



PERQUIMANS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES

P.O. Box 563 - 159 Creek Drive - Hertford, NC 27944

(252) 426-5646 Phone - (252) 426-3306 Fax

Jonathan A. Nixon, Director

PRESS RELEASE

Chowan-Perquimans Hazardous Material Exercise

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Jonathan A. Nixon

Phone: 252-426-5646

Chowan and Perquimans County Public Safety personnel joined together on Friday, May 31st to conduct a joint training exercise. The exercise was designed to test Hazmat response and decontamination, Mass Casualty triage and transportation and Communication between the Counties' 911 Centers.

The exercise began at 5:00 pm when both Chowan and Perquimans County 911 Centers received a call for a motor vehicle collision. The collision consisted of 2 vehicles with numerous occupants that had injuries ranging from minor to critical and included a patient that was entrapped in the vehicle. With several patients, this allowed EMS personnel the opportunity to implement the triage process and fire department personnel the ability to practice vehicle extrication.

Just inside the Chowan County line a separate incident was staged with a vehicle pulling a trailer that jackknifed causing a Hazardous Materials leak. Public Safety personnel had to determine the best and quickest way to seal the leak, as well as ensuring that any spilled chemicals were properly handled. Due to the Hazardous Materials exposure, it was also important to apply the proper decontamination procedures that personnel would need to follow. Decontamination tents were set up and the clean up crews had the opportunity to practice that process.

Specific goals were established for each agency to hone skills that are not routinely used. Training exercises of this nature allow our organizations to provide better care for our citizens and our communities.

Thank you to the Chowan-Perquimans Local Emergency Planning Committee and the U.S. Department of Transportation for funding this event.

The following departments were involved in this exercise:

Chowan Communications

Chowan County Sheriff's Office

Chowan County EMS

Edenton Fire Department

Vidant Chowan Hospital

Chowan County Emergency Management

Sam's Safety Consultants

Perquimans Communications

Perquimans County Sheriff's Office

Perquimans County EMS

Bethel Fire Department

Hertford Fire Department

Perquimans County Emergency Management

