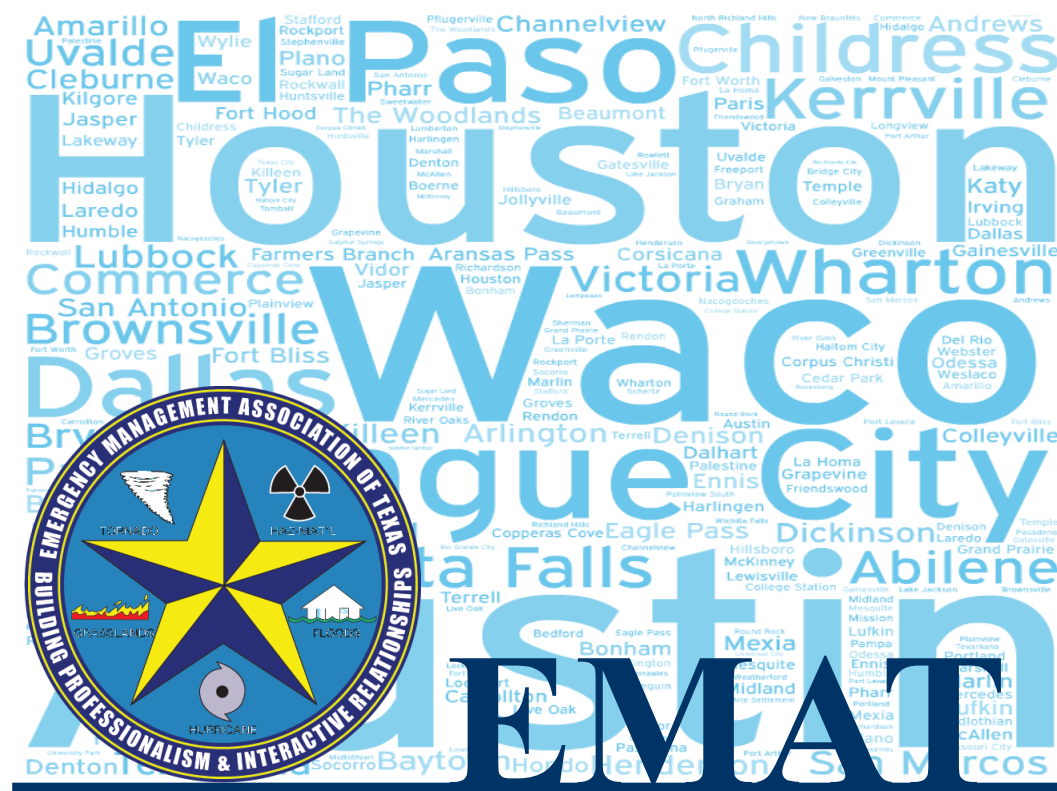


***EMAT Award Committee Members:***

- Jeff D. Braun, Chair*
- Mark Chadwick*
- Caroline Egan*
- Dee Harrison*
- Patrick Repman*
- Jeff Suggs*
- Rick Woolfolk*



# Annual Awards Program



[www.emat-tx.org](http://www.emat-tx.org)

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual EMAT Symposium:**  
*Share the Vision*  
*February 23-26, 2014*  
*San Marcos, Texas*



## TEM Certification & Re-Certification

***Congratulations to the following recipients  
on achieving the designation of Certified  
Texas Emergency Manager<sup>®</sup> (TEM):***

Jeff Braun	Colleen O'Neal
Kevin Clements	Marty Penny
Jack Doebbler	David Shaw
Stephen Gladstone	Larry Shine
Jay Hall	Eric Shuey
Jack Harper	Nick Sloan
Jeb Lacey	David Solis
Mike Miller	Kevin Starbuck
David Noak	Jarred Thomas
Rex Ogle	Doyce Winchester
Camilo Olivieri	



