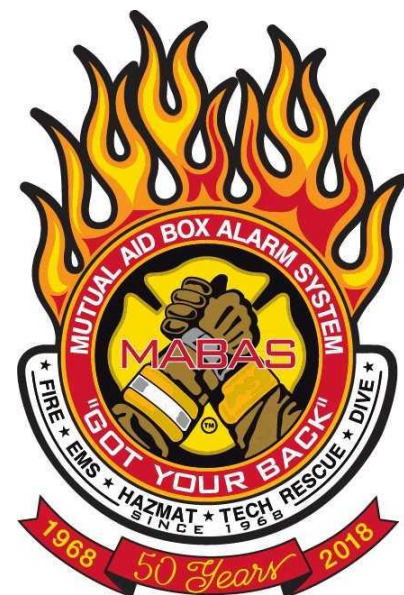


“  
Got Your  
*Back Talk*”

# MABAS Illinois



VOLUME 18.4

IN THIS ISSUE

## From The President:

By: Chief Jeffrey C. Macko

As many of you know, MABAS-IL sent a group of swift water and technical folks to North Carolina after Hurricane Florence. I can't tell you how proud I am of the job these folks did assisting those in need and representing MABAS-IL in the highest regard! They made several rescues and assisted in the distribution of needed supplies as well as performing many other duties. I thank them for their service for a job well done!

This will be my last article for the newsletter; I will be stepping down as President after the Elections held this February at the Summit. I'm proud to say we as MABAS have accomplished many things in my nine year tenure as President, and yet there are a couple of goals I wished we could have accomplished such as a permanent funding source for MABAS-IL. Well that proved to be a very difficult challenge that I know our new President will carry forward.

I want to thank my fellow Board members and the Staff for all the support and great work they done in my tenure, but most of all I want to thank every member of MABAS-IL throughout the State for their support. MABAS-IL is every Division and every member of every Fire Department in the organization, and without your support and continuing involvement we can't exist or move forward.

I am proud to have served with such a great organization, and I assure you that I leave with an outstanding Elected Board and excellent Staff to lead MABAS-IL into the future.

Thank you,

President Jeffrey C. Macko

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Thanks to everyone  
that volunteered to  
help with the State  
Fire Marshal Tent

# Maintenance Tips

By: Rich Ellis

## Is Your Vehicle Ready for Winter? Here's a Maintenance Checklist

If you live in places like say, California, winter driving can be as easy as a Santa Monica breeze. For the rest of us, it pays to be prepared for roads covered in ice, snow, and sleet. So here's an easy winter car maintenance checklist to help protect your vehicle from the harsh weather ahead.



Source | David Creixell Mediante/Unsplash

### 1. Protect your exterior

Take the time now to scrub away last season's buildup from your vehicle's exterior. Then apply a quality car wax to protect against the impending barrage of snow and road salt. Need help getting started? Here's how to wash and wax like a pro and winterize your vehicle's exterior.

### 2. Change your oil

Some of us don't think about oil when it comes to winter vehicle maintenance. But this can be a good time to switch from conventional to synthetic if you haven't already (and if it's appropriate for your car). Cold weather starts can be easier on your engine with a full-synthetic oil. Synthetic flows freer at low temperatures and doesn't require any time to warm up, providing crucial and immediate protection to the engine's moving parts. Not making the switch? Try a synthetic blend. Synthetic blends consist of synthetic oil coupled with naturally occurring conventional oil. Check with your vehicle

manufacturer or trusted mechanic for specific recommendations on which oil is right for your vehicle. For more in-depth information on this topic, read up on the debate between synthetic and conventional oil.

### 3. Maintain your battery

Summer's heat takes a toll on batteries. That weakness is bound to show up on the first really cold morning, when your car won't start because of a dead battery. Really, it's why batteries tend to fail in winter. So test your battery and charging system, and replace the battery if it's weak. A fresh battery is your best defense against cold weather, but it isn't a guarantee. If you live in an especially cold climate or use your vehicle infrequently, you may want to keep your battery attached to a maintainer or trickle charger. That's because your battery is working harder in cold weather and it will gradually lose power over time if it isn't in use. You can also disconnect the battery from the vehicle to prevent power draws.

### 4. Ensure your visibility



Being able to see where you're going is always a top priority, but in winter it becomes especially important. Your first stop is to make sure all of your lights are working. If your headlights or tail lights are dim or yellow, replace the bulbs and clean your lenses. We also recommend that you replace windshield wipers with winter blades in climates where snow

and ice can be expected, and fill the windshield washer tank with a deicing fluid. It'll help you out on those cold mornings.

