



SPALDING COUNTY HOMELAND SECURITY



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The Spalding County Office of Homeland Security has worked continuously to make Spalding County prepared for all types of incidents that are associated with homeland security. This preparation is achieved through the activities associated with homeland security and emergency management through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery to events that affect the citizens of our county. Further learning and training allows for additional aspects homeland security and emergency management to be addressed and planned for with the most up to date information and resources. Once again, the activities and accomplishments of the Spalding County Office of Homeland Security provide the commitment that this department exhibits day after day. Understanding this, the safety and preparation of the Spalding County residents are always priority in an event that poses danger to life and property. Some of the accomplishments and activities of 2013 include:

- The Spalding County Emergency Operations Plan update has been distributed to all agencies that have an integral part in this important plan.
- Spalding County received the certification through the National Weather Service of being "Storm Ready" and the Office of Homeland Security is working on the recertification criteria.
- Kenny West, Director and his staff attended the annual Emergency Management of Georgia training event in Savannah, GA in April, 2013.
- Jamie Clark and Glenn Polk recertified their Georgia Certified Emergency Manager certification. Now, both are working toward the Advanced Level of certification.
- Continued to upgrade and establish an inclusive emergency response trailer.
- Hosted two (2) Hazardous Materials Awareness classes through GEMA.
- Hosted the Rescue Specialist class through GEMA.
- Planned and participated in a joint exercise with the Spalding County Health Department in a Flu Shot dispensing drill through the Point of Distribution plan and the Mass Fatality Plan.
- Hosted a Weather Spotter class through the National Weather Service.
- Participated in the annual Severe Weather Awareness week Tornado Drill with the Griffin Spalding County School System and assisted several private schools in Spalding County with their drills upon request.
- Successfully passed an audit of the Emergency Management Preparedness Grant.
- The CERT administrative council was organized and held its first official meeting on December 19, 2013.