



# OEM CHRONICLE

---

Boone County  
Office of Emergency Management



## JULY HOME SAFETY

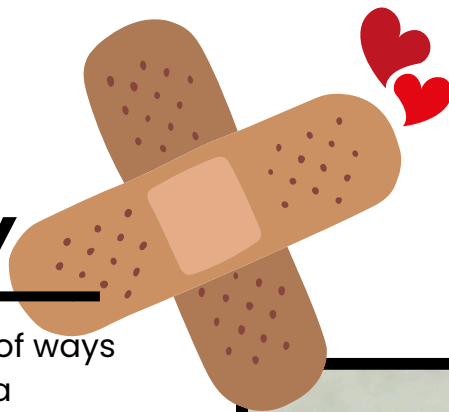
After a hot summer, August is rolling around nicely and so is the nice cool Fall.

Speaking of fall, you can fall in your home too! This month we'll talk about injuries that can happen at home and what can be done to keep you Boone County Ready!

# HOME SAFETY

When thinking of the number of ways you could get injured, there's a multitude, but the ones we don't tend to consider are often the most common ones that can happen right in your own home. There are an average of 21 million medical visits made each year because of home injuries (NIH 2015). Being aware of what can happen and preparing for it can save a trip to the emergency room and keep you safe.

But not many Americans even have first aid kits. Only 30%-40% of Americans had emergency items such as home first aid kits (NIH 2022). Take a look at common injuries, and how to prepare for it.



## Falls

Falls are the most common of all, with 1 in 5 calls reporting as a fall that caused serious injuries like broken bones, or even a head injury. Many different reasons can lead to it, but here's some ways to try and prepare:

- **Clearing the Path** Move away bulky items, cords, and papers from the ground, especially around walkways. Keep everything off the stairs to clear a path!
- **Turn on Lights** Don't move in the dark! Always have a light to guide your path. Nightlights work great for halls, while stairs are better for bigger lights.
- **Be Wary!** Always keep caution. Especially if you're climbing a ladder or using a stool. Never use a chair as a step stool.
- **Stay Healthy!** Talk to your doctor if you think you have a risk to falling. Exercise can make your legs stronger! Sickness can cause dizziness so getting rest is important.



# HOME SAFETY

## Burns

Burns are really uncommon, but there are lots of different sources in our day-day lives. Here's a start to prevent burns:

- **Use Oven Mitts** Oven Mitts can be a great protection to getting something out of the oven or grabbing something off the stove.
- **Wear Sunblock** This can be an excellent protection when doing things outside while it's bright and hot!
- **Use Care** Be careful when opening hot food items like microwaved meals and use caution when sipping hot drinks.
- **Unplug** Make sure to unplug irons, hairstyling devices, or anything similar when not in use.
- **Keep Handles Away** Make sure to keep handles away from the edge of tables and stoves. Also keep hot liquids away from edges to prevent scalding



### References & Further Reading:

- (NIH 2015) <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4396653/>
- (NIH 2022) <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9742271/#:~:text=However%2C%20a%20study%20showed%20that%20only%2030%25%E2%88%9240%25%20of,such%20as%20home%20first%20aid%20kits%20%282%2C%203%29.>
- Ready.gov



## How to Treat Minor Burns:

1. **Remove Clothes and Jewelry** These can hide underlying burns if not removed, increasing skin damage.
2. **Use Cool Water** Don't use cold water, since the extreme cold water can cause additional injury.
  - a. If the burn is caused by a chemical, make sure to run it under cool water for 10 to 15 minutes till it's less painful.
3. **Don't Break Blisters!** If you break a burn blister, it can lead to infection.
4. **Ointment** Put a thin layer of ointment on, like petroleum jelly, or aloe vera. Do not use lotions or antibiotic ointment, as it can cause allergic reactions.

### When to seek a doctor or call 911

- The burn is dark red and glossy
- If the burn is larger than 2 inches
- If you have signs of infection
- If the burned skin is leathery with white, brown, or black patches

# HOME SAFETY

---



## Poisons

Poisons are some of the most important things to be informed about. These mostly come from household chemicals and cleaners. Here's what you need to know on storing, and what to do in an emergency.

