

GOT YOUR BACK TALK

MABAS Illinois



Volume 21.2

In This Issue

From the President:

by Chief Don Davids

Greetings to all MABAS Members,
The first quarter of 2021 behind us and I don't think the light at the end of the tunnel is a speeding train. I am encouraged by the vaccination numbers and a fairly steady drop in COVID-19 cases, especially the severe ones. I know there are many more vaccinations that need to be administered and a lot of work still to be done.

As I have said in the past, MABAS is still working closely with IEMA and IDPH on how to support the residents and departments of Illinois with staff and equipment for managing the situations created by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020 MABAS received over 300 taskings from IEMA and has received several more in 2021. We continue to monitor equipment conditions and adjust items as requested. If you know of issues with deployed equipment, please contact your Branch Operations Chief and let them know about it.

Since the Command and Dispatcher Summits had been cancelled, MABAS scheduled virtual committee meetings with our standing committees. Most of these have already occurred and we appreciate the hard work and flexibility from our committee members. We use

the committee members input in their area of expertise to request grant funding and allocate resources.

I know that several MABAS divisions have been involved in local area or division wide vaccination sites over the past month or so and I think that fire service participation and support of those events is crucial to their success. MABAS will share any knowledge or logistical experience that we can to assist when requested.

The last MABAS executive board meeting was held on February 24 at the MABAS Readiness Center and two remote sites - IFSI in Champaign and Southern Illinois Airport in Carbondale. We had good attendance at all three sites and the technology worked very well. Thank you to everyone that participated. I would like to thank outgoing First Vice President Rob Martin and wish him well in his move to Wisconsin and I would like to welcome Chief Kevin Welsh as the new First Vice President.

Please stay safe, wear a mask when appropriate, wash your hands, and get the vaccine if you can.

Respectfully,

Don Davids

President, MABAS-IL
davids@mabas-il.org

Tips for Spring cleaning	2
Message from CEO	3
Rockford Fire Department Rescue	4
Richard C. Ford II retirement	5
ISFM Fire Safety Exhibit	6
COVID 19 efforts	7
MABAS Store	8
MABAS Division map	9
Urban Search & Rescue	10
COVID State vaccination sites	12
Call for Summit 2022 Speakers	12

Volunteers needed for State Fire Marshal Tent
August 16, 2021

12 Maintenance Tips to Get Your Home Ready for Spring

Maintaining a healthy home goes beyond dusting and vacuuming. When is the last time you checked your smoke alarms? How about the last time you cleaned out your dryer vent? Follow the tips below to make sure your family and home are ready for a happy, clean spring season.

Clean Gutters

Grab a ladder, and check your gutters for debris. Remove as much as you can with



your hands (Don't forget to wear gloves!). Remove any leftover gunk with a garden hose. Take off any nozzle and have a helper turn on the water when you're ready. Shove the hose into the downspout to power out of gooseneck bends. Make sure your downspouts channel water at least five feet from foundation walls.

Scrub Walls, Baseboards and Outlets



Scrub all the walls — in the bathroom, kitchen, bedrooms and living areas — with a sponge or brush and mild soap and water. This includes baseboards and outlets. Make sure to completely dry outlet covers before replacing.

Replace Filters



Replace all filters including water, range hood and air vent filters. You should replace these filters every 3-6 months depending on the type of filter you have.

Clean Faucets and Showerheads



Unscrew the faucet aerators, sink sprayers and showerheads, and soak them in equal parts vinegar and water solution. Let them soak for an hour, then rinse with warm water.

Clean Out the Dryer Vent



A clogged dryer vent can be a fire hazard. To clean it, disconnect the vent from the back of the machine and use a dryer vent brush to remove lint. Outside your house, remove the dryer vent cover and use the

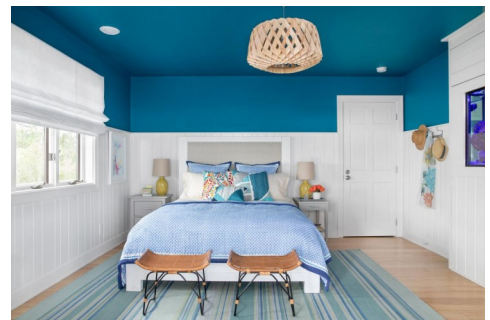
brush to remove lint from the other end of the vent line. Make sure the vent cover flap moves freely.

Wash Exterior Windows



Hire a window-cleaning service to clean all exterior windows.

Keep Allergens Away



Keep dust, mold and pollen at bay by decluttering your home, checking pipes for leaks and keeping the air clean.

