMR updates and information on timely hazmat topics. See our latest submission in the Winter 2010 Issue at www.carolinafirejournal.com Have an idea or like to provide a submission? Contact Glenn Clapp at glenn.clapp@highpointnc.gov

HAZMAT CHALLENGE UPDATE



On Saturday, August 22nd, eight hazardous materials teams from across the State met in Raleigh for fun, fellowship, and competition in the annual Hazmat Challenge. The 2009 Challenge drew a large number of spectators and featured unprecedented sponsor involvement and prizes for the top finishing teams.

The Challenge--which is open to hazardous materials response organizations operating within the State--consists of four-person teams competing in a series of timed evolutions, with penalties incurred for incorrect techniques. The evolutions for the 2009 Challenge were as follows:

1. Application of Chlorine C Kit on Railcar Protective Housing Simulator
2. Overpack of Drum
3. Placing Overpack and Drum on Dolly and Transporting 100'
4. Sampling Using a Coliwasa Tube
5. Victim Removal Using Stokes Basket

The final standings (including the times corrected for penalties for teams one through three) were as follows:

1. Fayetteville 4:56
2. High Point 5:22
3. Raleigh Team #1 6:02
4. Greensboro
5. Wilmington
6. Asheville
7. Raleigh Team #2
8. Asheville/Williamston

Thanks go to the sponsors of the 2009 Challenge, including HEPACO, Inc., CSX Transportation, Smiths Detection, Callan and Associates; and Norfolk-Southern Railroad. Due to the generosity of these sponsors, the first place team (Fayetteville) received four scholarships to Railcar Specialist School at TPCI, Pueblo, Colorado. Teams finishing in first through fifth places received prizes from Callan and Associates. A scholarship to Railcar Specialist School at TPCI, Pueblo, Colorado was given away in a drawing from a list of all competitors' names. The scholarship was won by John Randolph of the Greensboro Fire Department Team.

NATIONAL HAZMAT FUSION CENTER UPDATE

- There are 5 cities testing a national hazmat reporting system now that will be rolled out in the near future. The system shows great promise.
- All of the Regional Incident Survey Team (RIST) incident survey reports that were reviewed in Denver were approved and sent on to TEEX for creating the final report. They should be on the website very soon (www.hazmatfc.com).
- The Southern RIST Team has performed their first survey, with the possibility of several others upcoming.