### 5. Inspect your tires

Traction is key here. Take a look at your tires. If the treads don't have sufficient depth, get a new set. You'll need the best traction possible for dealing with treacherous roadway conditions. Depending on where you live, you may want to invest in snow tires. Not sure which tire type is best for you? Read about your tire options. Temperatures aren't the only thing going down in winter. For every 10-degree drop in air pressure, it's estimated that tire pressure decreases by one pound. Under inflated tires wear faster, hurt fuel economy, and can reduce handling and traction. So keep your tires at the correct inflation.

### 6. Check your antifreeze

The name says it all. Antifreeze is one of the most important winter chemicals, because the liquid in an engine's cooling system is composed of equal parts water and antifreeze. Depending on the brand, either ethylene glycol or propylene glycol in the antifreeze prevents that water from freezing, expanding, and causing damage to the engine. Use an antifreeze tester or take the vehicle to your mechanic to measure the antifreeze's strength. This test indicates the lowest ambient temperature to which the engine is protected from freezing. Also check the coolant reservoir level to make sure it's filled to the proper level. Top off your antifreeze or flush the radiator if it's time to replace it.

*Continued on Page 4*



CEO Glenn Ericksen

## A Message from MABAS-Illinois

By: Chief Glenn Ericksen



As we get close to the end of 2018 it has been a very busy time at MABAS. In September and October MABAS responded to over 11 EMAC requests from states threatened by Hurricanes Florence and Michael. Unfortunately, only one request, the Swiftwater Rescue Team component of IL TF-1 Urban Search and Rescue Team, was tasked to respond to North Carolina. By all accounts the Team performed tremendously in making rescues and supporting local emergency responders and the entire community. I have asked our staff to review the entire EMAC response process to determine where we can do a better job of communicating with local divisions and departments of EMAC requests, gathering the necessary information and rapidly replying to the requests. We plan on having the results of this review

ready for a presentation at the 2019 MABAS Command & Dispatcher Summit in Bloomington/Normal. We would like to thank everyone for your efforts in responding to these requests and your patience as we look to improve the process. Speaking of the 2019 MABAS Summit watch for the registration announcement for the February 25, 2019 through March 1, 2019 Command & Dispatcher Summits at the Bloomington/Normal Marriott Hotel. We are finalizing the agenda and speaker list to provide a very valuable learning experience for everyone. We are holding registration fees a last year's level along with the same benefits. MABAS President Jeff Macko has announced that he will not be running for reelection as MABAS President when his term expires next February. There will be an election for President at the February 27, 2019 Executive Board meeting in Bloomington/Normal. The announcement and nominating packets have recently been

sent to all divisions. If you are interested, and have not seen the announcement, contact Jeanie Mercier at mercier@mabas-il.org for more information.

The grant funding process is a never-ending task and we have some news to report. Funding for the 2018 SHGP grant that begins July 1, 2019 has been approved. There was a slight increase in funding as compared to the previous year. That grant will take us through June 30, 2020. We will also be signing a new 2017 UASI grant soon. This grant will also maintain a current level of UASI funding and extend until late 2019. There has been no word yet from Washington regarding funding past these dates. Although these grants will maintain current operations they really provide little as far as major capital replacement is concerned. We have completed a revised Unmet Needs Report to the Governor outlining over \$41 million dollars' worth of capital replacement funding that needs to be addressed in the immediate future to maintain our current capabilities. Hopefully we can use this tool to help get our message across to the new members of the General Assembly in Springfield. Here's wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season and we look forward to seeing you at the 2019 MABAS Command & Dispatchers Summit next February.

## Hurricane Season 2018

By: Chief Haywood

The 2018 Hurricane Season had been comparatively calm until early September when Hurricane Gordon threatened Hawaii, then Hurricanes Florence, Helene, Lane and Michael posed a threat to the Gulf and Southeastern U.S. coastlines. Huge Federal, State, local and private resources were sent to each disaster area. Illinois Emergency Management Agency (I.E.M.A.) and M.A.B.A.S. personnel monitored the massive responses and the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (E.M.A.C.) requests for State to State Mutual Aid responses. On September 11th, South Carolina posted an E.M.A.C.



request for twelve (12) F.E.M.A. Type II U.S.A.R./ Structural Collapse Teams to pre-stage in Columbia S.C. A Type II U.S.A.R. has the equivalency in personnel and capabilities of a Divisional Technical Rescue Team(T.R.T.)

and it was determined that Illinois could provide six (6) teams without significantly impacting local or state-wide coverage. The MABAS E-Sponder notification system was designed to function for In-State mobilizations and we encountered difficulty requesting teams for an out of state response. Due to the urgency associated with submitting an offer of assistance and the required documentation, MABAS staff opted to choose Green teams by geographic location in the state so not to leave response gaps in any area.

*Continued on next page*



# Maintenance Tips

By: Rich Ellis

## 7. Clean your fuel injector

Cold temps can cause performance issues related to a vehicle's fuel system. Using a fuel injector cleaner prevents some problems from cropping up. Add it to the gas tank during a routine fill up, to clean the injectors, which can help restore lost power and eliminate rough idling and hard starts. Water that may be present in the fuel system can also become a problem in the winter when temperatures drop low enough for it to freeze. A good way to avoid fuel-line and system freeze up is by choosing a fuel-injector cleaner such as HEET. It's designed to be a fuel-system antifreeze and remove water from the fuel system.

## 8. Do your diesel diligence

If you have a diesel vehicle, remember that diesel fuel lines tend to "gel" up in the winter time. Use a product like Diesel 911 to avoid this common problem. Also keep an eye on your diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) levels. On many passenger and commercial diesel vehicles, a dedicated tank contains DEF which is automatically metered and sprayed into the emissions system

. Many vehicles have built in warnings and alerts to prevent DEF levels from being exhausted. They'll also perform at significantly restricted levels, or not at all, if DEF runs out.

## 9. Grab your de-icing chemicals

This may be one of our favorite winter car maintenance tips, because it's inexpensive, requires zero mechanical experience, and prevents headaches. After all, you can't drive your vehicle in the winter if you can't unlock the doors or see out the window. That's why lock deicers and windshield deicing fluid are must-have winter chemicals. Lock de-icer thaws and lubricates door locks, as well as other types of locks, helping prevent damage. We've already discussed windshield de-icers above, which can be added to the windshield washer fluid tank. These products work together to prevent hassles and frozen fingers.

## 10. Inspect your radiator cap and thermostat

While it's a simple and inexpensive part, the radiator cap plays a critically important role in your heating and cooling system. Your radiator cap keeps the antifreeze in your vehicle where it should be.

A leaking radiator cap can cause the engine to overheat and allow antifreeze to leak, neither of which are good scenarios for winter-weather driving. Take a close look around the radiator cap for signs of leaking fluid. To be on the safe side, if the vehicle radiator cap is several years old, replace it with a new one. The five bucks you invest is well worth the peace of mind and performance you get in return.

Another inexpensive, yet critically important component of your vehicle heating and cooling system is the thermostat. If it's not functioning properly, you might find yourself without heat. That's because thermostats can fail, particularly if the coolant hasn't been changed regularly and corrosion has appeared. Change the thermostat, and improve your odds of having a warm interior all winter long.

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

# Hurricane Season 2018

By: Chief Haywood

By September 12th, Disaster Declaration were in authorized in Maryland, Washington D.C., Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. M.A.B.A.S. responded to requests for a FEMA Type 1 USAR Team, 6 Type 2 USAR Teams, a Type 3 USAR Team and 2 Type II Swiftwater teams. The requests included language like austere conditions, food, shelter and power self-sustainment, immunizations and vaccinations up to date, environmental hazards exist and more. All M.A.B.A.S. responses were received and

acknowledged by the requesting states, but approval to mobilize was not yet granted for any of the responses.

By Sept 13, a request for 15 Firefighting "packages" consisting of an Engine with 4 personnel, a Tender with 2 personnel and a Brush Truck with 2 personnel was received from North Carolina. Again, we encountered issues with our notification software but were able to quickly determine the agencies and apparatus to respond. The amount of information and detail needed to submit an offer to assist

another state is significant, and we collected information from many different agencies as best we could.



*Continued on page 12*

## A Message from MABAS-Illinois Legal

By: Shawn P. Flaherty, Ottosen Britz Kelly Cooper Gilbert & DiNolfo, Ltd.

Several Divisions have recently asked MABAS if their divisional meetings are subject to the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Here is a reply to the question from our attorney Shawn Flaherty,

Opinions on this have differed on this issue for years as MABAS does not neatly fit the mold of a unit that is obviously included or excluded.

Given the recent aggressiveness of the Illinois Attorney General's public access counselor and the broad reading of "public body" under the Open Meetings Act, it is our position that the MABAS divisions should post agendas and keep minutes.

Our intergovernmental dispatch agencies and water districts all follow the OMA and MABAS is also formed using intergovernmental cooperation.

This is the more conservative viewpoint and will keep the divisions out of trouble.

We will not know the answer for sure unless and until one of the divisions gets sued and a court or the Public Access Counselor answers the question definitively.

None of our divisions wants to be the guinea pig in my opinion.

## Preventive Steps to Prevent the Flu

By: CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/consumer/prevention.htm>

### Take time to get a flu vaccine.

CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine as the first and most important step in protecting against influenza and its potentially serious complications.

While there are many different flu viruses, flu vaccines protect against the 3 or 4 viruses that research suggests will be most common. Three-component vaccines contain an H<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>, an H<sub>1</sub>N<sub>1</sub> and a B virus. Four component vaccines have an additional B virus component. (See Vaccine Virus Selection for this season's vaccine composition.)

Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations.

Flu vaccination also has been shown to significantly reduce a child's risk of dying from influenza.

