Environmental Health
Emergency Preparedness and Response

Environmental Health Emergency Planning
Byron Lobsinger, B.S., GaCEM, EMHP, EHEP
Chris Kumnick, Interim Director of Environmental Health

EH Strike Team
Disaster Response
Environmental Health Section
“Execution of the DPH Hedgehog”

Inform
the public of Environmental Health Hazards
Prevent
illness and injury through monitoring, assessments, and education
Protect
the public from Environmental Health Risks

Food Service Program
• Inform: the public of Foodborne-related Hazards
• Prevent: foodborne-related illness through monitoring, assessments, and education
• Protect: the public from risks associated with foodborne illness

Chemical Hazards Program
• Inform: the public about hazardous chemicals in the environment
• Prevent: exposures by evaluating environmental and health outcome data
• Protect: the public from hazardous chemical exposures

Evaluation & Support Program
• Inform Environmental Health staff of best practices discovered from analysis of their work
• Prevent illness through development of evidence-based performance metrics, policies, and training
• Protect the capabilities of Environmental Health operations through evaluation, planning assistance, and administrative support

Land Use Program
• Inform: the public of potential health hazards associated with onsite septic systems and non-public drinking wells.
• Prevent: illness through education, monitoring, assessment, and enforcement
• Protect: communities during health emergencies utilizing Environmental Health Strike Teams and/or coordinated mass fatality resources.

Childhood Lead Prevention & Healthy Homes Program
• Inform: the public about housing hazards that can cause unsafe or unhealthy environments
• Prevent: injury or illness through monitoring, education, assessment and provision of direct services
• Protect: all generations of Georgians by ensuring that each home is safe and healthy

Emergency Preparedness & Mass Fatality Planning
• Inform: stakeholders of Environmental Health preparedness plans for emergency response.
• Prevent: additional illness or loss of life through monitoring, assessments, training and education
• Protect: communities during health emergencies utilizing Environmental Health Strike Teams and/or coordinated mass fatality resources.

Tourist Accommodation Program
• Inform: the public of lodging-related hazards
• Prevent: illness and injury through monitoring, assessments, and education
• Protect: the public from risk associated with food-waterborne illness and unsanitary conditions

Indoor Tanning Facilities Program
• Inform: the public of hazards related to indoor tanning
• Prevent: ultraviolet (UV) radiation-related skin cancer and injury through monitoring and education
• Protect: the public from risk associated with UV radiation in tanning devices

Public Health Entomology
• Inform: the public of hazards and disease associated with insect and other arthropod pests of public health importance
• Prevent: illness or infestation through monitoring, assessment, and collaboration with partners
• Protect: the public from risks associated with insects and other arthropods of public health importance
Public Health System in Georgia

GA Department of Public Health
18 Public Health Districts
159 County Health Departments (Boards of Health)
Environmental Health Workforce

Environmental Health services are provided by approximately \textit{\textasciitilde424 professional staff statewide}.

- 20 State Office
- 18 EH District Directors
- 386 County Environmental Health Specialists

“Environmental Health...
Touching Everyone’s Life Every Day”
Environmental Health (EH)
Public Health Entomology

- **Public Health Entomologist**
  - Complaint Response
  - Mosquito Surveillance
  - Public Education
    - Bedbugs
    - Tick-borne Disease
    - Vector Control

- **New Vector Surveillance Staff**
  - May 16, 2016-Start Date
    - 2-weeks Training
      » PH 101
      » Mosquito ID
      » Surveillance Techniques
      » Con Op Plan-CDC Risk Categories
      » Emergency Vector Control
      » Communication
  - June 1, 2016
    - Out in Regions and Introductions
    - Surveillance
    - Education
Environmental Health Education
EH Workforce

Number of EHS by Years of Service

- 0 to 5 Years: 120
- 6 to 10 Years: 60
- 11 to 15 Years: 90
- 16 to 20 Years: 40
- 21 to 25 Years: 20
- 26 + Years: 20
Disaster Management

EH Strike Teams function within the ICS

• National Incident Management System (NIMS)
  – Incident Command System (ICS)
    • Emergency Support Functions – 15 ESF’s

Improvement Process

Disaster Cycle
Emergency Preparedness
ESF 8

EHS respond to all types of emergencies:

