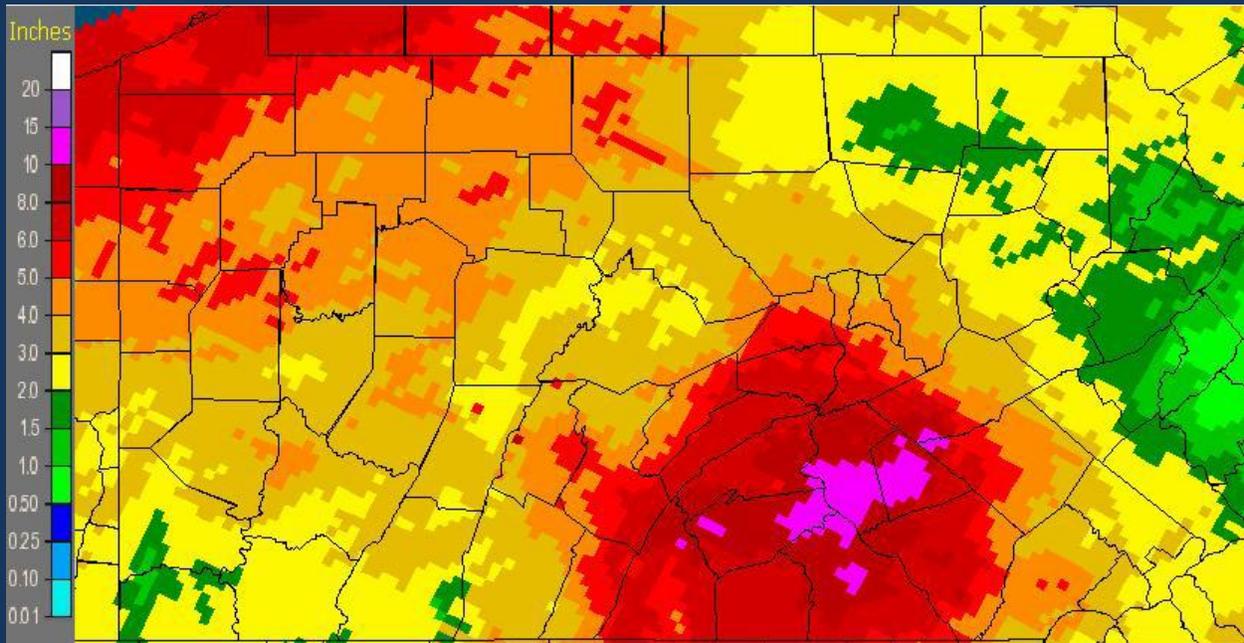


York County  
Office of  
Emergency  
Management

**Annual Report**

**2013**



---

This page intentionally left blank

---



## **Vision**

It is the vision of the York County Office of Emergency Management to be recognized as the most professional, well respected, proactive, community and customer oriented municipal emergency management agency in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

## **Mission**

York County Office of Emergency Management is charged with protecting the community by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain and improve the capability to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism or other man-made disasters.

We undertake this mission with clear customer-focus and recognition that people are the most valuable asset. We value the contributions and dedication of the personnel who staff the emergency response and management systems. We employ and deploy the best available technologies in support of our mission.

---

---

This page intentionally left blank

---

---

## Executive Summary

The weather once again played a significant role in York County this year. After a relatively quiet summer, nature struck in force on October 10 and 11. A slow moving low pressure system over the mid-Atlantic region associated with the remnants of Tropical Storm Karen brought excessive rainfall of 6-10 inches over two days. This rainfall resulted in significant flooding to sections of the lower Susquehanna River valley. Fortunately the region had experience fairly dry conditions and low stream flows leading up to this event, which certainly tempered some of the severity of the flooding.

Impacts from the floods included flooded roadways in the Harrisburg/York/Lancaster metro region. Numerous water rescues were reported, some evacuations, and two residential structure collapses in Adams County. The Little Conewago Creek flooded many areas in York County.

Moderate river flooding was reported on the Yellow Breeches Creek in Camp Hill, with minor river flooding on the Conestoga River at Lancaster, Swatara Creek at Hershey, and the Conodguinet Creek at Hogestown.

