



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY



TO: Municipal Chief Executive Officers, Service Chiefs, and Emergency Management Directors

FROM: Brenda M. Bergeron, Deputy Commissioner
William H. Turner, State Emergency Management Director

DATE: March 24, 2022

RE: 2022 Statewide Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative (EPPI) Statewide Exercise Introduction – General Information

First, thank you for your ongoing commitment to emergency management and public safety. Over the last two years, we have worked together to face an unprecedented pandemic while also responding to major storms, flooding, and those inevitable smaller emergencies that take place almost every day. This year, we are convening a Governor's Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative (EPPI) Statewide Exercise, focusing on hurricane response: the tabletop exercise will take place on **May 24, 2022, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.**

The exercise is a joint initiative of the National Hurricane Center (NHC), in coordination with a number of federal agencies including the National Weather Service (NWS), the Northeast River Forecast Center, FEMA Region 1, as well as Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. The exercise will test the capabilities of local, state, and federal agencies to respond to a major hurricane affecting New England. All hazards will be exercised, including strong winds, heavy rainfall, river, and coastal flooding. Messaging from the NHC/NWS will include simulations of the latest tools in hurricane forecasting in order to test their effect on decision-making.

The exercise will be delivered virtually via a dedicated website that will become active after May 2, 2022. Each municipality/tribal nation is strongly encouraged to open its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) either actually or virtually and to convene its Unified Command as part of the exercise. Identification of your participants and submission of After-Action comments allow your municipality/tribal nation to receive Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) credit for participation. This year, we are encouraging each municipality or tribal nation to reach out to the critical facilities in your community, including, for example, public water systems that serve your community, in order to consider the effects of severe weather or other catastrophic events on their ability to continue to provide essential services.

As always, please use this opportunity to review plans, identify partners, and discuss possible scenarios and challenges, along with potential solutions. More information will follow as we get closer to the exercise date. If you have any questions or if you require any additional information regarding the Governor's EPPI, please contact us at DEMHS via e-mail at demhs.eppi.questions@ct.gov.

1111 Country Club Road, Middletown, CT 06457
Phone: 860.685.8531 / Fax: 860.685.8902
An Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer