

A quarterly newsletter of MABAS WISCONSIN incidents and activities that underscore its value to the community and to foster growth and improvement through the sharing of actual experience.

FALL 2018

## MABAS RESPONSE SAVES LIFE IN DIVISION 112 BARN FIRE

BY DREW SPIELMAN, GREEN BAY METRO FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND GARY SCHMIDT

It was a Tuesday night, August 7, 2018, and the barn at the Dutchman Creek Dairy farm on County EE was on fire. The fire could be seen from the home of the Hobart Fire Department Assistant Chief (AC) Jim Ambrosius.

Ambrosius recalls: "As I am leaving my yard, I was already calling for **MABAS Card 17-21 to the first box** just as the first page for a structure fire was going out. I upgraded to the **second box for tenders** upon arrival. I knew the owner should have been milking cows at that time, but he was nowhere to be found. I made one more pass inside searching for him as the fire was getting too hot to be inside. The owner was not found".

Soon thereafter, an Oneida Police Officer informed AC Ambrosius that the owner had been found in the house asleep and did not know there was a fire at that time. Ambrosius began working with the **Town of Lawrence Fire Chief Kurt Minten** who had arrived on scene. "When I first arrived only AC Ambrosius was there. The first arriving engine was the Lawrence engine and it was two minutes out", Chief Minten remembers.

Ambrosius: "Suddenly, the Officer from the house comes out to tell me they needed me in the house ASAP as the owner was down. Chief Minten took over fire operations and I went in and found the patient face down in a hallway landing zone. I rolled him over to find no pulse or breathing."



(Photo by Drew Spielman)

Minten: "At that time, I asked for additional personnel from Lawrence. AC Ambrosius came out of the house and stated the patient was located but does not look good. As my engine backed in, my Firefighter/Paramedic was pulling hose. I told him to go in the house as someone was down".

Ambrosius continues: "On Lawrence Engine 611 was Michael Linssen who also is a De Pere paramedic. Chief Minten sent him in right behind me. Together we started CPR. De Pere's Ladder Truck arrives and **De Pere Chief Alan Matzke** comes in with an AED (automated external defibrillator) and begins to help with CPR".

"When we knew we had the owner down and CPR in progress, we upgraded to the **second box and fifth for tenders**", said Minten.

"At this incident, MABAS worked flawlessly. With MABAS, all fire departments in Brown County work together much more than in the past. We train together and have grown to respect one another. In the past the rural and city departments would never have called one another for help. Now they offer help to one another for any situation they find themselves in. Such as borrowing equipment to each other, offering maintenance services, training classes, just to name a few", extolled Minten.

Ambrosius agreed: "I would not change anything on our MABAS system. MABAS is a great tool if you're a chief or commanding officer".



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"There is no guess work involved. Knowing your cards is the key. Also Division 112 Dispatch did an amazing job of sending out all the right equipment that was called for".

"This showed how 17 different departments can come together and work as one with no argument or misunderstandings. This is due to our commitment of training together and using the same radio terminology", Ambrosius concluded.

The stricken barn owner happened to be the brother of Hobart AC Ambrosius. For more details, see the story on pages 2-3.

MABAS IN THE NEWS - BROWN COUNTY DIVISION 112 *SUBMITTED BY GARY SCHMIDT*

**The Press Times**

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## Brotherly love: Man saves his brother's life in Hobart fire

By Ben Rodgers, Editor  
August 29, 2018

HOBART – Jim Ambrosius got a call from his son James at 10:25 p.m. Aug 7. There was a fire at Jim's brother's house. Nearly 30 minutes later, Jim would help save his brother's life.

Because he lives about a mile away, and is assistant chief of the Hobart fire department, Jim was at Dutchman Creek Dairy Farm in southern Hobart before 10:30 p.m. that night, just 5 minutes after being notified.

When he arrived, a cattle barn was fully engulfed. But his brother Mike, 63, was nowhere to be seen.

"When I pulled into the yard James was in there pushing cattle out," Jim said. "I figured Mike was in the barn somewhere, because normally at that part of the night he's in the barn."

The father and son along with the help of a neighbor moved roughly 60 cattle from the flaming barn. About 13 cattle and calves could not be saved before everyone had to evacuate.

"It was involved," Jim said. "At the back end stuff was dripping from the ceiling. Doors were falling down already."

It's not easy to move a 1,500 pound cow, but those on the inside did their part to spook the cattle away flames burning down the barn they call home.

"They were pulling the last of the cattle off and the thing I said was 'I'm going to make one more pass of the barn,' because I thought Mike was in there," Jim said. "I was yelling and screaming so then I decided to check the milk house, but by that time the power lines had melted."

Jim cut power to the farm and told police officers on the scene that he couldn't find his brother Mike.

"I went to the back door of the house, but that was locked, so then officers started tapping windows with their nightsticks," Jim said.

Mike's memory of that evening is spotty, but he said he remembers a commotion.

"I tried to find some shoes to come out there, I went down the steps, but that's all I remember," Mike said.

He wouldn't have another memory until he woke up in a hospital on Thursday, Aug. 9.

Mike was found face down in the hallway by his brother Jim, who started to administer CPR.

Jim then handed off the CPR to Michael Linseen, a volunteer with the Lawrence Fire Department who is also a paramedic.

The rescue squad arrived minutes later and used a defibrillator on Mike. He was suffering from a heart attack. By 11:05 p.m. he was stable and enroute to the hospital.

As soon as Jim went to look for his brother, Kurt Minten, Lawrence chief, took over the scene.

"In my mind I'm thinking Jim's brother has a medical issue and I got to take care of this fire because Jim cares more about his brother than the barn burning," Minten said.



From left, Curt Minten, chief of the Lawrence fire department, Mike Ambrosius, who suffered a heart attack during the fire, his brother Jim Ambrosius, who helped save him and Jim Henn, first assistant with the Hobart fire department, stand at the site of an Aug. 7 barn fire that destroyed a building and killed 13 head of cattle. (Press Times Photo)

(Continued on page 3)

## MABAS IN THE NEWS - BROWN COUNTY DIVISION 112 - CONTINUED



*(Continued from page 2)*

Minten is a 25-year veteran of the fire department and immediately his mind assessed the scenario with the two simultaneous situations.

“The hard part was knowing Jim’s brother was missing for a while,” he said. “But we had a longer driveway with power lines, so we couldn’t get an engine in closer. The roof was down, and the water supply, it’s a rural area and we needed a lot of water.”

Minten directed the trucks as close as he could and from there they used hoses. His first objective was to save the surrounding buildings, one of which had two freshly filled fuel tanks outside.

