

**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HACKENSACK
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

To : Mayor Romano and Township Committee

From: Michael J Ward Coordinator

Re: Department Report 1st Half of 09

Date: July 6, 2009

THE FOLLOWING IS WHAT HAS TRANSPIRED SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR:

I would like to thank all the town departments and employees for their condolences when my parents died in January. This year has been busy we had two (2) winter storms that OEM assisted with.

- Attended International Conference on OEM in Orlando Florida this past February.
- Worked on obtaining data for County Database, unable to use headquarters computers, contacted Bergen County OEM and will use their system.
- Monitored elevation level of the Saddle River and watched the Green Street Ditch, which needs to be cleaned and jetted.
- Updated the NIMS Federal Database with 09 information, township is still in compliance. Must discuss the further training of Officers, Volunteers and town employees
- H1N1 Flu came upon us and could get worst, I have been in contact with Mid Bergen Health and the County Health Dept. Departments were informed and information was distributed, Will keep track of this ongoing flu.
- Will be updating the First Responder Prophylaxis with the new officers of the Fire and EMS Departments, as well as all new critical employees.
- Attended NJEPA Conference in Atlantic City this past May, attended numerous sessions especially on Traffic Management, Clandestine Lab Awareness, H1N1 Flu pandemic update and several smaller sessions. Also met with over 100 vendors. This conference is every May and because I am parts of the committee the NJEPA picks up the majority of the bill for the week costing the township virtually nothing.
- Attended Government Day in May
- Coordinated with Larry Paladino the 1st graders visit to town hall and departments.

- OEM-1 was retired and I now have the old Fire Prevention #410 vehicle which is in good shape. I have submitted two (2) proposals for the removal of the lettering that is painted on the vehicle.
- I was informed by Mayor Romano that the office room # 119 in town hall was available and I would be able to use it, I am in the process of reestablishing the office.
- Sent several articles to Kevin Kopeck to be placed on web-site he has placed them on their. More articles to follow,
- Letter to all department heads advising them that our Emergency Operations Plan needs to be updated by May of 2010, I will be sending a disk to all department heads with the plan for their input before final approval by Bergen County and State OEM.
- Be in contact with Bergen County Mosquito Commission, Pete the supervisor has advised me that the county purchased a debris deflector to be installed under the Saddle River Ave Bridge; they are waiting for the company to show them how it is to be installed. Once they begin the project Saddle River Ave will be closed at the bridge, will coordinate with the Police Department
- Requested to attend Trade Shade Commission Meeting this past June at United Water report was submitted.
- Started discussions with Memorial School in updating their Emergency Operations Plan since the school has been renovated, meetings will be held every Wednesday starting next week. All department heads who have a part in the plan was advised the days we will be discussing their portions and are welcome to attend.
- Attended six (6) day training session for an AHIMT for Bergen County OEM this past June.
- Bergen County will be doing a full scale exercise this September which I have been involved with the designing of such exercise.
- This past year we had an overwhelming amount of rainfall, in fact June has never seen this much rain before, will be monitoring the weather as the year progresses.
- Involved with teaching numerous Incident Command Courses throughout the county which enhances my skills if we have an incident. Will be attending many more training sessions in the upcoming months as well.

On the side of safety, we have had several meetings this year; I attended a Safety Awards Breakfast back in March where the township received two (2) vouchers for \$1500.00 for improvement in the township safety. Each department has been working throughout the year to improve our safety record. DPW is in the process of checking the Phillips Ave park children's area for any safety defects in the equipment, new swings have been ordered. We are part of the MEL Insurance Fund where we are required to attend safety training, new schedule for 2010 being developed with input from the individual departments. If anyone sees any safety issues throughout the town please report it to the police department. There was a complaint on the Fire Hydrant extensions, this will be conveyed to the new Fire Chief will be meeting later this month with him. Thank you to all for your support and cooperation. South Hackensack's Departments work as a TEAM which means "Together Everyone Achieves More"

Yours in Preparedness

Michael J Ward
Emergency Manager/ Safety Delegate