

**WASHTENAW COUNTY HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
RESPONSE AUTHORITY**



Annual Report 2022

Organization

Leadership

Director Russell Girbach- Pittsfield Twp.

Deputy Director James Rachwal- Salem Twp.

Team Leaders

Tim Andrews- Dexter

Doug Armstrong-Scio

Fred Anstead- Ypsilanti Twp.

John Decaro- Pittsfield Twp.

Team Members

Ken Asher- Dexter

Nikki Begziak- Milan Area

Brandon Blanchard- Northfield Twp.

Cody Brierley- Milan Area

Jordan Burns- Superior Twp.

Christian Cousar- Ann Arbor

Paul Damon- Pittsfield Twp.

Amanda Derrington- Ypsilanti

Shane Doyon- Ann Arbor

Scott Gehringer- Ypsilanti Twp.

Julian Gross- Ann Arbor

Jerry Hamilton- Ypsilanti Twp.

Liz Hogan- HVA

Eric Long- Sumpter Twp.

Reid Moden- Ypsilanti

David Music- Augusta Twp.

Chad Nelson- Ypsilanti

Sean Payeur- Saline Area

Jeff Schulz- Ypsilanti

Kyle Snyder- Milan Area

William Strobe- Ann Arbor Twp.

Joe Valentine- Chelsea

Robert Vanderkarr- Ann Arbor

Brian Walls- HVA

Nate Hunt- U of M ER Physician

Director Statement:

It has been an honor to serve as Director of the Washtenaw County Hazardous Materials Response Authority for the past four years. This year has been another tremendous year, and it's been a joy for me to lead a team of well trained and outgoing individuals. We had three new members join the team. Ann Arbor City added Christian Cousar, and Ypsilanti added Amanda Derrington and Chad Nelson. Training was outstanding this year and we were able to hold all 12 successfully. WCHMRT hosted a one-day propane emergencies; ten members attended this training. WCHMRT also hosted a region wide BioTechIQ class, this class focused on Biological Warfare threats. Students from other haz mat teams, county health, and hospital emergency managers attended this training presented at Ypsilanti Twp Fire Dept. We also held a scenario in Manchester, this scenario included Dispatch, Manchester FD, HVA, and our Team Doctors. We were able to replace all twelve level A suits thanks to the Homeland Security grant funds. The Homeland Security Grant also allowed us to add a new Drone with the latest technology. The golf outing was a success and brought in much needed funds for day-to-day operations. Five members attended the Michigan Haz Mat Conference, and two members attended the Rae Systems Technician course in Texas. I look forward to another successful year in 2023!!

Respectfully,

Director Russell Girbach

Team Overview

The Washtenaw County Hazardous Materials Response Team consists of thirty-one team members. Of these team members twelve members are specialist level, fourteen members are technician level, four are operations level, and three are EMS. Specialist members have one or more trainings in a specific area. For example, specialty in railcar incidents, over the road truck incidents, etc. Technician level members are trained in offensive type operations, like stopping the spill. Whereas operations level are more defensive, meaning only containing the spill. The operations members will take technician level training within their first year on the team, as this is a minimum requirement of team participation.

The WCHMRT utilizes three response vehicles, strategically positioned throughout the county. Haz Mat 13-1 is located at Ann Arbor Fire Station #6; this vehicle is our primary response vehicle. 13-1 houses air monitoring equipment, research materials, weather monitoring equipment, PPE, absorbent material, tent, heaters, and our primary drone. Haz Mat 13-2 is located at Ypsilanti City Fire Department. 13-2 is outfitted much like 13-1 but is a secondary response vehicle. 13-2 houses extra absorbent materials specifically for acids, 98 pails of foam, heaters, a decon tent, and back-up drone. Haz Mat 13-3 is housed at Salem Township Fire Station. 13-3 is primarily used to house extra equipment. It carries five extra over pack drums, 52 pails of foam, as well as other miscellaneous equipment.

VEHICLES



Haz Mat 13-1 2003 Spartan



Haz Mat 13-2 2013 Freightliner



Haz Mat 13-3 2003 Ford



Matrice M30T Drone

Year in review

In 2022 WCHMRT responded to 1 full team activations, and 3 team leader callouts. The drone team responded to 4 calls for service. All 4 drone callouts were for missing persons. The team covered 8 U of M Football games.

Incidents

Dundee Fire Department requested assistance with air monitoring from a drano bomb in an apartment building. This was full team callout.

Milan Area Fire Department requested Team Leader assistance for a leaking propane tank on the side of the road.

Ann Arbor Fire Department requested Team Leader assistance at Yost Ice Arena for an Ammonia leak.

Saline Area Fire Department requested Team Leader assistance for a smell making workers sick at Toyota Tech Center.

Ann Arbor City, Northfield Twp, and Ypsilanti Police Depts requested drone assistance with missing persons.

Training

January- MABAS validation discussion, Train scenario

February- Radiation and Mercury

March- MSP homemade bomb class

April- Decon and Identification of unknown chemicals

May- Scenario at Dexter WWTP

June- Spring cleaning

July- Propane Emergencies

August- BioTech IQ

September- Scenario in Manchester

October- Suit testing for new suits, IDing chemicals using different methods

November- Zumro Tent training, Lithium Battery disposal

December- Appreciation breakfast, skills rotations- Communications, WISER

Financial Report

Fire Department Dues-

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Ann Arbor City | \$1000 |
| Ann Arbor Twp. | \$500 |
| Augusta Twp. | \$500 |
| Belleville | \$500 |
| Chelsea | \$1000 |
| Clinton | \$3000 |
| Dexter | \$1000 |
| Manchester | \$3000 |
| Milan | \$3000 |
| Northfield Twp. | \$3000 |
| Pittsfield Twp. | \$1000 |
| Salem Twp. | \$500 |
| Saline | \$3000 |
| Scio Twp. | \$1000 |
| Superior Twp. | \$500 |
| Ypsilanti | \$1000 |
| Ypsilanti Twp. | \$1000 |

Total: \$24,500

Callout Cost Recovery

Total: \$3,616.74

U of M Coverage Reimbursement

Total: \$10,352.16

Insurance

VFIS (\$11,002)

Golf Outing

Expenses:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Logo gifts- | \$1882.12 |
| Prizes/Raffle items | \$220 |
| Misc | \$920 |
| Barton | \$13,077 |
| Total: | \$16,314.69 |

Income:

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Team/Sponsors | \$26,805 |
| 50/50 Raffle | \$925 |
| Total: | \$27,730 |

Total revenue: \$11,415.31