

New resources train transit employees for emergencies

TRANSIT SECURITY has changed since September 11, 2001. Are you and your employees ready for an emergency?

Two new resources from the National Transit Institute educate transit employees about system security:

- “System Security Awareness for Transit Employees” (CD-ROM) and
- “Warning Signs: System Security Awareness for Transit Employees” (video).

The interactive, 90-minute course on CD-ROM allows transit employees to learn at their individual pace. Employees follow specialized tracks within the course, based on their jobs: bus operations, bus maintenance, light rail, heavy rail, and transit facilities personnel. Topics include

- introducing system security
- reducing the organization’s vulnerability
- identifying suspicious activities, packages, and devices
- dispelling myths about anthrax and other substances
- prioritizing employees’ actions during an emergency

The 15-minute video trains transit employees to identify and respond to suspicious activities, packages, and devices.

Order forms for free copies of the CD-ROM and video are available through Jim Hogan, CTRE library coordinator, 515-294-9481, hoganj@iastate.edu.

Online order forms are available at www.nationline.com/documents/CD-ROM_order_form.pdf (for the CD-ROM) and at www.nationline.com/documents/Warning_Signs_order_form.pdf (for the video).

The video can also be borrowed from the CTRE library. •

Online resources help agencies reduce deer-vehicle crashes

ACCORDING to the Deer-Vehicle Crash Information Clearinghouse (DVCIC) in Madison, Wisconsin, 7,800 Iowans were involved in deer-related crashes in 2000, resulting in \$13 million in property damage, 600 injuries, and three deaths.

The Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the DVCIC have published online resources to help road agencies and drivers learn how to reduce these statistics.

Road agencies can help educate drivers by circulating a brochure DPS created as part of its “Don’t Veer for Deer” campaign. The brochure is available electronically in portable document format (.pdf) in color or black and white at www.dps.state.ia.us/deercrashes.

It warns drivers against losing control of the vehicle by swerving to avoid deer. “No one wants a deer to die, but striking the animal is often the safest action.”

Other safety tips include the following:

- Watch for deer near wooded areas and waterways, especially from dusk to dawn in the spring and fall
- Slow down in marked deer caution areas
- Remember that deer travel in groups

The DPS website also includes a map of Iowa with the number of crashes per county and will eventually include a map of each county showing where crashes occur.

The DVCIC site (www.deercrash.com) provides deer and vehicle crash prevention research, including current information about deer whistles, roadway lighting, and deer crossing signs. •

LTAP Advisory Board

The people listed below help guide and direct the policies and activities of Iowa’s Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP). Contact any of the advisory board members to comment, make suggestions, or ask questions about any aspect of LTAP.

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