



the
WATCH
coalition

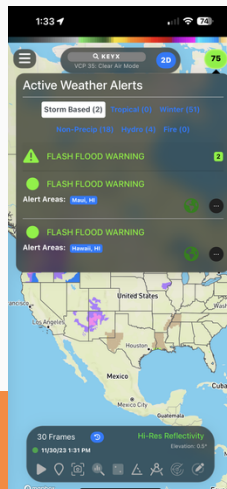
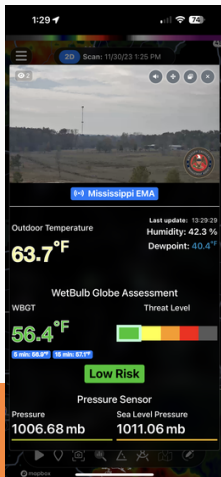
RADAR OMEGA WHAT IS IT?

OUR REGIONAL HEALTHCARE COORDINATORS, MIKE AND KEITH HAVE BEEN HITTING THE PAVEMENT WORKING ON SITE LOCATIONS FOR THE EQUIPMENT.

WHEN IT COMES TO WEATHER, THEIR FOCUS IS PROVIDING ACCURATE, UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION DIRECTLY FROM THE SOURCE. THEY STRIVE TO PROVIDE USERS WITH ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL WEATHER APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE, WITH A FOCUS ON CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENTS AND INNOVATIONS.

RADAROMEGA PROVIDES HIGH RESOLUTION SINGLE SITE RADAR DATA TO HELP KEEP YOU AWARE OF RAPIDLY CHANGING WEATHER CONDITIONS, FASTER THAN MOST CONVENTIONAL WEATHER APPLICATIONS ON THE MARKET.

WE ARE SO EXCITED FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BE ABLE TO GIVE WEST TENNESSEE MORE SITE LOCATIONS.



APRIL 1, 2024
ISSUE 8

THIS ISSUE:

RADAR OMEGA OVERVIEW

SAVE THE DATE

COALITION MEETING LINK

EDUCATION: ABHS FIRE SAFETY

SOCIAL MEDIA

APRIL AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL FUN!





April 17-19th - EMAG + R4 ASPR Meeting
in Savannah Georgia

April 25th - Caucus Group Planning Meeting.
Invites have been sent out.

April 30th- May 2nd - EMAT in
Murfreesboro. Registration is now open.

May 21st -23rd - ReadyOp Conference in
Daytona, Florida

June 6th - MRSE Exercise - Virtual
[Register Here!](#)

July 23rd - LTCF/SNF/AL/Dialysis/ Home
Health /Hospice virtual meeting. Link will be
sent out via email



NEW COALITION MEETING LINK

WHILE WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE
YOU ALL IN PERSON, WE
UNDERSTAND NOT EVERYONE
CAN MAKE IT TO THE COALITION
MEETINGS. BELOW IS THE ZOOM
LINK TO USE WHEN LOGGING IN
TO THE MEETING.

[HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/J/82
241372230?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82241372230?pwd=CED0EK9IMUXLDVEXWMTXU2KYC0FKUT09)
[PWD=CED0EK9IMUXLDVEXWMTX
U2KYC0FKUT09](#)

MEETING ID: 822 4137 2230
PASSCODE: 612238

Save the Date
TEPS Conference
October 29th & 30th, 2024
Humboldt Conference Center

More details to come

Don't forget



CLEAN HANDS COUNT

HAND HYGIENE AND FIRE SAFETY IN HEALTHCARE FACILITIES GO HAND IN HAND *Alcohol-based Hand Sanitizer Storage and Dispensers*

Patients and residents of healthcare facilities count on you to keep them safe.

Hand hygiene is a critically important prevention measure in all healthcare settings. Each year between 1 and 3 million residents of nursing homes or skilled nursing facilities develop healthcare acquired infections and as many as 380,000 people die of these infections.¹ Among hospitalized patients, on any given day, about 1 in 31 has an healthcare-associated infection.² Alcohol-based hand sanitizer (ABHS) effectively kills most germs carried on the hands of healthcare workers and is recommended for use by the CDC.

