



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County Prepares for 'Historic' State-wide Emergency Exercise, Volunteers Needed

March 10, 2017 – **Clear Creek County Communications, Colo.** – The Clear Creek County Public & Environmental Health Team is planning and preparing for an historic state-wide exercise, with information meetings planned for March 22nd and March 29th. Known as 'PHED EX', the disaster response exercise will focus on “What if a public health emergency happened in Clear Creek, and how would we respond in order to save County residents?”

“This is really a first of its kind scenario for our County,” said Donna Kline, County Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. In fact, Clear Creek County has taken on one of the biggest roles of any county in the state, according to Kline. The role she refers to is 3 PODs, (2 drive-thru and 1 walk thru) or Point-of-Distribution exercise, in which County Staff, State health officials, first responders, law enforcement and volunteers will simulate and practice the County’s response process in case a public health emergency ever happened, here.

“No one ever thinks a mass incident like a super flu or pandemic could happen to them, but just like wildfire preparation, we need to be prepared and ready,” Kline added. That process involves attending the information meetings (above), and then gearing up for ‘game day’ June 15-17, 2017, at locations in Georgetown, Idaho Springs and Floyd Hill. Those three locations are where the PODs will be located, and “medicine”, will be handed out to volunteers going through on foot or in their cars. That ‘medicine’, according to Kline, will be candy.

“Our requirement is to have as many people as possible go through our processing lines during the exercise, so we know how to prepare for events like this in the future,” she said. Preparation includes ordering the proper amount of medicines and/or vaccinations, logistics, ensuring first responders can do their jobs, etc. Because, when disaster strikes there typically isn’t much time to react and plan.

The next information meetings (free and open to the public) are:

March 22, Idaho Springs

Masonic Lodge #26
210 17th Ave. (across from City Hall)

March 29, Floyd Hill

Clear Creek Middle/High School (Lunchroom Commons)
185 Beaver Brook Canyon Rd.



For more information and to volunteer, contact Donna Kline, dkline@co.clear-creek.co.us.

<https://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/emergency-preparedness-and-response-training-and-education/exercise-series>

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June 15-17 2017
Public Health Emergency Dispensing Exercise---SAVE THE DATE!!

