



Department of Community Engagement and Public Information

6382 Main Street

Gloucester, Va. 23061

804.693.5730 • www.gloucesterva.info

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Quinton Sheppard

qsheppard@gloucesterva.info

Jane Wenner Named Emergency Management Coordinator

Gloucester resident Jane Wenner was appointed Gloucester's new Emergency Management Coordinator June 7 by the Gloucester County Board of Supervisors. She has been serving as Acting Coordinator since last summer and has been with the department since 2005.

"Jane has been working in the department for years and knows every detail that goes into the work the job requires," said Ashley Chriscoe, who serves on the Board of Supervisors and as Gloucester's Emergency Management Director. "She will be an exceptional coordinator and Gloucester will be ready in the event of anything that happens in our County!"

Since becoming Acting Coordinator, Wenner has been working diligently to implement new technology to help the County and its residents be more prepared and resilient following a storm or other emergency. One of these initiatives has been working to switch Gloucester's emergency alerting system to provide a higher quality of service at a lower cost to taxpayers. The new system, called the "Bee Alert," will be formally announced and launched within the next several weeks.

Wenner has also worked to bring a damage assessment tool called Crisis Track to the County. This product is tied in with the state's emergency management department and will help the local Emergency Operations Center conduct damage assessments and process FEMA grant applications for faster, more efficient assistance to residents and business owners following an emergency.

Over the past several months, Wenner has been instrumental in bringing public education courses to the local Emergency Operations Center. Just recently, she coordinated having the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services host Civilian Casualty Care courses. These courses are taught by seasoned professionals on how everyday citizens can respond in the event of an active attacker on the scene of their workplace, home, or area of commerce.

However, one of the things closest to Wenner’s heart is the invaluable relationships she has formed and continues to form with stakeholders in the community. Over her career, she has steadily built a camaraderie with local faith-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, volunteer fire and rescue departments, the sheriff’s office and members of the public who have proven to be pivotal players during or in the aftermath of an emergency.

Prior to becoming Acting Coordinator, Wenner served several different roles in emergency management, including Planner/Trainer, Public Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator, Assistant Emergency Services Coordinator and Coordinator of C.E.R.T. (Community Emergency Response Team).

She said even though her role in the department has changed, keeping the C.E.R.T. program active will remain a priority. The Emergency Management Department also plans to work toward improving emergency communications with those in the community that are considered vulnerable, including those who do not speak English fluently.

“I’m really excited about this opportunity,” Wenner said. “It’s an honor for sure as well as a responsibility that will not be taken lightly.”

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Jane Wenner