



**Homeland Security  
and Emergency Services**

# **CEPA Summary and Initial Findings**

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# Overview

- **County Emergency Preparedness Assessment (CEPA)** is a Governor's initiative to obtain a greater understanding of preparedness in New York State.
- CEPA is a **framework** and **tool** to assess risk, capabilities, and the potential need for support during disasters.
- DHSES facilitates **CEPA sessions** with State and local stakeholders.

# Key Findings

- The hazard of greatest concern is **flooding**, although the **hazard profile is evolving**.
- Traditional first responder capabilities are generally the **most well developed**.
- While there is a **great deal of ability**, there is **limited capacity**.
- **Grant funding** has had a profound impact on capabilities.
- All counties are participating in **regional partnerships**.

# Resource Inventory and Anticipated Needs

## Resource Inventory

- All counties have at least one **Emergency Operations Center (EOC)**.
- All counties have at least one **mobile command and communications** vehicle.
- All counties are part of **regional consortiums** (e.g., Interoperable Communication Consortium, HazMat Consortium, regional Companion Animal Response Team (CART)).
- Most counties have a limited supply of mass care supplies (e.g., cots, blankets, pillows and comfort kits).

## Anticipated Requests

- The most frequent anticipated resource requests are **pumps, light towers, generators, potable water, mass care supplies** and **variable message boards**.
- Counties will likely request an **Incident Management Team (IMT)** or other staffing support for their EOC Operations during large and/or prolonged events.
- Several counties will need **aviation** support or other specialty response assets such as **Bomb Squad** support.



# Best Practices

Counties are engaged in innovative practices. A few examples include:

- **Albany County** has a dedicated meteorologist on staff.
- **Erie County** a robust First Responder Alerting Network, an alpha paging systems with the capacity to communication with 10,000 first responders.
- **Montgomery County** created a smartphone app to support Public Information and Warning.
- **Steuben County** has a Human Needs Task Force to assist with disaster recovery and community preparedness efforts.
- **Warren County** has developed a Disaster Tool Kit for elected officials outlining their responsibilities related to emergency management.



# So What?

CEPA allow us to:

- Better understand local preparedness levels and capability gaps.
- Make more informed programmatic decisions (e.g. capability workshops, targeted grants, training and exercises).
- Better anticipate local response needs and resource requests.
- Highlight and share best practices.
- Promote communication and collaboration with our stakeholders.



# Next Steps

- Continue to conduct CEPA sessions.
  - Work through your OEM Regional Director to schedule a session.
- Our goal is to have all of NYS completed by the end of 2015.