<https://www.diynetwork.com/made-and-remade/fix-it/12-maintenance-tips-to-get-your-home-ready-for-spring>

Continued on Page 4



A Message from MABAS-Illinois

Thankfully, spring has arrived, and we can put behind winter and look forward to a better year. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 Pandemic is keeping MABAS busy. MABAS, and numerous divisions, are starting to recover the many Western Shelter tent systems that had been set up at various locations throughout the State. This is especially true for those deployed to correctional centers as we move away from the testing and screening process and into supporting the vaccination phase. Our appreciation goes out to all MABAS members who have supported the Western Shelter taskings and anticipate additional taskings as the vaccination program increases as more vaccines become available. The recommendation process for the FY21 Homeland Security Grant Program has begun. The 21 HSGP funds MABAS special teams and divisions in Illinois outside of the Cook County Urban Area. The available grant funds have been reduced by close to 7% this year along with several

new restrictions on how the funds can be used. Once approved, this grant would go into effect July 1, 2022. It is not certain at this time how MABAS will be impacted but it is certain that some modifications to our operations will probably have to be made. We will probably know more later in April. We are looking forward to rolling out more exercises as COVID-19 restrictions ease throughout the State. The Operations Staff is busy working with other stakeholders in exercise planning for later this year.



The Illinois Emergency Management Agency is working on the Homeland Security Strategy Vision 2025 document. This report is intended to assess the readiness and needs of the State in its ability to respond to and prevent terrorist or other major emergency events. A representative of the University of Illinois will be addressing a MABAS meeting soon to explain the process where stakeholders such as MABAS can provide input into this report. The February MABAS Executive Board meeting was held 24th and just slightly over one third of the Divisions participat-

ed in the meeting. MABAS Staff is looking into relocating the remote sites downstate to make it easier for more Divisions to attend the meetings. The next MABAS Executive Board meeting will be Wednesday June 23, 2021 at the MABAS Readiness Center and other sites to be determined.

Early planning is underway for the 2022 MABAS Summit which will begin February 20, 2022 in Bloomington/Normal. We are encouraging MABAS members who wish to participate in the presentations by sharing your best practices, lessons learned both good and bad, or review challenging incidents you have experienced. Watch for the "Call for Speakers" announcement to be distributed next month. As of today, the Illinois State Fair is scheduled to be held this August. MABAS is scheduled to work in the Illinois Fire Safety Tent Monday August 16, 2021 and your help in volunteering to staff the tent would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks again to all the MABAS Divisions and members, along with the MABAS Staff, for all their work in supporting the pandemic fight this past year. Here is hoping everyone has a safe and enjoyable Spring season.

MABAS is looking to get your department logo!!!

MABAS would like for you to email your department logo to us. We are using department logos for Tier II cards.



12 Maintenance Tips to Get Your Home Ready for Spring

Continued From Page 2

Check Foundation Vents



A house with a crawl space has vents along the foundation walls. The vents provide air circulation that helps prevent excess moisture and mold growth, and they prevent critters from taking up residence underneath your home. The screens collect leaves and other debris from fall and winter. Spring is a great time to clean them out and check for damage. Clean the vents by hand or use a shop vacuum. Repair any damaged screens — critters can get through even the smallest holes.

Clean the Grill



Your grill has most likely collected dust during fall and winter. Help your grill live a long life with these maintenance tips, whether you have a charcoal or gas grill.

Prep Your Garden



You can't have a successful garden without good soil. Follow these tips on how to prepare your soil to help you grow a lush garden.

Test Smoke Alarms



Test smoke alarms and CO detectors, and change out batteries as needed. It's

cheap, only takes a few minutes and can save your family's lives.

Clean Outdoor Furniture

Outdoor entertaining season is just



around the corner. Learn the best ways to clean all outdoor furniture (recipes included), from plastic to canvas.

Article recommended by Ed Gibis. Ed is responsible for maintaining all apparatus at MABAS readiness Center (MRC) as Logistics Branch

<https://www.diynetwork.com/made-and-remade/fix-it/12-maintenance-tips-to-get-your-home-ready-for-spring>

ROCKFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT DEPLOYS RDC TO RESCUE FISHERMEN

The fire department tweeted they were on scene at 2:13 p.m. One man in his 20's and another man in his 30's were fishing when the ice they were sitting on broke off and the floated into the middle of the river. Crews went to help the men from near the river at 401 N. Main St. Officials on scene said the current was moving so slow, it was easy for rescue crew divers to rescue the men using a rapid deployable craft. The divers got the men off their mattress, which was on top of an ice sheet — and on to land. There were no injuries reported and both men were able to get to land safely. <https://www.wifr.com/2021/03/01/rockford-fd-on-scene-of-water-rescue-on-rock-river/>





RETIREMENT

On Friday, April 2, 2021, MABAS honored Fire Commissioner Richard C. Ford II on his last day for his 38-years of distinguished service to the Chicago Fire Department.