“In my mind the barn is gone, but it’s still standing,” Minten said. “There was nothing we were going to do to save it.” Two tanker trucks and four hoses poured through nearly 300,000 gallons of water and the fire was contained by 11:30 p.m.

Crews stayed on the scene until 5:45 a.m. putting out the fire and returned the next day for a small spot fire.

In total, 15 departments, nine engines and two ladder trucks responded to the call, with most of the firefighters being volunteers. In the end only the milk barn was a total loss.

The cause is still unknown at this time, but crews ruled out fermenting hay as a possible cause.

Mike said he was saddened to see such a loss on his farm, which has been in the family for four generations, more than 100 years. But he is happy to be alive.

Mike was out of the hospital on Aug. 17 and is due for another bypass surgery after his cracked ribs heal. He is expected to make a full recovery after his surgeries are complete.

“I can’t thank them enough,” Mike said. “I owe them my life.”

*Reprinted with permission from The Press Times.*

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE BY KEVIN BIERCE, CHIEF, PEWAUKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND PRESIDENT, MABAS WISCONSIN

Well, 2018 has certainly been an interesting year to date! MABAS and Mother Nature have had their clashes across the State.

Those battles have certainly tested us as both individual agencies and as an organization. Thankfully we’ve had the foresight to prepare our battle books and talk strategy for both those smaller scale events and what we experienced the past several months on the, shall we say, a bit more impressive scale.

I think the important part is to realize is that the training, drills and homework we do prepare us for these type events. I am especially grateful to the Executive Board and Training Team who do so much behind the scenes to make it all happen. Sometimes we forget as members the added commitment made by Division

Presidents, Regional Coordinators, Training Team members to make it all happen in timely manner.

Simple items, like filling in Box Cards or keeping the contact list up to date, are critical tasks that make the system work. We understand it takes hours of time many could use for other issues in their lives but when it hits the fan, the plan must be ready.

From dispatch to deployment, we can’t afford to have glitches in the system. The effort often goes unnoticed, but it always greatly appreciated!

Moving forward we see room to address new challenges that have arisen such as Wide Area Search, Swift Water, Special Rescue Teams and forward deployment bases. We also need do some housekeeping on

the old issues like credentialing and getting our box cards on the web site.

We have and will continue to have challenges. We have added new divisions, increased training to our existing divisions, conducted outreach to neighboring states and increased our operational readiness.

We see an increased demand on the system, whether from your next-door neighbors or across the State. We see turnover from the emergency services that require continual training to maintain our level of current performance and as always, we can predict funding challenges. I asked that remain vigilant, be involved and be safe. Till the next Box!





## DIV 105 IN ACTION - EXPLOSION AT MONROE ETHANOL PRODUCTION FACILITY

BY DAN SMITS, FIRE CHIEF/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR, MONROE FIRE DEPARTMENT

On **October 9, 2018** at approximately **5:51am**, the **Monroe Fire Department** was alerted for an explosion at the **Badger State Ethanol Plant, 820 West 17<sup>th</sup> Street**, which is located across the street from our Station 1 on the west side of Monroe. It is not the first time an incident has occurred at the plant, but it was the first major explosion.

As Chief, I responded and arrived as others were arriving at their stations. Based on pre-determined plans, the personnel of the plant were told to evacuate to the East entrance and upon arrival, I was directed to the rear of the plant and was told that there was full accountability of the personnel on site. This was especially helpful, as the next thought was controlling any residual effects of the explosion.

*Badger State Ethanol (BSE) is a dry-mill ethanol production facility. BSE has the production capacity of over 85 million gallons of ethanol per year. In addition to distilled dried grains with solubles (DDGS), also produced is 50% corn protein (Dry Matter Basis) feed and corn oil. Carbon dioxide is also captured for use in the food industry.*



**Explosion captured by the firehouse severe weather cam.** (Photo by Monroe Fire Dept.)

Based on the debris field and concern over the possibility of a fire in the silo that was involved, I called for a **Change of Quarters (COQ)** - companies from neighboring departments to locate at Monroe firehouses. I later filled out **MABAS Division 105 Box Card 511 (Monroe Structure Fire)** to bring some companies to the scene as well as keep the stations covered.

It appeared that the silo was smoldering so care would need to be taken in the extinguishment of the silo, which was 40% full.

The scene also had a large debris field that impeded access to the top of the silo as well as surrounding damage.

The departments involved included: Orangeville (IL), Juda, South Wayne, New Glarus (RIT), and Monticello, as well as, Green County EMS. The Monroe Fire Department air trailer and the light trailer were also brought out.

Units would be on scene until **4:30pm**.

(Continued on page 5)



## DIV 105 IN ACTION - EXPLOSION AT MONROE ETHANOL PRODUCTION FACILITY - CONT



**Smoke begins to fill the air immediately after the explosion as captured by firehouse's severe weather camera.** (Photo by Monroe Fire Department)

It was decided to invite those agencies that might need to be here for not only investigation of the explosion itself, as well as anyone that could help us identify any mistakes we might be making as we moved forward. This included Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM), the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI), and OSHA.

In addition, the plant personnel were told to contact their insurance company so they were fully aware of anything that had to be done and could work with the Fire Department to not only protect evidence but also help to mitigate any further problems.

This was a key factor as interviews started to occur with personnel while the incident was fresh in everyone's mind.

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The **Green County Sheriff's Office (GCSO)** was contacted for their **drone**, which included a thermal imaging camera, so the silo could be viewed and the heat levels could be examined. The plant also had their own drone but it was decided to use the GCSO drone as the lead. This allowed viewing of the silo materials as the entire top of the concrete silo was blown off in the explosion.

Consultation occurred multiple times between plant personnel and responders to decide the safest way to address the materials that were still burning.

It was also a concern to consider lockout tagout of any movement of anything associated with the explosion damage (specific practices and procedures to safeguard employees from the unexpected energization or startup of machinery and equipment, or the release of hazardous energy prior to the completion of maintenance or repair work). This was addressed by a local contractor, of which the owner was also on the scene as a firefighter and plant personnel.

They encountered significant damage to electrical controls and nothing could be assured as safe to operate in or

near the silo. In addition, a preliminary look at the silo revealed hanging gangways that could fall at any time.

This resulted in a decision to make an indirect attack on the fire and to avoid any personnel above the silo as this occurred. At the same time the drone was watching the effects of the water.

A critical juncture occurred when it was decided to shut down all processes in the plant. As in any operation such as this or in refinery-type occupancies, the shutdown can be one of the most dangerous times in their work. This was no exception as the intent was to start and reset the plant to a place where everything could be evaluated.

