



**NORTH COUNTRY
REMSCO
REMAC**

2025

SPRING FLING EMS CONFERENCE

**EDGEWOOD RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER,
ALEXANDRIA BAY, NY**

WELCOME TO SPRING FLING

Welcome to the 24th Annual Spring Fling EMS Conference! North Country REMSCO and REMAC are proud to host this annual event and look forward to sharing many training and educational opportunities for you throughout the conference. This year's event will include continued support of our regional volunteers, EMS and Fire Rescue squads with interactive hands-on learning, ACLS Refresher at a discounted rate, and live music at the awards ceremony!



Edgewood Resort & Conference Center
 22467 Edgewood Road
 Alexandria Bay, New York 13607
 1-888-EDGEWOOD or 315.482.9923
 theedgewoodresort.com

NEW IN 2025!

EMS Trivial Pursuit! Work with your team to solve EMS themed questions...

Keynote Speaker - Michael Benenati

New Lunch & Learn Sessions! These sessions will include information about "When The State Comes Knocking," an overview of things to expect during your state inspections and State Updates with Ed Mager. We will have one for ALS Track and one for BLS Track.

ACLS Refresher - New this year, gain your ACLS Refresher credits at a discounted rate!

VENDOR BINGO!

Vendors will be set up throughout the day on Friday and Saturday. Be sure to bring your bingo card when you're visiting vendors during breaks and lunch. You'll be entered for a chance to win a free registration to the 2025 Spring Fling!

Thank you to our 2024 Gold Sponsor



FRIDAY DINNER AND LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Registration is **REQUIRED** for both the dinner and live entertainment following the awards. Please make sure that all guests are paid for prior to the event.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

All registrations must be completed online. The link (such as the one above) can be found in red throughout this brochure.

Credit card payments accepted. If paying by check/money order, make payable to: **NCEMS REMSCO**

PAYMENT IS DUE PRIOR TO CONFERENCE. NO PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE EVENT.

Agencies paying for multiple attendees may submit one check/money order; however, each individual registration must be completed separately and online

Mail payment to:
 FDRHPO NCEMS Program Agency
 120 Washington Street, Suite 230
 Watertown, NY 13601

Conference hosts reserve the right to substitute a lecture or presenter due to unforeseen circumstances.

NO REFUNDS - Refunds will not be available unless there is a significant life event.

Registration is REQUIRED for the Italian Buffet Dinner for both participants and guests!

PLEASE NOTE: By registering for Spring Fling 2025, you and your guest(s) agree to be photographed and videotaped during the conference and waive rights associated with said media. You also agree to abide by any CDC, local health department, or North Country Spring Fling rules associated with the COVID-19 virus or other public health concern. Spring Fling attendees, exhibitors, or guests are attending at their own risk and will not hold North Country Regional EMS Council or any other entity participating in the production of Spring Fling responsible for their illness or injury acquired or sustained at the event.

	Early Bird Registration (Ends Feb. 28th)	Regular Registration (Closes after March 31st)
Thursday, April 10		
Trivial Pursuit (Taco bar included)	\$30	\$30
Taco Bar (GUEST)	\$25	\$25
Friday, April 11		
Certified Instructor Update	Free	Free
Morning BLS Core	\$45	\$50
Morning ALS Core	\$45	\$50
Afternoon BLS Core	\$45	\$50
Afternoon ALS Core	\$45	\$50
Lunch & Learn - <i>Limited to 30 participants</i>	Free	Free
Friday Lunch (GUEST)	\$20	\$25
Italian Buffet Dinner (Attendees) <small>*Must be signed up*</small>	Free	Free
Italian Buffet Dinner (GUEST)	\$50	\$50
Saturday, April 12		
Lunch & Learn - <i>Limited to 30 participants</i>	Free	Free
BLS Track (Morning Only)	\$45	\$50
ALS Track (Morning Only)	\$45	\$50
BLS Track (Afternoon Only)	\$45	\$50
ALS Track (Afternoon Only)	\$45	\$50
Saturday Lunch (GUEST)	\$20	\$25



THURSDAY, APRIL 10

TACO BAR! OPENS AT 6 PM

Start the conference off right with a delicious taco bar provided by the Edgewood Resort & Conference Center. Once done with dinner, participate in the team building EMS Trivial Pursuit

EMS TRIVIAL PURSUIT!