Also, there are data to suggest that even if someone gets sick after vaccination, their illness may be milder.

For the 2018-2019 flu season, CDC and its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommend annual influenza vaccination for everyone 6 months and older with any licensed, age-appropriate flu vaccine (inactivated, recombinant or nasal spray flu vaccines) with no preference expressed for any one vaccine over another. (See Types of Flu Vaccines).

Vaccination of high risk persons is especially important to decrease their risk of severe flu illness.

People at high risk of serious flu complications include young children, pregnant women, people with chronic health conditions like asthma, diabetes or heart and lung disease and people 65 years and older.

Vaccination also is important for health care workers, and other people who live with or care for high risk people to keep from spreading flu to them.

Infants younger than 6 months are at high risk of serious flu illness, but are too young to be vaccinated. Studies have shown that flu vaccination of the mother

during pregnancy can protect the baby after birth from flu infection for several months. People who live with or care for infants should be vaccinated.

### Take everyday preventive actions to stop the spread of germs.

Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.

If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone for 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. After using a tissue, throw it in the trash and wash your hands.

*Continued on Page 10*

# E-Sponder... It's not just a sales pitch!

By: Mark R. Sikorski

Though the E-Sponder system is often referred to as a CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) system, it is actually a notification system, that MABAS-Illinois now uses for large deployments!

When RED Center/MABAS is made aware of a significant incident, or the potential deployment of resources, an event is created in the system. Once an event is created, the first of three possible messages, is sent out. This message notifies "EVERYONE" that RED Center and MABAS are aware of the event, that may or may not require a large scale deployment. At this point, we would also be in contact with Illinois Emergency Management (IEMA) and the Statewide Terrorism and Intelligence Center (STIC) in Springfield, to assist in anyway necessary.

The system has 3 event messages, that you may receive. They are sent in a voice phone call, an email, and via text to advise to check emails for messages. The 3 messages, in order, are:

**Notification Message:** This message notifies "EVERYONE" that RED Center and MABAS are aware of the event and are monitoring the situation. It also states, not to deploy any resources, not to call RED Center, and not to call MABAS. Not only is this an awareness message, it is a notification for each Divisional Executive Board to open a dialog within, and to contact their Divisional Dispatch Center to advise if their division will be able to assist with any resource deployment requests.

"EVERYONE" includes the MABAS-Illinois staff, every member of each Divisional Executive Board, every Primary and Secondary MABAS Dispatch Center and

the person/persons responsible for each of the dispatch centers.



**Pre-Tasking Message:** Once a definite request for deployment is received, the 'Pre-Tasking' message is sent. This message states that MABAS records indicate that you have a certain resource available for deployment, and said resource(s) are being requested. The "Pre-Tasking" message only goes to the divisions

that are being asked to deploy resources, based on availability and location. This message goes to the Primary and Secondary dispatch centers, and their divisional executive boards. It asks the dispatch center to answer YES or NO to a specific request, usually within 10 minutes. Only the dispatch center responsible for the division (at the time of request) and answer the request.

**Tasking Message:** This message states that the resource(s) in which your division has agreed to send is now due to respond. It includes more details, such as address, reception/staging location, routing, etc. It also directs the recipients to go to the MABAS-Illinois website ([www.mabas-il.org](http://www.mabas-il.org)) for proper

deployment documents. Again, only the dispatch center responsible for the

division (at the time of request) shall acknowledge the request.

A few things to REMEMBER!!!

- The messages may sound similar to an automated sales call, do not hang up... listen to the call for important information!

- 'Everyone' gets the initial 'Notification Message', but nobody's moving yet! Phone calls between the Division Executive Board and the Dispatch Center must now take place!

- Only the divisions that are being asked to deploy resources will receive the 'Pre-Tasking' message, and only the dispatch center can reply!

- Only one of the dispatch centers (Primary or Secondary) can answer YES or NO to a deployment request. Divisional Executive Board members and dispatch center directors also receive the 'Pre-Tasking' message, but cannot directly accept or turn down a request!

- Though the 'Pre-Tasking' message states that you only have 10 minutes to reply, you probably have had hours to decide if you can respond. This is why it is crucial to have contact between the division's executive board and the dispatchers after receiving the initial 'Notification Message'! If your request is not acknowledged, your division will be skipped for this request.



*Continued next page*

# E-Sponder... It's not just a sales pitch!

By: Mark R. Sikorski

## *Continued from page 6*

- Only the divisions that have agreed to deploy will receive the 'Tasking' message.

- Proper deployment documents must be forwarded to RED Center, prior to deploying, so RED can contact the Team Leader/Group Leader with further information and the Security Validation Code!

- E-Sponder works directly with the CIMS (Contact Information Management System) built into the MABAS-Illinois website. It is crucial that this information is properly entered, and kept up-to-date,

to ensure proper notifications and deployment of resources. It is the responsibility of each division to maintain their own CIMS entries.