As much of this preliminary work was being done, it was discussed as to who might need to be involved in the investigation.



**Observation of the incident as fire crews are indirectly placing water on the remaining silo contents with a spray pattern. A crane was also in place at this time to pull off the loose pieces after the explosion.**

(Photo by Monroe Fire Department)



# DIV 105 IN ACTION - EXPLOSION AT MONROE ETHANOL PRODUCTION FACILITY - CONT

*(Continued from page 5)*

In some ways there was some pushback from plant personnel to discuss things ahead of the explosion and this was jointly understood by the parties involved.

Some of the investigation was intentionally delayed till the days following.

### Simultaneous Call.

At 2:50pm, we were contacted by the COQ companies that a building under construction, approximately 80 x 180 feet, had collapsed within the view of the firehouse.

I took a company with me from the ethanol plant along with the COQ companies and responded to find a building with a partially constructed roof structure totally collapsed and a worker seriously injured near a debris field on the NW corner. The Mutual aid companies as well as ambulance personnel assisted and the worker was brought out by stokes stretcher.

By sheer coincidence, the OSHA rep had just left and was contacted to return to the area. She had heard a loud noise when she was getting in her car but was not in a place to fully see the collapsed structure.

This allowed the investigator to quickly see what had happened and get information quickly.



**A Green County Deputy Sheriff controlling the drone with a heat sensing cameras as it was overhead and watching the side of the silo during the water application. It was being used to confirm the reduction of heat and watch for any other changes. (Photo by Monroe Fire Dept.)**

Your contributions to the various columns will make this newsletter a success. Let us know about your MABAS response activity at [garyschmidt@wi.rr.com](mailto:garyschmidt@wi.rr.com). In particular, pictures are needed of actual emergencies or Division-wide training events.

If you see MABAS described in your local community news, please let us know at: [garyschmidt@wi.rr.com](mailto:garyschmidt@wi.rr.com)

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**A close-up of trusses that split at the scene of the building collapse. (Photo by Monroe Fire Dept.)**

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## EXPLOSION RESPONSE TAKEAWAYS BY DAN SMITS, FIRE CHIEF/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR, MONROE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Two major incidents, an explosion and a structure collapse, occurring within hours, were determined to be unrelated in their cause but it brought about much discussion as to learning moments or reminders in the process:

- ◆ **You never know when you may have additional calls**, even thought you may normally not have a busy department. Get Change of Quarters (COQ) companies into your station early so you can escalate a response if needed. The Monroe Fire Department had changed their box cards in 2018 to include move up at each level from their COQ companies. The farthest companies on the next alarm are brought into the station to expedite the next alarm if needed. This would be especially important if a mayday was called and the alarm was escalated. The COQ companies would be from the next alarm and ready to respond quickly. This also encourages departments in their response to COQ as they do not have to sit in a station while the alarm escalates within their view.
- ◆ **Make sure you can get an ambulance out at any time.** Are they in a place to transport an injured firefighter or others from the scene? Are they pulled in or backed in?
- ◆ **Meet with your partners in business ahead of an incident.** The Department knew the faces of people at the plant and had previously discussed the possibility of these incidents. At the same time, they are also undergoing a major expansion to include many more silos and a packaging area for materials in the building that collapsed.
- ◆ **Know the resources in your area.** The use of the drones was critical.
- ◆ **Use your County Emergency Management personnel to help with other things that will occur.** A TV and newspaper media presence was expected and was handled well because the County EM Director assisted in setting up the press conference in the Fire Station that allowed the media to meet their deadlines. It was critical for the public to know that the plant was under control.
- ◆ **Be ready for a considerable amount of time to be devoted to the process afterwards.** This included meetings with OSHA and insurance investigators for each incident, on a daily basis for the next week. The investigation is still ongoing but it is believed that the cause in both incidents was unintentional and changes can be made to prevent these types of incidents. In addition, the plant went through some processes in the coming days that required additional shutdowns.
- ◆ **Do not underestimate what may occur at the press conference.** The presenters discussed any questions that could come up ahead of the conference and even with that preparation there was one question that was unexpected that could have had a very big effect from a financial impact on some of the community.
- ◆ **Know your box cards and make sure they have enough companies on them.** Identify staging areas early and consider that you may have a large response that requires multiple staging areas or levels of staging. Is the idea of “staging” understood in your Division? Is it automatic if not identified to stage at the last intersection or parking lot before the incident if not identified right away? Do not allow the “moth to flame” response to occur, resulting in bunched up unusable companies and apparatus close to your scene.
- ◆ **Make sure your RIT stays fully briefed on what was occurring.** During the event there were multiple briefings of personnel and even with that there were some that felt they needed to know more. It is not always necessary for everyone to know everything. Stay within your responsibility areas. This is related to a question that has come up in many departments as technology has allowed us to hear everything on the fireground. Companies assigned to Divisions/groups should not be scanning. Stay on your tactical channel and monitor your area. Concerns can be brought up the organizational structure on the appropriate channel.
- ◆ **Use the MABAS channels.** At no time did the incident have radio overload. Fireground channels are a part of every MONROE FIRE DEPARTMENT fire response, which drives consistency and reduces the things a dispatcher may not need to hear. This can be challenging for an Incident Commander, but having an aide or others to assist is a reasonable, and NFPA recommended method, to control communications.
- ◆ **Make sure other public safety personnel stay on their mission when responding.** Traffic needs to be secured rapidly, to avoid gawkers and people entering into a space that may not yet be controlled.
- ◆ **While these incidents did not include difficult rescues, the next one could be** substantially more complicated and delay the ability to get to the fire.
- ◆ **A camera installed at the fire station captured the fire and the collapse.** The initial explosion and subsequent fireballs were much bigger than expected. The collapse was very quick after it started. This camera was installed to watch weather coming in from the SW and be able to watch if an incident prevented us from getting close to the ethanol plant. It appears that it will be significant in examining the cause of the incidents.



## DIVISION SPOTLIGHT: DIV 149 - PRICE COUNTY BY JIM NELSON, DIV 149 PRESIDENT



### Formation of Division.

All eight Fire Departments of Price County have MABAS agreements signed, along with one Fire Department from Iron County, to make up Division 149.

Early discussions of participation in MABAS with the Price County Chiefs suggested that the best approach for the County was to have all Fire Departments participate. There was no opposition for complete participation.

### Current Status.

Price County has been live with MABAS for about 2 years. To date there have been 3 MABAS activations.