Grab a partner and get ready to try your knowledge to win EMS Trivial Pursuit!

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

CORE CONTENT

LUNCH AND LEARN

Federal State and HIPAA updates. This program will take place for one hour during your lunch break. Times available for both the BLS and ALS tracks.

BLS Core Content

8:30 - 9:30 AM (1 hr)
Shock and Resuscitation

9:45 - 10:45 AM (1 hr)
Psychiatric

11 AM - 12 PM (1hr)
Cardiology Review

LUNCH (12 - 12:45 PM)

12:45 - 1:45 PM (1 hr)
BLS 12 Lead

2 - 3 PM (1 hr)
Respiratory

3:15 - 4:15 PM (1 hr)
Shock and Resuscitation

ALS Core Content

8:30 - 9:30 AM (1 hr)
Pediatrics

9:45 - 10:45 AM (1 hr)
Shock and Resuscitation

11 AM - 12 PM (1hr)
Trauma

LUNCH (12 - 12:45 PM)

12:45 - 1:45 PM (1 hr)
Shock and Resuscitation

2 - 3 PM (1 hr)
OB

3:15 - 4:15 PM (1 hr)
Pharmacology

CIC Update

New York State CICs now need three (3) hours of NYS CIU and five (5) hours of "other" approved instructor education for renewal of their CIC. This session will fulfill the NYS three-hour requirement for both CLI and CIC

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

DINNER AND AWARDS

Following today's sessions, please join us for a cocktail hour (two drinks provided per person), an Italian buffet dinner, our keynote speaker, the Regional EMS Awards and live entertainment provided by Josh Cox and the Rattlesnakes.

Many thanks to the sponsor of this evening's events:



YOUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER
MICHAEL BENENATI



An EMS provider since 1977, Michael has been involved in many EMS delivery systems including as a volunteer EMT, Paramedic, Officer, and Board member in a not-for-profit transporting Advanced Life Support (ALS) agency and later as a career Officer. Michael has worked in a variety of other settings including collegiate, volunteer fire, commercial ambulance, and a combination Fire District providing ALS Transport. Many of these roles have been in leadership positions. His contributions have been at the local, county, regional and state level. Throughout his career Michael has developed several operational plans and documents to include 911 Center Standard Operating Guidelines, County EMS Mutual Aid Plans, County MCI Plans, including Ulster County's response to the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) Operation Enduring Freedom & Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Woodstock '94 concert and the New Paltz Emergency Preparedness Plan. Michael represented the EMS community in the implementation of the Ulster County Enhanced 9-1-1 system and Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) programs. He continues to teach EMD and works part-time as a telecommunicator. Michael served as the Chair of the NYSEMSCO appointed EMS Sustainability Technical Advisory Group (TAG) which authored the NYS 2023 Evidence Based EMS Agenda for the Future. Most recently he served as Vice-Chair on the New York State Rural Ambulance Services Task Force. Michael is a member of EMS Task Forces in Ulster and Dutchess Counties. For several years he served as Chair of the Hudson Valley Regional EMS Councils Protocol Committee. Michael has been the recipient of Advanced Life Support Provider of the year for Ulster County, the Hudson Valley Regional EMS Council and New York State. In 2023 he was the recipient of Harriet C. Weber EMS Leadership Award in Dutchess County, the Hudson Valley Region and New York State. In 2023 Michael also received the Commissioner of Health's Award of Excellence in EMS Activities and NYSVARA EMS Leadership Award. Most recently he was recognized by the American College of Emergency Physicians, New York Chapter, receiving the Michael G. Gutenberg Outstanding Contribution of EMS Award. He has several other awards and citations including Hospital and County EMS Leadership, Dispatcher of the Year, Lifesaving and Legislative recognitions for his contributions to the EMS System. Michael retired from the Lagrange Fire District as the EMS Administrator in December 2023. In addition to working as a part-time Ulster County telecommunication he serves as Assistant EMS Coordinator for Ulster County.