- Esponder must have direct access to a standard 10-digit phone line, that is answered 24/7 by the dispatchers!



- RED Center has the main control of our Esponder, and has the capability and authority to alter responses, based on time constraints, availability of resources, and to avoid depleting resources below the "80-20 rule" in any division or region!

In September, we instituted SCHEDULED testing of the Esponder system. Testing takes place on the Fourth Tuesday of each month, rotating between the 3 eight hour shifts.

A test 'Notification Message' is sent to all responsible parties, and then we test the divisions within 2 Operation regions, per month, with the 'Pre-Tasking' and 'Tasking' messages. NOTE: Only the dispatch centers will be involved in testing during overnight hours.

If you have not had the pleasure of being involved with one of the tests, you probably will in the near future!

## Welcome our new US&R Operations Branch Chief



**Chief Patrick Hardin**

Patrick Hardin joins the MABAS team as USAR Operations Branch Chief.

Patrick started his Fire Service career in 1986 as a POC in Forest Park, IL. In 1990, Patrick joined Downers Grove Fire Department and was an active participant in training, Public Education, and Technical Rescue.

As a Rescue Team member assigned to Truck 1/Squad 1, Patrick worked on various committees in the department. He served as Rescue Coordinator, CART Silver Team Coordinator, CART Validator, and ILTF 1 Squad Officer from the start of the Illinois USAR team. In addition, Patrick was active with the Illinois State Fire Marshal's ADHOC committee with the Rescue Group.

Patrick was involved in training at the Downers Grove Fire Academy and Romeoville Fire Academy. After retiring in 2011 from Downers Grove as Battalion Chief Training – Safety, he

worked for Texas A & M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) in Ras Laffan, Qatar. As an instructor at Ras Laffan Emergency Safety College, he taught Basic Firefighter, Hazardous Materials, Fire Officer I and Fire Officer II.

Patrick is originally from Forest Park, IL and a graduate of Proviso East High School in Maywood, IL. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business and Management from Benedictine University in Lisle, IL. as well as disciplines in Rescue at the Tech level and Fire Officer II.

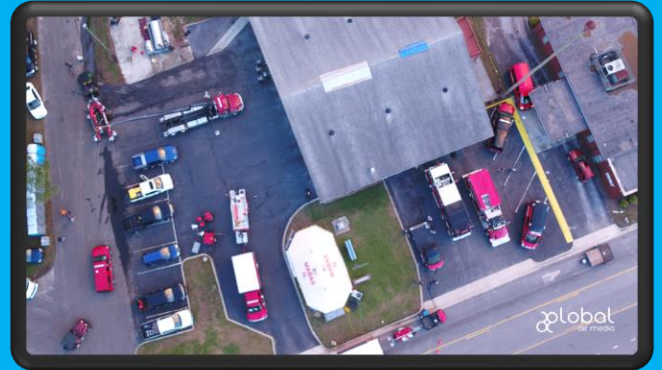
Patrick lives New Lenox with his two sons, Cody and Patrick. His daughter, Kayla Zimmermann lives in Missouri with her two children, Max and Lydia.

**MABAS Training Summit February 25<sup>th</sup>. -March 1<sup>st</sup>.**



# Pictures from Hurricane Florence

Pictures Taken by Global Air Media





# New to MABAS and IL-TF1 K-9



Basseggio Brinx

Basseggio Todd



Jefferis Anubis

Jjefferis Elizabeth



McDevitt Talon

McDevitt Michael



Valentine Roscoe

Valentine Jon



Vitalie Irie

Vitale Mike



# New to MABAS and IL-TF1 Communications Specialist



Russel Andrew



Drake Brian

**Welcome!!**



# New to MABAS and IL-TF1



Abbinanti, Dale



Busick Chad



Chapman Ross



Erickson Chad



Fleming Brian



Hoqan Mark



Loehman James



Sander John



Schey Mike



Stempien James



Turen Joshua



VanDerweel Matt



Delgado Jaime



Finn Pat



Guzman Michael



Hugel Henry



Jesse Patrick



Nolan Sam



Savoia Richard



Napiorkowski Timothy



Garnica Jesse



Verderber Darren



Serrano Felix

***Not Pictured***

Boyce Nate  
 Collazo Brandon  
 Collazo Brian  
 Hencinski Kevin  
 Middendorf David  
 Weerda James

**Welcome!!!**



MRC VISITORS



US&R Deployed to Hurricane Florence

In the picture left to right Matt Lawson, Richard Kraus, Steve Groszek, John Loesch, Jason Kummelehne, Mike Young, Andrew Hoff, Mike Curtin, Ron Simon, Will Paces, Dennis Kennedy, Chuck Gros, Steve Mella. Not pictured Chris Grande, & EJ Mampe

Did You Know??