With low activity we initially would do monthly radio drills with dispatch. We now have quarterly meetings and are planning doing quarterly MABAS response drills throughout the County to give all Departments the opportunity to practice their cards.

### Box Card Development.

Our Box cards are always a work in progress. We review our cards every fall, and make changes as needed, and try to add new incident cards as new equipment and resources become available.

### Hazard Considerations.

Some of the special hazards in Price County include a large plating facility, paper mills, hospital, nursing homes, airports, and large tracts of National Forest that pose some big challenges with search and rescue.

### Geographic Challenges.

Due to the large area involving Price County, our Fire Departments can have long response times to get on scene, along with long response times for our ambulance service to arrive on the scene.

### Communication.

Our dispatch center has many challenges.

Pages frequently have to be repeated on multiple towers due to geographic locations and not having the ability to simulcast.

This takes time, and with frequently only having one dispatcher on duty, they can become over loaded.

### Logistics.

Price County consist of 1278 square miles. Population is about 13,645. With over 500 miles of snowmobile trails and 89 miles of ATV trails, tourism is a large industry for Price County.

There is over 340,000 acres of public forest. There are over 140 lakes.

### Worst-Case Scenario.

With the UTV industry taking off, our worst-case scenarios will be a mass casualty out on our trail system, a fire at the papermill, and a weather event at one of our large festivals.





# DIV 104 108 125 IN ACTION: SWIFTWATER INTERDIVISIONAL TO DIV 105 IN BROADHEAD

BY TANNA MCKEON, DIRECTOR, GREEN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Heavy rains began falling on **February 19, 2018** and, coupled with frozen ground, led to widespread flooding throughout **Green County**. Later in the week, freezing temperatures turned roads and other areas into frozen ponds of ice.

At the height of the flooding at least 13 roads were either fully or partially closed and many others had water running across them. Fire Departments from Browntown and Brodhead, along with Green County Sheriff's Deputies, found themselves making emergency water rescues when several cars went around barricades and floated off the roadway.

**Bruce Hedrington, MABAS Southwest Regional Coordinator**, became aware of the dangerous situation. He contacted several fire departments and Green County Emergency Management asking if we would like to have the Swift Water Rescue Teams deployed to our county to assist if there would be any more water rescues.

Our fire departments have limited resources for water rescues and we were grateful for their assistance.

Team members from the South Beloit/ City of Beloit (**MABAS Div. 104**), Grant County (**Div. 108**) & Lafayette County (**Div. 125**) were deployed to the **Brodhead Fire Department** and remained there for over 24 hours in case other water rescues occurred.

Thankfully no other rescues were needed during their time here. Nonetheless, this was a great experience for the local firefighters to watch the team prepare Incident Action Plans and take part in briefings.

**Timeline:**  
**2/19/18** Flooding starts: **Flooding Advisory** from 2/19-2/24 (this changed to **Flood Warning**).

Multiple rounds of heavy rain occur during the week and freezing temperatures create dangerous icing conditions. Water currents are very fast – many fields are flooded and the water is picking up a lot of debris.

In the Village of Monticello several residents evacuate their homes from the flood waters.

**2/19 - 2/21:** Two water rescues occurred and barricades are put up “shoulder to shoulder” to keep motorists out.

Social media and NIXLE (part of Google Alerts used by Public Safety to communicate with public subscribers) advise motorists to stay out of flooded roads.

At least 13 roads were either closed or partially closed.

It became difficult to keep track of what roads were open or not. Many roads remained closed for over a week or more. Weeks later, some roads will still need repairs.



**2/21/18: Green County issues an Emergency Declaration**

Swift Water Rescue team deploys to Brodhead Fire Department; they demobilized late on 2/22/18.

An ice dam on the Sugar River comes through the village of Albany. Several businesses along the river get flooded.

Several towns and the Green County Highway Department were eligible to apply to the WI Disaster Fund. Damages to roads will exceed to over well over \$250,000.00.



Above: County T near Brodhead (Photo: Green Co Sheriff Drone).



(Photos by Green County Emergency Management with permission of Chief Brad Liggett.)

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2019 MABAS CONFERENCE !!!

**Division Presidents  
Fire Chiefs  
Company Officers  
Dispatch Administrators**



**Firefighters  
Dispatchers  
Emergency Managers  
EMS Providers**

We are excited to bring the 9th annual MABAS-WI conference to the Holiday Inn and Conference Center in centrally located Stevens Point. The training opportunities for this year's conference will prove to be beneficial to all. If this is your first MABAS conference, or you're a seasoned veteran, there is no better place to learn alongside fire service personnel, emergency managers and 911 emergency dispatchers.

**The conference planning committees are beginning to meet to evaluate improvements and changes for 2019. Want to help out? There are many roles to be filled.**

**Contact Tim Haas at [timothy.haas@wisconsin.gov](mailto:timothy.haas@wisconsin.gov)**

## MABAS WISCONSIN CORPORATE SPONSORS

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, MABAS Wisconsin relies on donations and sponsors to further its mission of mutual aid, associated systems and training. We thank the following organizations for their sponsorship:



**Paul Conway Fire** is America's #1 Helmet Shield Manufacturer and an industry leader in providing the highest

quality in protective gear and safety equipment since 1985. We take great pride in supporting the men and women who selflessly protect and serve our communities.

**Paul Conway Safety** division serves individuals and businesses within the industrial safety field. From first aid to hard hats, protective eyewear to fall protection, traffic safety, respiratory to hearing protection, safety apparel and more.

**Paul Conway Law Enforcement/Tactical** division specializes in providing top-level products and services that you can depend on when it matters most. We are also a major U.S. dealer for OnCall® Body Worn Camera and the OnCall® Live Video System.

Our **Custom Shop** specializes in Gold Leaf vehicle graphics, striping, decals, embroidery, customized command boards, banners, signs and more.

**Mutual Aid Labs** provides world-class software to emergency services agencies without regard to their size. For too long size and budget has dictated the quality of technology available to these agencies, Mutual Aid Labs will provide software that revolutionizes processes and procedures, in such a way that it does not place undue burden on an agency's budget.

Mutual Aid Labs is the provider of **EMABAS** full electronic implementation of the *Mutual Aid* Box Alarm System (MABAS).



**EMABAS** converts box cards from static data to dynamic documents that change as departments and agencies change; **EMABAS** transforms the manner in which you plan and respond.

The desktop version of **EMABAS** provides the main interface for creating and using box cards. It also provides interfaces into resources, contacts, dispatch and reporting. Additionally the system has the ability to aid agencies in the use of MABAS during actual Calls.



