

From: Forand, Eric [mailto:Eric.Forand@vermont.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 9:10 AM

Subject: Vermont Statewide Catastrophic Exercise

Dear Selectboard Members and Town Administrators,

Vermont Division of Emergency Management will be conducting a catastrophic full-scale, statewide exercise, October 23-25, 2019. This exercise will focus on statewide recovery from a catastrophic incident, and exercise play will begin 24-36 hours after the event has stabilized. At this time we are in the initial phase of planning, which includes identifying objectives, participants and locations for the exercise to take place.

This Full-Scale exercise will consist of conduct over three daytime operational periods, to assess the core capabilities within the mission areas of response and recovery following a statewide catastrophic incident. The overarching core capabilities to be exercised have been identified as:

- Planning
- Infrastructure Systems
- Operational Coordination
- Logistics and Supply Chain
- Situational Assessment

The overarching objectives have been identified as:

- The Vermont State Emergency Operations Center will demonstrate the ability to implement the State Emergency Management Plan following a catastrophic incident.
- The Vermont State Emergency Operations Center will coordinate the re-establishment of critical infrastructure within the affected areas to support recovery and coordinate damage assessments following a catastrophic.
- The Vermont State Emergency Operations Center will coordinate response priority and recovery information with local, state, regional, and federal partners following a catastrophic incident in accordance with State Emergency Management Plan.
- The Vermont State Emergency Operations Center will work with the whole community to obtain and deploy resources within and outside of the affected area to following a catastrophic incident in accordance with State Emergency Management Plan and the State Commodity Point of Distribution Plan.
- The Vermont State Emergency Operations Center will receive and coordinate information needed to stabilize the incident and transition to recovery following a catastrophic incident.

During this initial phase of planning, we are looking for interested communities, agencies, private, non-profit and other parties to participate in this exercise. There is a significant time commitment during the planning of this exercise. A minimum of two (2) people must be identified to participate in the planning meetings. These people will not be allowed to play in the conduct of the exercise because they will have all of the knowledge of the exercise. At least one (1) person from your organization is required to attend each planning meeting listed below in order to participate in the conduct of the exercise. Locations for the meetings are yet to be determined.

Required Planning Meetings:

- Initial Planning Meeting: October 23, 2018
- MSEL Meeting: January 15, 2019
- Mid-Term Planning Meeting: March 19, 2019
- Final Planning Meeting: July 16, 2019
- Exercise Play: October 23-24, 2019

If you are interested in participating please complete this survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Cat4LocalInterest>

An exercise like this is a great way for your town to validate its emergency plans. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity as it is a great learning experience and I am sure it will make your town even better prepared for an emergency. I appreciate your consideration in participating in this exercise and I look forward to working with and supporting you during the planning and conduct of this exercise. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,
Eric J Forand
State Exercise Administrator
Vermont Emergency Management

Eric J Forand
State Exercise Administrator
Vermont Emergency Management (VEM)
State of Vermont
(w) 1-802-241-5416
(m) 1-802-585-0633
eric.forand@vermont.gov