



You are receiving this information as a member of the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA). It is being sent to you as a benefit of membership.

January 25, 2024

Volunteering for Security and Resilience



How proactive can states be in preparing against cybersecurity? **Wisconsin's Volunteer Cyber Team**, formed in 2015, is like a volunteer fire department—except, instead of putting out fires, they volunteer their cybersecurity experience and expertise to the public sector to aid in cybersecurity attacks and prevent future incidents in Wisconsin and across the country.

The importance of cybersecurity is growing in emergency management. And so are the number of cybersecurity incidents.

Wisconsin's Volunteer Cyber Team wants to help organizations—such as schools, public utilities, municipal governments, etc.—that do not have the resources for their own robust IT and cybersecurity team to **make our communities more secure**.

When a network owner of such organizations discovers a **cybersecurity attack** or **ransomware on their network**, they call the Wisconsin Volunteer Cyber Team, who have developed a National Incident Management System National Qualification System Position task book for incident responders, which formalizes and codifies what the incident response team does, and a Standard Operating Guide (SOG) system that walks the network owner through the process and gain basic network information. Once an incident is reported, and incident responders are notified in the team's Slack channel, any number of incident responders can respond, and usually 15-20 do. The Volunteer Cyber Team also works with **CISA**, **Wisconsin's Department of Justice**, and occasionally the **FBI** Field Office to develop criminal cases.

Wisconsin's Volunteer Cyber Team has been successful and has grown since it's origination. They provide quarterly trainings with **National Guard partners** that are standardized off the DoD 8570 Baseline Level 2 knowledge skills, which provide the necessary skills for incident responders to use during a response. Today, the cyber team has over 450 members, and 150 incident responders.

The cyber team hopes to lead the charge in **connecting cybersecurity with emergency management**, as a cybersecurity incident in one state can very easily occur in another. The risk is never going to be zero, which is why networking to help others get ahead of cyber threats and increasing membership is so important to the Wisconsin Volunteer Cyber Team.

"This country will not be a good place for any of us to live in unless we make it a good place for all of us to live in."

— Theodore Roosevelt

nemaweb.org



Registration for the NEMA 2024 Mid-Year Forum is open! [Register today!](#)

50 1974 · 2024
NEMA®


NEMA MID-YEAR FORUM
MARCH 17– 21, 2024
WASHINGTON, DC

Copyright NEMA 2024. All rights reserved.