NORTH COUNTRY REGIONAL SKILLS

Sign up by April 3rd to complete your North Country Regional Skills while you are here.

2025 Regional EMS Awards

- ALS Provider of the Year
- BLS Provider of the Year
- EMS Agency of the Year
- EMS Communication Specialist of the Year
 - EMS Educator of Excellence
 - Excellence in Quality & Safety
- Harriet C. Weber EMS Leadership Award
 - Registered Nurse of Excellence
 - Youth Provider of the Year

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

ALS TRACK

LUNCH AND LEARN

State Updates with Ed Mager. Times available for both the BLS and ALS tracks.

MOLST FORM TRAINING

8:15 - 9:15 AM

This lecture is designed to provide Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers with a comprehensive understanding of Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (MOLST). Participants will learn about the purpose and importance of MOLST forms in honoring patient wishes regarding end-of-life care. The session will cover key topics, including: The legal and ethical significance of MOLST in prehospital settings Review of BEMS Policy Statement 23-12; How to properly interpret and follow MOLST orders; Communication strategies for interacting with patients, families, and healthcare providers regarding MOLST; and real-world case studies to illustrate challenges and best practices. By the end of this lecture, EMS providers will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to respect MOLST directives confidently and compassionately while delivering high-quality patient care.

BREAK & Exhibits (Don't forget your vendor bingo card!)

APPROACHING ALZHEIMERS: FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING

9:30 - 10:30 AM

As a first responder, it's critical to understand how to best approach situations involving someone living with dementia. The Alzheimer's Association Approaching Alzheimer's: First Responder Training is a course to prepare you to respond to common calls involving a person with dementia. Developed with input from first responders, the training offers: TALK Tactics, addressing firearm safety, recognizing wandering, support search & rescue, driving calls, abuse & neglect calls and shoplifting calls.

BREAK & Exhibits (Don't forget your vendor bingo card!)

SAVING THE LIFE OF A CHILD: CAN'T MISS CASES IN PEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGY

10:45 - 11:45 AM

Geared toward ALS and BLS providers, this presentation gives a fascinating look at common, critical case presentations using radiographic imaging. You will hone your recognition and treatment skills to help you save a life. Chest pain, respiratory distress, and stroke symptoms – these are the mainstay of many EMS calls. But what about when they are not black and white and instead turn into something bigger and badder? We will look at several real cases and connect chief complaints with hospital outcomes. Geared to all EMS levels, this will help with some new considerations you may have never thought about. You will hone your recognition and treatment skills to help you save a life.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

ALS TRACK

BUFFET LUNCHEON AND LUNCH & LEARN (11:45 AM - 12:30 PM) **Limited to first 30 registrants**

IS THE AIRWAY DIFFICULT OR DID YOU MAKE IT DIFFICULT

12:30 - 1:30 PM

Coming Soon!

BREAK & Exhibits (Don't forget your vendor bingo card!)

SYNCOPE: INNOCENT FAINTING OR LETHAL ARRHYTHMIA

1:45 - 2:45 PM

Geared toward ALS and BLS providers, this presentation gives a fascinating look at common, critical case presentations using radiographic imaging. You will hone your recognition and treatment skills to help you save a life. Chest pain, respiratory distress, and stroke symptoms – these are the mainstay of many EMS calls. But what about when they are not black and white and instead turn into something bigger and badder? We will look at several real cases and connect chief complaints with hospital outcomes. Geared to all EMS levels, this will help with some new considerations you may have never thought about. You will hone your recognition and treatment skills to help you save a life.

BREAK & Exhibits (Don't forget your vendor bingo card!)

