



ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update

Produced by Emergency Support Function 15 – External Affairs

August 2014

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR ESF 15



Be Disaster Aware, Take Action to Prepare

September is National Preparedness Month

The national Ready campaign established four building blocks of emergency preparedness: Be informed, Make a Plan, Build a Kit and Get Involved. The Ready Virginia and Listo Virginia campaigns echo these messages. Now America's PrepareAthon! goes a step further and builds on this foundation by encouraging millions of Americans to focus on a simple, specific activity that will increase preparedness. America's PrepareAthon! is a national campaign for action that focuses on increasing emergency preparedness through hazard-specific drills, group discussions and exercises. This September, which is National Preparedness Month (NPM), individuals and communities are encouraged to take action by planning a National PrepareAthon! Day event on or near Sept. 30. The theme of the month is, "Be Disaster Aware, Take Action to Prepare." For more information on NPM, to register a National PrepareAthon! day event or download the 2014 NPM toolkit, visit www.ready.gov/september.

"Be Disaster Aware, Take Action to Prepare"

The Ready Campaign established four universal building blocks of emergency preparedness: Be informed, Make a Plan, Build a Kit and Get Involved. America's PrepareAthon! builds on this foundation by encouraging millions of Americans to focus on a simple, specific activity that will increase preparedness. America's PrepareAthon! is a national community-based campaign for action that focuses on increasing emergency preparedness through hazard-specific drills, group discussions and exercises. During National Preparedness Month (NPM) in September individuals and communities are encouraged to take action by planning a National PrepareAthon! Day on or around Sept. 30. Register a National PrepareAthon! Day event or download the 2014 NPM digital engagement toolkit (<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/97860>). For more information on NPM, visit www.ready.gov/september.

Summer Deaths by Drowning on the Rise

The Coast Guard 5th District is stressing the importance of safe boating and swimming practices in the wake of 40 drowning deaths that occurred from northern New Jersey to southern North Carolina this summer. Of the 40 boating- or swimming-related deaths, 34 people were not wearing lifejackets. The Coast Guard strongly encourages boaters and swimmers to take simple precautions that are critical to staying safe on the water.

- Wear a lifejacket.
- Swim in areas with lifeguards.
- Get a free, local vessel safety check.
- Take a boating safety course. Operator error accounts for 70 percent of boating accidents.
- Be aware of local weather and currents.
- File a float plan. There are too many facts that need to be accurately remembered and conveyed in an



emergency situation. Without a float plan you are counting on someone else, a friend, neighbor, or family member, to remember detailed information rescue personnel need in order to find you.

- Don't operate a boat or swim while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Alcohol consumption is responsible for 16 percent of boating fatalities – the leading contributing factor in recreational boating deaths.

<http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2213705/>



Get ready to Drop, Cover and Hold On!

For the third year, Virginia residents can participate in the Great SouthEast ShakeOut, a multistate simultaneous earthquake drill. The date is Oct. 16, and the time is 10:16 a.m.

Registration is open at www.shakeout.org/southeast.

More information is available at www.ReadyVirginia.gov.

National Protection Framework

In late July, the Federal Government and its partners released the National Protection Framework, one of the five National Planning Frameworks directed in Presidential Policy Directive 8: National Preparedness. The National Protection Framework covers the capabilities necessary to secure the homeland against acts of terrorism and manmade or natural disasters. It is focused on actions to protect against the greatest risks in a manner that allows American interests, aspirations, and way of life to thrive. The Protection Framework describes the core capabilities; roles and responsibilities; and coordinating structures that facilitate the protection of individuals, communities and the nation. There is one framework for each of the five mission areas: prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery. The National Disaster Recovery Framework was the first to be released (September 2011). The Prevention, Mitigation and updated National Response Framework were released in May 2013. The National Protection Framework was released after the other Frameworks to ensure alignment with other National protection policies, such as Presidential Policy Directive 21: Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience, the National Infrastructure Protection Plan. Together, the National Planning Frameworks document the roles and responsibilities of the whole community in all facets of national preparedness and illustrate how we work together to support one another before, during, and after an emergency. The benefit of this unified effort is a more informed, shared understanding of risks, needs and capabilities across the whole community; and, in the end, a more secure and resilient nation. Each Framework:

- Summarizes the roles and responsibilities of each part of the whole community.
- Defines each mission area's core capabilities, along with examples of critical tasks.
- Defines coordinating structures – either new or existing – that enable the whole community to work together to deliver the core capabilities.
- Describes the relationships to the other mission areas.
- Identifies relevant information to help with operational planning.
- Provides information that all levels of government can use to revise their operational plans.
- Uses concepts from existing preparedness efforts, such as the National Incident Management System.