Healthcare facilities must ensure fire safety when alcohol-based hand sanitizer is used.

ABHS contains ethyl alcohol, which readily evaporates at room temperature into an ignitable vapor, and is considered a flammable liquid. Although the incidence of fires related to ABHS is very low, it is vital that ABHS is stored safely and that dispensers are installed and maintained correctly.

Local and State Officials have authority to enforce fire safety laws and standards in healthcare facilities.

Building officers, local, and state fire marshals work together to protect patients and residents by enforcing fire safety rules. Fire safety includes activities that reduce sources of ignition, ensures storage of flammable liquids in a safe manner, and establishes methods for quick exits in case of fire. Building officers and local fire marshal may work together to make sure ABHS dispensers are accessible and in locations that do not increase the chances of igniting or spreading a fire.

The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) requires healthcare facilities to follow the Life Safety Code.

Adherence to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Life Safety Code 101 was adopted by CMS as a minimum fire safety requirement for facilities that receive Medicaid or Medicare reimbursement. The Life Safety Code contains national standards for the storage of ABHS, as well as placement and function of dispensers. When facilities use ABHS all of the criteria listed in Table 1 must be met.

Work with your local fire official.

Healthcare facilities may contact their local fire officials to ensure that requirements related to the installation of ABHS have been met. Local fire officials often inspect commercial buildings, and may be required to do so. In healthcare facilities, they may be very receptive to planning these tours to meet their requirement, refresh their familiarity with the structure, and identify vulnerabilities. There are several advantages to the healthcare facilities initiating the request of such a tour including building relationships and demonstrating a commitment to safety.



This material was developed by CDC. The Clean Hands Count Campaign is made possible by a partnership between the CDC Foundation, GOJO and Staples.

www.cdc.gov/HandHygiene

Accessible Version: <https://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/firesafety/index.html>

Table 1. NFPA 101 Life Safety Code Requirements for the use of Alcohol Based Hand Sanitizer Dispensers

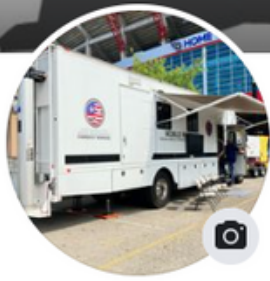
Criteria	Requirement
Hand rub solution	Must not exceed 95% alcohol content by volume. (The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that ABHS contain at least 60% alcohol.)
Maximum dispenser fluid capacity	1.2 liters (41 ounces, 0.32 gal) for dispensers in rooms, corridors, and areas open to corridors. 2.0 liters (67 ounces, 0.53 gal) for dispensers in suites of rooms separated from corridors.
Maximum quantity in aerosol containers	18 oz., limited to Level 1 aerosols as defined by NPFA 30 B.
Maximum quantity of ABHS allowed in-use (i.e., in dispensers)	Ten gallons (37.8 L) in-use outside of a storage cabinet within a single smoke compartment.* One dispenser per room off corridors is NOT included in the calculation.
Minimum corridor width	Six feet (1830 mm) wide
ABHS dispenser distance from ignition sources	One-inch (25 mm) distance (horizontal or vertical) above, to the side, or beneath an ignition source** Note: While one-inch is acceptable, a more conservative approach is to ensure a distance of no less than 6 inches (12.7 mm; horizontal or vertical, measured from the center of the dispenser) between ABHR dispensers and source of ignition.
ABHS dispenser separation	Horizontal spacing not less than 48 inches (1220 mm).
Carpeted areas	The smoke compartment must be equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system.
Operation of the dispenser	The dispenser shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not release its contents except when the dispenser is activated, either manually or automatically by touch-free activation. • Not dispense more solution than the amount required for hand hygiene consistent with label instructions. • Be designed, constructed and operated in a manner that ensures accidental or malicious activation is minimized. • Be tested in accordance with the manufacturer's care and use instructions each time a new refill is installed. Any activation of the dispenser shall only occur when an object is placed within 4 inches (100mm) of the sensor. An object placed within the activation zone and left in place shall not cause more than one activation.
Storage outside of dispensers	In each smoke compartment, do not store outside of dispensers more than 5 gal (18.9 L) or an amount of ABHR that exceeds that which is necessary for normal maintenance of the area, whichever is less.
Maximum quantity for storage in a warehouse	Up to 120 gal (460 L). If need to exceed storage of 120 gal (460 L), consult with fire official. ⁴

