



**Public Health Emergency
Preparedness Informer**

Contact Susan McNabb, Volunteer Coordinator at 209-8068 or e-mail at susanm@mail.hamiltontn.gov

Fall 2007

Volunteers Needed for County Fair

The Hamilton County Fair is held the last weekend in September every year at Chester Frost Park. The Fair dates for this year are September 29th and 30th, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. both days. Volunteers are needed to staff several areas such as the Agriculture Center, Information Tent, and the Children's Area. As a volunteer, you will work a 3-hour shift and also have the opportunity to browse through the fair grounds either before or after your shift. One advantage to volunteering at the Fair is you will receive special parking privileges at the Fair site. This benefit eliminates the \$5.00 shuttle fee charged to the general public, and you are allowed to bring as many passengers as will legally fit in your car.

The County Fair celebrates our community's heritage through the arts, crafts, music, food and blue ribbon awards. The Fair has become one of our community's most popular annual festivals and is reminiscent of the "old" days when the local fair was the highlight of the late summer harvest.

In the Agricultural Area, local gardeners and farmers can compete for awards and cash. The categories for

entry are fruits and vegetables and field crops commonly grown in this area.

The Home Centered Competitions include categories such as crafts, canned goods, baked goods and clothing. Last year, over 250 people participated in the Home Centered Competition displaying basketry, ceramics, woodcarving, quilting, clothing articles, Christmas ornaments, jellies and jams, pickles, canned fruits and vegetables, pies, breads, and more. A display of these items is inside the Chester Frost Pavilion.

The Flower Show provides a display of beautiful specimens focused on increasing awareness of local horticulture. Local cultivators will share information with the public about growing and creating designs for their homes and flower shows. Any non-professional horticulturist or designer in Hamilton County is welcome to exhibit at the show.

A wide variety of entertainment is available both days of the Fair. The Little Miss County Fair Contest is open to girls ages 3—5. There will be square dancers and cloggers performing on the Dallas Island Stage. Local middle and high school cheerleading squads have a competition which will be judged by United

Cheerleading. There will be bands performing at various times each day, as well as a Pickin' Porch, historical and educational exhibits, antique cars, livestock exhibits and a sorghum mill.

The Fun Zone for Children and Teens is a fully enclosed section which offers games and activities for children of all ages. This area provides children a chance to play, learn and participate in kid-style competitions. Some activities include a duck pond, coloring contest, a super slide, an obstacle course, sports challenge, and a target toss. The new Teen Challenge Area will have a bungee trampoline, rock climbing wall and physical challenge drills. Some activities are free and for those that require tickets, they are on sale within the Children's Area.

Volunteers are needed to help staff each section. Check your calendars and plan to be available for a fun and rewarding volunteer experience. For more information, please contact Susan McNabb at 209-8068 or send an email to susanm@mail.hamiltontn.gov.

For more information about events at the County Fair, visit www.hamiltontn.gov.

Emergency Preparedness for Pets

Having a plan in place for your family when an emergency arises will keep your family safe and sound. However, many people won't leave their homes without their pets during a disaster. If you have pets, having a plan to keep them safe should also be a priority. Making a few emergency preparations will keep your pets safe and ready to go at a moment's notice. A pet kit is simple to put together and can be kept with your family emergency supplies.

Gather the following items and keep them together in a small bag:

- Leash and collars (a harness is better for a cat)
- Paperwork such as shot records, medical conditions, veterinarian name and number, special instructions
- Any medications
- Portable bowls for feeding
- Disposable litter trays
- A few toys
- Bottled water and bag of food

It is important that your pets have identification in case they are separated from you. A sturdy collar with an ID tag will do. You can also have a microchip implanted in your pet which contains identification of the pet and the

owner so the pet may be returned safely.

When you hear that threatening weather is near, make sure your pets are inside with you and have on their ID tags. Put pets in their pet carriers so they won't become aggressive with you or other pets. If you must leave home, keep them in their crate. Research about places you may be able to go and take your pet with you.

Preparing for your pets, as well as your family members, will make the emergency evacuation go more smoothly. Doing so, you can all be ready and on the move as quickly as possible.

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Visit us on the web at health.hamiltontn.org



CHCHD Public Health Emergency Preparedness Informer

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Office of Emergency Preparedness and Planning
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September is National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort to promote preparedness in American homes, businesses, schools and communities. Sponsored by the U. S. Department of Homeland Security, the goal of the month is to increase public awareness about preparing for emergencies and to encourage individuals to take responsibility for their own safety and well-being until emergency help arrives. National Preparedness Month will provide Americans with a variety of opportunities to learn more about preparing for emergencies. The focus for National Preparedness Month will include different areas of emergency preparedness such as:

Back to School (Ready Kits) Sept. 1—8 Business Preparedness (Ready Business) Sept. 9—15
Multicultural Preparedness (Listo) Sept. 16—22 Home & Family (including pets) Sept. 23—30

One of the simplest things you can do to be better prepared is to have a family emergency plan. To develop one, ask yourself some important questions. "In the event of an emergency, do we have everyone's contact numbers and an out of town contact?" "Is there a designated place for everyone to meet outside of the home and neighborhood?" "What is the emergency plan including the evacuation location of my child's school?" Only you can answer these questions and develop an emergency plan that will suit your family's unique needs. You can download templates to help get you started. For U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Family Communications Plan template go to www.ready.gov.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department will host volunteer training sessions in the upcoming months on the topics listed below. As a part of the Medical Reserve Corps Program and part of the Surgeon General's Community Initiatives, we not only respond to a public health emergency, but we are also a part of the community education plan.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
October 4, 2007	5:30—6:30	Health Department	CPR	American Red Cross
November 6, 2007	5:30—6:30	Health Department	Personal Preparedness	Susan McNabb, Health Department

Please RSVP (so we will have a head count for space and food) to Susan McNabb, 209-8068, or e-mail at susanm@mail.hamiltontn.gov.

Park in the garage behind the Health Department building and follow the signs once you exit the elevator on the first floor. Bring your parking ticket with you to be stamped for \$1.00 parking.

Door Prizes will be given to all volunteers who complete the above trainings.

Volunteer Information Update

If you have moved, changed telephone numbers, or are no longer interested in being a volunteer, please complete the form below and return to the address at the top of this page or e-mail Susan McNabb at susanm@mail.hamiltontn.gov.

Name _____ Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Work Phone _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Work Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email _____

_____ I am unable to be a volunteer at this time. Please remove my name from the active volunteer list.