You can download the National Planning Frameworks at <http://www.fema.gov/national-planning-frameworks>.

FEMA Unveils Redesigned Flood Map Service Center

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently unveiled a completely redesigned FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC). Accessed by thousands of individuals each day, the MSC is the authoritative online public source for flood hazard information produced under the National Flood Insurance Program. This important repository has undergone an extensive enhancement including a streamlined design and interface, significant technical improvements and a set of new user features. These improvements enable the new MSC to serve as both an intuitive

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and user-friendly source of information for the general public and a powerful flood hazard product portal for those working in flood insurance, hazard mitigation and floodplain management. The upgraded MSC provides a number of benefits:

- All products and services will now be completely online and free of charge, improving public access to flood risk information to expand awareness, reducing the costs to the public and reducing the costs to FEMA associated with processing payments, shipping physical media and maintaining parallel systems for paying and fee-exempt customers;
- An enhanced map search will enable the public to find and download their flood map, and any revisions or amendments to it, in a matter of seconds;
- An integrated product search will allow users to locate every flood hazard product available for their area of interest in just a few clicks; and
- Free customized email subscriptions will make it possible for floodplain managers, local officials and others to know immediately when new information comes out for their community.

The investment in these upgrades reflects FEMA's commitment to providing the public with timely and accurate risk analysis and hazard information. The MSC is one of the many tools used by FEMA to support partners, communities and individuals as we work together to improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, and mitigate all hazards. More information about MSC is available online at <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/96958>.



Watch Your Water Waste Outside

With a hot summer, drought has gotten even worse for many of the states on the West Coast, especially California. Even if your community is not directly impacted by a drought, it can still impact you in other ways, such as an increase in the cost of produce. Conservation of water is absolutely imperative to combat the effects of a drought. As much as 50 percent of the water used outside our homes is wasted. The majority of our misuse of water comes from lawn maintenance and upkeep of our cars. There are preventative measures you can take to reduce your water waste outside of the home. Follow these tips and you will be well on your way:

- Inspect your sprinkler system for clogged, broken or missing pieces. Consult a professional for more serious issues.
- Select a proper watering schedule for your sprinkler system.
- Check for local mandated water restrictions to help ensure there is enough water for necessary uses.
- Raise the lawn mower blade. A higher cut encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system, and holds soil moisture.
- If you wash your own car, use a shut-off nozzle that can be adjusted.

For more tips and resources, visit ready.gov/drought or print a copy of water conservation tips from FEMA's "Are You Ready?" (PDF) guide at www.fema.gov/pdf/areyouready/appendix_a.pdf.

Reprinted from FEMA's "Individual and Community Preparedness eBrief," Aug. 7 edition

FEMA Releases 2014 National Preparedness Report

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and its partners recently released the 2014 National Preparedness Report (NPR). Overall, the NPR found the nation continues to make progress building preparedness in key areas and identifies several areas of sustainment. The report also identified areas for national improvement in building resilience and reducing long-term vulnerability.

Some of the key findings include:

- Major events, such as Hurricane Sandy and the severe 2012-2013 drought, have served as catalysts for change in national preparedness programs, drawing clearer links between post-disaster recovery and pre-disaster mitigation activities.
- Cybersecurity, infrastructure systems, health and social services and housing remain national areas for improvement. Long-term vulnerability reduction is a newly identified national area for improvement.
- Budget uncertainties have created challenges for preparedness initiatives at state and local levels of government, resulting in increased emphasis on preparedness innovations and whole community engagement.

The NPR was developed to meet the requirements of “Presidential Policy Directive 8/PPD-8: National Preparedness.” PPD-8 is aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of the United States through preparation for the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to security of the nation, including terrorism, cyber-attacks, pandemics and catastrophic natural disasters. To view the report, go to www.fema.gov/national-preparedness-report.



PLANNING / PREPAREDNESS

Calgary Emergency Management Agency Launches Business Continuity Handbook

CEMA, the Calgary Emergency Management Agency, has published business continuity guidance for organizations in its area. “Is Your Business Prepared?” is aimed at smaller organizations and sets out the basics of business continuity planning. The associated business continuity template and supporting reference guide are more comprehensive documents that will help guide businesses through the entire business continuity process. Written in collaboration with the Calgary Chamber of Commerce, CEMA has also developed business continuity materials to help small businesses plan for, recover from and continue operations during a disruption. These materials are available for download.

