

**Expecting the Unexpected: Swift Water Rescues, Seasonal Challenges, and Responding to the 2008 River Road Flood in Potomac, MD**

*Summary: Prepared for anything? How about a four foot high wall of water welcoming you to your morning commute. This was exactly what greeted nearly twenty drivers and passengers one morning on Potomac Maryland's River Road. Although unusual for the victims, not so for the rescuers. Montgomery County's swiftwater rescue team had been performing similar rescues like this for years. Let's review how multiple agencies from multiple jurisdictions used tremendous amounts of coordination, training, planning, and of course luck, to save everyone from both water and ice.*