## TEM<sup>©</sup> Program

*The Certified Texas Emergency Manager (TEM) program is sponsored by the Emergency Management Association of Texas (EMAT) and administered by the Emergency Administration and Planning (EADP) Program Department of Public Administration at the University of North Texas. One method shown to increase professionalism and recognize the individual who possesses the knowledge, skills, abilities and experience to effectively manage a comprehensive emergency management program is through a rigorous certification program. The TEM is just such a program.*



## Purpose of the EMAT Annual Awards Program

*The purpose of the EMAT Annual Awards Program is to recognize the achievements and hard work of the individuals, organizations and jurisdictions that have made exceptional efforts to further the field of emergency management and to ensure a whole community approach to preventing, preparing for, mitigating against, responding to and recovering from disasters.*



## Community Service Award: DPS Region 2

### *The Arc of Fort Bend County and Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management Ready Bingo*

In order to provide preparedness information to the whole community in a fun and engaging way, Kathy Renfrow with Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management and Cheryl Sewell of The Arc of Fort Bend County partnered together to create Ready Bingo. With its picture-driven format, the game can be used to target a variety of audiences including seniors, children, persons with limited English language proficiency and individuals with functional and access needs. The success of this collaboration and dedication to the whole community is that Ready Bingo has been used by local governments, non-profit partners, private industry, and emergency management agencies across the country.

**Contact:** *Kathy Renfrow*  
[kathy.renfrow@fortbendcountytexas.gov](mailto:kathy.renfrow@fortbendcountytexas.gov)



## Excellence in Emergency Management Award: DPS Region 6

### *Horseback Emergency Response Team Texas Animal Health Commission*

During Hurricane Ike, thousands of stray livestock either escaped or were washed out of enclosures and found on roadways, in parks, yards, and even buildings. It was this need to ensure public and animal safety following a disaster that prompted the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) to establish the Horseback Emergency Response Team (HERT) program. Designed to serve as responders on horseback, the HERT program was established in late 2012 and took off in 2013. These HERT teams assist with capturing stray livestock, conducting searches or damage assessment operations in isolated and/or affected areas, assisting local jurisdictions with large animal shelter activities and several other services. Trainings and exercises conducted in 2013 to test the team's capabilities have resulted in further trainings and exercises being developed to further prepare the HERT to respond in other disaster roles.

**Contact:** *Jeff Turner*  
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## Excellence in Emergency Management Award: DPS Region 5

### *Panhandle Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee*

As a way to engage the Panhandle emergency responder community, the Panhandle Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee (PREMAC) hosts an annual Panhandle Regional Preparedness Conference in Amarillo, TX. Each conference hosted by PREMAC has provided an outstanding opportunity for education, networking, and advancement of emergency management in the Texas Panhandle region. The 2013 conference set a new mark for successful outreach by PREMAC with over 550 emergency responders attending. The 2013 conference was put together entirely through the voluntary efforts of PREMAC members with members raising funds, coordinating relevant speakers, and soliciting support from over 30 emergency response agencies, volunteer groups, and vendors in the region. It is through the dedicated efforts of the PREMAC members that the Panhandle Regional Preparedness Conference has become the preeminent event for furtherance of regional coordination of emergency management in this region.

**Contact:** *John Kiehl*  
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## Community Service Award: DPS Region 6

### *Lieutenant Colonel Maelien Shipman US Army North*

Understanding the importance of emergency management, Lieutenant Colonel Maelien Shipman has worked tirelessly to improve the emergency management education for Military service members in the Army Medical Department (AMEDD). Through LTC Shipman's efforts, an EOC orientation is now offered in AMEDD trainings which allow students a broader understanding of how civilians conduct and coordinate emergency operations. In addition, LTC Shipman's dedication and drive to mentor military officers in the field and enhance their skills for emergency preparedness and response has greatly contributed to the professional development and emergency preparedness of AMEDD officers. LTC Shipman's efforts has helped pave the road for better coordination between military and civilian agencies during mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery activities.