<http://www.continuitycentral.com/news07301.html>

More details and to obtain the publication can be found at <http://www.calgary.ca/CSPS/Fire/Pages/Calgary-Emergency-Management-Agency/Calgary-Emergency-Management-Agency.aspx>.

Release of the National Protection Framework

The National Protection Framework describes what the whole community should do to safeguard against acts of terrorism, natural disasters and other threats or hazards. The whole community includes individuals (including those with disabilities and others with access and functional needs), businesses and nonprofits, faith-based and community groups, schools, and all levels of government. The Protection Framework also describes the core capabilities; roles and responsibilities; and coordinating structures that facilitate the protection of individuals, communities, and the Nation. This Framework is focused on actions to protect against the greatest risks in a manner that allows American interests, aspirations, and way of life to thrive. FEMA is hosting a series of virtual roundtables to discuss the National Protection Framework and the 2013 National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP). All webinars will be open to the whole community. These virtual roundtables will provide an overview on how to develop and implement protection plans under the guidance of the National Protection Framework and the NIPP. The National Protection Framework is

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publicly accessible at www.fema.gov/national-preparedness/national-protection-framework. The National Infrastructure Protection Plan is publicly accessible at <https://www.dhs.gov/national-infrastructure-protection-plan>. Each one-hour event will provide an overview of the Protection Framework, the NIPP and how to apply these concepts in your community.

- Tuesday, Sept. 2, at 11 a.m.
Dial In: 800-369-1725; Pin: 5116984
Webinar: <https://share.dhs.gov/nipp2013npfsept2/>
- Wednesday, Sept. 3, at noon
Dial In: 800-369-1725; Pin: 5116984
Webinar: <https://share.dhs.gov/nipp2013npfsept3/>

The agenda will cover topics such as:

- An introduction to the National Protection Framework and the NIPP.
- Key integration points between the National Protection Framework and the NIPP.
- Application of the National Protection Framework and the NIPP into operational plans.

Questions about the roundtable can be submitted via email at: PPD8-engagement@fema.dhs.gov. This effort is a part of the National Preparedness System, a process that organizes the tools and resources needed to move toward the National Preparedness Goal. For more on national preparedness efforts, visit www.fema.gov/national-preparedness.

FEMA Launches Spanish-Language App

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) launched a free Spanish-language app with information on what individuals can do before, during and after a disaster to keep their families and communities safe. FEMA's Spanish-language app offers a wide array of information for the public and disaster survivors, including preparedness tips, locations of nearby shelters, what to include in an emergency supply kit and a user friendly interface for survivors who may need assistance from FEMA after a disaster. Some key features of the app include:

- **Safety Tips:** This feature helps users prepare for flooding, hurricanes, tornadoes and other disasters by providing tips on how to be informed about potential hazards and what steps to take before, during and after an emergency.
- **Emergency Meeting Locations:** This tool offers the capability to set an emergency meeting place for you and your family with the option of having a primary, secondary and out of state location.
- **Apply for Assistance:** The FEMA Spanish-language App will help users locate a disaster recovery center after a Major Disaster Declaration with Individual Assistance has been issued. This feature also provides information about how to offer volunteer services and donations.

The app offers pre-loaded content ensuring that FEMA guidance is available anytime and anywhere – even if no Internet connection is available. The app is free and available for iPhones and Android devices in the iTunes and the Google Play Stores.

<http://www.fema.gov/news-release/2014/08/18/fema-launches-spanish-language-app>

Preparedness Teams Train to Help Pets During Disasters

The mission of the Center for Domestic Preparedness is to keep members of the community safe. And that includes the parts of the community that walk on four legs. While the center, part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, has trained thousands of emergency responders in how to deal with medical attention for humans, it's paid less attention to what to do about the population's feline and canine companions. But on Friday, a training program in Anniston helped address that need. In a simulation scenario at Calhoun County Humane Society's animal shelter, veterinary teams with the National Disaster Medical System evaluated the needs of local veterinarians and animal rescue groups should disaster strike. The teams have been training this week at the CDP.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/training/Preparedness-Teams-Train-Help-Pets-Disasters.html>

