



*Red Cross of Massachusetts CEO Holly Grant joins Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker and First Lady Lauren Baker, along with others, to give blood at the Magnolia Library and Community Center in Gloucester.*

## Blood Donors Needed

***Blood donors respond to news of shortage,  
but more donors are needed through the summer***

The American Red Cross is grateful for the blood donors across Massachusetts who have rolled up a sleeve to help fight a nationwide blood shortage; however, the need for blood and platelets remains crucial for patients relying on lifesaving transfusions.

The Red Cross continues to experience a severe blood shortage and donors of all blood types—especially type O and those giving platelets—are urged to ***make an appointment*** to give now.

To thank donors who help refuel the blood and platelet supply this month, all who donate by July 31 receive a \$10 Amazon.com gift card (via email), entry for a chance to win gas for a year (\$5,000 value), and entered for a chance to win a trip for four to Cedar Point or Knott's Berry Farm (to learn more, visit [rcblood.org/CedarFair](https://rcblood.org/CedarFair)).

More information and details about these offerings are available at [rcblood.org/fuel](https://rcblood.org/fuel).



## Heavy Rains Bring Chance of Flooding to Bay State

Floods are among the most frequent and costly natural disasters in the United States, and often occur when least expected here in Massachusetts.

With the state experiencing one of its wettest Julys on record, here are some tips to help you prepare when heavy rain is in the forecast.

## During a Flood

- Listen to local area radio or TV stations for the latest information and updates.
- Follow evacuation orders and don't return until local officials say it is safe.
- Do not use water that could be contaminated by floodwaters to wash dishes, brush teeth, make baby formula, prepare food, make ice, or wash hands.

*Red Crossers help flood victims*



## After a Flood

- Check the outside of your home before you enter. Look for loose power lines, broken or damaged gas lines, missing support beams and other damage.
- Don't use gas or electrical appliances that have been flooded until after they are checked for safety.
- Wear protective clothing, including rubber gloves and rubber boots, and be cautious when cleaning up. Discard items that absorb water and cannot be cleaned or disinfected, including mattresses, carpeting, stuffed animals, and baby toys.

**For more flood safety tips to keep safe this summer, please visit [redcross.org/flood](https://redcross.org/flood), print and complete a flood preparedness [checklist](#), and download the free Red Cross Emergency App for real-time weather alerts by searching for "American Red Cross" in app stores or visiting [redcross.org/apps](https://redcross.org/apps).**

## Be Water Smart

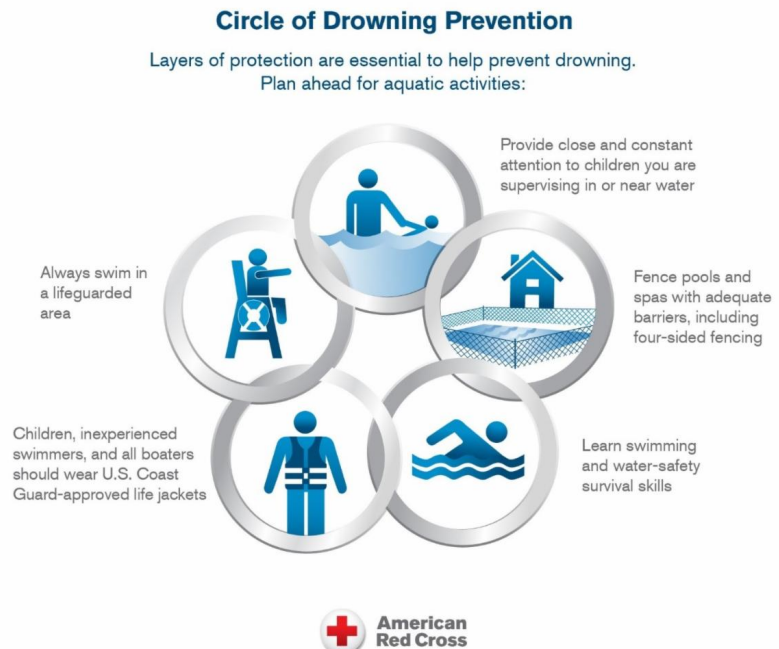
*With warm, muggy weather here to stay, the Red Cross reminds you to "Do your part, be water smart!"*

Although nothing feels better on a hot day than a dip in a nice cool pool or lake, it's important to keep water safety at the front of your mind. An emergency can happen to anyone in or around the water—regardless of swimming ability.

To keep everyone safe, children should be under close and constant supervision in or near water. Make sure pools and spas are protected on all four sides by fences and have adequate barriers in place.

Children, inexperienced swimmers, and boaters should always wear Coast Guard-approved life jackets and swim only in areas protected by a lifeguard.

