

Pawlet Emergency Management Director

Annual Report 2014

We continued to progress the emergency management function in the town of Pawlet in 2014. In order to test the towns Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) we participated in two exercises this past year:

1. Conducted a tabletop exercise in January with the following agencies taking part:
 - Vermont State Police
 - Vermont Emergency Management
 - Pawlet Fire Dept.
 - West Pawlet Fire Dept.
 - Pawlet Highway dept.
 - Vermont Dept. of Health
 - American Red Cross
 - Granville Rescue
 - Washington County Dept. of Public Safety
 - Mettawee Community School
 - Rutland Regional Planning Commission
 - PSAP (911 operators)

The results were very helpful in having all the local agencies work together and understand the role of Pawlet Emergency Management in a town wide emergency.

2. The second exercise was part of the Statewide Catastrophic Exercise II which was held during the first week in June. We used this opportunity to exercise the Pawlet Emergency Operations Center communications with the West Pawlet Fire Department, Pawlet Fire Department and the State of Vermont Emergency Operations Center in Waterbury. Pawlet received excellent grades from the evaluators who were assigned to Pawlet to judge our response to a town wide emergency.

Other notable activities accomplished were the certification of the Metawee Community School as an American Red Cross Shelter with the help and support of Principal Brooke DeBonis. We also arranged for training of 12 volunteers as shelter staff by the Red Cross.

We aided the Pawlet Fire Department in obtaining a U.S. Homeland Security Grant (\$28,000) for a radio repeater to be installed at the Town gravel pit off of VT Rt 30. This will allow better radio communications for the fire department as well as the Emergency Management personnel and the Town Highway Department.

As required by law we updated the Pawlet Emergency Operations Plan and received Select Board approval for same.

In addition the following activities were completed:

- Arranged for presentation to the Select Board by Vermont Emergency Management Director of Operations on the VT Alert phone system.
- Completed NIMS survey for the Town of Pawlet.
- Aided Keith Mason in completing the Tier II reports for the Town of Pawlet.
- Completed with C. Decker, 3 HMGP applications for culvert replacements.
- Obtained two portable radios for use by the Emergency Management staff in times of town wide emergencies.

A significant amount of time was spent in training during the year. Over 140 hours were logged by emergency management staff with the most notable courses:

- FEMA G-191 Incident Command System/Emergency Operations Center Interface.
- Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program.
- Local Emergency Management Training Program.
- FEMA Mgt 346 – Emergency Operations Center- Operations and Planning for All Hazards Events.

2013-2014		2014-2015	
BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL
\$1000	\$979	\$1500	\$1369

2015-2016 BUDGET \$2000

Robert Morlino, Pawlet Emergency Management Director