



PCEMA

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023



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# DIRECTOR'S REMARKS

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Pottawattamie County Emergency Management Agency reflects on a year of unwavering dedication and resilience. From preparedness activities, severe weather events, infrastructure emergencies, and pre-planned event support; the agency responded with agility and professionalism, coordinating resources, and mobilizing personnel to help ensure the safety and well-being of response personnel and residents. Collaborating closely with local stakeholders and leveraging innovative strategies, the agency enhanced preparedness and mitigation efforts, empowering the community to confront adversity with strength and unity.

Pottawattamie County Emergency Management looks forward to the opportunities and challenges that 2024 will bring; continuing our mission to safeguard lives and property.

We appreciate the continued support of our Mayors, County Supervisors, and the County Sheriff who all serve on the Emergency Management Commission. We are thankful for our outstanding partners around the county from the fire service, law enforcement, public works and infrastructure, the private sector, non-profits, and our education community - the relationships and priority on preparedness in Pottawattamie County are second to none in Iowa.

Respectfully,

Doug Reed  
Director



# ABOUT US

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## Our Mission

The MISSION of the Pottawattamie County Emergency Management Agency is to protect communities by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, technological hazards, or other man-made disasters.

The agency proudly serves the jurisdictions and residents of the Cities of Avoca, Carson, Carter Lake, Council Bluffs, Crescent, Hancock, Macedonia, McClelland, Minden, Neola, Oakland, Treynor, Underwood, Walnut, and the County of Pottawattamie.



Doug Reed  
Director



Gabriel Barney  
Deputy Director



Michell Bose  
Specialist



Scott Manz  
Specialist



## Our Vision

The Emergency Management Agency seeks to promote safer, less vulnerable communities with the capacity to cope with hazards and disasters.

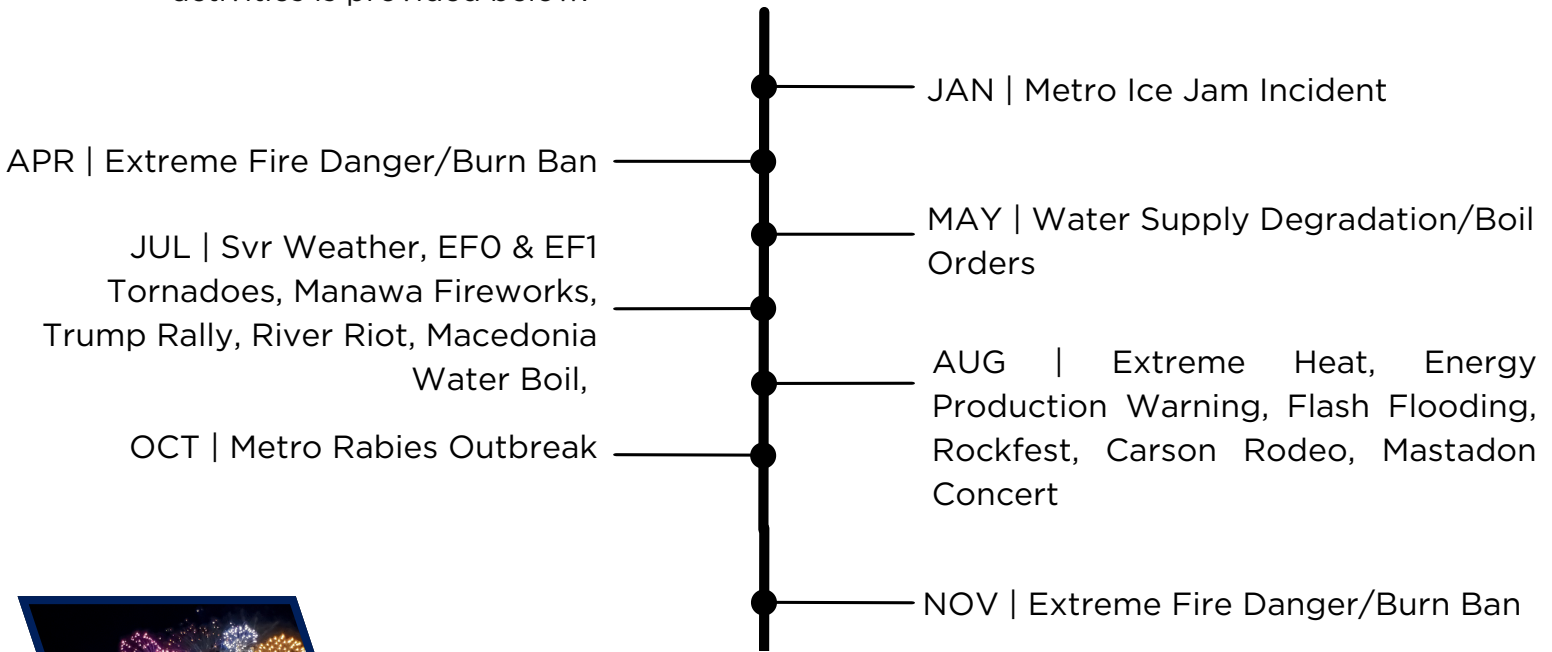
## Our Principles

To be a mission-driven agency that is comprehensive, progressive, risk-driven, integrated, collaborative, coordinated, flexible, and professional.