Rainfall reports included 10.5" at Camp Hill and 10.35" at the Capitol City Airport (KCXY). The rainfall from this event alone made October 2013 the wettest October on record!<sup>1</sup>

## 2013 Summary

### 1. Director

York County participates in the South Central Task Force (SCTF) along with seven counties in our region. The SCTF will assume a leadership role in delivering a comprehensive and sustainable regional "all-hazards" emergency preparedness program that addresses planning, prevention, response and recovery for events in South Central PA that exceed local capabilities.

---

<sup>1</sup> NWS FORM E-5 - Monthly Report of River Conditions November 7, 2013

---

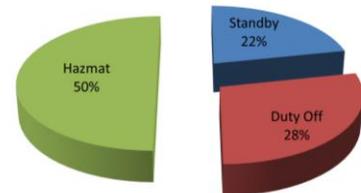
---

In 2013, OEM held to the same budget level as the previous year, while continuing to provide outstanding service to the county. Funding from the county, grants from PEMA and other sources, and donations provide the funding stream needed to continue our mission.

OEM met with officials from Dover Township, PEMA, and FEMA to study a mitigation project in a flood-prone area of the township. This initial meeting was used to determine the feasibility of moving the project forward.

## 2. Hazmat

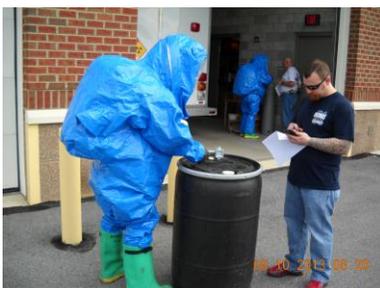
The Hazmat Team had 53 calls for the year. Fifty percent were team responses, and the 50% were for standby and duty officer calls.



Most calls have been transportation-related incidents, usually with fuel spills.



The team recruited 4 new members this year. While membership has increased, the number of people responding to calls has decreased. This follows the national trend of public safety agencies losing volunteer participation.



Hazmat 91 participated in numerous exercises to maintain their skills.

All equipment is calibrated and ready for service.

---

---

### 3. Municipal Planner/Trainer

Local Emergency Management Coordinators attended 3 training sessions this year, in accordance with Part V Emergency Management Service of Title 35 Public Health and Safety. Work continues on updating and reviewing their EOPs. The EOPs for nursing homes, daycares, and dams also continue to be updated and reviewed.

School planning took a front seat in 2013 due to the school shooting in Newtown, Connecticut in December 2012. PEMA updated its toolkit for school plans, and many schools began working closely with local police departments.



The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program trained 45 people in 2013. We also received donations from several businesses and organizations in the community, including Met Ed and American Legion Post 791 Shiloh.

### 4. Training and Exercises

During 2013 the Deputy Director/Operations and Training Officer conducted training classes on Hazmat Awareness (DHMA) and Hazmat Awareness Refresher (DHMAR) for the County 911 staff. He also conducted Hazmat Operations Refresher (DHMOR) classes for local Fire Departments and conducted one Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) G-series Course. The table below is the Operations & Training Officer's Training Report:

---

Date	Class	Students	Hours	Total Hours
1/8/2013	DHMA	13	7	71
4/6/2013	DHMOR	25	6	150
4/27/2013	G 191	13	8	104
5/29/2013	DHMA	7	7	71
7/16/2013	DHMAR	26	3	78
7/18/2013	DHMAR	16	3	48
7/23/2013	DHMAR	20	3	60
7/25/2013	DHMAR	16	3	48
8/14/2013	DHMA	12	7	84
10/4/2013	DHMA	7	7	49
10/19/2013	DHMOR	21	6	126
			60	889

During 2013 the Operations & Training Officer attended the following Train the Trainer Courses for FEMA G-Series Courses at the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA):

- G-110 Emergency Management Operations Course for Local Governments
- G-393 Mitigation for Emergency Managers
- G-235 Emergency Planning
- G-290 Basic Public Information Officer Course

The Operations & Training Officer is now able to instruct these courses through Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC).

