

THE RESERVIST:

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLESLEY VOLUNTEER RESERVE CORP

Inside this issue:

What's Happened?	1
Liability	1
Regional Grant	2
Incident Command	2
Personal Protection	3
Behavioral Health	3
Alternative Viewing	3

Upcoming Trainings:

- May 30, 2006: Personal Protective Equipment
- June 28, 2006: Behavioral Health *(you may attend the same training hosted by the Needham Health Dept on June 8, 2006)
- August 2006: Communication & mobilization drill
- September 2006: Functional exercise

What's Happened So Far?

Welcome to the second edition of the Wellesley Health Department's Volunteer Reserve Corp (VRC) newsletter, **THE RESERVIST**. Our newsletters are designed to keep you up to date on the latest news, trainings and events related to the Wellesley VRC.

An informational night was held on March 1, 2006. The program was facilitated by the director of the Health Department and

Liability

The complex issue of liability as it pertains to volunteers is being pondered by many communities, ours among them.

We have submitted a request to our Town Counsel to provide us with guidance on the multi-dimensional

featured information from panelists and current volunteers. Since then, there have been two trainings for VRC members; on Avian/Pandemic Flu and Mass Dispensing Site Operations. Two more are scheduled: Personal Protective Equipment on May 30, 2006 and Behavioral Health on June 28, 2006. More about these trainings in the following pages. In the future, drills will be scheduled to reinforce the information and

aspects of liability, i.e. who is responsible if you are hurt while assisting the Town in an emergency, what authority will you have to perform designated roles and responsibilities and many others.

We are looking at

training VRC members have acquired.

Thus far, the Health Department has welcomed more than 100 members and invites additional Wellesley residents with clinical or clerical aptitude to join.

As a VRC member, you are one of the most appreciated and needed people in Town.



other community models to see if they can work in ours.

We will give you the latest update at the next VRC training.

Regional Grant Offers Opportunities for Collaboration

The Wellesley Health Department along with six other health departments in our region were awarded a grant from the office of

Volunteer Reserve Corp members safe while they are assisting their communities during an emergency.

expand the network between the two towns.

This grant will provide even more support and coverage in the event of a large scale local emergency when resources are easily exhausted.



This grant enhances the benefits of collaboration across borders. Janice Trainor-Tellier, Director of the Wellesley Health Department noted that the towns of

Homeland Security. The grant offers volunteers in our communities opportunities to work, train and drill together.

Wellesley and Needham (health departments) are ahead of the curve, as they were among the first to adopt a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2004 to share workforce, services and trainings across borders. The MOU has already served to

The grant also provides supplies to help keep Medical Reserve Corp and

“The National Incident Command System is vital in successful emergency response “

Learn the Incident Command System *All VRC members are required to take this course*

VRC members will be asked to learn the basics of an Incident Command System (ICS) because it is an effective way to coordinate agency roles and responsibilities in an all hazards response.

incidents without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS has considerable internal flexibility. It can grow or shrink to meet different needs. This flexibility makes it a very cost effective and efficient management approach for both small and large situations. ICS is a proven management system based on successful business practices, and includes decades of lessons learned in the organization and management of emergency incidents. This system represents organizational best practices and has become the standard for emergency management

across the country.” To learn more and to take the on-line course and test, visit the website listed below :



Incident Command Structure allows various organizations to work together

What is the Incident Command System? According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency 's (FEMA) student manual from August 2004, “ICS is a standardized, on-scene, all hazard incident management concept. ICS allows its users to adopt an integrated organizational structure to match the complexities and demands of single or multiple

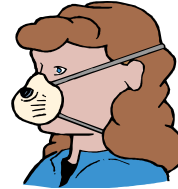
<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is100.asp>

Personal Protective Equipment Training - May 30, 2006

This skill-based training introduces local health professionals to basic concepts and protocols for using personal protective equipment (PPE) and infection control practices.

You will learn about fit testing for masks and how to correctly don personal protective equipment, as well as how to dispose of them safely.

The importance of the proper handling of PPE was evidenced during the SARS epidemic in Toronto, when some became infected with the SARS virus after improperly handling their PPE.



Learn why personal protective equipment is so important

The proper use of PPE is vital to keeping you safe.

WHEN: Tuesday, 5/30/06

WHERE: Wellesley Free Library, Wakelin Room

TIME: 7:00–9:00 PM

CEU's available

“Learn how emergency events affect individuals, families and communities.”

Behavioral Health Training - June 28, 2006*

This training will provide a general overview of critical incidents and emergency events. It will include a definition of behavioral health and a description of how behavioral health interventions can both prevent and mitigate certain consequences of disasters and other emergencies.



The presentation will identify how emergency events affect individuals, families and communities, as well as how disaster stress (a normal response to abnormal events) is usually manifested. Long term behavioral health effects of disasters, such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder will be explained and discussed in the context of prevention and intervention.

WHEN: Wed, 6/28/06

WHERE: Wellesley Free Library, Wakelin Room

530 Washington Street

TIME: 7:00 - 9:00 PM

CEU's available

**If you cannot attend the training on June 28th, Needham Health Dept will hold the same training on Thursday, June 8, 2006, 8:00 - 10:00 AM. Let us know if you can attend this one instead and we'll give you the details.*

Trainings are Recorded and Aired on The Wellesley Channel; VHS Tapes are Available

All VRC trainings will be recorded and aired on the Wellesley Channel (cable channel 9). If you are not able to attend the trainings in person, you are invited to watch them on cable.

If you do not have cable, the Health Department will have two videotapes of the trainings to loan out.

Please contact us at 781-235-0135 for more information.

If you would like to receive a certificate of attendance (viewing=attendance) or CEU's, you will be able to complete a quiz located on our website, or one can be mailed to you.

Here's our website address:

www.wellesleyma.gov/Pages/WellesleyMA_Health/index





Town of Wellesley Volunteer Reserve Corp

WELLESLEY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Pages/WellesleyMA_Health/
index](http://wellesleyma.gov/Pages/WellesleyMA_Health/index)**

The long range plan for the Wellesley Volunteer Reserve Corp is to coalesce with Town departments and other groups to provide vital assistance in a large scale local emergency.

The lessons learned from the Hurricane Katrina relief effort taught us that a piecemeal operation is ineffective. We must work cooperatively, using an integrated organizational structure, to ensure an effective response.

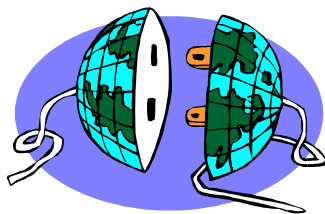
Join the VRC

The Wellesley Health Department is seeking both clinical and clerical volunteers to assist in emergency events or regular public health efforts. On the clinical side, those with the following skills/professions are requested: physicians,

nurses, certified nursing assistants, EMT's, physicians, psychologists, social workers, mental health professionals, pharmacists, or other clinical or medical specialties. On the clerical side, we are seeking those with the following skills: data entry, computer, filing, interviewing, phone, communication and translation skills.

the Wellesley Health Department, phone 781-235-0135 or e-mail: clefman@yahoo.com

Learn what other volunteers already know...you are needed, connected and appreciated.



Volunteers are connected

If you or someone you know may be interested in joining the VRC, please contact Cheryl Lefman at