# INCIDENT SUPPORT

PCEMA was involved in multiple incidents and/or pre-planned events throughout 2023. The agency, through a combination of assets and personnel, supported partners and stakeholders with incident management coordination and support services ranging from direction-control-coordination, planning, logistics, and situational awareness activities. A representative sampling of activities is provided below.





# PUBLIC INFORMATION & WARNING

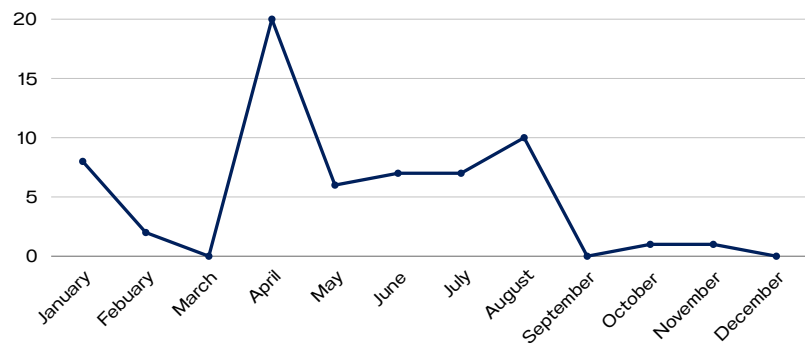
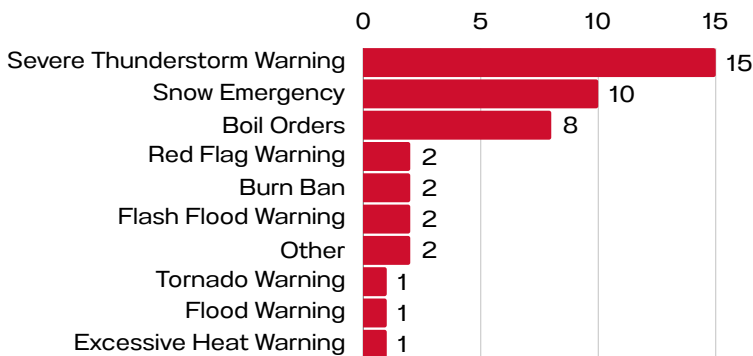


PCEMA boasts a robust public information support and warning capability with formally trained staff as public information officers. The agency is also a participant in the Alert Iowa System, the statewide alerting platform for emergencies, disasters, and threats.

Along with basic information operations supporting local jurisdictions during incidents such as infrastructure disruptions, PCEMA is an activating authority for the statewide system as well as national alerting platforms.

## Number of Alert Iowa Notifications & Warnings Distributed in 2023:

# 184,741



# PREPAREDNESS



Preparedness is an integral part of the emergency management program, whether internally with stakeholders or externally with the public. Prepared communities are resilient communities and no response scenario is effective without a trained, coordinated conglomerate of partners and stakeholders.

In 2023, the agency participated in several outreach events and hosted a significant number of FEMA Professional Development training opportunities. Additionally, the agency participated in a multi-day exercise with state and county emergency management programs as part of the National Guard Bureau's "Vigilant Guard" exercise program.



**Pottawattamie County Fair**

**West Pott. County Fair**



**CBPD National Night Out**

**PCEMA Preparedness Fair**

## TRAINING EVENTS

- FEMA G191 ICS/EOC Interface
- FEMA G361 Flood Fight Operations
- FEMA G364 Emergency Planning for Schools
- Svr Weather & Storm Spotter Training
- FEMA G205 Disaster Recovery
- Advanced Shared Situational Picture



# 2024 CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES



## Planning Updates

- Response & Recovery Plan rewrite
- Complete Mitigation Plan updates
- ESF 2, 5, 10, 15
- CB Levee Emergency Plan
- Indian Creek Dam Emergency Plan

## Training

- Draft an integrated preparedness plan countywide.

## Exercise

- School hostile threat exercise - East
- School hostile threat exercise - West
- HazMat Incident exercise
- Countywide tornado drill

## Equipment

- Replace Escape with 3/4 truck
- Develop resource manual

## Anticipated Threat & Response Focus

- Spring Flood potential
- Drought/Water Infrastructure preparedness
- Cyber threat preparedness
- Election Safety & Security operations
- Severe Weather event response
- Complete joint alerting system design (EMA/911)
- Complete response trailer/equipment consolidation (EMA/CBFD)