MABAS was honored to present Fire Commissioner Ford with a certificate of appreciation for his dedicated service and cooperative efforts with MABAS during his tenure. MABAS congratulates Commissioner Ford and wishes him the very best in his retirement.



CONGRATULATIONS!!



ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S FIRE SAFETY EXHIBIT

MABAS DAY AT THE STATE FAIR

MONDAY AUGUST 16, 2021

Join us at the State fair grounds for a fun day volunteering at the largest and best attended interactive fire safety exhibit in the state. Family members are welcome and encouraged to help us in the exhibit.

Kids of all ages enjoy the hands on displays- stop, drop, and roll training, fire pole, fire safety house, fire safety skits and demonstrations, fire extinguisher training, and more.

Make sure that your Department and Division are represented.

Volunteers will receive an admission ticket to the fair, parking pass, MABAS t-shirt, and lunch.

To sign up contact Mike Forrest at forrest@mabas-il.org, or 217-994-3164



MABAS Volunteers at the 2017 Illinois State Fire Marshal's Fire Safety Exhibit

MABAS "Got your Back"

COVID-19 RESPONSE LINE OF EFFORTS

By: Chief Lyne

A few Cook County MABAS Divisions have been working with the Cook County Department of Public Health and the Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security on the development of local vaccination sites. So far Division 3 and Division 19 have established these sites. Listed below is a local news article describing the Division 3 site.

New Trier's Northfield campus to open as COVID vaccination site for local educators, municipal workers

Once a long shot, a vaccination center at New Trier High School's Northfield campus is just about a sure thing.

"This is as close to done as it can be," Cook County Commissioner Scott Britton said.

Britton, who represents a portion of Northfield Township, confirmed that plans to use New Trier's facilities received the go-ahead from the proper county and state officials, and a site-use agreement is set for approval on Tuesday, Feb. 16, by the New Trier District 203 Board of Education (agenda).

Once the measure is approved, Britton said, New Trier's Northfield campus will be used as soon as Wednesday, Feb. 24, to vaccinate area educators, first-responders and municipal workers.

The location will not be available to the general public, at least not yet, Britton said.

"A lot of kudos go to local fire departments and municipal governments," Britton told The Record. "They got together and saw a lack of vaccination locations in the northern suburbs. We heard from a lot of municipalities and school districts."

Officials from New Trier High School, as well as a number of area villages, deferred to the county for comment.

Britton said the plan calls for the vaccine to be administered by area paramedics, who are medically trained in inoculations and were recently approved to do so by the state.

The capacity of New Trier's pending vaccine center is not yet known, Britton said, adding that it depends on the county's vaccine supply and staffing of the facility.

"It's a great plan but limited in the number of people it can take," he said. "If we had enough vaccines, we could do a lot of vaccines in a day.

"I'm hoping as we go forward, by March, we have access to more vaccines."

In mid-December, New Trier announced it had a plan in place if the county wanted to use its Northfield facilities — specifically the main gymnasium — as a vaccination center.

About a month later, local municipalities and first-responders sent an official proposal to the county, suggesting the use of area paramedics and public facilities to administer the COVID-19 vaccine.

The proposal was signed by MABAS Division 3, an emergency-response unit consisting of more than a dozen northern suburban fire departments, including Wilmette, Winnetka-Kenilworth, Glenview, Glencoe and Northfield.

At the same time, public school districts in the township were working together to make the plans a reality.

Britton said it is too early to confirm which schools' and municipalities' employees will be eligible for vaccination at New Trier, but the details will be finalized at the local level.

"They will work out details on that," he said. "It will be by appointment, and we hope to schedule specific schools and districts to get it done in an orderly fashion. ... MABAS is leading the charge on this through the county health department."

As of Feb. 11, the Cook County Department of Public Health had given at least one vaccine dose to 189,957 residents, with 51,927 individuals, or 2.3 percent of the county population, receiving both doses.

Of those vaccinated in the county, according to CCPH data, the largest percentage are from the northern suburbs (9.6%), followed by the southwest (9.4%), west (7.3%) and south (6.3%).

