

Goals

1. Improve employee engagement, communication, and interaction
2. Improve the Department's ability to respond to emergencies through surge capacity and improve ability to manage large, complex incidents
3. Improve use and understanding of the Incident Command System and apply knowledge gained from introductory and advanced ICS courses
4. Identify and utilize technology to improve response
5. Advance safety assessment skills in high-pressure situations
6. Improve coordination & communication with partner organizations
7. Practice real world scenarios to receive, process, and test a range of products for a variety of concerns to demonstrate core capabilities, evaluate risk in the marketplace, and prepare for all hazards sampling and testing scenarios
8. Build skills for programs/divisions to plan for and manage the logistics of blitzes/campaigns
9. Test, measure, and improve policies and procedures

Objectives

1. Create:
 - a. Events around the State of Michigan for MDARD staff to meet, interact, and receive training
 - b. Opportunities for the Director and Executive Office to meet with field staff and exchange information
 - c. Leadership and management development opportunities for staff to use ICS and IMT roles for leadership and management development
2. Test capabilities to:
 - a. Activate Incident Management Teams
 - b. Provide just-in-time/cross training
 - c. Accomplish a task, simulating core activities necessary to respond to many threats and hazards including safety, documentation and chain of custody
 - d. Provide instruction on finance & administration procedures and achieve consistent accounting of time and expense
3. Facilitate:
 - a. Joint preparation of operational plans and delivery of just-in-time training
 - b. Use of ICS principles and IMTs to generate Incident Action Plans for each venue
 - c. Engagement of Lansing office & Lab staff to fulfill or shadow roles they might have in a real emergency, particularly in Finance and Logistics
 - d. Safety planning and preparedness
 - e. Collection of a variety of samples from the marketplace for pathogens, drugs, pesticides, or other contaminants for testing, and training for all hazards response, including bio-security provisions and plant pest detection
 - f. Effective hotwashes to evaluate each exercise and identify successes so they can be repeated in the future
4. Provide:
 - a. Safety training relevant to current needs and changing threat landscapes
 - b. Briefing on exercise subject matter and ICS principles to staff
5. Test plans and procedures both Department-wide and program specific for response, including:
 - a. Sample collection, chain of custody, and sample analysis/testing
 - b. Conducting recall audit checks and traceback/trace-forward investigations
 - c. Documentation, including tracking costs, accountability, & resource management
6. Engage with partner agencies, including preparing for joint inspections