Beginning in March the Operations & Training Officer was the lead planner for an exercise. Springettsbury Township Police Department (STPD), the Central York School District (CYSD), and the York County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) conducted a Full Scale Exercise (FSE) at Central York High School and Central York Middle School on October 11, 2013. The theme of the FSE was an "Active Shooter" at the High School. Unlike other exercise on this theme this exercise focused on pre and post neutralization issues as opposed to simply addressing and neutralizing the threat. As one of the exercise participants said, "We know how to neutralize the shooter, but what happens next?"

---



For the first time anywhere, a large student body was used as participants in an exercise. This was also the first exercise that actually involved student evacuations and reunification. The collaboration was outstanding, the scale ambitious and the results worthy of

national-level Lessons Learned/Information Sharing (LLIS).

This exercise included 134 Law Enforcement, 25 EMS, 8 Fire Dept., and 30 school personnel. There were also over 40 observers from various school districts from within the Commonwealth.

York County OEM again hosted an annual training day in April 2013. The day is modeled after the annual training day hosted by Exelon. Several classes were offered, with most focusing on the response to a radiological incident. The day concluded with a tabletop exercise in preparation for the Three Mile Island Hostile Action Exercise. Approximately 40 people attended training, in four different courses. We plan to continue this event in future years.



## 5. Nuclear Planner/Trainer

The department participated in the first in the nation, hostile action-based exercise scenario as part of the 2013 Three Mile Island Radiological Response drill, along with numerous federal, state, and regional partners. This exercise was the first federally evaluated nuclear power plant exercise

---

---

with a security incident as the initiating event for the scenario. The exercise went very well and was considered a success by all involved players.

The Nuclear Planner/Trainer was involved in numerous exercises and trainings throughout the year to further enhance the County's readiness for a radiological event.

Twelve municipal EOCs, three school districts, and four monitoring/decontamination teams were trained in preparation for the Three Mile Island Exercise, resulting in 335 people versed in radiological response procedures. The County also worked with the Red Cross to identify additional shelter capacity in 20 schools and added a reception and monitoring/decontamination center at Northern High School.

Planning for the first hostile action-based exercise at Peach Bottom Atomic Power Plant began. This exercise will be a new challenge for York County since we are the parent county for the plant. This will also involve two states sharing resources outside of their jurisdictions.

York County participated in two MS-1 (Medical Support) drills, which allow hospitals and EMS personnel to be trained on and demonstrate the transport and treatment of potentially contaminated patients following a radiological incident. Hanover Hospital and Penn Twp Ambulance displayed the proper techniques for handling an injured evacuee from the TMI EPZ. York Hospital and Delta-Cardiff Ambulance completed the same objectives for the Peach Bottom EPZ.

## **6. SARA Planner/Trainer**

The SARA Planner/Trainer assisted with and participated in several exercises throughout the year with various SARA facilities. These exercises are designed to evaluate the facility's emergency plans.

The SARA Planner/Training, in conjunction with the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) reviewed 117 SARA plans.

---

---

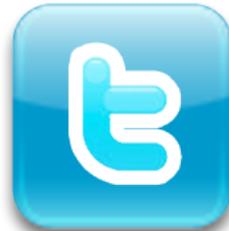
## 7. Public Information Officer/Trainer

The Public Information Officer serves as the Director of Communications for the County. As the lead County spokesperson, the Director of Communications handled hundreds of media inquiries in 2013 and developed dozens of press releases/announcements.

The position also manages the County's website and coordinates/manages County social media pages.

Notable 2013 accomplishments on those fronts include participation in the TMI exercise, advising the Special Needs Survey group, and an update to the County website's home page.

York County OEM leveraged social media at an increasing rate in 2013. Staff interacted with the public via Facebook and Twitter to obtain storm conditions and damage reports as they occurred.



