



ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update

Produced by Emergency Support Function 15 – External Affairs

February 2014

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR ESF 15

Off The Grid

A winter storm has caused a power outage in your home. Now what do you do? Since the length of the outage can vary from a few hours to several days, you need to plan to get by without utilities for at least three days. Use FEMA's "Going Off Grid: Utility Outages" (http://emilms.fema.gov/IS909/assets/14_GoingOffGrid.pdf), a free online activity module to reference simple steps to get prepared for an outage. This module also provides a food safety reference chart so you can know when to save food or when to discard it. Some utility outage checklist items include:

- Document important phone numbers and vital power company information.
- Locate and label your utility shutoffs.
- Have your disaster kit ready and stocked.

The "Going Off Grid: Utility Outages" activity module is part of FEMA's "Preparedness Activities for Communities Everywhere" tools (<http://emilms.fema.gov/IS909/CP0101150.htm>), which educate individuals about relatively easy steps to take to become prepared for all types of hazards. The tools are designed for anyone to use in coordination with local emergency preparedness partners to help better prepare for emergencies.

Reprinted from FEMA's "Individual and Community Preparedness e-Brief," Feb. 5 edition

Statewide Tornado Drill on March 11

More than 391,000 Virginians have already registered to participate in the Statewide Tornado Drill, March 11 at 9:45 a.m. To start the tornado drill, at 9:45 a.m. March 11 the National Weather Service will send a test tornado warning that will trigger a tone alert and broadcast message on NOAA Weather Radio. The message will be picked up by TV and radio broadcasts, simulating what listeners will hear during an actual tornado warning. When the test tornado warning is sounded, you should move as quickly as possible to a safe area in a sturdy building. Safe areas are basements and interior rooms on the lowest level of a building such as bathrooms, closets or hallways. In choosing a safe area, stay away from windows. Once in the safe area, you should crouch down or sit on the floor facing down, and cover heads with hands. With at least three tornadoes EF-O tornadoes in Virginia last month, there's no better time to practice tornado safety. Register today at www.ReadyVirginia.gov. In case of widespread inclement weather on the day of the drill, it will be rescheduled for Thursday, March 13.



Johns Hopkins Scientists Launch Advanced Disaster Planning and Flu Forecasting Apps

Johns Hopkins scientists have developed three new Web-based software tools designed to help hospital emergency departments, first responder organizations and others model and prepare for major disasters, including flu outbreaks. The three new digital applications developed by research teams at the Johns Hopkins National Center for the Study of Preparedness and Catastrophic Event Response (PACER), are available for free via the PACER applications suite website.

<http://mhanewsnow.typepad.com/prepared/2014/02/johns-hopkins-scientists-launch-advanced-disaster-planning-and-flu-forecasting-apps.html>

Advancing Workforce Health at the Department of Homeland Security: Protecting Those Who Protect Us

The more than 200,000 men and women that make up the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) have been entrusted with ensuring that the homeland is safe, secure, and resilient against terrorism and other hazards. DHS, in turn, is responsible for protecting the health, safety, and resilience of its employees as well as guaranteeing effective management of the medical needs of persons under DHS care or custody. Recognizing the need to strengthen mission readiness while better meeting the health needs of its workforce, the DHS Office of Health Affairs (OHA) asked the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to convene a committee to recommend ways to better integrate occupational health functions and operational medicine throughout DHS and with the necessary centralized oversight authority. In “Advancing Workforce Health at the Department of Homeland Security: Protecting Those Who Protect Us,” the IOM committee concludes that cultivating a workforce that is healthy, safe, and ready to meet the demands of the DHS mission requires a unified strategy and vision; top leadership commitment; alignment of responsibility, authority, and resources; and an integrated, sustainable support infrastructure. This report builds on the foundational recommendations from the IOM report “A Ready and Resilient Workforce for the Department of Homeland Security: Protecting America’s Front Line,” which was released in fall 2013 and provides recommendations for a 5-year strategy to improve workforce readiness and resilience at DHS. Keeping employees healthy and fit to carry out their missions is an essential part of ensuring readiness.

<http://iom.edu/Reports/2014/Advancing-Workforce-Health-at-the-Department-of-Homeland-Security/Report-Brief012914.aspx>



www.CapitalRegionUpdates.gov

Power of One

Picture this – You’re stranded on the highway for hours, in the cold, with little food and no heat and your car just ran out of gas. The nearest restroom is at least three miles away and you don’t know when you’ll be in the comfort of your home again. This was the case for many metro Atlanta residents during a winter storm that recently hit the south. Out of this tragedy, however, came triumph - people took action and helped each other overcome this crisis. There were countless stories of people opening their homes to strangers, offering food to the hungry, walking to get medication for those in need and more. Many of these citizen rescue operations were coordinated on the Facebook page, “Snowed Out Atlanta.” Within a few hours this page quickly gained 50,000 followers who not only reached out to get help, but to serve their neighbors. The woman who started this page, Michelle Sollicito, is a mother, wife and most of all an everyday community member who wanted to help. She took action and stepped up to be a community ambassador. You, just like Michelle, can also be a community ambassador for preparedness. Use your social media channels, email or word-of-mouth to share these five actions people can do now to get prepared.