The total cost of the Social Security program in 2018, \$1.003 trillion, is projected to exceed its total income of \$1.001 trillion. This will result in the program's first deficit since 1982. (BTN Research, Social Security)

The University of Texas is #1 in athletic revenue generated (\$215 million) of any NCAA school. Texas A&M ranks #2 with \$212 million of revenue. (BTN Research, NCAA)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

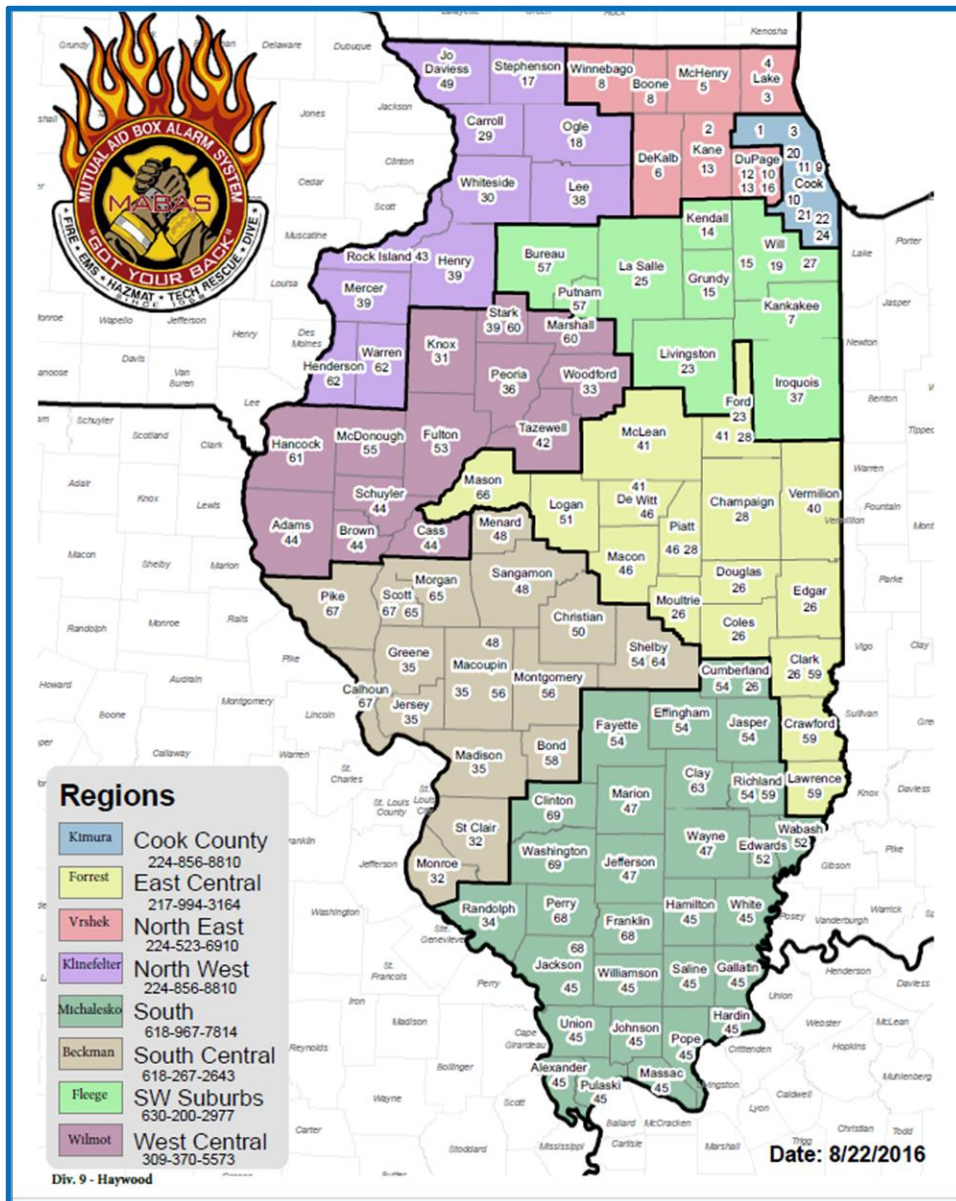
MABAS, Illinois

847-403-0500



MABAS Division Map

With Branch Chiefs



Questions/Comments

Has your Department/Division responded to a call or had a big event and you would like MABAS to add it to our newsletter, do you have any questions or comments about our quarterly issue of Back Talk please feel free to e-mail or call. We look forward to suggestions and comments.