---

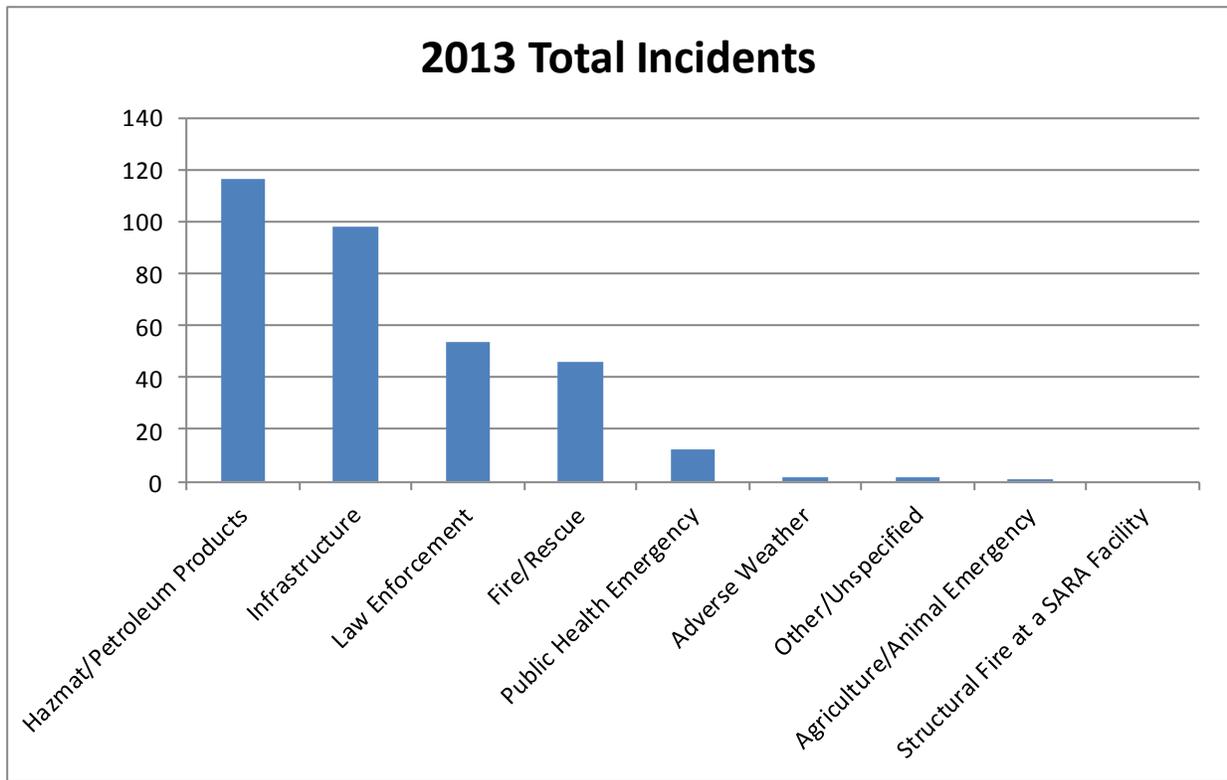
This page intentionally left blank

---

---

## Yearly Incident Summary

The Pennsylvania Emergency Incident Reporting System (PEIRS) establishes standard criteria for reporting incidents to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) and the Office of Homeland Security (OHS) that affect the safety, security, health and welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth.

