

Eastern Idaho Public Health District



EASTERN IDAHO MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS NEWSLETTER

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MRC volunteers are involved in an extraordinary number and a variety of activities every day to support and promote the health and safety of their communities.

Eastern Idaho Public Health District

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**We're on the Web at
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MASS VACCINATION CLINICS A GREAT SUCCESS

Since we published our last newsletter we have been extremely busy with more than 35 mass vaccination clinics to dispense H1N1 vaccine. The amount of vaccine available was small at first and we were under strict guidelines to only dispense it to limited high risk groups. Those groups included Pregnant Women, Healthcare and Emergency Response personnel, children between the ages of 6 months up to 18 yrs, and adults up to age 65 with underlying health risks.



The demand was high and some people were very frustrated with the restrictions which were placed on us by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

By November the supply of vaccine started to increase and we were able to have large clinics dispensing thousands of doses in a few hours. Perhaps the most difficult part was trying to convince the public we had plenty of vaccine available and they did not need to stand in line for hours before the clinics started. We tried



different methods including handing out numbers but people still insisted on coming and standing or sitting in lines. As the weather got much colder we were able to use some of the school facilities to bring people inside.

By December we were able to open the clinics to even those not in the high risk populations. January and February saw the demand for vaccine drop significantly and we were able to start dispensing it at each of our county offices and having weekly clinics at the Idaho Falls office. Since the first week in March all H1N1 vaccinations are being done at the regular immunization clinics.

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We became very proficient at loading and unloading our trailer with all the supplies and setting up a clinic in many different locations and situations in a very short time. Most of the clinics in October, November and December were set up in Schools. We had to work our schedules around their activities and use whatever parts of their facilities they were willing to provide.

One of our largest clinics was held at the Eastern Idaho Public Health District Office in Idaho Falls. People stood and sat in line for up to 5 hrs. before that clinic started. We had plenty of vaccine and no one in the high risk priority group was turned away.



We are very grateful for these MRC volunteers that were able to help us in some of the larger clinics:

Jane McLaughlin, Cheryl Graham, Sandra Storhok, Estelle Welch, Daidrie Pincock, Clara Van Leuven, Stacey Oliverson, Carol Cunningham, Jean Anders, Joel Cannon, Cammie Hugunin, Tom Tremain, Jeff Cox, Daryl Peterson, Tammy Cox, Holly Peterson, Judy Foster.

MRC VOLUNTEERS INVITED TO CPR CLASSES

MRC Volunteers are invited to attend CPR courses to renew their certification. This is a great benefit to members of the MRC because they attend for free. American Heart Association CPR courses usually cost \$25 or more if you attend elsewhere.

County	Date	Time	Location
Idaho Falls /Jefferson Counties	March 30	6:30 –9:00 pm	Eastern Idaho Public Health District office Idaho Falls 12 50 Hollipark Dr
Madison/Fremont Counties	April 13	6:30–9:00 pm	Eastern Idaho Public Health District Office Rexburg
Lemhi County	April 16	6:30 – 9:00 pm	Eastern Idaho Public Health District Office Salmon
Custer County	April 17	10:00–12:30 am	Eastern Idaho Public Health District Office Challis
Teton County	May 4	6:30 – 9:00pm	Eastern Idaho Public Health District office Driggs

If you plan to attend one of these courses you must register at least a week in advance. If there are not enough people signed up for a class we reserve the right to cancel it. Please call Holly Peterson at 208-533-3145 and leave a voice mail message to register.

VOLUNTEER IDAHO

Yes this is the same thing you have seen before! It is included in this news letter again because we still need most of you to sign up through the **Volunteer Idaho** system.

This system will enable us to verify the professional credentials of our volunteers by comparing them to Federal and State licensing board data prior to calling them for duty. It will also help individual volunteers by notifying them, by e-mail, when their license is about to expire.

If you do not have a professional license you are still very important to us and the system will help us keep your information and deployment status readily available.

In order to facilitate the implementation of our new system, we would like to invite you to our new site to register. Here are step by step instructions:



Volunteer Registration

If you have previously registered, but did not receive an email click [here to resend](#).

* First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

* Email Address:

* Confirm Email Address:

* Username:
username must have at least 6 characters

* Password:
password must have at least 6 characters

* Confirm Password:

* Password Challenge:

* Challenge Response:

1. Type this address into your web browser <http://www.volunteeridaho.com>
 2. When you get to the main page click on the area of the map where you live to be directed to the appropriate volunteer registry.
 3. If you have not previously registered at Volunteer Idaho click on the Register Now button.
 4. Fill out your basic information. Fields with an asterisk* are required.
 5. Click submit
 6. Please note that if you previously registered but did not receive an account activation e-mail just click on the "click here to resend" link near the top of the page.
 7. If you do not receive a welcome e-mail check to see if it is in your SPAM or JUNK folder.
 8. **Please note:** You are not officially registered in the Volunteer Idaho system until you get the welcome e-mail and respond to it.
 9. The e-mail will thank you for registering and give you instructions on how to activate your account and complete the registration process. This process is necessary for your security.
 10. You will be asked to click on a link that will take you back to the Volunteer Idaho site where you will need to log in using the user name and password you created earlier.
 11. Please read the "Before you register" information then click submit.
 12. There are 4 sections of information required to complete the registration. Only fields with asterisks* are required. At the bottom of each page click the next button. This will save your information and take you to the next section.
 13. When you get to the Summary section just review your information and click submit.
- You will now be notified by e-mail if your services are needed and you will have the opportunity to review the details of the event before you respond with your willingness to participate.

PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN THE
VOLUNTEER IDAHO TRAINING EXERCISE!
IT'S EASY

On April 6th and 7th we will be participating in an exercise to test the Volunteer Idaho System. The exercise is run through the State Office of Preparedness and will require the local MRC leaders to create an incident in the system and then send requests for volunteers to respond to the incident. It does not require you as a volunteer to go or do anything but only to respond to the e-mail so that we know the system is working properly. We have participated in a similar exercise in the past and found it very useful and informative.

If you are signed up in the Volunteer Idaho System you will receive an e-mail telling you about the exercise scenario and asking you if you will report to work. Please take a couple of minutes to respond to the request. For the purpose of this exercise please **respond positively that you will be able to report to the incident even though you will not need to report.**

Just a warning. We do not understand the reason behind this situation and have been trying to get it resolved with no luck. When you receive the e-mail with the request for your help, the sender of the e-mail will appear in your inbox as **"noreply@emsystem.com"** or something similar. The problem with this is that many people look at this sender and think it is junk mail, spam, or that it really does not require a reply. Some of your e-mail providers may also see this as spam and put it in your spam folder. **Please open the e-mail and reply** in spite of the strange sender name. You may also need to check your spam folder to find the e-mail and mark it as NOT SPAM or put it in your accepted or approved sender list.



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