National Terrorism Advisory System

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) is a robust terrorism advisory system that provides timely information to the public about credible terrorist threats and replaces the former color-coded alert system. Under NTAS, DHS will coordinate with other federal entities to issue detailed alerts to the public when the federal government receives information about a credible terrorist threat. NTAS alerts provide a

concise summary of the potential threat including geographic region, mode of transportation, or critical infrastructure potentially affected by the threat, actions being taken to ensure public safety, as well as recommended steps that individuals, communities, business and governments can take to help prevent, mitigate or respond to a threat. Depending on the nature of the threat, alerts may be sent to law enforcement, distributed to affected areas of the private sector, or issued more broadly to the public through both official and social media channels – including a designated DHS webpage (www.dhs.gov/alerts), Facebook and via Twitter @NTASAlerts. NTAS alerts and posters will also be displayed in places such as transit hubs, airports and government buildings. NTAS threat alerts will be issued for a specific time period and will automatically expire. Alerts may be extended if new information becomes available or as a specific threat evolves. For more information on the National Terrorism Advisory System or to receive NTAS alerts, visit www.dhs.gov/alerts.

Emergency Alerts (Fairfax Alerts) – In the Know, On the Go

Get emergency alerts by email, as well as by text or pager. Sign up at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts.

You Choose the Type of Alerts

- Pick the types of weather alerts you wish to receive, along with traffic and public safety alerts.
- Create a “do not disturb” timeframe when you don’t want to receive weather alerts.
- Learn about county government non-emergency notices such as taxes and elections.

Alerts for Many Different Devices

- Choose up to 10 delivery methods like home phone, cell phone, email, text messaging and more.
- Manage your Fairfax Alerts profile from your phone by downloading the iPhone or Android app.
- Mobile app allows for two-way conversations with emergency managers and does not use text messaging service.

Alerts for Your Locations

- Customize your Fairfax Alerts with up to five addresses, i.e., school, work and home.
- Get geo-targeted weather alerts based on the addresses you define.
- Weather advisories for you, your family, home, business, school, child care and more.

If we can’t reach you, we can’t alert you. Sign up for free emergency alerts today at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts.



MEDIA ARTICLES OF INTEREST

New Phone App Could Save Your Life

New technology could save your life in the event of an attack. It’s already saved four lives since its debut in February and is an easy download on your smart phone. The app, which is available for iPhone and android, is called lifeline response and allows you to save emergency contacts, who will be notified, along with police, if you are in trouble.

<http://www.wsls.com/story/26155626/new-phone-app-could-save-your-life-if-youre-attacked>



Weather Kills 2,000 a Year, Mostly from Cold

The weather kills at least 2,000 Americans each year, and nearly two-thirds of the deaths are from the cold, according to a new government report. The report released yesterday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention analyzed U.S. deaths attributed to the cold, the heat, storms, floods, and lightning.

<http://www.emsworld.com/news/11601728/weather-kills-2000-a-year-mostly-from-cold>

2014 Marked by Array of New Cyber Threats, Cisco Report Says

A mid-year report on the state of cyber security warns of new, insidious ways hackers are gaining access to corporate and private computers. The Cisco 2014 Midyear Security Report said of the 16 multinational corporations surveyed, some 90 percent of their computer systems were reaching out to corrupted IP hosts on the Internet. Levi Gundert, senior expert on Cisco's threat research, analysis and communications team, said there were 1,633 software vulnerabilities discovered in the first half of the year with 28 of them being actively exploited. The pharmaceutical and chemical industries saw the biggest increase in activity, with publishing and media following. Both nation-state actors, as well as criminals, are behind these attacks, although it isn't always clear what their motivation may be, he said. The agriculture industry in the Asia-Pacific region also saw an increase in cyber attacks. As for Chinese hackers, Cisco hasn't seen any decrease in activity coming from that country, despite protests from the U.S. government and the recent indictments by the Department of Justice of five military officers for allegedly engaging in economic espionage.

<http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/blog/Lists/Posts/Post.aspx?ID=1574>

FEMA Under Fire for Excessive Costs and Mismanagement of Disaster Aid Programs

In an attempt to stem the increasing costs of disaster aid programs, DHS and GAO recently advanced proposals to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of FEMA's disaster response and recovery programs. Systemic risk issues within the various grant programs have led to redundancy of disaster aid requests and managerial issues within FEMA.

<http://www.hstoday.us/briefings/daily-news-analysis/single-article/fema-under-fire-for-excessive-costs-and-mismanagement-of-disaster-aid-programs/b8758dc05e62dd5658375c142ab7ace4.html>

Forecasters Expect Slower Atlantic Storm Season

Federal forecasters say the Atlantic hurricane season will be even quieter than predicted, thanks to atmospheric and oceanic conditions suppressing storm formation. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration still expects three to six hurricanes to form during the six-month season that peaks between mid-August and mid-October, but officials dropped the number of named storms to between seven and 12 in an updated hurricane season forecast issued earlier this month.