# THE MABAS WISCONSIN WEBSITE - TODAY'S FOCUS: HOW TO UPLOAD YOUR BOX CARDS

<http://www.mabaswisconsin.org>

The screenshot shows the MABAS Wisconsin website home page. At the top is a navigation bar with the following items: Home, Documents, Resources, Interoperability, PSAP, MABAS Calls, and DBMS Login. Below the navigation bar is a large banner with the text "MABAS WISCONSIN" and several logos. Below the banner are several columns of links. Pink arrows point to various menu items and links. A pink box highlights a list of drop-down possibilities for the "DBMS Login" menu. A green box highlights a column of important links on the left side of the page.

2017 Policy-Procedure Guide	Badger RED Center	State Interoperability Council	Badger RED Center	All Box Alarms and Inter Divisionals	Incident Entry and Resource
MABAS WI Getting Started	Division Map and Web Links	WISCOM Statewide Trunking	PSAP Access		Fire Department Access
Application for Division Status	WI Fire Service Response Plan	FIRSTNET Broadband	Dispatch Guidelines		Division Access
MABAS Contract	NIMS Resource Center	National Interoperability Field Operations Guide (NIFOG)			Regional Access
MABAS Contract Addendum C	ICS Resource Center	Wisconsin Interoperability Field Operations Guide (WI-FOG)			
MABAS WI Org Chart	Resource MGMT & Mutual Aid	MABAS WI Frequencies			
MABAS WI WEM 8 Rules	National Response Framework	COML - COMT Resources			
WI Statutes Related to Disasters	FEMA Region 5	Wisconsin EMS Communications Plan			
Excel Box Card Template	DHS Office of Emergency Communications (DEC-ICTAP)	Statewide Communications Interoperable Plan (SCIP)			
ICS Forms	State Training Program Schedule	MABAS WI Communications Plan			
	NOAA Hydrological Map				
	NOAA Watches and Warnings				
	NOAA Graphical Forecasts				
	Rehab Support Groups				

**When your mouse pointer hovers over each Menu Bar Item along the top, a drop-down menu appears for that particular area of interest. Shown here are all of the drop-down possibilities.**

**Along the left side of the HOME page is a column of important links!**

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## BOXCARD UPLOADS

*BY STEVE HANSEN, CHIEF, RACINE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND CHAIR, MABAS WI COMMUNICATIONS & WEBSITE COMMITTEE*

In order to upload your most recent box cards, Division Presidents will need log in credentials and a password. If you do not have your login credentials as the Division President or Division Officer, contact Fire Chief Steve Hansen who also manages the MABAS Wisconsin website.

The process is really quite simple. First create an Adobe Portable Document File (PDF) of all the cards from your division. The MABAS Wisconsin policy advocates uploading the entire division as one document. If you or whoever prepares the Adobe PDF for the division is proficient with Adobe PDF, the document can be indexed to each department on the opening page. This is a huge help if your file contains hundreds of pages.

- Step 1 – Go to the MABAS Wisconsin website and under DBMS Login select “Division Access”
- Step 2 – Log in using your credentials for Division Pres. or Officer and select “BOXCARD UPLOAD”
- Step 3 – Select “+ ADD NEW”
- Step 4 – Under “Fire Department who is Uploading” select your own department from the dropdown menu.
- Step 5 – Under “Division Uploading Boxcard” chose your division.
- Step 6 – Select the year – 2019
- Step 7 – Select Boxcard Type from the dropdown menu.
- Step 8 – Ignore “Keep”, “Remove” and “Replace. Go straight to “Browse” to select the boxcard file to upload.
- Step 9 – Click on “SAVE”, that’s it.

The most recent box card upload will always be at the top of the Boxcard PDF File Upload page. If you make an error, email Chief Steve Hansen who can then remediate the error.

**STEP 1:**

**STEP 2:**

**STEP 3:**

## DIV 112 113 120 122 127 128 IN DARK SKY WATER MOVEMENT DRILL BY GARY SCHMIDT

The simulated disaster is a cyber-attack against a natural gas pipeline which disrupted power to a large region within Wisconsin. Not only is there a “Dark Sky” (no light), but more critically, there may be no water as pumps powered by electricity would no longer function during an outage. There would be a need to move mass quantities of water to priority facilities or for fire suppression.

While most of the Dark Sky exercise was simulated, the East Central WEM & MABAS Region was selected to physically prove out the water movement plan. **Division 122, Calumet County**, is the center of that region. Ben Schoenborn, the Chilton Fire Chief and MABAS East Central Regional Coordinator, headed the effort that proved the ability to move an unprecedented 305,200 gallons of water in 90 minutes using Water Tenders and associated equipment of 28 Fire Departments from 6 divisions.

*(Continued on page 13)*

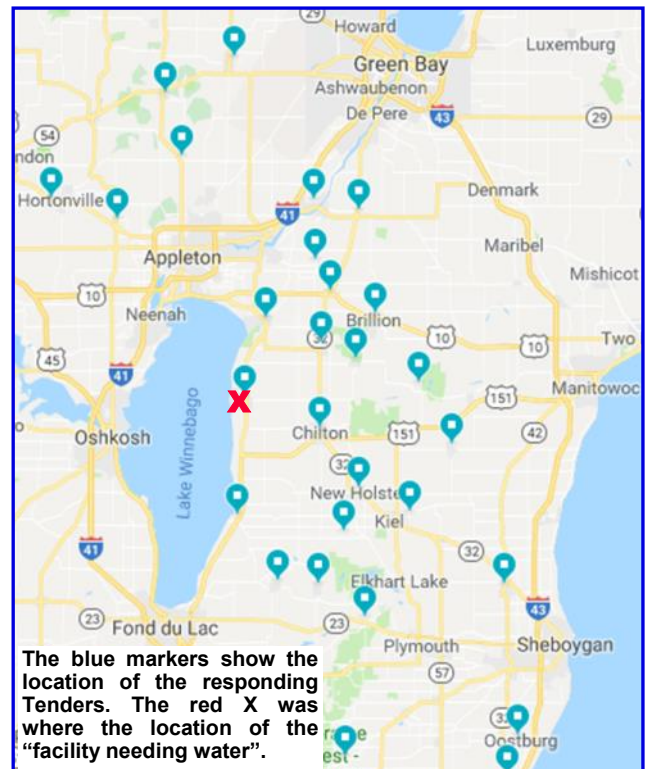
### The Preparation

For several years, Federal, State, regional, and local agencies, along with private industry, have been planning the response necessary should there be a mass, long term failure of Wisconsin’s power grid and associated critical infrastructures. Then, in a three-part series of exercises, the plans were tested, mostly in simulated events.