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## Outstanding Emergency Management Public Information Award

### *University of Texas at Arlington Office of University Communications Preparedness Video*

Each semester the University of Texas at Arlington sees an influx of faculty, staff and students, many of whom are not familiar with the natural and man-made hazards present in the North Texas region. The UTA Office of University Emergency Communications quickly identified the need to be able to communicate vital emergency preparedness information to these individuals in a simple format. Conceptualized and produced in 2013, the Office of University Communications developed a short video to explain to faculty, staff and students what to do if there is an active shooter on campus, where to go in an evacuation or what to do when you shelter-in-place. Emphasizing the diversity of the whole community, this preparedness video strives to make UTA a safer, stronger community during a disaster.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSRHs6ZNt8w&feature=youtube\\_gdata\\_play](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSRHs6ZNt8w&feature=youtube_gdata_play)

**Contact:** *David Johnson*  
[davidjohnson@uta.edu](mailto:davidjohnson@uta.edu)



## Excellence in Emergency Management Award: DPS Region 2

### *Fort Bend County Levee Project Fort Bend Flood Management Association & Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management*

With over \$14.1 billion worth of structures and land protected by levees in Fort Bend County, the Fort Bend Flood Management Association (FBFMA) and Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management (FBC OEM) have sought to incorporate the Levee Improvement Districts (LIDs) within the county into its emergency management system. This Levee Project has seen the FBFMA and FBC OEM aggressively target LIDs to develop LID Emergency Action Plans, provide appropriate and tailored trainings and exercises for LIDs, create a FBC Levee Inspection Program, and much more. The Levee Project has made the various LIDs aware of the importance of emergency management and has made the Fort Bend County emergency management community stronger and more diverse. Efforts continue with this project with the future development of a LID Readiness Program and other projects.

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## Emergency Management Technology & Innovation Award

### *Broadband-Hamnet™*

*Glenn Currie*

*Bob Morgan*

*Rick Kirchhof*

*David Rivenburg*

*Jim Kinter, Jr.*

*Brian Wood*

Broadband-Hamnet™ was developed to provide Amateur Radio Operators a high speed digital wireless communications mesh network. It provides an emergency communications network for Emergency Managers and first responders whenever needed and has been activated in exercises and planned events throughout Central Texas. In 2013 alone, Broadband-Hamnet™ was used several times in Central Texas to provide real-time live streaming video capabilities. Through the use of cost effective, off-the-shelf equipment, Broadband -Hamnet™'s firmware is available for free to any licensed amateur radio operator on the project website. Started by a group of six amateur radio operators, these individuals continue to “manage” Broadband-Hamnet™ and seek to share Broadband-Hamnet™ all over the world to assist in emergency preparedness, response and recovery activities.

[www.broadband-hamnet.org/](http://www.broadband-hamnet.org/)

**Contact:** *Jim Kinter, Jr.*  
[jim@k5ktf.com](mailto:jim@k5ktf.com)



## Outstanding Emergency Management Public Information Award

### *La Porte, Morgan's Point, and Shoreacres LEPC & City of La Porte Office of Emergency Management Emergency Preparedness Guide*

In close collaboration, the La Porte, Morgan's Point and Shoreacres LEPC and La Porte Office of Emergency Management have worked to develop programs and materials throughout the year to increase citizen preparedness, one of which is a 16-page Emergency Preparedness Guide. Developed and sponsored completely in-house, this guide was mailed to over 12,000 residents and businesses in the La Porte area in 2013. The Emergency Preparedness Guide addresses an all-hazards approach to incidents and provides useful information and resources to better prepare the citizens of La Porte in an immediate incident or a longer termed planned event. The amount of time contributed to this project and the attention to detail has resulted in a professional guide that will continue to be distributed at community events for years to come.

<http://laportetx.gov/civica/filebank/blobload.asp?BlobID=10656>

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