



The

Risk Connection

Spring 2014

Please Route This Newsletter To The Following People:

- Administration
- Law Enforcement
- Fire/EMS
- Public Works
- Sanitation
- Attorney
- Recreation
- Water/Sewer
- Other

The Risk Connection is a publication of Local Government Risk Management Services, Inc., a service organization of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia and the Georgia Municipal Association, whose purpose is to educate and inform cities and counties about loss control methods and risk management.

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the ACCG or GMA, and further, are not intended to provide specific legal advice. Readers should seek legal advice on specific concerns from their own legal advisors. Any questions or comments should be directed to: *Dennis Watts, Editor, 3500 Parkway Lane, Suite 110, Norcross, Georgia 30092, 678.686.6284, dwatts@gmanet.com.*

Pre-Staged Emergency Signage and Equipment

By Natalie Sellers, LGRMS South Georgia Field Representative

When Charlton County's Ray Davis and his staff have a safety problem, they work together as a team to solve the problem. During 2011, Charlton County experienced an outbreak of wildfires. This led to road closures throughout the 783 square miles of the county. The Roads Department Superintendent, Ray Davis, advised they would be called out in the middle of the night to close roads.

The Issue

Upon arriving at the shop, they would struggle in the dark to locate the tools and equipment they needed to get the job done. This wasted valuable time and effort trying to locate the equipment needed to do the job, which further detained them from doing the task at hand.

"It was something we hope we never have to go through again; however if we did have to go through it, we wanted to

be prepared." After the smoke settled, the county roads department, with approval from the county manager Al Crace, began developing a solution to their problem. They all worked together to develop a better and safer way to get the job done.

The Problem

Equipment and tools needed for road closures, road work, and sign replacement equipment had no specific



A SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE GEORGIA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION AND THE ASSOCIATION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GEORGIA



Local Government Risk Management Services, Inc.
315 West Ponce de Leon Avenue · Suite 356
Decatur, Georgia 30030 · 800.650.3120





place in the shop and were scattered throughout the road department.

The Solution

Put everything in one spot that will be easy to find and user friendly.

The Result

The road department created two trailers, one construction and one emergency. Anyone in the department can back up to the appropriate trailer at any time and drive to the job site, with all the equipment in one place.

The trailers are designed to hold all equipment in a designated spot that will not require anyone to lift or strain to remove the equipment. All the tools needed for the jobs are stored in the tool boxes on the front. Everything from barrels to barricades, tripods to post hole diggers, can be found on the trailer. The cost was minimal, and all the effort was put in by the maintenance and road department working together. It's a great example of safe economic solutions to what could be costly and deadly problem.



Safety Action Meetings

By Dennis Watts, LGRMS Training and Communication

Has your department or another in your local government had a safety issue that needs addressing, but you haven't had the time to do so? Have there been some close calls or near misses that could have resulted in an injury or damage to property or your equipment? The safety action meeting is a great technique to identify and focus on an identified hazard and get your employees involved in the process of problem solving and correction.

Safety action meetings are structured differently than the traditional safety meeting. In this alternative type of safety meeting, the manager or supervisor leads the group in discussion and action on safety issues. Meetings vary

Your Heart . . . Your Lifeline

By Sherea Robinson

Do you know about the small organ inside your chest that goes "thump" in the night and all day?

It is your heart. Your heart is about the size of your fist, but remarkably powerful. It is the strongest muscle in the human body, and it beats around seventy times per minute. With each beat, blood is pumped throughout the entire body.

As amazing as the heart is, though, it can be damaged . . . life-threateningly damaged. Blood is pumped to circulate

through the body and bring oxygen to cells. Without oxygen, cells die. A person can only live a few minutes without oxygen before irreversible brain injury or death occurs.

So what can you do to keep your lifeline strong? Start out by knowing your risk factors, such as family history. Next, find out your numbers. Is your cholesterol too high? Blood pressure safe? What about glucose? Then practice your ABCs every day:

- Avoid tobacco.
- Be more active.
- Choose good nutrition.

With that, we present to you these words of wisdom from Barry Franklin, Ph.D.:

"Heart health is a marathon, not a sprint. In other words, it's what you do over the long term that really counts. Don't worry about one particular point in the race when you may not have stayed the course. Just get back on track and keep going."

Health & Wellness Corner

slightly in format to suit the type of topic under discussion (e.g., the communication of an incident investigation report, a problem to be solved, an issue to be analyzed, or the implementation of a new procedure).

