

Cleburne County Commission has committed to enhancing the lives of all residents through information, updates on county projects and programs, and keep you informed of what is heard in Cleburne County. You

CLEBURNE County LINES

Robi Mobley, Editor AUGUST 2006 Volume V, Issue 2

His Cleburne County programs are among the most successful in the nation Swafford Receives Prestigious National CSEPP Award



"Steve is a valuable leader on the CSEPP team. He has proven himself to be a tireless advocate for community preparedness."

~Terry Hobbs
DHS CSEPP Site Representative

Cleburne County EMA Director, Steven Swafford, was awarded the distinguished Program Manager's Award for superior service and contribution to the National CSEPP program in Alabama. The award was given by the Department of Homeland Security at the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program's (CSEPP) National Convention held in Indianapolis.

Steve received this award in appreciation for his outstanding contribution to the CSEPP campaign that is ongoing in the Anniston community. The award acknowledges his exemplary and prudent emergency management leadership within the Anniston CSEPP Community helped to transform the Integrated Process Team (IPT); which includes other county directors, Army representatives and DHS personnel; into a national model for preparedness.

Dealing with the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program, Steve has played a key role in the risk analysis assessment for the Anniston CSEPP site helping identify shortfalls in the alert and notification systems which ultimately provides additional funding for indoor and outdoor warning devices in all six CSEPP counties. In addition, public information surveys continually show Cleburne County's public information and education programs to be among the most successful in the nation. Steve and his staff have successfully participated in over 14 CSEPP community exercises without a "finding" being cited and without an area in critical need of correction.

Congratulations for a job well done! 

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CountyLines is published in coordination with the Cleburne County Commission.

Lighting Up the Sky

In an effort to better prepare Cleburne County in case of an emergency; five outdoor mobile light towers have been purchased by Cleburne EMA for use in their emergency preparedness program. The units were funded by a federal grant made possible by the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP).

Each unit will provide 4000 watts of illumination, powered by a 6000-watt



(See **Lighting Up the Sky** on page 2)

EMA's Water on Wheels class puts local fire departments through rigorous training **Trucking the Wet to Handle the Bad**

Trucking the wet to handle the bad: that's what first responders in Cleburne County accomplished the last weekend of July at their Water on Wheels class sponsored by the EMA. Water on Wheels (WOW) Operations for HazMat is a class developed especially for fire fighters to practice providing a water supply for fire suppression and hazmat decontamination in areas of the county where fire hydrants are not readily available.

Local fire departments participated by sending their men and women to learn from the experience. The instruction began in a classroom setting at Heflin PARD for some book knowledge, but quickly moved to the lake at the Forte facility where water shuttle operations began.



"It was a good class for the entire county, a big operation for the ones involved that went amazingly well."



The departments joined forces and siphoned over 275,000 gallons of water out of the Southwire Lake, depositing the liquid into several drop tanks holding 3,500 gallons each.

The Water on Wheels class was designed to maximize fireground delivery rates, fill site set-up, and how Incident Command (a federally mandated responder system for managing emergency situations) fits into the equation. The class helps responders to put all steps in the shuttling process in order.

According to fire Chief Randall Clemens, "It was a good class for the entire county, a big operation for the ones involved that went amazingly well." [CL](#)

Lighting Up the Sky *(continued from front)*

generator and utilize a 30 foot mast capable of lighting over seven acres. Each light tower rotates 360 degrees, and can be used for various types of emergencies.

The light trailers will be used by first responders during night time emergencies when there is very little light. The towers will be strategically housed throughout the county, in areas that would most benefit residents, should the need arise.

EMA Director, Steve Swafford said, "The availability of outdoor emergency lighting spread throughout the County will assist emergency responders to provide quality services to the people of Cleburne County while ensuring their safety. We were fortunate to have been able to acquire and provide this capability through our Federal CSEPP funding." [CL](#)

Cleburne County First Responders Get New Gear

Federal funding through CSEPP provided many local volunteer fire departments with new equipment, including two-tone pagers and Motorola radios. The new communication equipment replaced outdated models.

Mobley Leads Workshop at CSEPP Convention

“CSEPP Kids...Getting Their Groove On” was the name of the breakout session presented by Cleburne County’s Public Information Officer, Robi Mobley, at the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program National Convention.



Cleburne County Public Information Officer, Robi Mobley, leads a workshop at the CSEPP Convention earlier this year.

