



**American Red Cross**

Cape Cod and Islands Chapter

Eastern Massachusetts Region  
Cape Cod and Islands Chapter  
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## Media ALERT

### Red Cross Organizes 4th Annual Emergency Preparedness Fair for Scouting



Hyannis, Mass, January 19th, 2011 – The American Red Cross organized its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Scout Emergency Preparedness Fair on Saturday January 8<sup>th</sup> 2011 from 9am-12pm at the Barnstable Senior Center in Hyannis. The Fair was generously sponsored by a local Foundation.

For this Fair, the American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands chapter teamed up with the Cape Cod and Islands Council, Boy Scouts of America and Girl Scouts of Southeastern Massachusetts to put on the event. Over 250 scouts and almost 100 adults and parents attended from as far as Plymouth and Carver.

Each scout received a give-away bag which included a Red Cross pin, a Red Cross First Aid Kit, a glow stick, and an emergency whistle. The fair itself provided Wolf, Bear, and Webelos scouts as well as Junior Girl Scouts and Brownies, with the opportunity to rotate through different activities learning about disaster preparedness, basic first aid, CPR, water safety, and other life saving skills.

The fair gave scouts the opportunity to practice these life saving skills and apply their knowledge directly so they could earn their individualized Emergency Preparedness Awards. Other disaster services volunteers were present for the event as well, including the West Barnstable Fire Department, the Barnstable Police Department, and the members from AmeriCorps Cape Cod.



Various displays and 'stations' were set up, teaching scouts Water safety, basic CPR, First Aid procedures and general disaster preparedness skills. One table was set up where scouts could write a letter to the troops. The fair follows guidelines for the Wolf, Bear, and Webelos Scout Readyman badge, Emergency Preparedness Award, and the Junior Girl Scout Safety Award.

As the kids were busy earning their Merit Badge and Safety Award, their parents could attend a special short Preparedness presentation, covering the current regional sheltering plan project as well as what to expect, what to bring to, at a shelter.

To find out more about the Scout Emergency Fair, about volunteering for the Red Cross, for class schedules, for disaster preparedness information in English, Spanish or Portuguese, or to donate, please contact the American Red Cross, Cape Cod Islands Chapter, 286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601, call (508) 775-1540 ext. 21 or visit [www.cciredcross.org](http://www.cciredcross.org)

The Red Cross is not a government agency and does not receive federal or state funding. Local Chapters do receive some human resource support from the American Red Cross Headquarters, however, each Chapter is responsible for raising adequate funds to support all of its activities, including recruiting and training volunteers, and teaching life saving skills within its geographical coverage area. It relies on donations of time, money, and blood from the American public to successfully do its work.