Reported in a press release prepared by Captain Joe Trovato of the Wisconsin National Guard, in **November 2017**, the Guard responded to a simulated cyber and physical attack to the power grid in Columbia and Dane counties in an exercise called **GridEx**.

In **February 2018**, a national ice emergency was simulated that tested the Statewide Interoperable Mobile Communications (**SIMCOM**).

The final exercise occurred **May 15-17, 2018** and was called **Dark Sky**. Per Trovato, the exercise occurred in Brown, Calumet, Dane, Fond du Lac, Milwaukee, Outagamie and Winnebago Counties and tested the abilities of private utilities, law enforcement, first responders and the National Guard to respond. The fire service response was deployed using the MABAS infrastructure.



### MABAS Role In Dark Sky Exercise By Quentin Popp

My role as elected MABAS Exec Committee personnel (real or simulated) is to be assessing the incident as it unfolds from the 60,000-foot (Statewide) level, looking at how many resources are being committed to the incident regionally, are multiple regions affected, and so on.

For most involved in MABAS, we are used to pulling box alarm levels and/or requesting strike teams, but once Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) are up and operating, resource requests flow through the County EOC’s to the SEOC (State level), then back down to MABAS to be filled.

This is the very reason at some point MABAS-WI Executive personnel along with the WEM Fire Service coordinator respond to the SEOC to help coordinate and fill those EOC resource requests smoothly and efficiently. This is how the Dark Sky drill unfolded:

#### Day One:

- Coordinating requests flowing in about Fire/EMS Stations not having power.
- Monitoring interdivisional requests that regional coordinators were handling.
- Working with State Agencies on how we were responding and where the problems were located.
- Briefings both morning and afternoon assessing the total State Response - how bad was one individual region being hit with responses.

#### Day Two:

- Issues ramping up leading to the water movement drill.
- Many responders were getting tired from all the responses, so we started looking at regions not affected moving into the area in the short term.

#### Day Three:

- EMAC request for 20 task forces to be moved in and sheltered at backup generator-powered Fire/EMS stations.
- Worked with the Logistics section to prioritize these Fire/EMS stations on the fuel lists to make sure the backup generators stayed up and running.
- Worked on hospital evacuations – was there fuel and generators available, how do we evacuate patients out of the State if needed, etc.



# DIV 112 113 120 122 127 128 IN DARK SKY WATER MOVEMENT DRILL - CONT

(Continued from page 12)

A Tender holds 1,500 to 4,500 gallons of water (depending on size of vehicle). Engines are sent to "fill sites" where water is extracted from a river or lake (a process called drafting) and pumped to a tender's holding tank.

The tender then shuttles the water to the drop-site portable tank reservoir. Engines then draft from the tank and pump to where the water is needed (such as other engines or aerial ladders to fight a fire).



### Managing the Tenders

Keeping track of 33 Tenders from 28 Departments dumping 113 loads of water in 90 minutes using 2 fill sites was the assignment of Haily Joas of the Stockbridge Fire Department. A spreadsheet kept track of the activity.

Being aware that higher capacity tenders (those with dual axles) will take longer to fill, they were sent to the closer fill site to even out the total trip time. (Photos by Gary Schmidt)



Department	Time Arrived	Single Axle	Tandem	Gallons Per Load	Loads	Gallons Dumped	Fuel Used	
Beechwood	6:24	1		2,200	2	4,400	6.3	
Black Creek	6:24		1	3,500	2	7,000	1.5	
Brillion 85	5:35		1	3,500	4	14,000	15.9	
Cedar Grove	6:24		1	2,800	2	5,600	17.1	
Chilton 2 Josh	5:19	1		2,000	4	8,000	7.8	
Chilton Alexis	5:19	1		2,000	5	10,000	9.7	
Chilton Engine	*Chilton engine pumped 131,900 gallons							33.8
Collins 182	5:37		1	3,500	4	14,000	28.8	
Forest Junction	5:39		1	2,000	5	10,000	11.7	
Forest Junction 55	5:41		1	2,500	3	7,500	15.2	
Greenbush	6:24	1		2,500	2	5,000	12.9	
Greenleaf	5:52		1	3,500	3	10,500	11.7	
Greenville	6:24		1	3,000	3	9,000	12.9	
Harrison 2	5:32		1	3,000	4	12,000	15.8	
Harrison Chief Vehicle							12.2	
Harrison engine							21.3	
Hilbert	5:19	1		2,000	4	8,000	n/a	
Hilbert 2	5:32	1		2,000	5	10,000	5.9	
Hollandtown	5:43	1		2,200	3	6,600	7.4	
Hortonville	6:24		1	3,000	3	9,000	12.8	
Howards Grove	6:24		1	3,300	3	9,900	13.4	
Mount Calvary	5:54		1	2,500	3	7,500	13.4	
New Holstein Engine							11.8	
Oostburg	6:24		1	3,500	2	7,000	17.6	
Potter	5:26		1	3,000	5	15,000	22.5	
Potter Engine							15.2	
Schleswig	5:50		1	3,000	3	9,000	12.8	
Seymour	6:24		1	4,500	2	9,000	16.0	
St. Anna 16	5:32	1		2,200	4	8,800	20.3	
St. Anna 17	5:34		1	3,500	5	17,500	11.0	
St. Cloud	5:55		1	2,500	3	7,500	13.8	
St. Nazianz	5:39	1		2,500	4	10,000	12.6	
Stockbridge 111	5:04	1		1,500	1	1,500	n/a	
Stockbridge 112	5:04	1		2,400	4	9,600	19.5	
Stockbridge Engine	*Stockbridge engine 173,300 gallons							26.1
Town of Calumet 2	5:28	1		2,200	5	11,000	12.6	
Town of Calumet Pumper							13.0	
Town of Calumet S	5:27	1		2,000	4	8,000	15.4	
Town of Center	6:24		1	3,500	3	10,500	15.0	
Wrightstown	5:41		1	3,200	4	12,800	15.0	
ZTotals		13	20	90,500	113	305,200	516.9	



At left: a fill site where engines draft from a water source & fill the tenders.

At right: tenders dumping their water & an engine drafting to supply other trucks to extinguish a fire. (Photos by Gary Schmidt)



## MABAS-WISCONSIN IN ACTION

## Incident Reporting Is Easy To Do

MABAS Wisconsin has a tool in place to log the use of MABAS. The **Incident Entry Portal** can be accessed via <http://incident.mabaswisconsin.org> or through <http://www.mabaswisconsin.org> using the DBMS Login drop down box.

