

Town of Dennis, MA

EOC Response to Hurricane Earl

"I wanted to take the time in writing to thank all of you for being a great help with our EOC emergency online mapping for hurricane Earl with such short notice. All of you really supported me with getting not only the online mapping available, but for helping to get my EOC PeopleForm up, connected, and ready. I have to say that once set up it was one of the easiest tasks for me to train the EOC staff in a quick session with the form and map, and show them the multitude of uses it could have for the EOC.

I was always happy with the software and your support, but I think now the town has had a different point of view of what your programs and support can really do for us and I look forward to growing with your company. Thank you again for everything."

- Alicia Messier, GIS Coordinator

Need

In anticipation of Hurricane Earl, the Emergency Operations Center in Dennis, MA needed to be able to document and map incoming information quickly and efficiently. This information needed to be shared in real time with multiple departments within the EOC as well as emergency responders in the field. Given the nature of emergency operations, all methodologies needed to be simple to learn and use. All technology needed to "fit" the EOC's current techniques and approaches.

Solution

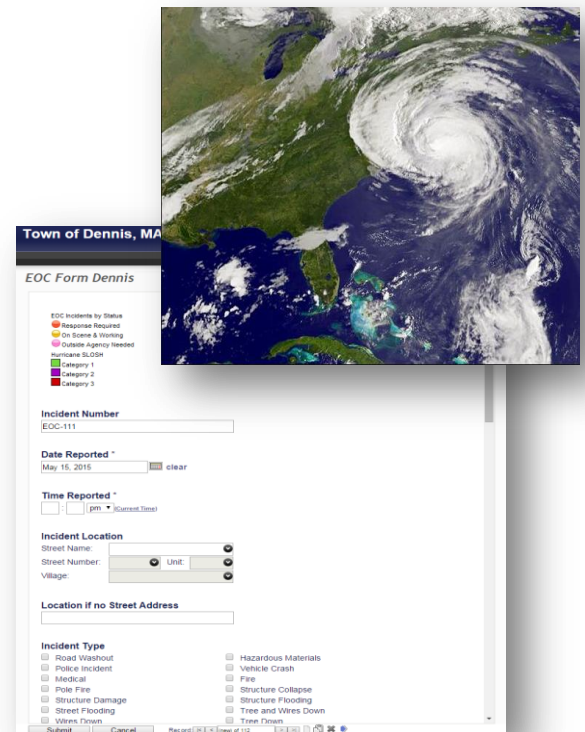
An EOC form was created in PeopleForms by PeopleGIS to pinpoint the locations of incident data on-the-fly. The EOC form was actually copied from the Form Library in minutes, and altered slightly to meet the particular needs of the Dennis EOC staff. The Document Manager extension was also implemented to enable the upload of field photography. Lastly, a PeopleForms Dashboard was implemented to organize incidents according to age and/or priority.

Result

Because of the head start afforded by the existing EOC form in the Form Library, the Dennis EOC PeopleForm was up and running in a few short hours with input from all involved. The Town's GIS Coordinator was enlisted by the Town to provide on-site support and training, which occurred the morning of the hurricane's arrival. The EOC PeopleForm was a tremendous success in that it met the goals of the Town of Dennis EOC at no additional cost to the Town.

Benefits

This situational need for mapping and real-time information management enabled the Town to understand at a deeper level the importance of tools like MapsOnline and PeopleForms. More staff were exposed to GIS than were previously, and the opportunity for town-wide use of such technologies (especially in regards to public safety) took a major step forward.



For More Information:

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