E-mail to: [Littlefield@mabas-il.org](mailto:Littlefield@mabas-il.org) Littlefield @ 847-403-0511



## Do you know!!!



**MABAS Branch Chief  
Darin Beckman**

Chief Darin Beckman serves as the MABAS-IL. Operations Branch Chief – Southwest Region. Chief Beckman is currently responsible for 16 counties which includes 9 MABAS-Illinois Divisions. Included within his geographical region are 2 MABAS-IL statewide Technical Rescue Teams (TRT), 4 MABAS-IL statewide Hazardous Materials Teams, and 1 MABAS-IL statewide Water Rescue and Recovery Team. Chief Beckman is responsible for performing annual Staff Assistance Visits (SAV's) with each division in his region on an annual basis. Additional duties and responsibilities include acting as the primary contact and resource for MABAS-IL divisions within the southwest region. Chief Beckman also holds the responsibility of acting as the primary MABAS-IL liaison to the Illinois State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and is the primary MABAS-IL representative to any prospective new southwest region departments or divisions.

Chief Beckman began his fire service career in 1985 as a junior firefighter with the Fillmore Community Fire Protection District in Fillmore, Illinois. Fillmore Community Fire Protection District is an all volunteer fire department in Montgomery County

and a MABAS Division 56 member. He progressed through the ranks and was promoted to a firefighter in 1987, a Captain in 1990, Assistant Chief in 2000, and Fire Chief in 2012 in which he currently holds. He is also an Instructor for the Illinois Fire Service Institute where he instructs ICS 300, 400 and Command and General Staff classes. Chief Beckman first became associated with MABAS while assisting in the organization of MABAS Division 56 in 2004 and through the establishment of Division 56's Hazardous Materials Team around the same time frame.

Chief Beckman has also been involved in law enforcement since 1990 when he started as a Patrolman for the Village of Fillmore. After 17 years as a patrolman he was promoted to Police Chief for the Village of Fillmore and currently holds this position as well.

Chief Beckman has attained numerous Illinois State certifications: Including FF II and all of the State of Illinois Hazardous Materials certifications along with numerous certifications through West Central Illinois Criminal Justice Council.

Chief Beckman is married to Paula and has one son named Derek.

My Divisions include: 32, 35, 48, 50, 56, 58, 64, 65, & 67

## Preventive Steps to prevent the Flu

By: CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/consumer/prevention.htm>

### *Continued from Page 4*

Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.

Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs like flu.

**Take flu antiviral drugs if your doctor prescribes them.**

If you get sick with flu, antiviral drugs can be used to treat your illness.

Antiviral drugs are different from antibiotics. They are prescription medicines (pills, liquid or an inhaled powder) and are not available over-the-counter.

Antiviral drugs can make illness milder and shorten the time you are sick. They may also prevent serious flu complications.

CDC recommends prompt antiviral treatment of people who are severely ill and people who are at high risk of serious flu complications who develop flu symptoms.

For people with high-risk factors, treatment with an antiviral drug can

mean the difference between having a milder illness versus a very serious illness that could result in a hospital stay.

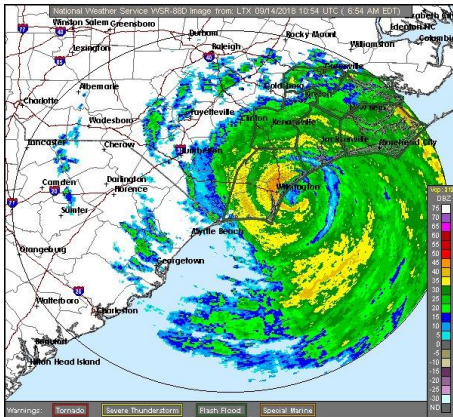
Studies show that flu antiviral drugs work best for treatment when they are started within 48 hours of getting sick, but starting them later can still be helpful, especially if the sick person has a high-risk health condition or is very sick from flu. Follow your doctor's instructions for taking this drug.

Flu-like symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people, especially children, may have vomiting and diarrhea. People may also be infected with flu and have respiratory symptoms without a fever.

# Hurricane Season 2018

By: Chief Haywood

*Continued from page 4*



as best we could. The volume of accurate information needed to compile and respond to this request in a timely fashion became insurmountable and we were sadly not able to fully comply. That said, MABAS still had responded to requests for 1 Type 3 USAR Task Force- North Carolina, 1 Type 1 USAR Task Force- South Carolina, 6 Type II Collapse Team- South Carolina, 1 Type 2 Swiftwater Rescue Team- Virginia, 1 Type 2 Swiftwater Teams- North Carolina, 1 Type 4 Swiftwater Rescue Team- North Carolina, and we continued our efforts to collect, compile and submit for 15 Firefighting Packages to North Carolina.