The county operates large vaccination centers in several communities. The only one north of the city is at the Arlington Heights Health Center. The county health department also has partnerships with several Mariano's, Jewel-Osco and Walgreens locations in the northern suburbs.

Residents in Cook County can register to receive information and attempt to schedule a vaccine appointment here.

Britton represents much of Northfield, Wheeling and Palatine townships. He said residents in northeast suburbs, such as those in the North Shore, have had a difficult time securing vaccine appointments.

"It is not convenient for the people I am talking to: school board members, superintendents, fire departments," Britton said. "There are people who need to be taken care of. The eastern part of my district really needs help."

The Record is a nonprofit, reader-funded news site. Our public-service journalism, including all coverage of benefits and fundraisers, is free for all to read.

Support our efforts by becoming a subscriber to have full access to unmatched local reporting on New Trier Township.

<https://www.therecordnorthshore.org/2021/02/15/new-triers-northfield-campus-to-open-as-covid-vaccination-site-for-local-educators-municipal-workers/>

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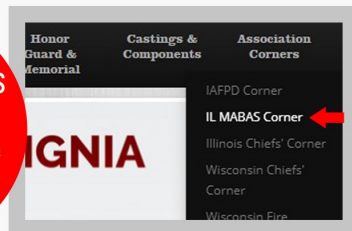
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FAST FACTS



During the peak of COVID-19, MABAS deployed 82 Western Shelters.



Fun Fact

On April 6th, 1789, the First Congress under our current Constitution met in its first joint session in New York and undertook an important order of business: confirming George Washington's election as President.