- Mass Feeding facilities
- Mass Shelter facilities
- Water Interruptions
- Portable Sanitation
- Solid Waste Management.
- Vector and Rodent Control
- Situational Awareness
- Mass Fatality Coordination
- EH Strike Teams
Environmental Health Strike Team Support
- Environmental Health Strike Teams
  - Regional Team Coordination
    - 5 Regions
  - Environmentalists
    - Trained
    - Credentialed
  - Prepared to Deploy
    - Member Go Bags
    - Team Go Bags
    - Incubators
    - Supplies
• Environmental Health Strike Teams

• Training
  – EH and EPR Training Programs
    • EHS Standard Training programs
      – Food, TA, Pools, Vector, Land Use, Wells
    • EHTER and EHTER Ops
      – (CDC, fully funded by FEMA)
    • FEMA NIMS / ICS (EMI)
    • EH Shelter Inspections
    • Outbreak / Epi Investigation Assistance
  • Annual Summit
    – 2015 AG/Water Well/ARC/Mosquito
    – 2016 Mosquito education and abatement
Additional Training

• WebEOC

• FEMA Training through EMI
  – Independent Study Program
    • http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.aspx

• Radiation Training
  – Community Reception Center
  – EH Screening
    • Port-O-Monitors
    • Hand Held RadEye Geiger Counters
Drills and Exercise

TomorrowWorld

• Ga National Fair

EHTER Ops 2016
Deployment Activities

Safe Water
Safe Food
Solid Waste
Liquid Waste
Vector Surveillance
Shelter Inspections

Community Reception Centers
Mold
Septic Systems
Well Water Testing
Other as needed
EH Strike Team Deployment

- Report to the Incident Command Post
  - Check in
  - Report to the team leader
  - Perform the assigned tasks
    - Ask Questions if necessary
    - Within your scope of knowledge
    - May be assigned other task
- Your safety is number one
  - Proper level of PPE
    - Be aware in a disaster area
Safe Water Supply

- Public Water Supplies
  - Power outages
  - Line breaks
    - Boil Water Advisories
    - Bulk Water Transport
    - Mobile Water Purifiers

- Private- Wells
  - Flooding
    - Sampling
    - Chlorination Instructions
Waste Water Disposal Concerns

• Public Sewers
  – Power outage
  – Lift Stations Failures
  – WW treatment plant

• Septic System Failures
  – Flooding
Portable Sanitation Systems

• Sanitation for human waste
  – May be a major problem
    • concerts / major festivals
  – Location placement is critical
  – Should be
    • Vertical
    • Inspected by EH daily
    • Serviced Daily
      – Approved Company
Refuse and Vector Control

- Pest Control
- 5~7 Day Mosquito Window
ESF-6 Support - Shelters

Reasons for Concern
- Close living quarters
- Stressed population
- Disrupted protection systems
- Healthcare maybe limited
- Increased demands on facility
- Place of last resort
Food in Shelters

• Proper Holding/Cooking Temperatures

• Preparation: Prevent cross contamination
  No bare hand contact

• Adequate Utensils and thermometers
  – Disposable utensils / WRS

• Hand Washing Facilities

• Source???
Mass Feeding Locations

• Coordinated with
  – EMA, Red Cross, Local governments, Faith Based groups, and the Salvation Army
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Phase Level</th>
<th>Transmission Risk Category</th>
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<tbody>
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<td><strong>Preparedness</strong>: Vector present or possible in the state</td>
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# CDC Guidance Change: Response Phases

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July 2016
Georgia Widespread Ongoing Local Acquired Response

- Florida/Miami- Wynwood Neighborhood
- CDC Response Guidelines
- DPH Capacity
  - EPI Case Definition
    - Includes surveillance data
  - VSC and EH Emergency Strike Teams
  - Contingency Contracts
    - Private mosquito control
    - Additional Manpower, Equipment, Expertise
Environmental Health Response

Work Directly with Local Partners with Controlling Aedes Species (albopictus and aegypti) in a Focused Area

Action Triggers: Travel and Locally-acquired Zika

CDC Guidelines for Risk Based Zika Action Plans

Focus on a positive sample location (Local Transmission) or other area of concern and provide elevated control and education radiating out 150-yard radius and approximately 5 or more blocks or possibly county wide if Widespread Local Transmission.

These Elevated Controls Include:

- Inform Local Mosquito Control
- Surveillance and Testing
- Population Suppression
- Door-to-Door Inspections and Education

Control Measures Would Include Mosquito Population Suppression

- Larviciding (backpack and dunks)
- Barrier sprays for adults
- Possible ULV spraying if wide spread
Contact Information

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