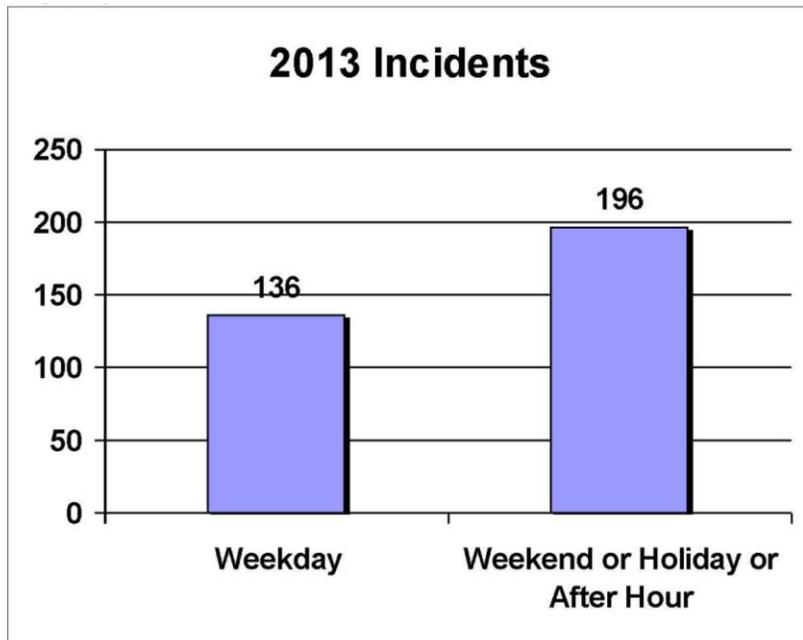


The chart above includes all categories. There were a total of 332 calls for the year.

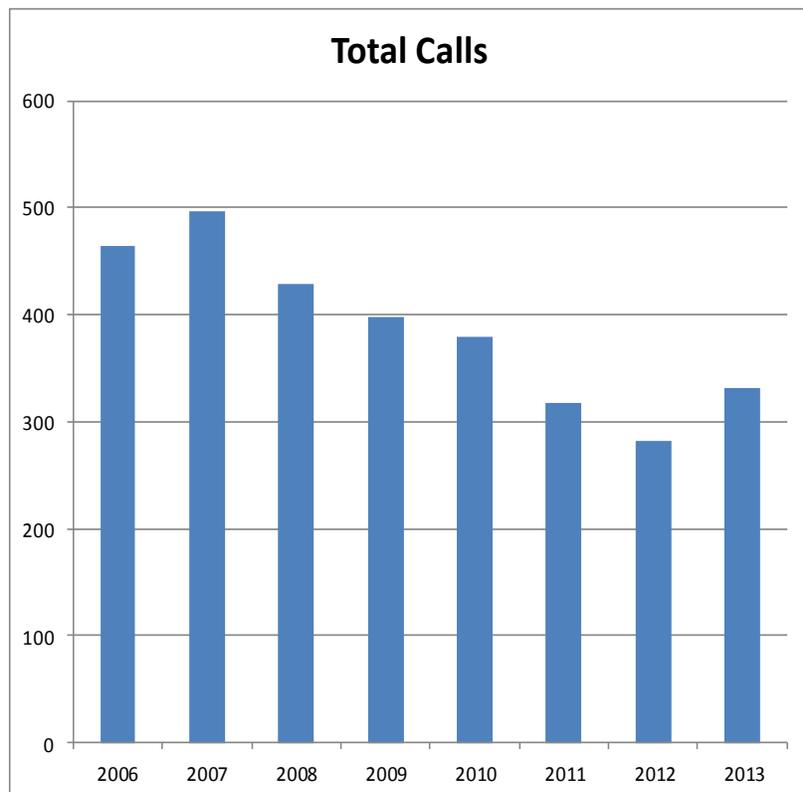
---

---

The following chart shows that almost two-thirds of our incidents occur after normal business hours.