<http://wavy.com/2014/08/07/forecasters-expect-slower-atlantic-storm-season/>

Northern Virginia: "Ground Zero" for Kissing Bug Disease

According to the World Health Organization, an estimated 8 million people have Chagas disease worldwide, most of them in Latin America. The triatomines, or the so-called kissing bugs, live in the cracks of walls in rural houses made of mud and thatched roofs and they bite people at night, passing the parasite through their feces. The bite itself is painless, and many people never show any signs of the disease. A third of those with Chagas, however, develop heart disease or megacolon, and untreated, they die from what appear to be sudden heart attacks. An estimated 11,000 people lose their lives every year to the disease, according to the WHO. Because of migration, patients with Chagas are showing up everywhere from Spain and Italy to Japan and Australia. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 300,000 people are infected with Chagas in the U.S. Dr. Rachel Marcus, a cardiologist, believes Northern Virginia could be "ground zero" for Chagas disease, because of the volume of immigrants from Bolivia, where the disease is endemic.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2014/07/northern-virginia-ground-zero-for-kissing-bug-disease/374383/>

FEMA Pushes for Family Emergency Communication Plans

Most Americans are unprepared to cope with a disaster, the Federal Emergency Management Agency found in a survey, so the nation's disaster relief agency is taking a new approach to prod people into taking at least one step to prepare. Starting with an ad campaign launched this month, FEMA will devote a month to encouraging people to create a plan to communicate and locate family members in an emergency. The federal government had tried since the 2001 terror attacks to nudge Americans to learn their community's disaster risks, develop emergency plans, stock supplies and get involved in community disaster response. Less than 40 percent of all Americans have an emergency plan, and just 29 percent updated their supplies in the past year, according to a survey. About half said they had some

sort of supplies set aside, such as packaged food and bottled water, but less than a third reported having a first-aid kit.
<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/08/25/fema-launches-push-for-family-emergency-communication-plans/14348855/>

FLU

Study of H7N9 in Macaques Shows Widespread, Sustained Replication

H7N9 avian flu, which emerged in humans in China in the spring of 2013 and has since caused more than 450 cases, was found to replicate well in both the upper and lower respiratory tracts of cynomolgus macaques, a model for humans, and to show extended replication in the upper tract, indicating the possibility of prolonged shedding and transmissibility, say findings of a study in “mBio.” Macaques were used because they reflect human physiology and attachment patterns of H7N9, even better than ferrets do, the authors explain.

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2014/08/flu-scan-aug-12-2014>

mBio Study: <http://mbio.asm.org/content/5/4/e01331-14.full>

Swine Flu Epidemic Hits Australia

The swine flu, or H1N1 virus, is sweeping through Australia with the virus accounting for the majority of the rising number of influenza cases this year, experts said earlier this month. The Influenza Specialist Group (ISG) said Australia is experiencing double number of cases than at the same time last year with more than 21,000 reported cases of influenza so far. Almost three quarters of the reported influenza cases for 2014 were the H1N1 strain.

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/health/2014-08/12/c_133550321.htm

Quebec GSK Flu Vaccine Plant Gets Nod to Solve Contamination Issues

GSK, owners of an influenza vaccine plant in Canada that has been cited as having contamination problems, has received approval from Health Canada on a plan and timetable for solving the issues, says a Canadian Press article. GSK presented its proposal to Health Canada on July 31. Water purification problems were identified at the plant, which is located in Ste. Foy, Quebec, during inspections by U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Health Canada in the spring. Health Canada spelled out seven “major observations,” which are items that show required standards are not being met. The FDA issued a warning letter to GSK on June 21. It stated that 21 percent of the year’s vaccine produced at the plant could not be released to market because bacterial counts were above safety limits. A warning letter, says the story, is “the last step before possible suspension of a license to supply to the U.S. market.” The plant, which is the only flu vaccine plant in Canada, manufactures 53 percent of the seasonal vaccine used in the country and provides 23 million doses for the United States, in addition to having a contract to provide pandemic vaccine to Canada.

