

Homeland Security Report

Previous Projects 2006:

The Homeland Security component of The Otsego County Office of Emergency Services has again completed many projects in the year 2005-2006. We received a grant for \$50,000.00 to be used FY 2005-2006. This funding was released to the County late this summer. We are finalizing the FY 2006-2007 grant process for \$27,500.00. We should be able to obtain some degree of financial support FY 2007-2008 amounts have not been disclosed at this time

Unfortunately, the exercise program for this year had to be cancelled due to the Flooding incidents that occurred in June, November, and December. On the bright side of these recent occurrences, many of the lessons learned from previous drills and trainings were put into play, affected a more efficient response to these incidents.

The ICS-NIMS training program is well under way with many classes being offered. We are well on our way to compliance goals.

The Hazmat Team continues to meet, train and drill. Our dual response agreement with Delaware County remains in effect. The relationship continues to help overcome manpower and equipment shortages. The Team received a pair of state of the art Night Vision Goggles and accessories through the CEDAP Grant process. Included in the grant process, was a one day training session that was attended by the H.S. Coordinator. Approximate value for the equipment and training was @ \$5000.00. The Emergency Services Coordinator is proud to announce the 100'x60' storage building remained in this year's budget. An all encompassing storage and training building will greatly enhance the HazMat Teams overall operation by allowing the team to perform maintenance and training regardless of weather. Having the vehicles, equipment, and trailers out of the weather will increase the years of service and allow us to protect our investments

The Homeland Security Coordinator continues to apply for all applicable grants for equipment and finances to better serve our Fire and EMS agencies. We currently await to hear if we were awarded 5 sets of state of the art multi gas meters and an ATV.

2007 Projected Projects

The Otsego County Homeland Security Office is in the process of working on trainings and drills for the upcoming year. The Otsego County Department of Health is now being required by State DOH to take a more active role in emergency preparedness and joint drills. We are currently drafting drills to review Mass Fatality Plans, Animal Disaster Response and CART, and update the Point of Distribution Plans.

The Homeland Security Office is assisting the County ARES/RACES Group in the process of obtaining and outfitting a communications response van. We have obtained a used fire department utility van from Hartwick Seminary Fire Dept. at a reasonable cost. Various funding sources including grants have allowed the group to obtain state of the art radio equipment including satellite phone and wireless internet systems.

We are in the process of ordering a Thermal Imaging Camera and High Intensity Light Towers with 2005 funding. These items will enhance nighttime operations and response.