*Smoke compartment: A space within a building enclosed by smoke barriers on all sides, including the top and bottom.³

**Sources of ignition: Appliances or equipment that, because of their intended modes of use or operation, are capable of providing sufficient thermal energy to ignite flammable gas-air mixtures.³ Examples include wall outlets, thermostats, and appliances.

References:

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/longtermcare/index.html>
2. <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/data/index.html>
3. National Fire Protection Association [NFPA]. *NFPA 101 Life Safety Code*. 2018 edition. Quincy, MA: National Fire Protection Association; 2018. Available at: <https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/detail?code=101>
4. NFPA. *NFPA 30 Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code*. 2018 edition. Quincy, MA: National Fire Protection Association, 2018. Available at [NFPA]. NFPA glossary of terms. https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Codes-and-standards/Glossary-of-terms/glossary_of_terms_2019.ashx?la=en. Updated February 2019. Accessed February 14, 2019.
5. National Fire Protection Association [NFPA]. NFPA glossary of terms. https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Codes-and-standards/Glossary-of-terms/glossary_of_terms_2019.ashx?la=en. Updated February 2019. Accessed February 14, 2019.



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WATCH Healthcare Coalition

We are the WATCH Healthcare Coalition. We serve 17 Counties in strengthening the regional response to disasters.
www.watchcoalition.org

APRIL AWARENESS MONTH



CAUCUS GROUP NEWS!

OUR CAUCUS GROUPS WILL BE MEETING VIA TEAMS ON THURSDAY, APRIL 25TH AT 1:00 PM. WE ARE MEETING TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE AND HOW THE COALITION CAN HELP YOUR GROUPS!

CAUCUS GROUPS MEETING LINK



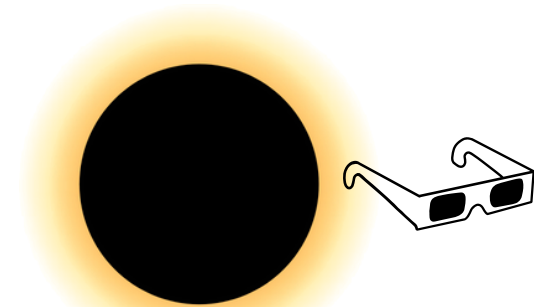
APRIL 9TH AT 10 AM, WE WILL HAVE OUR 2ND HRTS BED UPDATE TRAINING. A TEAMS INVITE WAS SENT OUT AND GINGER WILL BE ON THE TEAMS CALL UNTIL 11AM IF YOU HAVE ANY HRTS BED UPDATE QUESTIONS.



APRIL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

TO THOSE THAT HAVE BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH! WE CELEBRATE YOU AND HOPE YOU HAVE THE BEST BIRTHDAY!



SOLAR ECLIPSE WILL TAKE PLACE APRIL 8TH! GET YOUR GLASSES READY!

APRIL FOOL'S DAY!

ARE YOU THE PRANKSTER OR DO YOU LET OTHERS PRANK YOU?

MY YOUNGER BROTHER WOULD SET UP ATLEAST 10 PRANKS AND SOME OF THEM HE WOULD SET UP AGAIN AFTER SOMEONE SET THEM OFF! THEY ALWAYS MADE US LAUGH, WELL AFTER WE GOT DONE YELLING AT HIM. REGARDLESS THEY ARE GREAT MEMORIES TO LOOK BACK ON!

APRIL SHOWERS Bring MAY FLOWERS

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MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

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LORI BROWN, 1ST CHAIR

JONATHAN WOOD, 2ND CHAIR

CHRIS WINSCHEL, SECRETARY

LYN TISDALE, TREASURER

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

WWW.WATCHCOALITION.ORG