<https://ca.news.yahoo.com/health-canada-oks-gsks-plan-fix-quebec-flu-221037864.html>

Large Trial Finds High-dose Flu Shot Beneficial for Seniors

A 2-year randomized trial involving close to 32,000 volunteers at more than 100 sites has yielded evidence that a high-dose (HD) influenza vaccine intended for seniors offers significantly more protection in that age-group than the standard-dose (SD) vaccine, according to a “New England Journal of Medicine” report published earlier this month. The researchers concluded that the relative efficacy of the HD vaccine was 24.2 percent higher than that of the SD vaccine. About 1.4 percent of the volunteers in the HD group had a confirmed flu case, compared with 1.9 percent of those in the SD group. The results, the authors say, suggest that flu cases in vaccinated seniors would drop by about 25 percent if they all received the HD vaccine instead of an SD vaccine. They also found that the vaccine had a good safety profile.

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2014/08/large-trial-finds-high-dose-flu-shot-beneficial-seniors>

A Hedge Against Flu or a Danger to Us All?

Marc Lipsitch, a Harvard epidemiologist who grew up in Atlanta, is on a mission to eradicate human-engineered strains of deadly pathogens such as the H5N1 “bird flu.” Those strains exist only in a handful of labs, where they

have been genetically altered to make the virus more contagious. H5N1, which first infected humans in 1997 in China, has killed about 60 percent of the almost 700 people who have been diagnosed with it. Nearly all of them got sick through contact with infected birds; in nature, H5N1 does not pass easily from person to person. If it acquires that ability in the wild before scientists have developed effective vaccines and treatments, many millions of people are likely to die. In the past few years, a handful of virologists have experimented with making H5N1 transmissible between ferrets, a species that reacts to flu much as humans do. More recently they have announced studies on another bird flu, H7N9. The architects of those experiments, known as “gain of function” research, say that by learning which mutations make the virus more transmissible, they can help avert a pandemic. On the flip side, Lipsitch and many other scientists argue that there’s a small but real risk that the researchers themselves could set off the very catastrophe they hope to prevent. As though on cue, recent news of lab accidents at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has driven home the point that even top-tier labs sometimes make mistakes.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/health/Hedge-Against-Flu-or-Danger-to-Us-All.html>

Scientist Kept Quiet About Flu Blunder

The accident happened in January at the headquarters of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. A lab scientist accidentally mixed a deadly strain of bird flu with a tamer strain, and sent the mix to another CDC lab and to an outside lab in Athens, Ga. No one was sickened by bird flu. But unsuspecting scientists worked with the viral mix for months before it was discovered.

<http://www.myfoxdc.com/story/26290594/report-cdc-scientist-kept-quiet-about-flu-blunder>

Fairfax County Pandemic Flu Preparedness

Be sure to visit the county’s flu Web page for information and news on flu and flu preparedness.

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/flu>



TRAININGS / EXERCISES / CONFERENCES

2014 TacOps East Tactical Training Conference & Expo

Sept. 3-5; Washington, D.C.

The TacOps East Tactical Training Conference and Exposition will bring together officers, trainers, vendors, and departments from across the country; providing attendees with interesting and innovative law enforcement training.

<http://www.tacopseast.com/>

The Food Defense Conference 2014

Sept. 15-16; Minneapolis, MN

With emerging and evolving food threats from terrorism, economically motivated adulteration, and disgruntled employees, all stakeholders must remain vigilant to stay ahead of intelligent adversaries. Professionals in industry, academia, and government are invited to attend this conference to discuss current threats and challenges and to identify food defense solutions.

<http://www.thefooddefenseconference.com>

ASIS International 60th Annual Seminar & Exhibits (ASIS 2014)

Sept. 29-Oct. 2; Atlanta, GA

"Succeed Today by Seeing Tomorrow," is the theme for the 2014 ASIS seminar and expo. ASIS has been at the forefront of security industry's advancement by supplying the ultimate venue for the exchange of visionary technologies, ideas, and solutions - all designed to enrich professionals practicing across the physical and logical spectrums.

<https://securityexpo.asisonline.org/Pages/default.aspx>

Homeland Security Week 2014

Oct. 6-9; Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

Homeland Security Week 2014 will focus on the highest mission priorities for protecting the U.S. by examining FY2015 mission highlights such as preventing terrorism and enhancing security; border management and immigration; cyber security; disaster relief and emergency preparedness; and science and technology. There are 35-plus speakers influencing Homeland Security including:

- Michael Fisher, Chief, U.S. Border Patrol.
- Randolph Alles, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Air and Marine, U.S. CBP.
- Wolf Tombe, Chief Technology Officer, U.S. CBP.
- Peter Chin, Director of Cloud and Enterprise Applications Services, DHS.
- Louis A. Rodi, III, Deputy Assistant Director, National Security Programs Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
- Gibson B. Kerr, Deputy Director, Acquisition Support & Operations Analysis Group (ASOA) Science & Technology Directorate, DHS.