Florence made landfall as a Category 1 Hurricane just south of Wrightsville, North Carolina early on Sept 14th and stalled to 2-3 M.P.H., dumping nearly 36 inches of rain in Elizabethtown, N.C. and killing a total of 53 people. Storm surges had the potential to reach 7-11 feet and the relentless rains overflowed the banks of the major area rivers. Damage assessments indicated the need for additional Swiftwater Rescue Teams, and the U.S.A.R. Swiftwater Team was mobilized to the staging area in Raleigh, North Carolina for further assignment. As damage assessments were completed and resources requirements evaluated,

the E.M.A.C. boards slowly cleared of all requests and M.A.B.A.S. teams and personnel were notified to stand-down. Considerable efforts were expended at the divisional level preparing teams and manpower for the potential mobilization and MABAS appreciates the training and preparation required for this deployment. We are grateful for every agency and members willingness to serve in the true spirit of Mutual Aid.

Once the Swiftwater Team arrived at the Reception Center in Raleigh and got some rest, they were assigned to the Acme-Delco-Riegelwood Fire Protection District near the Cape Fear River in Riegelwood, N.C. to assist in Swiftwater rescues from flooded rivers and roadways.

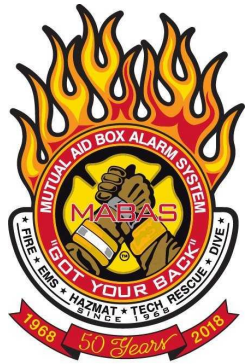


The team worked closely with the local fire agency, military troops and personnel from other state USAR teams. The team immediately made an impact on the lives of local residents and those that love them. Our daily conference calls with the deployed members revealed rescue after rescue of residents caught in the rapidly moving and rising waters. Every day additional reports of lives saved were relayed including recalling removing an elderly couple from a submerged vehicle in fast moving waters. Unresponsive and turning blue, the team extricated the victims from the vehicle, brought them to a safe area, began to treat their symptoms and were able to speak with them prior to transport by E.M.S. When the 15-member team was not actively responding to

emergency requests and making rescues, they kept busy on reconnaissance missions through flooded neighborhoods, conducting well-being checks of at-risk residents with medical conditions, or off-loading military aircraft of food and water for distribution. A MABAS Generator-Light Tower was used for powering a gas station to provide gasoline for vehicles and generators that had not been available for several days prior. The fuel helped restore a sense of normalcy to the community residents.

MABAS Divisions responded positively to every request that MABAS forwarded for assistance. Personnel and equipment preparations from divisions in every corner of Illinois began immediately after our notification of a request. In the true spirit of the Illinois Fire Service and the desire to help our neighbors in need, Divisions and departments gladly offered their members and resources for the mobilization. Literally hundreds of firefighters from the teams listed above were preparing to mobilize for 7-14 days into unfavorable conditions and assignments. The emotional and psychological let-down and frustration when the requests were rescinded was exceptional. M.A.B.A.S. and I.E.M.A. staff are grateful for the contributions and efforts of everyone involved in this potential mobilization. Please accept our sincere appreciation for your ability and desire to unselfishly serve others on their worst days.

Frustration aside, MABAS- II. and the members of the Type II Swift Water Rescue Team had a significant impact and made a difference in the Riegelwood community and the lives of its residents, in the Acme-Delco-Riegelwood Fire Protection District and on the people of North Carolina.



# MABAS

Would like to sincerely thank all who volunteered their time to make the fire safety exhibit a success, at the Illinois State Fire Marshal's Fire Safety Exhibit



MABAS Volunteers at the 2018 Illinois State Fire Marshal's Fire Safety Exhibit

*M.A.B.A.S.-Illinois "Got your Back"*



# Resource Typing - Swiftwater Rescue Teams

By: Chief Lyne



For the past few years, the Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (CCDHSEM) has provided grant funding to MABAS for the development of two FEMA NIMS compliant Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue (SAR) teams. Most of this funding has gone towards training and equipment for these two teams. Currently, these two teams meet the FEMA NIMS resource typing as Type II Swiftwater/Flood SAR teams.

One of these teams is made up of selected members from water rescue teams from Cook County MABAS Divisions 1, 3, and 24. The other team is made up of selected members of Illinois Task Force 1's (IL-TF 1) water component. For Hurricane Florence, it was IL-TF 1's team that was deployed to North Carolina.

Part of the requirements to meet this capability is having members trained to the Swiftwater/Flood SAR Technician – Boat Operator level. Requirements for this training include powered boat operations in Class III swiftwater conditions (or higher). These conditions are not normally present in Illinois. To comply with this portion of the training requirements, MABAS sent personnel to this training course in April 2017 in the Louisville, KY area. MABAS is working on fulfilling the other training requirements with the goal of having two Type I Swiftwater/Flood SAR teams by next spring.

FEMA has an on-line resource typing library tool that can be accessed to learn about the various NIMS compliant resources. You can enter a resource description (i.e. "swiftwater" or "fire engine") in the search bar to get more information on the various resources.

The FEMA Resource Typing Library Tool is located at:  
<https://rtlt.prepretoolkit.fema.gov/Public>



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