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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

Friday, August 17, 2007

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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3RD Annual Family Emergency Preparedness Day, August 25 DelTech Community College, Georgetown

With hurricane season blowing into full swing, Delaware jump-starts National Preparedness Month with the 3rd Annual Family Emergency Preparedness Day, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, August 25, at Delaware Tech College Owens Campus in Georgetown.

A week ahead of National Preparedness Month in September, a collection of state, regional and local emergency responders, emergency managers, law enforcement and other public and private groups welcome families and members of the public of all ages to a day of information, demonstrations and entertaining activities. The annual event features free admission, free food and training as well as a variety of safety and preparedness related hand-outs. Family Emergency Preparedness Day 2007 is hosted by Sussex County Emergency Operations Center.

Previous Family Emergency Preparedness Days were held in New Castle County and Wilmington.

Exhibitors will provide those attending with informational materials for establishing a household emergency plan, building emergency supply kits that include water and food, light sources, medications, tools and other items for safety and comfort. Safe boating tips, correct child car seat use, fire safety and bike safety are just a few of the demonstrations and exhibits available on August 25.

Parents and care givers can take advantage of child ID kit information, including DNA registration. Corporate partner, Wal-Mart will display items important to an emergency supply kit. Delaware State Police have several displays and demonstrations, including their state-of-the-art mobile command center, bike safety and helmet usage and a car crash simulator. State police K-9 Corps dogs will be joined by Georgetown Police K-9 Corps four-legged members in demonstrations of apprehension and take-down of suspected criminals.

For fun and confidence-building, adventuresome youngsters can try their hand at climbing a rock wall provided by Delaware National Guard. Modern fire engines and other up-to-date emergency equipment will be on display along with restored antique law enforcement vehicles.

In case heavy August heat returns, Sussex County paramedics will supply misting fans along with their display of medical response equipment.

Free training classes cover emergency plans for pet care, family preparedness planning and Be Red Cross Ready. A door prize of a basic emergency kit will be awarded in each training class. Many exhibitors offer interactive games and exercises and fun and useful prizes.

Corporate partner Delmarva Power will provide weather safety and preparedness activity books and magnets listing contact numbers for state emergency management and operations centers. In addition to a display of emergency supplies, Wal-Mart is providing a bottled water station. McDonalds is donating fruit punch and Edie's Ice Cream will hand out free cool treats. The Family Emergency Preparedness Day planning committee is providing free hot dogs, chips and soda.

Planning committee members and sponsors include the Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security, Delaware Emergency Management Agency, Delaware Citizen Corps, Sussex County Emergency Operations Center, Ocean View Police Department, Sussex RSVP and the American Red Cross of Delmarva.

For further information, call 222-6573 or 744-2667.

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Attention media: For additional information, contact Rosanne Pack, 222-6573; Marny McLee, 222-6651; Maryann Hook, 865-5815; or Kimberly Chandler, 744-2667. A list of exhibitors to date is attached. Please contact those local to you for further information and comments. We hope to see you all Saturday!