<http://www.homelandsecurityexpo.com/>

BARDA Industry Day 2014

Oct. 15-17; Washington, D.C.

Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) Industry Day is a three-day conference that will provide an overview of Project BioShield and BARDA's priorities for product development and manufacturing for all threats going forward, as well as the range of agreements that will be used to work with the private sector.

<https://www.medicalcountermeasures.gov/federal-initiatives/public-meetings-and-conferences/workshopBID2014.aspx>

Cyber Security Summit 2014

October 21-22; Minneapolis, Minn.

With a few key-strokes from a key board, a cyber-attack from anywhere, at any time can be launched. The Cyber Security Summit's mission is to establish a multi-stakeholder consortium that brings together industry, government, and academic interests in an effort to improve the state of cyber security on both a domestic and international level.

<http://www.cybersecuritysummit.org/>

121st Annual International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Conference

Oct. 25-28; Orlando, Fla.

IACP 2014 is the best opportunity to learn, network, and problem solve at a one-of-a-kind event dedicated specifically to law enforcement professionals. Featuring renowned keynote speakers, forums, technical workshops, and the largest exhibit hall of products and services in the law enforcement community.

<http://www.theiacpconference.org/iacp2014/public/enter.aspx>

2014 Emergency Preparedness & Hazmat Response Conference

Oct. 26-30; Valley Forge, Penn.

The Emergency Preparedness & Hazmat Response Conference is the nation's premier all-hazards conference for emergency management, public safety and industry with quality education, training and networking. The conference offers a wide variety of trainings, workshops, tours, and an exhibit hall with the latest technology & solutions.

<http://www.emergencypreparednessconference.org/index.html>

2014 Water Infrastructure Conference

Oct. 26-29; Atlanta, Ga.

It's time to confront America's water infrastructure challenges. This conference will address essential water infrastructure planning and reinvestment strategies that utilities need to incorporate now. Critical infrastructure protection through comprehensive emergency preparedness efforts and enhanced security measures will also be covered.

<http://www.awwa.org/conferences-education/conferences/water-infrastructure-conference.aspx>

2014 International Facility Security Officer (iFSO) Conference

Oct. 27-31; Houston, Tex.

The iFSO conference will provide port facility professionals from around the country and world to share their expertise as well as current and future trends. Attendees will hear from senior Coast Guard personnel and other key partners that will deliver cutting-edge insight on regulation changes with a spotlight on exemplary facilities that are leading the way.

<http://www.fsoconference.com/>

CBRNe Convergence 2014

Oct. 28-30; Long Island, N.Y.

The 7th Annual CBRNe Convergence Congress & Exhibition is the most important annual meeting for the global CBRNE community. Growing together, staying distinct. Creating flexible CBRNE response teams for the All Hazard threat.

<http://www.cbrneworld.com/convergence2014>

2014 IEEE Conference on Communications & Network Security

October 29-31; San Francisco, Calif.

The goal of the IEEE Conference on Communications and Network Security (CNS) is to provide an outstanding forum for cyber security researchers, practitioners, policy makers, and users to exchange ideas, techniques and tools, raise awareness, and share experience related to all practical and theoretical aspects of communications and network security.

<http://cns2014.ieee-cns.org/>

Secured Cities Conference 2014

Nov. 4-6; Baltimore, Md.

A collaborative peer-to-peer venue, Secured Cities provides the only platform where public/private partnership initiatives, including technology, funding and budget issues, can be discussed, ideas shared and solutions reached through comprehensive education and networking opportunities.

<http://securedcities.com/>

IAEM 62nd Annual Conference & EMEX 2014

Nov. 14-19; San Antonio, Tex.

The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) Annual Conference provides a forum to discuss current trends and topics, share information about the latest tools and technology in emergency management and homeland security, and advance the work of IAEM. This year's theme is "Navigating the New Normal."

<http://www.iaem.com/page.cfm?p=events/annual-conference>

6th Annual Aid & International Development Forum (AIDF) Disaster Relief Summit

Nov. 19-20; Washington, D.C.

The summit strives to enable quicker and better response during crisis and catastrophes in a more effective, sustainable and cost-efficient way. This year's program focuses on best practice in logistics and transport, innovations in water security and ICT solutions for disaster relief while also offering experiential zone and unique pitch tank sessions.