- **Only Store in Places Children Can't Reach.** Lock or childproof cabinets with chemicals if you have children.
- **Label!** Keep products in their original containers. If the container is corroding, the product should be put in another container and be clearly labeled to prevent confusion.
- **Don't Mix!** Mixing is a bad idea, because chemicals can react and create gas, ignite, or explode.
- **Don't go Near a Flame** With most chemicals, they will ignite when near an open flame so be careful!
- **Clean up!** Always immediately clean up any chemical spill, while disposing of hazardous material accordingly

## Emergencies

- **Get out Immediately if there is Risk.** Get outside if there is risk for an explosion or danger of a fire
- **Stay Away.** Stay away from the residence to avoid breathing toxic fumes
- **Respond to Symptoms of Toxic Poisoning.**
  - Difficulty breathing
  - Irritation of eyes, skin throat, or respiratory tract
  - Changes in skin color
  - Headache or blurred vision
  - Dizziness, clumsiness or lack of coordination
  - Cramps or diarrhea
- If someone is experiencing these symptoms, call the **National Poison Control Center 800-222-1222**
- Follow first aid instructions of the Emergency Operator. First Aid info located on bottles could be out of date or inappropriate. Don't give anything by mouth unless advised to do so.



# BOONE COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

Every month, we like to spotlight one of our local partners who work hard to make Boone County an amazing place to live, work, and recreate in. This month we'd like to recognize Matt Garrett!

## **Please introduce yourself and your organization:**

Matt Garrett, General Manager, KOMU 8 and Mid Missouri's CW.

I have the privilege of leading the only network affiliated, commercially operated television station whose newsroom is academic lab for a School of Journalism. KOMU 8 is mid Missouri's NBC affiliate and has a digital multicast channel associated with the CW Network.



## **What does your organization provide?**

Proudly owned by The University of Missouri, KOMU 8 is a multi-platform information and entertainment provider.

KOMU 8 is committed to serving the interests of mid Missouri by delivering accurate, and balanced information to keep people informed and safe. What makes KOMU 8 unique is our dual mission. We are the only commercial television station in the country that operates its newsroom as an academic lab for a School of Journalism. Utilizing the 'Missouri Method,' each semester, we provide over 100 Missouri School of Journalism students with real-world experience in our newsroom. Under the guidance and mentorship of faculty and professional staff, students write, report, and produce content for KOMU 8's media platforms. KOMU 8 receives no funding from the State or the University and is expected to generate all revenues for station operations. Our operations and investments in technology are funded entirely by advertising, production services, and retransmission revenue.

# BOONE COUNTY SPOTLIGHT (CONT.)



## **What are some challenges you face?**

Adapting to technological advancements, shifting viewer habits, and efficient content delivery systems is crucial. One of the primary challenges is transitioning from traditional broadcasting to a more internet-based model, which requires significant infrastructure and strategic changes. As engagement and content consumption continue to evolve, KOMU 8 aims to provide content in the format people want, on the platform they choose, and at the time they prefer.

## **How do you like to spend your time outside of work?**

I love football Saturdays in Columbia! There's nothing quite like the experience of being at Faurot Field on a football Saturday. I recently learned to fly fish and continue to try to master the technique and skill.

## **What's one thing on your bucket list?**

I'd like to visit every Major League Baseball Ballpark. I think it would be very exciting to experience those cities and fan bases.

## **Thanks so much for the work you do - what else should our readers know about you and your organization?**

KOMU 8 is proud to be the first television station to serve mid-Missouri. Our collaboration with The Missouri School of Journalism is nationally recognized as the premier training ground for broadcast journalism. KOMU 8 has earned accolades for broadcast and journalism excellence from peers across the state, regionally, and nationally. We are honored to be your friends, neighbors and welcome guests in your home.

*Thank  
you!*

# TRAINING & EXERCISE

---

It is hard to believe July is over, and it has been another busy month for training and exercise! We started the month helping with the command post at Fire in the Sky.

We then hosted a SEMA class on Enhanced Sports and Special Events Incident Management. Then along with Mitigation and Recovery attended the National GIS Safety and Security Summit and ESRI User Conference. Learned many new and interesting ways to use Geospatial mapping in exercises and real world.

The CERT Team met as well and trained on mass care and sheltering. Following this we supported the County Fair with incident planning, CERT support, and community outreach. The National CERT Conference in Washington DC was a great opportunity to learn best practices, and Matt graduated from the Master Instructor program while there. Then to wrap up the month we conducted a tabletop exercise for the Columbia Regional Airport.