Generally, to plan a Safety Action meeting, the leader:

- Decides on and writes out the purpose of the meeting.
- Outlines the facts to be presented.
- Writes out the question for discussion.

Once the leader has given the group the question for discussion, the next stages of the meeting are for the group to:

- Brainstorm ideas, together with their advantages and disadvantages.
- Select actions to take.
- Decide who will do what and when.

The goal in every work situation is to have people focused on safety, aware of their own safety and concerned about the safety of others, so they will do something about unsafe conditions and inform their co-workers about unsafe acts, not just leave it all up to the supervisor.

Safety action meetings encourage this awareness and concern. They enable people to take this responsibility and to be part of the solution.

2014 Legal Update and Best Practices Webinar Training Series UPDATE

Your free legal update training starts this week!

Log in to your training portal for schedule changes and updates, and access to all your webinars. Go to www.lgrms.com online training, PATC tab.

Questions/Support Public Agency Training Council

Contact our partner, PATC, directly for help in setting up a member account or any other online training questions.

This site offers an additional source of Online training that is specifically for Law Enforcement. LGRMS has taken another innovative step in offering our ACCG & GMA Property/Liability Fund Members only an additional training tool for their law enforcement agencies. This service is available on a 24/7 basis from any computer with internet access.

The Public Agency Training Council (PATC) who provides law enforcement liability articles for the

LGRMS Liability Beat and regional law enforcement training courses for LGRMS on an annual basis has made this service available at no cost to our ACCG (IRMA) & GMA (GIRMA) fund members.

The services available include access to online training modules, webinars (both current ones as well as access to those already held), and a series of 12 roll call training topics. This law enforcement online training is in addition to that already offered through LocalGovU. To get started, you need to call 336-831-3655 or email onlinesupport@americaleads.org.

- Pre-registration required for access to each webinar.
- Free access to webinar training by this email or within your private training portal only and does not extend to similarly listed webinars on PATC / LLRMI public website.

Date	Time	Webinar
5/9	2 pm EDT	Officer-Involved Domestic Violence
6/20	2 pm EDT	Property and Evidence
7/11	2 pm EDT	Armed Officers – Off Duty Action
8/15	2 pm EDT	Sexual Harassment, Discrimination, and Misconduct
9/19	2 pm EDT	Officer Selection, Hiring and Retention
10/10	2 pm EDT	Internal Affairs and Officer Misconduct
11/7	2 pm EDT	SWAT and Special Operations
12/19	2 pm EDT	Dealing with the Mentally Ill and Persons of Diminished Capacity



Providing Loss Prevention,
Loss Control & Health
Promotion Services for
Local Governments

Property & Liability Risks
Employee Safety
Health & Wellness

Local Government Risk Management Services

3500 Parkway Lane • Suite 110
Norcross, Georgia 30092
Phone 678.686.6279
Fax 770.246.3149

Visit Us Online!
www.lgrms.com

Training Classes

High Impact Health and Wellness

August 13	Tifton, Tift County
August 14	Dublin, Laurens County
August 19	Gainesville, Hall County
August 20	Cartersville, Bartow County
September 16	McDonough, Henry County
September 17	Canton, Cherokee County
September 18	Grovetown, Columbia County

Personnel Liability

May 6	Macon, Bibb County
-------	--------------------

Safety Coordinator I

June 2	Statesboro, Bulloch County
June 4	Tifton, Tift County

Safety Coordinator II

April 15	Cornelia, Habersham County
June 10	Statesboro, Bulloch County
June 12	Tifton, Tift County

Safety Coordinator III

April 17	Macon, Bibb County
April 22	Cornelia, Habersham County
April 24	Cartersville, Bartow County
June 24	Statesboro, Bulloch County
June 26	Tifton, Tift County

Work Zone Safety

July 8	Cartersville, Bartow County
July 10	Grovetown, Columbia County
July 17	Macon, Bibb County
July 30	Jesup, Wayne County
August 7	Tifton, Tift County
August 12	Statesboro, Bulloch County

Workers Compensation 101

August 5	Tifton, Tift County
August 26	Dublin, Laurens County
September 25	Cartersville, Bartow County

*More information on our
training classes, including
descriptions of all courses,
is available online.*

*Our online calendar is always
the most up to date,
so be sure to check it frequently!*

www.lgrms.com
