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Press Release

November 2, 2011

[Metro-North](#)

IMMEDIATE

Metro-North to Conduct Emergency Preparedness Exercise in New Canaan

Saturday, November 5, 2011

MTA Metro-North Railroad, in cooperation with first responders in New Canaan, CT, MTA Police Department and regional response groups, will conduct its annual emergency training exercise this Saturday morning with an emphasis on interagency communication.

Participants will practice proper procedures for evacuating a train. The exercise objectives are: communications, response, incident management, inter-agency coordination and recovery.

"Every year, we conduct a drill in a different part of our territory to help the railroad and the communities it serves to be better prepared for real emergencies," said Metro-North President Howard Permut. "Simulations play a crucial role in educating first responders about the special circumstances of an operating railroad with live power and real train traffic."

"A well-planned, full-scale training exercise will test the capabilities, resources and preparedness of our first responders. As many residents in our community utilize the Metro North services on a daily basis, this real life scenario will allow us to work closely with Metro North and have a very valuable training and learning experience," said New Canaan Police Chief Ed Nadriczny.

The goal of the exercise is to establish and maintain timely and effective interagency communications between Metro-North and other responding agencies from initial notification and dispatch until restoration of service has been completed. Providing information to customers on-board and at stations also will be practiced.

In addition, emergency personnel will use the Incident Command System (ICS) and conduct the exercise using a Unified Command structure. Emphasis also will be placed upon the proper use of Personal Protective Equipment at the incident in accordance with each participating agencies' policies and procedures.

Participating local agencies include: New Canaan Police Department, New Canaan Fire Department, CERTs (Community Emergency Response Teams) from New Canaan, Fairfield, Westport and Wilton, New Canaan Fire Marshal's Office, Fairfield County Hazardous Incident Response Team (HazMat) of Westport.

Volunteer participation also is expected from SLOB's (Service League of Boys-New Canaan) and Police Explorers from Bridgeport and Fairfield.

The drill will begin with a safety briefing 9:15 a.m. at New Canaan Town Hall. Regular train service to and from New Canaan Station will not be affected by the drill, which will be conducted on a yard track.

DIRECTIONS:

New Canaan Town Hall
77 Main Street
New Canaan, CT 06840
(203) 594-3000

Merritt Parkway Rte. 15 (Southbound) – From New Haven:

Take Exit 38; go left onto 123 North to New Canaan. At the third traffic light, take a left onto Locust Avenue. At the stop sign go straight to light at the top of the hill, turn left onto Main Street. Fire Station will be on your left. Town Hall is diagonally opposite on the right.

Merritt Parkway Rte. 15 (Northbound) – From New York:

Take Exit 38; go right onto 123 North to New Canaan. Pass under Merritt Parkway Bridge. At the fourth traffic light, take a left onto Locust Avenue. At the stop sign go straight to light at the top of the hill, turn left onto Main Street. Fire Station will be on your left. Town Hall is diagonally opposite on the right.

I-95 (Southbound & Northbound)

Take Exit 15; follow signs for Rte. 7 (Connector) Danbury. At Exit 2, take a right. Go to the next light and take a right onto New Canaan Avenue (Rte. 123); follow through Norwalk to New Canaan. Pass under the Merritt Parkway Bridge (Rte. 15). At the fourth traffic light, take a left onto Locust Avenue. At the stop sign go straight to the light at the top of the hill, turn left onto Main Street. Fire Station will be on your left. Town Hall is diagonally opposite on the right.