PUTTING THE "WHY" INTO CARDIOLOGY

3:00 - 5:00 PM

Too often the intricacy and complexity cardiology are condensed into quick memorization techniques like catchphrases and flashcards. While recognition is important, simply identifying a dysrhythmia falls short of the necessary understanding needed to provide optimal patient care. Anyone can memorize a flash card but excellent clinicians understand why events occur. Grasping the root causes and the underlying pathophysiology of change provides not only a lasting procedural memory of cardiology but also affords the ability to anticipate change. This class will specifically discuss why common cardiac events occur. We will describe basic electrophysiology leading to ECG changes, the impact of those changes on cardiac mechanics, and introduce the pathophysiology of heart disease that every provider should understand.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

BLS TRACK

LUNCH AND LEARN

State Updates with Ed Mager. Times available for both the BLS and ALS tracks.

8:45 - 9:45 AM

CASES IN BLACK AND WHITE: LIFE SAVING CASES YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS

Geared toward ALS and BLS providers, this presentation gives a fascinating look at common, critical case presentations using radiographic imaging. You will hone your recognition and treatment skills to help you save a life. Chest pain, respiratory distress, and stroke symptoms – these are the mainstay of many EMS calls. But what about when they are not black and white and instead turn into something bigger and badder? We will look at several real cases and connect chief complaints with hospital outcomes. Geared to all EMS levels, this will help with some new considerations you may have never thought about. You will hone your recognition and treatment skills to help you save a life. Chest pain, respiratory distress, and stroke symptoms – these are the mainstay of many EMS calls. But what about when they are not black and white and instead turn into something bigger and badder? We will look at several real cases and connect chief complaints with hospital outcomes. Geared to all EMS levels, this will help with some new considerations you may have never thought about. You will hone your recognition and treatment skills to help you save a life.

BREAK & Exhibits (Don't forget your vendor bingo card!)

10:00 - 11:00 AM

BEHIND THE SIRENS: RECOGNIZING AND TREATING PTS BY BUILDING A SUPPORTIVE EMS COMMUNITY

This presentation will cover the prevalence of PTSD among EMS professionals, the specific stressors they encounter, and common symptoms. We'll also address the stigma around mental health, barriers to seeking help, and the impact of untreated PTSD. Finally, we'll explore prevention strategies, including resilience training, peer support, and fostering a supportive work environment. Understanding and addressing PTSD is essential for the well-being of EMS responders.

BREAK & Exhibits (Don't forget your vendor bingo card!)

11:15 - 12:15 PM

APPROACHING ALZHEIMERS: FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING

As a first responder, it's critical to understand how to best approach situations involving someone living with dementia. The Alzheimer's Association Approaching Alzheimer's: First Responder Training is a free course to prepare you to respond to common calls involving a person with dementia. Developed with input from first responders, the training offers: TALK Tactics, addressing firearm safety, recognizing wandering, support search & rescue, driving calls, abuse & neglect calls and shoplifting calls.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

BLS TRACK

BUFFET LUNCHEON AND LUNCH & LEARN (12:30 - 1:15 PM) **Limited to first 30 registrants**

1:15 - 2:15 PM

AN EMT'S REVIEW ON WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

For most EMT instructors, weapons of mass destruction are a challenge. They represent situations that the average EMT will never face and frequently evolve as a topic faster than most publishers can keep up. As a result, the topic gets pushed into the "We'll get to it if we can" category or the "read this on your own" assignment. But WMDs are more than theoretical and have been deployed both internationally and within the US multiple times in the past two decades. This class will provide a brief overview of the most common types of weapons and discuss case reviews of recent utilizations. Recognizing the highly specialized needs these situations require; we will describe the keys to recognizing a WMD event and the immediate actions necessary to mitigate their damage. We will describe toxins such as SARIN, ricin, and cyanide and discuss very basic but potentially lifesaving treatment strategies deployable at the EMT level.

BREAK & Exhibits (Don't forget your vendor bingo card!)

2:30 - 3:30 PM

MOLST FORM TRAINING

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BREAK & Exhibits (Don't forget your vendor bingo card!)

