

Minnesota Responds



Central Region

Central Region Minnesota Responds MRC

Local Program Administrator
for Benton County:

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Dear Volunteer,

2008 will bring some changes to the Central Region MN Responds MRC program. Significantly are the introduction of a formal training plan and the proposed volunteer liability and workers compensation coverage bill **H. F. No. 3654** (additional information at <http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/>).

You may be receiving emails from individuals who are not your county MN Responds MRC administrator due to the creation of a backup system throughout the Central Region. This system allows you to attend any orientation, training, or exercise offered within the Central Region, regardless of which county hosts it.

To better understand this, a map is on the back with contact information for all the local administrators.

Our county website has MN Responds information on it (<http://www.co.benton.mn.us/PubHealth/mnresponds/>). I post all current trainings scheduled in the region, additional online trainings you could take, and other important information. In June, we will be participating in a regional exercise to test the Strategic National Stockpile deployment into Central MN. We are looking to have a Mass Dispensing Site (MDS) training for you! Keep June 24th open! More details will follow.

Thank you for being a volunteer!

Cynthia

Activities

- ★ Benton County utilized a **MN Responds** volunteer for the "Fight the Infection Injection" Mass Dispensing exercise in October. This volunteer served as the forms reviewer for an employee flu shot clinic.
- ★ Sherburne County has a **MN Responds** volunteer on its Pandemic Influenza exercise planning team for a countywide exercise in April.
- ★ Many counties are planning to involve volunteers in exercises this summer. Stay tuned for more information!

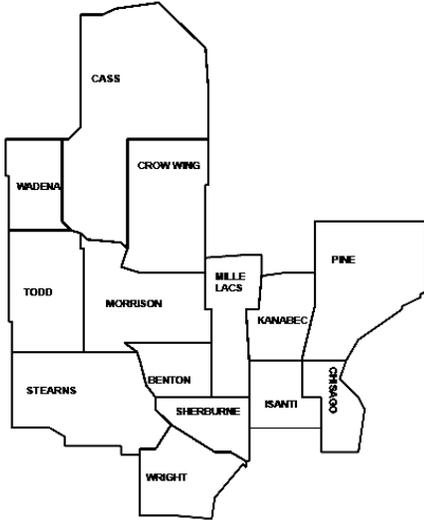
Keep Us Updated

Remember to update your profile when you attend classes, move, get a new phone number or email address, get married, or other changes. We need the most current contact information for you!

Did you register so long ago, you don't remember what information you put in? **Log on today!** If you need assistance, contact your local administrator to retrieve or reset your username and/or password.

www.mnresponds.org

**14 County
Central Region**



Upcoming Trainings

As our newsletter comes out quarterly, it is hard to include timely information regarding upcoming trainings. Please refer to monthly emails from MN Responds MRC, sent by Tony Buttacavoli (MN Responds MRC Regional Coordinator for the Central Region), for training information.

We have **97** MN Responds volunteers who have completed orientation out of 806 registered in the Central Region. These 97 will be the first volunteers called in the event of a public health emergency or for exercise opportunities.

Become one of the first! Attend Orientation!

NIMS Compliancy

While it may be a overwhelming, basic knowledge of Incident Command Structure is important for anyone assisting or responding to an emergency. All emergency responses will follow this structure, whether it is the I-35W bridge collapse, flooding in South East Minnesota, or a Hepatitis B outbreak in South West Minnesota (all three incidents used health volunteers).

The National MRC Unit recommends that all MN Responds MRC volunteers complete: A Introduction to Incident Command System, IS-100 and National Incident Management System, An Introduction, IS-700. To take these courses online go to the following:

<http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>.

Local Administrators

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