<http://disaster-relief.aidforum.org/>

EMS Today 2015

Feb. 25-28, 2015; Baltimore, Md.

EMS Today, now in its 34th year, is a unique and stimulating experience for emergency medical services (EMS) personnel worldwide. This event offers four full days of workshops, sessions, competitions, networking and more.

http://www.emstoday.com/index.html#showcase_3

2015 Virginia Emergency Management Symposium

March 18-20, 2015; Hampton Roads, Va.

Save the date. Plan to attend the Symposium "Partnerships: Share the Load," sponsored by Virginia Emergency Management Association and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

<http://www.vemaweb.org/content/symposium/>

SPIE Defense + Security 2015

April 20-25, 2015; Baltimore, Md.

SPIE Defense + Security has, for more than 20 years, featured conferences and courses on infrared systems, lidar and radar, laser technology, image processing, data analysis, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance systems (ISR), display technologies, unmanned systems and robots, CBRNE, cyber sensing and security, biometric technology, law enforcement, energy harvesting, and more.

<http://spie.org/defense-security.xml>

National Capital Region Homeland Security Events

http://www.mwcog.org/committee/committee/events_homeland.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=134

Virginia Emergency Management Courses

<http://www.vaemergency.com>

FEMA Independent Study Courses

<http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/>

American Red Cross Disaster Services Training

http://www.redcrossnca.org/Online/disaster_registration.php

"EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS" NEWSLETTER

Check It Out!

Published monthly by the Office of Emergency Management

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/outreach/newsletter.htm

LINKS

Fairfax County Web Resources

- Fairfax County Emergency Information Blog - www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/blog
- Fairfax County Emergency Information Web page - www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/
- Fairfax County CERT - <http://fairfaxcountycert.blogspot.com/>
- Fairfax County Citizen Corps Web Page - www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizencorps/
- Fairfax County Citizen Corps Blog - <http://citizencorps.blogspot.com/>

Additional Web Resources

The ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update is designed to provide information about Emergency Support Function 15 (External Affairs) along with news articles and informational updates relating to Homeland Security and emergency management to ESF 15 partners. Inclusion of any resource, information or Web link is not an endorsement of the product, service or organization. The ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update is produced by Fairfax County's Office of Public Affairs – the lead agency for ESF 15.

- Capital Region Updates - www.CapitalRegionUpdates.gov
- Virginia Citizen Corps - www.vaemergency.com/citcorps/index.cfm

DHS Science & Technology Directorate Newsletter

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Science & Technology Directorate has a free newsletter, "S&T Snapshots," featuring stories about current research projects and opportunities with laboratories, universities, government agencies, and the private sector. The newsletter is produced monthly by the DHS Science and Technology Directorate in partnership with the Homeland Security Institute, a Studies and Analysis Federally Funded Research and Development Center.

<http://www.homelandsecurity.org/snapshots/>

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report (OSIR)

The Department of Homeland Security provides a Web-based "Daily OSIR," which is posted on the DHS public Web site. Accessing the report via the Web enables readers to retrieve the current Daily Report as well as 10 days of archived DHS Daily Reports. Once you arrive at the Web page you will find the most recent Daily OSIR at the top of the page, under the title "Current Report." This report is posted each morning, except for weekends and holidays.

Simply click on the title "DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report." This will launch the current days report in PDF format. You can submit content comments or make suggestions by contacting the DHS Daily Report Team by telephone at 202-312-3421 or by e-mail at NICCCReports@dhs.gov. You can access the Daily OSIR at: http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/editorial_0542.shtm.

Fairfax County Government Emergency Information Line

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/infoline.htm

Emergency Management Magazine

<http://www.govtech.com/em/toc.php>

FEMA Private Sector

<http://www.fema.gov/privatesector/>

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Emergency Information: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency

To Unsubscribe:

E-mail publicaffairs@fairfaxcounty.gov with "Remove from ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update" in the subject line and you will be immediately removed from the distribution list.

In accordance with NIMS – the National Incident Management System – the Fairfax County Emergency Operations Plan states that Emergency Support Function 15 (External Affairs) is led by the Office of Public Affairs. This ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update is part of the county's outreach efforts for our business and nonprofit partners as a way to provide information about the county's ESF 15, Homeland Security and emergency management.

If you have any suggestions on how to improve this update or other communications between Fairfax County and the business/nonprofit community, contact Tony Castrilli, Director of the Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs, at 703-324-3187, TTY 711, or by e-mail at anthony.castrilli@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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