



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: William P. Shea, Deputy Commissioner

DATE: June 5, 2013

RE: 2013 Statewide Severe Weather Exercise Update # 6 – Municipal Participation

Thank you to all the cities, towns, and tribal nations that have indicated that they will be participating in this year's statewide exercise—we have already heard from over 100 communities that are planning to participate. As we look back on the disasters over the last two years, one thing we have learned is that each emergency is unique and each creates new issues. From our statewide exercise last July to Storm Sandy in October, we also learned that each exercise helps to enhance response for the next event.

This year's exercise presents an opportunity to convene your Unified Command with new partners at the table, to work through both issues presented by the exercise and those that your community leaders want to consider in "peace time" rather than in the midst of an actual disaster. In particular, you can identify a local recovery coordinator, someone such as a town planner or community development officer, and consider such long term issues as the transition from shelter to temporary housing, economic recovery, zoning and building code issues, and hazard mitigation. You can also review your Regional Emergency Support Plan and consider how you might activate regional mutual aid to assist other towns in an emergency.

If you have not already done so, please contact your Regional Coordinator and let him know if you will be participating on Thursday, June 20th or Saturday June 22nd. You can even plan to have paid staff play on Thursday and volunteers play on Saturday. Your participation will make your community better prepared for the next inevitable event.

This memorandum will also be posted on the DESPP/DEMHS website at <http://www.ct.gov/demhs>.

If you have any questions, or if you require any additional information regarding the Statewide Severe Weather Exercise, please contact us at DEMHS via e-mail at demhs.eppi.questions@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William P. Shea". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

William P. Shea
Deputy Commissioner
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security