



The Safety Beacon is for informational purposes. Unit safety officers are encouraged to use the articles in the Beacon as topics for their monthly safety briefings and discussions. Members may also go to LMS, read the current Beacon, and take a quiz to receive credit for monthly safety education.

December 2020

***Wishing you SAFE
and Happy Holidays!***

Annual Safety Risk Management Day!

Look inside for information on the 2021 Safety RM Day.

Inside this Beacon you'll also find a couple program updates, and some excellent safety briefings from a couple of our members, as well as some links for timely safety topics.

Above all else, let's all do our part to use all available risk controls to help slow the spread of COVID-19. There is a light at the end of the tunnel, but there is still a lot of tunnel to go through before we get there.

Check out the last page of the Beacon for a message from the CAP National Commander on the COVID-19 vaccinations. Stay informed!

Have a safe and happy holiday season, from the entire CAP Safety Team!

safety@capnhq.gov

Annual Safety Risk Management Day

“Commanders of all active units will set aside one meeting day during the months of January, February, or March to conduct an Annual Safety RM Day.”

That’s the simple requirement from CAPR 160-1, and it is a very important that all our members come together on that one day, scheduled at your unit’s convenience sometime during those months, to review and reinforce the CAP approach to Risk Management.

We have supplied some information to help you prepare for those gatherings. [Click on the image below](#) to take you to the Annual Safety RM Day webpage.

ANNUAL SAFETY RISK MANAGEMENT DAY - 2021

Annual Safety Risk Management Day Resources - 2021

The Annual Safety Risk Management Day is a chance for all CAP members to focus their thoughts on the use of Risk Management throughout CAP to prevent injury, protect resources, and ensure the highest level of Safety as we pursue all our CAP missions and activities. **All Safety Officers should review this material and become familiar with it prior to your Annual Safety Day.**

On that webpage you’ll find information on the requirements, two required briefings to help lead the discussion in your units, and some other ideas to help your planning. We also expect wings and regions to provide units with their commanders’ emphasis items ... it’s the perfect chance to make sure all your members receive their commander’s safety message.

Everyone can take part!!! In the past it has been tough to get all our members to attend these safety RM days ... now, with our virtual meeting capability, and the ability to “attend” from the comfort of your own home, we can reach every member, and the presentations can be recorded for the benefit of those who can’t tune in.

**Risk management has never been more important.
Spare a day to focus on it.**

safety@capnhq.gov

Safety Specialty Track Update

The safety specialty track pamphlet has been updated. We're working on a few more coordination steps which will allow eServices to help track the requirements for each rating, and then we will be ready to publish!

I think everyone will find the revisions to be a nice balanced approach, tailored to the needs of all our safety officers as they progress through the ratings and advance in their safety officer positions.

Changing the pamphlet number ... The former CAPP 217 will become CAPP 40-160. The "40" is for the Education and Training guidance, and the "160" is for the safety program series. Don't worry, we'll get the word out when the new pamphlet is ready to go, and we'll make it easy for you to find.

Safety Links for ~~older~~ experienced drivers

With the pandemic, and our efforts to slow it's spread, many of us have been driving less. When we do drive, it can be stressful as our minds wander to missions we're performing for CAP, and all the other distractions that have arisen through 2020.

We can ALL use a review of some great defensive driving techniques we have probably learned and forgotten ... it's time to learn them again. Offered by the folks at Travelers Insurance, this helpful course includes discussion of speeding, tailgating, inattentive driving, and all the other bad habits that creep into our driving when we aren't concentrating.

Click [HERE for Defensive Driving for Experienced Drivers](#)

Some commanders are assigning this training following vehicle mishaps. That's a great idea, but it's an even better idea for us to watch it now and prevent some of those mishaps.

Don't forget our [Safety Information Links](#) page on our CAP Safety webpages ... LOTS of great references for training and safety education.

Safety Briefings!

We're always happy when our safety officers and other members share safety briefings they've developed, so we can share them with other members. It's a nice way of reducing some of the workload for our safety officers, and it also broadens the way we look at certain hazards and risks; the ability to view them from a new perspective.

We have accumulated a good number of briefings, and we are organizing them into a page on our CAP Safety webpages so members can download them. That will be available soon, but in the meantime here are a couple timely briefings for your own review or to share with members.

Frostbite Safety [\(click here\)](#)

This briefing was produced by Maj Kent Bankhead, the MI Wing Director of Safety. It gives a great overview of the hazards that can lead to frostbite, what to be aware of, and the risk controls members can use to reduce the chance of frostbite during CAP missions or recreational activities as we enter the coldest part of the year. Thanks Major Bankhead!