Robi was asked to facilitate the workshop to show representatives from other CSEPP sites how educating the younger generation on emergency preparedness is done in Alabama.

Professional Development Update

These EMA staffers are perfecting their skills:

Lisa Kemmerlin was certified as a Professional Human Resource Specialist by the Alabama Association of Public Personnel Administrators and also received the Emergency Management Special Achievement Award.

Melinda Gonzalez received her COMP TIA Computer Certification from the Auburn University Continuing Education Program.

Robi Mobley was certified as an Intermediate Level Emergency Manager and a Master Exercise Practitioner by the Alabama Emergency Management Agency.

Among the topics covered during the sessions were:

2006 media campaign

The “What Do You Know?” campaign, highlighting local citizens throughout our county and their knowledge of preparedness.

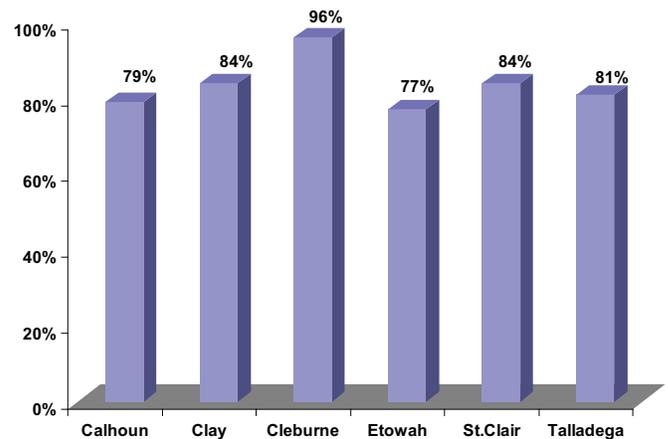
Mobile Education Unit

EMA’s safety trailer that is taken to local events where programs include severe weather training, fire prevention, sheltering-in-place techniques, CSEPP awareness and all-hazard safety.

Play-it-safe video

Introducing Ready Freddy, the video was designed especially for Cleburne County and focuses on emergency preparedness techniques, and the need for having a family emergency plan and a disaster supply kit.

Over 100 representatives from other sites attended the workshop to enjoy the fun-filled, educational forum focused on kids. [CL](#)



A recent survey reveals Cleburne County parents have a greater level of confidence in the schools’ ability to keep children safe than any other county in the Anniston CSEPP Community.

On July 29th, Cleburne EMA sponsored “Music in the Park” in conjunction with the Heflin Arts Council. The evening festivities featured local stars Ryan Robertson and John Howle. And for the kids, Cleburne EMA’s mobile education unit set up and gave demonstrations on how to stay safe during stormy weather.

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To the Cleburne County Resident at:

Cleburne Classic **5K & Fun Run** September 16, 2006

Registration at 7:00 a.m.

Registration Fee: \$10

Free t-shirt to first 100 to register.

Race begins at 8:00 a.m.

Walkers are welcome.

(Cleburne County Students admitted free)

A Message from the EMA Director

Citizens of Cleburne County:

I hope you enjoy our publication of Cleburne *CountyLines*. *CountyLines* is used as an opportunity to share information with the public on the status of County Government and Emergency Preparedness and to showcase information seen as important to the people of Cleburne County.

I take great pride in the times I've spent being able to serve the people I consider my neighbors and my friends. We in Cleburne County have a lot to be proud of. As a community, we have what I consider an unmatched drive to better ourselves that should be commended. The future of Cleburne County remains bright and I am excited about us facing that future together.

In the past few months, Cleburne EMA has adopted the slogan "Building Community while Promoting Preparedness." I hope when you see or hear this slogan in the future it will remind you of not only the need we all have to make preparations -- such as family emergency preparedness plans and kits -- but also how fortunate we all are to call Cleburne County "home."

In your service,

Steve Swafford

County Executive Officer & Director of Emergency Management
Cleburne County

Hurricane season is here!

A few things to remember:

- Know the hazards
- Know what to do
- Have a family plan
- Have a disaster supply kit
- Stay informed

***Listen to EAS radio and TV
stations for the latest info.***

EAS Radio Stations

WTDR FM 92.7
WVOK FM 97.9
WJCK FM 88.3

EAS Television Stations

WJSU ABC 33/40
WBRC Fox 6
WVTM NBC 13