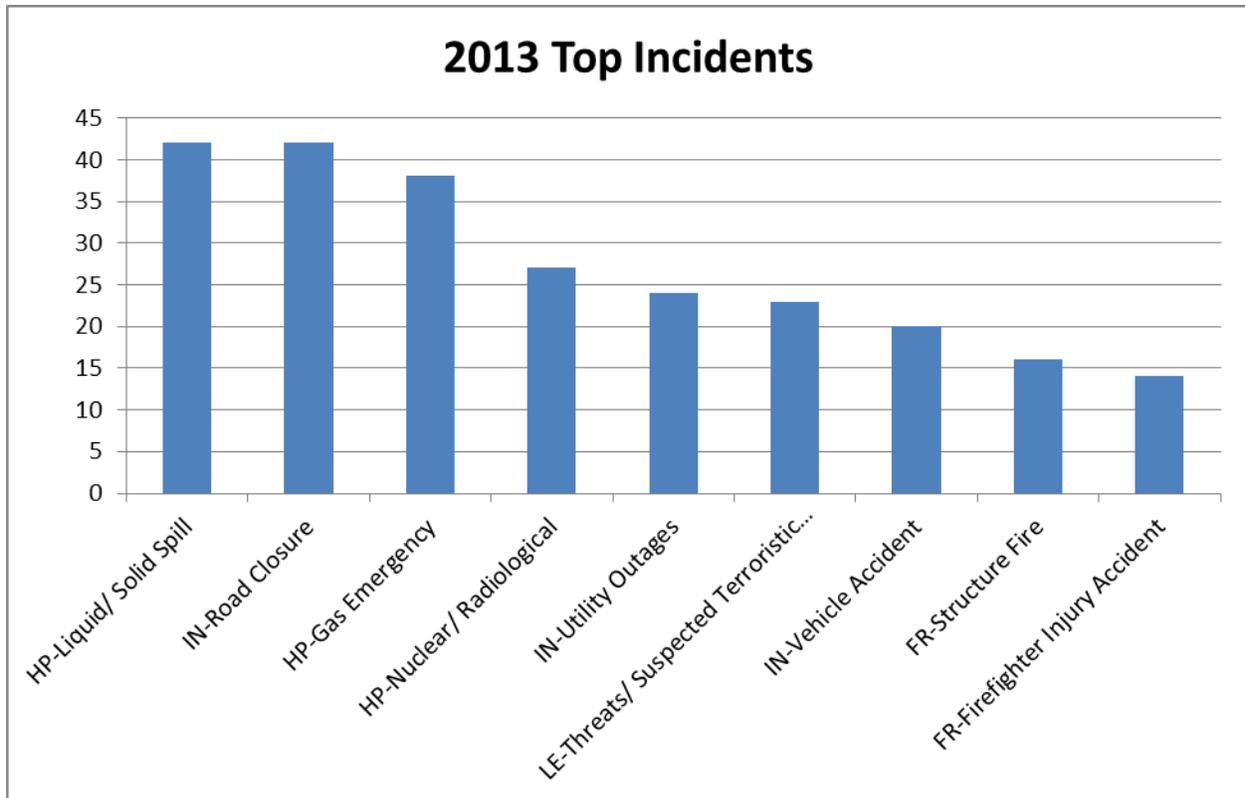
The total call volume took an upturn this year, from 282 in 2012 to 332 in 2013. The increase occurred mostly in the category of Infrastructure, specifically road closures.



---

## 2013 Leading Incidents

The categories below include the top incidents impacting the reporting process.



**Liquid/Solid Spill (42):** This category is comprised mainly of vehicle accidents involving diesel fuel spills, which could impact or contaminate soil or waterways. On a few occasions, spills were discovered in storm drains or in the soil due to illegal dumping of oils, paints, or other substances. This creates environmental issues.

**Road Closure (42):** This category deals with long term road closures that could affect evacuation routes and other key roadways.

**Gas Emergency (38):** This category deals with natural gas disruption and odors.

**Nuclear/ Radiological (27):** This category includes Events of Potential Public Interest (EPPI), which include ambulance calls to Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station and Three Mile Island. These are generally non-nuclear related calls, but

---

---

fall into this category. Other areas that are included are radiological transportation accident, radiological waste spill, receipt of radiological transport notices, theft or loss of any state or federally-licensed radiological source, fire at a nuclear regulatory commission or state licensed radiological materials facility, activation of a nuclear power plant siren system, radiological release and nuclear plant unplanned outage.

**Utility Outages (24):** This category is used to report long term outages of any utility to include electricity, natural gas, telephone and others.

**Threats/Suspected Terrorist Activity (23):** This category is used to report threats such as bomb threats and other notable suspicious activity.

**Vehicle Accident (20):** The majority of these reports were for accidents involving school buses or vans.

**Structure Fire (16):** This category is used to report all fires or explosions that cause, or have the potential to cause, hazardous materials spills or releases and major property damage or any fire that impacts the resources of the county.

**Firefighter Injury/Accident (14):** This category is used to report accidents and injuries to firefighters during the course of their duty.

---

---

This page intentionally left blank

---