

2021 Annual Town Report – Emergency Management Agency

The Bridgewater Emergency Management Agency (BEMA) is responsible for the safety of all citizens in the Town of Bridgewater in the event of any natural or manmade disaster. We are responsible for coordinating all resources related to public safety within our community during any incident small or large to resolve, control and mitigate any situation.

The **Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT)** has both the willingness and ability to help whenever needed. We would like to thank Director Dennise Caratazzola and the many CERT volunteers who continue to support our community. The CERT Team was able to host a class for new members. They worked with our Veterans Agent on Memorial Day to place a United States Flag on each Veterans grave and put up the flags in Central Square for Veterans Day. During some extreme heat, our CERT volunteers went door to door to check in with our seniors at Hemlock Drive and Heritage Circle to see if they needed any assistance. They assisted with the Memorial Day Parade, Fourth of July Parade/Fireworks and Veterans Day Parade. Throughout the year, they provided support to the Senior Center for the many events which included: Mother's Day, Flu Clinic, and the Singing Trooper. Lastly, the CERT Team was able to host a Shelter Training in November so that volunteers are well prepared on shelter procedures. We cannot thank Dennise and all the CERT volunteers for everything they did for our residents.

Bridgewater is a host community for a regional cache site which houses emergency lighting plants, generators and sign boards that can be deployed and used to inform the public regarding public safety. These specialized pieces of equipment have been deployed throughout the year to assist in a multitude of incidents for both state and local initiatives.

Our goal in Emergency Management is to focus on Preparedness, Mitigation, Response and Recovery. Ultimately, we would like to reduce the vulnerability to hazards and to be sure that we are prepared to deal with any disasters that may happen in the Town of Bridgewater.

With Sincerity,
Michael P. MacDermott
Emergency Management Director