America’s only subway tunnel training facility is now available for your agency’s training needs.
The closest—and safest—you can get to the real thing.
The WMATA Emergency Response Training Facility in Landover, Maryland provides the realism of a subway tunnel without the real dangers, delays and other complications of using an actual tunnel. The first of its kind in the country, the facility was created to train fire, rescue, police, emergency and transit personnel. In its first 12 months this facility was used by over 1,600 public safety personnel from Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. Now it’s available to your agency, too.

What it’s made of.
The facility includes a full-scale replica of a subway tunnel section 260 feet long and 30 feet wide complete with two 75-foot subway cars. Once inside the tunnel, it’s difficult to tell it from the real thing. A mock third rail, safety walk, track switches, communications equipment, power cables and lighting give the tunnel an authentic look and feel.

Next to the tunnel is an command control room where all tunnel activity can be monitored and videotaped via closed-circuit TV. Wall phones in the tunnel connect to the command control room enabling controllers to participate in the exercise. There is also a classroom with PowerPoint capabilities for lecture and debriefing.

What we teach:
The facility and staff is available to develop a course or customize current courses to your agency’s particular needs.

Our courses include:
- smoke and fire incidents
- bomb blasts
- terrorist and hostage rescue
- chemical/biological release
- train collision
- person struck by train
- passenger rail familiarization
- passenger rail extrication
- joint supervisory training
- train the trainer passenger rail familiarization and operations
- portable fire extinguishers
- personal protective equipment
- occupational safety and health compliance
- system safety improvement
- evidence collection technician training
- explosive ordnance detection training
- weapons of mass destruction
- emergency response and access to alternative-fuel vehicles

The training center lends itself perfectly to making training videos and CDs. Because of its controlled environment it can be dedicated to the task at hand. The tunnel and train can be tailored to a particular scene; sets and props can be left in place until taping is complete. The staging of personnel isn’t affected by weather, revenue service or schedules.

The facility is flexible.
We can tailor courses to simulate a variety of situations. In the tunnel, where there’s smoke there can also be fire—and heat. Very realistic but always very safe. The training staff has conducted training scenarios as simple as a smoke and fire incident to as complicated as a chemical/biological terrorist situation.

The facility also offers emergency training for buses with a state-of-the-art bus simulator at its disposal.

We’re ready when you are—24/7.

Where we are.
The facility is located in suburban Washington, D.C. with easy access from three major airports—Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Baltimore-Washington International Airport and Dulles International Airport. There is also rail service through Amtrak and Maryland’s MARC. The facility is accessible by Metrorail, located near the New Carrollton station at the east end of the Orange line. For those driving in, the facility is easily accessed via Interstate 95, Route 50 and the Capital Beltway.

Where to stay.
Washington, D.C. provides a wide range of hotel accommodations. If you prefer to stay nearby, the Ramada Inn and Marriott Courtyard Hotel in New Carrollton provide federal and corporate rates and free shuttle service to and from the training facility or Metrorail station.