**To enter an incident, login with a UserID of *mabas* and a password of *wisconsin*.** After the initial entry, Departments need their specific credentials to alter the incident information or to alter the other information on the site about their department. Departments should contact their Division President for the login information

Incidents Entered February 16, 2018 thru April 15, 2018				
Date & Time	Location	Div.	Host Agency	Box Type
2/21/2018 4:27	1072 4th ave W	105	MONROE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
2/28/2018 12:16	111 Owen Rd	115	MONONA FIRE DEPT	Target Hazard
3/1/2018 23:21	550 Canal Rd.	115	MARSHALL VOL FIRE DEPT INC	Structure - Non Hydrant
3/10/2018 15:40	N3511 Ridge Rd	105	BROWNTOWN JORDAN CADIZ FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
3/14/2018 13:22	21210 117th Steet	101	BRISTOL VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
3/15/2018 13:58	16978 County Hwy T	108	BOSCOBEL VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
3/17/2018 0:18	5217 Lower Lakeview Ridge Rd	119	BELGIUM VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
3/20/2018 9:05	150 South Nicolet	127	GRAND CHUTE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
3/21/2018 20:14	7027 LAUFENBERG BLVD	115	CROSS PLAINS-BERRY FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
3/22/2018 9:22	641 E Forest St	106	WESTERN LAKES FIRE DEPT	Life Safety
3/22/2018 14:37	W304 S5225 Hwy 83	106	WALES GENESEE FIRE DEPT	Brush Fire
3/23/2018 12:54	W2874 State Hwy 64, Marinette	144	PESHTIGO TN FIRE DEPT	Commercial - Non Hydrant
3/26/2018 13:52	474 W. Scott St.	120	FOND DU LAC CITY FIRE DEPT	Target Hazard
3/27/2018 6:22	W180 N5325 Marcy Rd	106	MENOMONEE FALLS FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
3/27/2018 20:44	2305 San Luis Place	112	ASHWAUBENON PUBLIC SAFETY DEPT	Life Safety
3/28/2018 0:00	Lowland Ave. & Clark St.	102	ROCHESTER VOL FIRE CO	Brush Fire
3/28/2018 14:00	1463 Moon Road	130	MOSINEE FIRE DIST	Structure - Non Hydrant
3/29/2018 19:54	W4104 Hwy. 54	127	BLACK CREEK VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
4/1/2018 14:11	N86 W18496 Elder Ln	106	MENOMONEE FALLS FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
4/2/2018 0:00	219 Downey Dr. Kasnassville	102	KANSASVILLE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
4/2/2018 12:29	2706 BIRCHWOOD PASS	115	CROSS PLAINS-BERRY FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
4/2/2018 15:53	6174 Black Lake Road	114	NEWBOLD VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
4/3/2018 12:52	1394 W Medina Rd	115	MARSHALL VOL FIRE DEPT INC	Structure - Non Hydrant
4/7/2018 0:00	33600 Tatonka Dr.	102	BURLINGTON TWP VOL FIRE DEPT	Brush Fire
4/7/2018 8:50	N4546 Hwy. 18	118	JEFFERSON FIRE DEPT	Brush Fire
4/14/2018 7:36	W1538 Brantwood Ave	149	PRENTICE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
4/15/2018 0:00	2922 124Sth St.	102	RAYMOND FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
4/15/2018 11:00	1209 19th st	105	MONROE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant

### Mission

*MABAS Wisconsin is the organization that promotes the development, implementation, and sustainment of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) within the state of Wisconsin.*



## Incident Reporting Is Very Important

This newsletter issue is focused on the largest MABAS deployments to date, however, MABAS is used every day to prevent local incidents from becoming large, thereby saving lives and saving money by minimizing property loss. The value of MABAS cannot be understated, yet it is difficult to communicate that message across the State without an effective method to track the MABAS success story.

Incidents Entered April 16, 2018 thru June 30, 2018				
Date & Time	Location	Div.	Host Agency	Box Type
4/18/2018 0:00	373 W. Chestnut St.	102	BURLINGTON CITY FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
4/19/2018 11:06	N46W5734 SPRING STREET	119	CEDARBURG VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
4/22/2018 13:13	W326 S9050 Stone Book Pass	106	MUKWONAGO FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
4/22/2018 15:10	N85 W15650 Ridge Rd	106	MENOMONEE FALLS FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
4/24/2018 12:45	3542 Dyreson Rd.	115	MC FARLAND FIRE DEPT	Brush Fire
4/25/2018 1:00	585 Tipperary Rd	115	OREGON AREA FIRE/EMS DISTRICT	Structure - Non Hydrant
4/26/2018 20:43	S92 W20372 Henneberry Dr	106	TESS CORNERS VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
4/27/2018 17:11	6604 Sun Valley Pkwy	115	BELLEVILLE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
4/30/2018 3:13	21460 W Cleveland Ave	106	NEW BERLIN FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
5/1/2018 4:11	34509 Hartwell Pl	106	WESTERN LAKES FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
5/2/2018 12:31	2549 25th Ave	143	UNITED FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT	Structure - Non Hydrant
5/2/2018 13:43	110 W FALLS ROAD	119	GRAFTON VOL FIRE DEPT INC	Structure - Hydrant
5/13/2018 18:03	W337 S4031 Hidden Valley Dr	106	WALES GENESEE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
5/13/2018 20:52	416 Belisle Street	143	SOMERSET FIRE/RESCUE	Brush Fire
5/14/2018 17:12	905 19th st	105	MONROE FIRE DEPT	Commercial - Hydrant
5/15/2018 14:40	6891 Barbara Drive	114	NEWBOLD VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
5/16/2018 9:50	2 N Hill st	148	FOUNTAIN CITY VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
5/16/2018 11:05	N5930 210th street	156	ELMWOOD AREA FIRE DEPT INC	Structure - Non Hydrant
5/18/2018 16:16	2467 90th Ave	143	UNITED FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT	Structure - Non Hydrant
5/19/2018 18:18	416 E Wisconsin Street	142	WEYAUWEGA AREA FIRE DIST	Structure - Hydrant
5/20/2018 15:15	CTH A	999	ST JOSEPH VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
5/23/2018 4:18	410 W. Verona Ave.	115	VERONA VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
5/23/2018 10:59	3700 Elm View Road	112	LEDGEVIEW FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
5/24/2018 11:54	1334 Macintosh Way	106	MUKWONAGO FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
5/24/2018 13:41	MM 145.6 I90 WB	115	COTTAGE GROVE VOL FIRE DEPT	Life Safety
5/27/2018 22:57	2697 Norwich St	115	FITCHBURG FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
6/5/2018 15:30	705 FREDONIA AVE	119	FREDONIA FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
6/8/2018 4:00	2934 S Severson Rd; Rock Co	105	BRODHEAD VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
6/9/2018 11:26	481 Jacobs Lane	143	HUDSON FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
6/11/2018 3:13	S75 W22410 Guthrie Dr	106	VERNON VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
6/12/2018 22:29	130 S REGIS ROAD	119	SAUKVILLE FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant
6/18/2018 17:32	S63 W31493 Road X	106	MUKWONAGO FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
6/24/2018 23:19	6771 Prairie View Dr	115	SUN PRAIRIE VOL FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
6/29/2018 19:08	48 W 3rd	148	TRI-COMMUNITY FIRE DEPT	Structure - Non Hydrant
6/30/2018 1:23	414 N Rochester St	106	MUKWONAGO FIRE DEPT	Structure - Hydrant