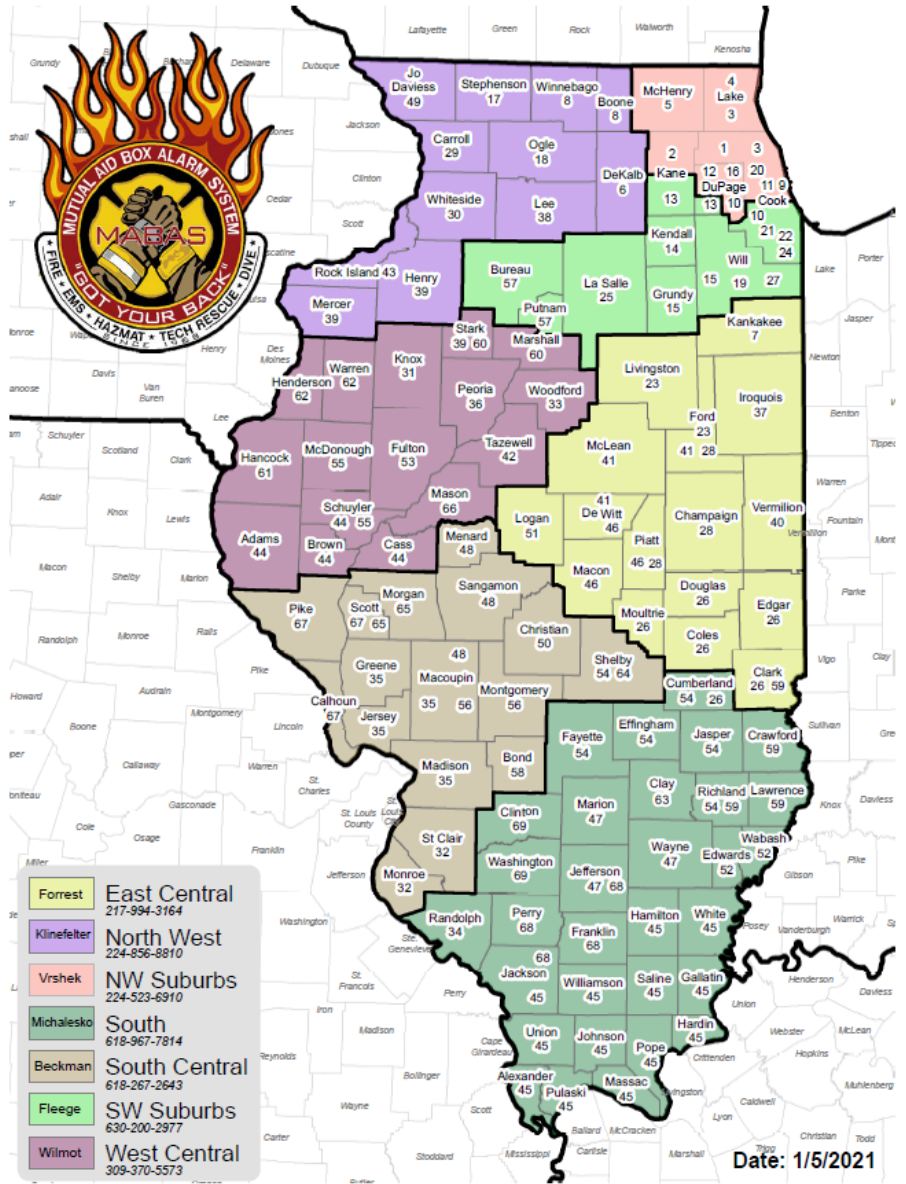
constitutioncenter.org

For More Information

MABAS, Illinois
847-403-0500



MABAS Division Map
With Branch Chiefs



Questions/Comments

If your Department or Division has responded to a call or had a big event and you would like MABAS to add it to this newsletter, or you have any questions or comments about the newsletters? If so, please feel free to email or call us. We look forward to any and all suggestions or comments.

Email—Littlefield@mabas-il.org

Phone—847-403-0511



Illinois Task Force 1

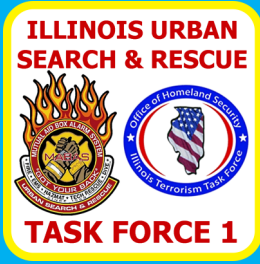


Completed mandatory swim test February 24 & 25



IL – TF 1 members training on rescue techniques

March 10 & 11 at North Aurora.



Illinois Task Force 1



Todd Baseggio and Thor challenging the ladder climb and high plank skillset.

The K9 Group are working hard at maintaining their Type I certification live find skills.



Rami ElShareif and Magnus perfecting ladder climb and high plank skillset.

COVID-19 STATE SUPPORTED VACCINATION SITES

By: Chief Lyne

With supply of the various COVID-19 vaccinations increasing, the number of vaccination sites around the state is on a steady rise. Besides locally planned and supported sites, the state is also increasing the number of its supported vaccination sites. These state supported sites are being planned by IEMA, IDPH, the Illinois National Guard in conjunction with federal agencies. While MABAS does not determine site locations or the allocation of vaccinations for these sites, it is involved in the planning process with the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). MABAS' role in this planning process with IEMA has been with the direct notification of fire chiefs and division presidents when sites are being planned for in communities. MABAS has been providing information of potential site-walk throughs and when sites are approved. With the exception of a few fire departments, most of the chiefs contacted were not aware the state was planning to put up a vaccination site in their community. Questions on state support vaccination sites and local fire department involvement should be directed to Chief Bob Bush at bush@mabas-il.org

CALL FOR SPEAKERS – 2022 MABAS COMMAND SUMMIT

The fire service as we know it is changing and fire professionals need to be equipped to change right along with it. With technology disruptions and shifts across the human capital landscape, it is more important than ever for fire professionals to come together to share their expertise and knowledge.

MABAS's annual Command Conference is set for February 21-25, 2022 in Bloomington/Normal, Illinois and we are looking for Fire Service leaders to apply to be speakers at MABAS Command Conference 2022.

MABAS is the mutual aid model used by the rest of the nation. As the premier mutual aid organization, it is our responsibility to remain on the cutting edge in our areas of public safety expertise in an ever-changing technological and human capital landscape.

The proposal deadline is August 1, 2021.

All submissions will receive a reply to confirm if your session has been accepted, is in consideration, or has been declined.

In your proposal include:

- Personal contact information – name, phone, email
- Title of presentation
- Overview of presentation
- Estimated length of presentation

The ideal MABAS 2022 speaker is:

Experienced, engaging, and comfortable speaking in front of large groups

Passionate about sharing expertise and primary research.

Willing to partner to deliver the best possible content experience and relevance for our audience.

Available to attend the entire event and engage with attendees.

Committed to sharing MABAS with your social networks.

Available onsite for a 10-minute video (for potential usage in future MABAS video content materials and event wrap-up video)

Sound like you or someone you know? If so, get started on your proposal today. Proposals should be submitted to fleege@mabas-il.org, not later than August 1, 2021.

If you have questions, please contact Dave Fleege at fleege@mabas-il.org or 630-200-2977.

WWW.MABAS-IL.ORG

MABAS Foundation

Partners



Each month on 'Inside Darley' Paul Darley highlights industry trends, new products, best practices, thought leadership and more. The videos typically last about 4 minutes and are supplemented with insightful articles and resources. We invite the MABAS community to watch our October series here and if you want even more content, we hope you'll subscribe.

The latest video can be found here <https://darley.com/about/entry/inside-darley-october-2020>

People can sign up for newsletters here: <https://darley.com/about/newsletter-signup>



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