And remember, it's never too late to learn to swim or improve your swimming and water survival skills. The Red Cross offers a free Swim app with safety tips, skill drills, and games. You can find the





## SAF Volunteers Provide Services in Worcester to Veterans



*Red Cross volunteers assist Worcester-area veterans*

Service to the Armed Forces (SAF) volunteers Novella Morrison and Dupree Wilder handed out linens, Girl Scout cookies, and more than 300 comfort kits to veterans struggling with housing insecurity at a Stand Down in Worcester on June 18.

What is a **Stand Down**? Several times a year, service providers come together to connect with veterans to share information about resources and to provide material assistance.

SAF offers a wide range of services to members of the Armed Forces and their families, including: 24/7 emergency communications, access to financial assistance in partnership with military aid societies, access to confidential Reconnection Workshops, information and referral services, veterans' assistance and more.

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## Red Cross/Boston Marathon Medical Team Volunteers Needed

The annual Boston Marathon will be run in person this October, and the Red Cross is looking for medical tent staff. It's not too late to join the Course Medical Team supporting the 125th running of the Boston Marathon, happening October 11!

If you hold a **current medical license** as an RN, EMT, PT, or ATC, and would like more information, please contact June Beckley, [june.beckley@redcross.org](mailto:june.beckley@redcross.org).



*Red Crossers provide Marathon runners medical services.*

Registration ends soon—so reach out immediately. Notification of acceptance will be in late August.

Join  
Team  
Red Cross  
2021  
10.11.21

125th BOSTON MARATHON  
RUN TO DELIVER HOPE  
LEARN MORE AND APPLY TODAY

## **Falmouth Road Race: First Aid Station Volunteers Requested – Falmouth Road Race**

Volunteers are needed to help at First Aid stations for the Falmouth Road Race on Sunday, August 15, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

We seek licensed volunteers (EMT's, nurses, etc.) and volunteers trained in First Aid and CPR (you must be current before registering).

Please contact [June.Beckley@redcross.org](mailto:June.Beckley@redcross.org) if you are interested in this event or have any additional questions.

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## **Disaster Workforce Orientation**

Disaster workers are invited to *Orientations through Leadership Development*, a class that provides information on the available GAPs and the training basics across several GAPs.

Upcoming classes will be held Tuesday, July 27; Wednesday, August 4; and Tuesday, August 10—all from 7 p.m. to 8:30 pm. You can register for a class on the **Regional Calendar** in Volunteer Connection.

Attendees can also apply to be Disaster Workforce Mentors. We are fortunate to have mentors with broad training and deployment experience who enjoy helping new people navigate their course.

For more information, contact Leadership Development at [susan.dietrich2@redcross.org](mailto:susan.dietrich2@redcross.org).

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## **Lifelines Program Welcomes Samantha Bussiere**



The Lifelines Mentorship Program welcomes Samantha Bussiere as Coordinator! Samantha will match new responders to experienced Red Crossers in Massachusetts with the same GAP.

Veteran responders who are new supervisors are encouraged to contact someone with management experience in that GAP. Responders can ask their “lifeline” questions or just share experiences.

We’re excited about this new program and hope you will participate. For more information, contact Leadership Development at [susan.dietrich2@redcross.org](mailto:susan.dietrich2@redcross.org).

*Samantha Bussiere, Lifelines Program Regional Coordinator*

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## **International Humanitarian Law: Prosecuting War Criminals**

*How do we ensure that perpetrators of war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity are held accountable?*

The American Red Cross International Services Team of Massachusetts invites you to hear from Arthur Traldi, a previous prosecutor for the former Yugoslavia’s International Tribunal. Mr. Traldi discusses the important role that international courts play in ensuring accountability for grave breaches of international humanitarian law, genocide, and crimes against humanity.



A virtual presentation and discussion, *Prosecuting War Criminals: The Role of International Tribunals*, will be held Tuesday, August 3, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Register on Eventbrite at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/accountability-for-ihl-violations-in-international-tribunals-tickets-163434261275>



## We Love our Volunteers!

After more than a year of restrictions and virtual meetings, plenty of Massachusetts Red Crossers were looking for a chance to get out of their home offices and see their colleagues face to maskless face again.

**Thanks to everyone who participated in our *Everything but the Ice Cream* volunteer recognition event on June 23. The weather may not have cooperated, but the smiles on everyone's faces were worth it.**



*Red Cross volunteers appreciated at recent event*

## Keep Us Posted

Please send us your news and photos, and upcoming calendar events, to: [News.RedCrossMA@redcross.org](mailto:News.RedCrossMA@redcross.org)

Stay up-to-date on breaking news on our social channels and tag @RedCrossMA when you post about your Red Cross work!



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[redcross.org/ma](http://redcross.org/ma)