# MABAS - Wisconsin

## Mutual Aid Box Alarm System

Organized 2004

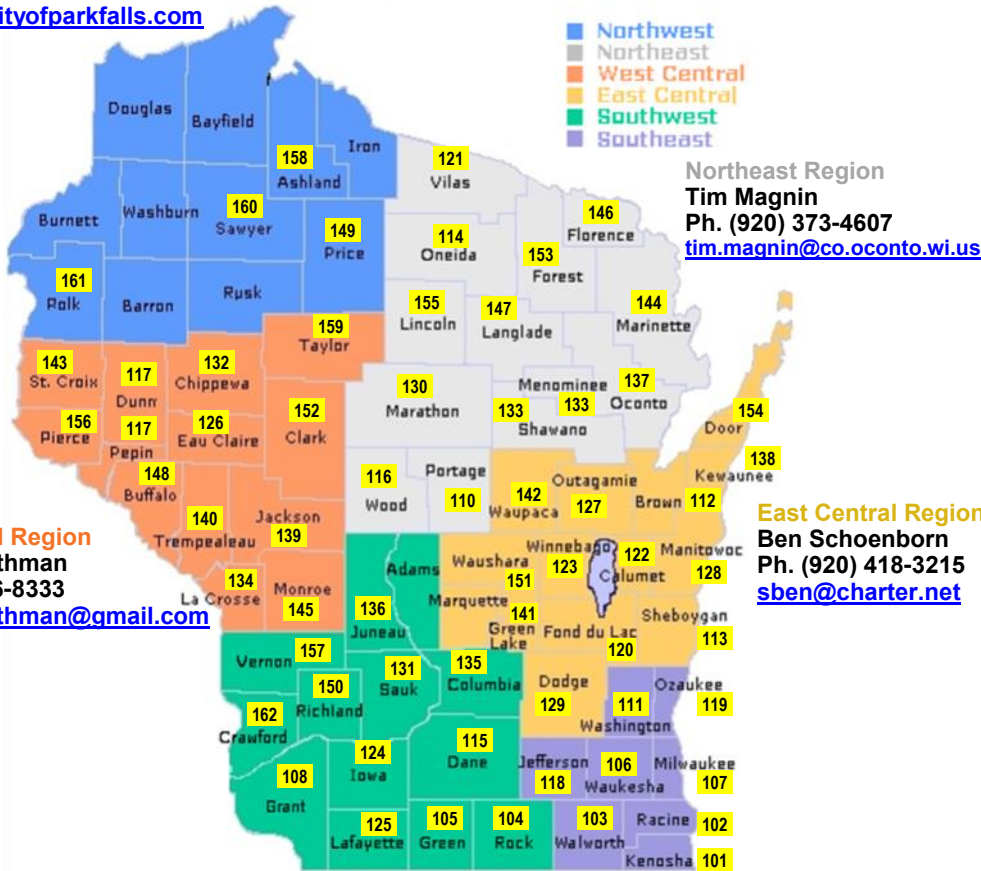
### MABAS Wisconsin Regional Coordinators

#### Northwest Region

Phil Bochler

Ph. (715) 492-7235

[assessor@cityofparkfalls.com](mailto:assessor@cityofparkfalls.com)



#### MABAS WI Divisions

- 101 – Kenosha County
- 102 – Racine County
- 103 – Walworth County
- 104 – Rock County
- 105 – Green County
- 106 – Waukesha County
- 107 – Milwaukee County
- 108 – Grant County
- 110 – Portage County
- 111 – Washington County
- 112 – Brown County
- 113 – Sheboygan County
- 114 – Oneida County
- 115 – Dane County
- 116 – Wood County
- 117 – Dunn/Pepin County
- 118 – Jefferson County
- 119 – Ozaukee County
- 120 – Fond du Lac County
- 121 – Vilas County
- 122 – Calumet County
- 123 – Winnebago County
- 124 – Iowa County
- 125 – Lafayette County
- 126 – Eau Claire County
- 127 – Outagamie County
- 128 – Manitowoc County
- 129 – Dodge County
- 130 – Marathon County
- 131 – Sauk County
- 132 – Chippewa County
- 133 – Shawano/Menominee Cnty
- 134 – La Crosse County
- 135 – Columbia County
- 136 – Juneau County
- 137 – Oconto County
- 138 – Kewaunee County
- 139 – Jackson County
- 140 – Trempealeau County
- 141 – Green Lake County
- 142 – Waupaca County
- 143 – St. Croix County
- 144 – Marinette County
- 145 – Monroe County
- 146 – Florence County
- 147 – Langlade County
- 148 – Buffalo County
- 149 – Price County
- 150 – Richland County
- 151 – Waushara County
- 152 – Clark County
- 153 – Forest County
- 154 – Door County
- 155 – Lincoln County
- 156 – Pierce County
- 157 – Vernon County
- 158 – Ashland County
- 159 – Taylor County
- 160 – Sawyer County
- 161 – Polk County
- 162 – Crawford County

#### Red Center -

WEM Duty Officer

Ph. 800-943-0003 (Press 3)

#### Fire Service Coordinator

Tim Haas

Ph. (608) 220-6049

#### Wisconsin Homeland Security Council

Brad Liggett

Ph. (608) 364-2902

#### MABAS OPERATING FREQUENCIES

- IFERN MABAS Alerting & Intra-Divisional Responses
- IFERN2 Alternate Intra-Divisional Responses
- MABAS1 (WISCOM) Inter-Divisional Responses
- MABAS2 (WISCOM) Contact with Wisconsin Red Center
- Regional Coordinators - WEM Coordination