A jam-packed month, but amazing lessons learned. We hope everyone has been safe with all the summer events and travel, and enjoy what summertime you have left as we roll into August.



Interested in joining Boone County's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)? Register through our website or email Matthew Brown, CERT Program Manager, at [mbrown@boonecountymmo.org](mailto:mbrown@boonecountymmo.org) for more information.



Photo: Command post for the Boone County Fair



# OUTREACH

---

Outreach is critical for building resilience within Boone County. Our goal is for every citizen to be prepared for hazards that can affect our community including flooding, tornadoes, and earthquakes!

This month, our team did some outreach with the Boone County Fair! We've also gotten a new vehicle for outreach in the Office of Emergency Management that we took to the fair to show to everyone! If you see us on the street too, be sure to give us a wave!

At these events, our staff connected with our community by providing important disaster preparedness tips and handing out prizes! Speaking of preparedness tips, we have a system called Smart911! This software gives citizens the ability to enter info they want to make available to 911 telecommunicators, and will send the info if you ever get into trouble! The best part is, you share what you want to share, you can choose!

To sign up, visit [www.Smart911.com](http://www.Smart911.com) to securely share your info with responders.



Photo: New Boone County Office of Emergency Management outreach vehicle





# STAFF UPDATE

---

## **Chris Kelley, Director**

This month, Chris attended the “National Association of Counties Annual Conference” and served on the Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee.

Also, he went to go assist in the unified command post at the Boone County Fair. Chris has also participated in the FEMA building collapse tabletop exercise alongside Chris L. and Kraig J.

## **Chris Lewin, Mitigation & Recovery Specialist**

This month, Chris has continued developing the County’s Disaster Recovery Plan with our local community members, participated in a virtual tabletop exercise, and is getting ready to launch our inaugural youth program – HERRricane Boone County. Chris also attended the FEMA building collapse tabletop exercise alongside Kraig J. and Chris K.

## **Jake Waller, Deputy Director**

Jake planned meetings for the MU Homecoming Parade and Boone County fair. He also represented OEM in the command post for Fire in the Sky and the Fair. He taught CPR to new Joint Communications dispatchers and Boone County Employees, as well as attending courses for All-Hazards Initial Response and Resource Unit Leader.

## **Matt Brown, Training & Exercise Specialist**

This month, Matt helped out with the command post at Fire in the Sky. He hosted a SEMA class on Enhanced Sports and Special Events Incident Management and attended the National GIS Safety and Security Summit and ESRI User Conference, as well as a National CERT Conference.

## **Bart Messer, Administrative Assistant**

Bart worked on building active assailant kits with Della. He also answered phone calls to the ECC, updated our EOC computers, checked the OEM vehicles biweekly, held our fort down, and paid the bills.

## **Della Luster, Administrative Coordinator**

Della was built active shooter kits with Bart. She also reconciled our purchasing cards, helped everyone out with budgeting, and made sure that everyone in the office got paid!

## **Kraig Johnson, Planning & Preparedness Specialist**

Kraig has continued to develop the Emergency Operations Plan, as well as preparing an Incident Action Plan for the Boone County Fair and for Fire in the Sky.

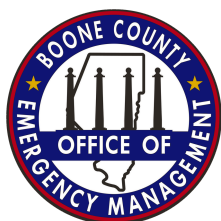
He also completed a Basic Life Support class and participated in a FEMA building collapse tabletop exercise alongside Chris L. and Chris K.

# ENGAGE WITH OUR OFFICE

---

The Boone County Office of Emergency Management OEM Chronicle contains preparedness information to help those who live, work, and visit Boone County become better prepared for emergencies.

If you have any suggestions about content to add to the Chronicle, please don't hesitate to reach out by emailing [EM@boonecountymo.org](mailto:EM@boonecountymo.org).



Come join almost 7,000 of your friends and neighbors and follow our socials. We are: [@BooneCountyOEM](https://www.instagram.com/BooneCountyOEM)



For weather information, monthly giveaways and preparedness tips please visit: [@boonecountyready](https://www.instagram.com/boonecountyready)

**Sign up for Free Boone County Ready Alerts**  
Get weather, emergency, and special-event text and email alerts.

**Emergency Alerts:**

Text BCALERT to 67283 to opt-in to receive emergency notifications.

**Preparedness Notifications:**

Text READY to 67283 to opt-in to non-emergency preparedness messaging.



(573) 554-7900



2145 E County Drive Columbia, MO 65202