

Georgia Traffic Incident Management Program



Q2 2026 NEWSLETTER

QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHT

As rail traffic increases across the United States and more freight rail traffic is coming through Georgia, a new training course has been developed to help responders better understand and prepare for incidents involving railroads. Many railroads intersect or run parallel with public roads. The Railroad Incident Response Course was developed to bring railroad personnel from major railroads like CSX, Norfolk Southern, and Amtrak, together with responders in a controlled setting at one of the short line railroads that run through much of the state. The training provides students with a better understanding of railroad operations, equipment, and emergency response procedures so that, if a situation arises involving a railroad and a motorist, pedestrian, or public road, responders and the railroads can work together to ensure the safety of all affected.

Railroad incidents can stem from a derailment, a collision with a motor vehicle or pedestrian, or a blocked crossing hindering the normal flow of traffic. The information taught in this training covers incident command for rail incidents, emergency points of contact, hazardous materials, the difference between freight and passenger rail, and more. The Statewide TIM Services Program works with short-line railroads to



Railroad Incident Response Training in Crisp County

WELCOME!

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bring a locomotive and several rail cars out to an area where responders can go over the equipment with railroad representatives and learn about the dangers of working near railroad tracks.

Responders who have been through the class reported that they never would have thought about crash responders training with railroads, but that this course opened their eyes to what is transported through their jurisdictions, how the railroads interact with local roads, and who to contact if an emergency happens on or near a railroad.