3:45 - 4:45

SITUATIONAL ACTIVITY AND SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING

Homeland Security Class: This is a new class developed by the New York State Intelligence Center (NYSIC) and the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) and delivered by local Intelligence Liaison Officers (ILOs). The purpose of the class is to make Fire/EMS responders better aware of suspicious activities (potentially related to terrorism and other criminal behavior) and the proper way to report these observations to the New York State Terrorism Tips Line.

YOUR SATURDAY SPEAKERS



DAN BATSIE, MPA

NRP Deputy Commissioner, Vermont Department of Public Safety

Dan has been a paramedic in New York, Maine, and now Vermont for more than 30 years. Over his career, Dan has worked hard to elevate the profession of prehospital medicine and demonstrated a particular passion for high-quality EMS education. Dan has directed two accredited paramedic programs, authored two EMS textbooks, and lectured both nationally and internationally on current EMS topics. In addition to his work at the state level, Dan is active in numerous national EMS projects and committees.



TIFF BOMBARD, NRP, MD, FACEP

Emergency Department Physician, UVM Health Network

Tiff Bombard, NRP, MD, FACEP is an emergency department physician at the UVM Health Network in the Adirondack Mountains of northern NY. She had a long and diverse career in EMS before attending medical school, including work in ski patrol and avalanche control, rural, urban, critical care transport, flight and fire department systems. She continues to work in prehospital care as a service medical director, regional leader and educator across Northern New York.



MELISSA BROOK, NPR, FP-C, CIC

Clinical Coordinator/Paramedic Program Instructor, Elizabethtown Community Hospital Paramedical Program

Melissa Brook, NPR, FP-C, CIC, is an EMS educator and paramedic in the North Country. She works as the Clinical Coordinator and Paramedic Instructor with the Elizabethtown Paramedic Program and as the Deputy Director at Gouverneur Rescue. She has experience in urban, rural, and critical care ground and flight EMS. She is a New York State, Nationally Registered, and Certified Flight Paramedic.



ROBERT A. MACKENZIE III, CEM/CFV/AEMT-P

Director of Fire and Emergency Management, Lewis County, NY

Robert MacKenzie is a lifelong resident of Lewis County and has been a paramedic since 2007. He is credentialed in both Midstate and North Country EMS systems. He is the director of Fire and Emergency Management in Lewis County and is an instructor for the Department of Homeland Security Situational Awareness as an intelligence liaison officer.

YOUR SATURDAY SPEAKERS



ED MAGER, AEMT-P

West Branch Chief/Investigator, NYS Department of Health Bureau of Emergency Services and Trauma Systems

Ed has been a paramedic since 1990, with a vast amount of field, operations, administrative, surveillance and investigative experience with the EMS System. He has worked with both the volunteer and commercial EMS agencies for eighteen plus years prior to joining the Bureau of EMS with New York State Department of Health in 2006. As the Branch Chief for the Western Region of New York State for the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems, he ensures compliance with the Public Health Law and EMS regulations with his team of District Chiefs across the State.



VICKY SOKOLOWSKI

North Country Program Manager, Central NY Alzheimer's Association

Vicky Sokolowski is a Program Manager for the Alzheimer's Association, Central New York Chapter, covering Jefferson, Lewis, Oswego & St Lawrence Counties. In this role, Vicky builds relationships with health care and social service providers, local organizations and community members to increase awareness of Alzheimer's Association services. Vicky has over 10 years of experience in mental health and higher education. Vicky is passionate about educating caregivers and the general public on Alzheimer's and other dementia as well as providing resources to professionals who work with older adults. Vicky holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services from Cazenovia College.



MATTHEW YELTON, FP-C, NRP, CCEMT-P, CIC

EMS Volunteer Chief, Constableville Ambulance Inc.

Matthew Yelton has more than 13 years of experience in pre-hospital emergency medicine as a Paramedic, 9 of which as a Flight Paramedic. Most recently he completed certification as an EMS Instructor and has returned to college to complete his Associates Degree in Paramedicine. Matt hails from the Southern Tug Hill Region where during his spare time, He volunteers as the EMS Chief for Constableville Ambulance Inc. and provides educational opportunities for EMS professionals.

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