Flight Safety for Non-Rated Personnel [\(click here\)](#)

Col Ken Parris, the Director of Safety for the Pacific Region, reinforces the idea that ALL members need to be actively involved in flight safety when they are on board a CAP aircraft or involved in flight operations. Don't think of yourself as "just" a passenger ... you are an integral part of the aircrew and have a very important role in flight safety. Thanks for sharing this, Colonel Parris!

Do you have a safety briefing you'd like to share? Send it to us at safety@capnhq.gov

STRENGTHENING CAP READINESS THROUGH VACCINATION



"COVID-19 has changed the way we deliver the CAP Programs, but has not weakened our resolve, effectiveness, or mission execution. As we start the transition toward COVID-19 recovery, please strongly consider vaccination for yourself, your loved ones, and CAP."
— Major General Mark Smith, C.A.P. National Commander

TOP LINE MESSAGES

PRIORITY: TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE

DATE: 14 DECEMBER 2020

- Every CAP member is a valued team member and is critical to all our mission accomplishments.
- Continue being vigilant by wearing face coverings, socially distancing, washing your hands frequently, monitoring your health, not gathering in crowds, avoiding closed spaces with poor ventilation, limiting time with others, and not participating in CAP activities if feeling sick.
- It's important for leaders to encourage each member to make an informed decision about the pros and cons of vaccination by consulting government sources like the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and each member's healthcare professional team. Additionally, your CAP Health Services Officer can provide additional informational resources so you are well-informed to make the best decision for you.

SUMMARY

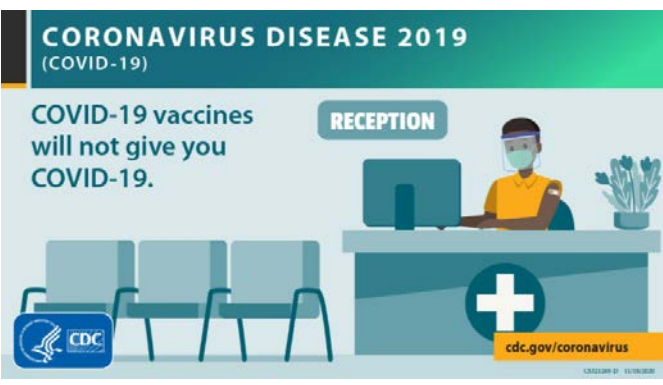
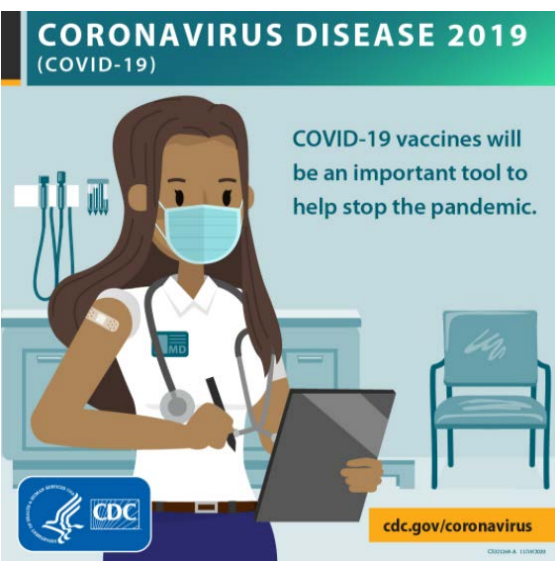
On December 11, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the Pfizer / BioNtech COVID-19 vaccine as an emergency use authorization. CAP strongly recommends that for those who are able, please consider vaccination, but also wants to emphasize that the COVID-19 vaccination is completely voluntary.

On December 12, 2020, the CDC recommended that the Pfizer / BioNtech COVID-19 vaccine be administered to people 16 years of age and older. Continue to monitor for updated recommendations at the CDC website <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>

TALKING POINTS

Key Messages for the Membership

- COVID-19 vaccines can not give you COVID-19.
- Getting vaccinated can help prevent getting sick with COVID-19.
- People who have already gotten sick with COVID-19 may still benefit from getting vaccinated.
- COVID-19 vaccines will not cause you to test positive on COVID-19 viral tests.
- Limited COVID-19 vaccine doses will be available in 2020, but it is anticipated that vaccine supply will increase substantially in 2021.
- The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as large quantities are available. However, not everyone will be able to get vaccinated right away.



DIGITAL & SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCES:

CDC Website
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>

Instagram & Twitter:
Instagram
@cdcgov
@fda

Twitter
@cdcemergency
@cdcgov
@us_fda

POCs:

Civil Air Patrol
COVID-19 Planning Team:
COVID-19Plans@capnhq.gov