1. Visit ready.gov and familiarize yourself with steps to take before, during and after every natural disaster.
2. Practice and implement – don’t just educate yourself on preparedness actions; practice them with family, friends and coworkers. Why wait to build an emergency kit? Do it today! (<http://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>)
3. Download the FEMA mobile application. It contains disaster safety tips, an interactive emergency kit list, emergency meeting location information and a map with open shelters and open FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers.
4. Start or join a local CERT or Citizen Corps Council.
5. Spread the word about America’s PrepareAthon! coming this spring – follow the campaign on Twitter at @PrepareAthon (<http://www.fema.gov/america-prepareathon>) and share preparedness tips and how

you're preparing others by using #prepareAthon.

Reprinted from FEMA's "Individual and Community Preparedness e-Brief," Feb. 13 edition.

Why Security Should Monitor Social Media to Prevent Violence

As everyone knows, lone actors such as active shooters and bombers target public places like schools, malls and movie theaters and public events like speaking engagements. In many cases, threats of violence posted to social media precede these attacks. With this in mind, CSOs and CISOs should consider complementing security measures with social media monitoring and response efforts designed to address the potential that lone actors will carry out threats of violence against the enterprise or any of its employees. Authorities have uncovered strange and threatening behaviors that lone actors have exhibited on social media prior to acts of violence such as mass murders. Jared Lee Loughner, the man who killed six and injured thirteen including U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords in Tucson, Arizona on Jan. 8, 2011 is a clear example.

<http://www.csoonline.com/article/748357/why-security-should-monitor-social-media-to-prevent-violence>

9 Tips to Help those Most Vulnerable During a Snowstorm

For many senior citizens/persons with disabilities, isolation becomes an even more real challenge during a snowstorm. The good old days of when neighbors knew and took care of each other are less common. However, there is hope and evidence that this is changing and will continue to change for the better. Joseph Porcelli, community manager, shares the work that he does in his free time as a volunteer organizer for a project called Snowcrew. This initiative connects the elderly and those with disabilities to nearby neighbors who can and want to dig them out. From his experience, Joseph shares personal tips of what each one of us can do to help vulnerable neighbors during a snowstorm.

Source, FEMA: <http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/readynpm/messageshowthread?threadid=42862>

Additional Resources:

- Tips for seniors: <http://www.ready.gov/seniors>
- Tips for Individuals with Disabilities or Access and Functional Needs: <http://www.ready.gov/individuals-access-functional-needs>
- Tips for Winter Storms and Extreme Cold: <http://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>

National Advisory Council

The National Advisory Council (NAC) is an advisory council established to ensure effective and ongoing coordination of federal preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation for natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters. The NAC advises the FEMA Administrator on all aspects of emergency management while incorporating the whole community's input through appointed council members. The NAC consists of up to 35 members, all of whom are experts and leaders in their respective fields. The members of the NAC are appointed by the FEMA administrator and are composed of federal, state, tribal, local, private sector and non-profit leaders and subject matter experts in a wide range of disciplines. Appointments are for a three-year term. The administrator may appoint additional candidates to serve as a FEMA administrator selection. The NAC will have one position open for applications and nominations in each of the following disciplines:

- Emergency Management
- Emergency Response
- Non-Elected Local Government Officials
- Elected Tribal Government Officials
- Non-Elected Tribal Government Officials
- Health Scientist
- Communications
- Infrastructure Protection
- Standards Settings and Accrediting
- Disabilities

Individuals interested in serving on the NAC are invited to apply for appointment by submitting a Cover Letter and a Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV) to the Office of the National Advisory Council by email, fax or mail. A complete application must be submitted to be considered for appointment; application criteria, submission information, and

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contact information can be found on the NAC webpage. Applications will be accepted until Friday, March 14, 11:59 p.m. EST. Visit www.oge.gov/Topics/Selected-Employee-Categories/Advisory-Committee-Members/ for more information on NAC requirements. For more information on the NAC visit www.fema.gov/national-advisory-council.

FCC Acts to Help Emergency Responders Locate Wireless 9-1-1 Callers

The Federal Communications Commission today proposed rules to help emergency responders better locate wireless callers to 9-1-1. The proposed updates to the Commission's Enhanced 9-1-1 rules respond to increasing use of wireless phones to call 9-1-1, especially from indoors, and take advantage of technological developments that allow for more accurate location information to be transmitted with 9-1-1 calls.

<http://www.emsworld.com/news/11315718/fcc-acts-to-help-emergency-responders-locate-wireless-911-callers>

PLANNING / PREPAREDNESS

Map Shows Level of Preparedness for Global Warming

While every state has a disaster plan, there's no requirement that these plans take global warming into consideration. As a result, individual states vary wildly in their levels of preparation for storms, flooding, heat waves, and other climate disasters. A map created at Columbia University shows each state's level of preparation for hazards related to global warming.

<http://inhabitat.com/these-states-are-poorly-prepared-for-global-warming-is-yours-on-the-list/>

9-1-1 Call Centers Consider Impact of FCC Texting Proposal

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) proposed a rule last month that requires wireless carriers to support text-to-911 functionality by the end of 2014. Experts support the idea, but are concerned about the impact it may have on the public, particularly in areas where 911 call centers don't have next-generation technology online to accept emergency texts. Some public safety access points (PSAPs) are upgrading their equipment or reaching partnerships with other area call centers that have next-gen 911 to cover their jurisdictions. But there are others that haven't, which increases the risk of people texting for help and not receiving an answer.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/911-Call-Centers-FCC-Texting-Proposal.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. NTAS Alerts will include a clear statement on the nature of the threat, which will be defined in one of two ways:

- "Elevated Threat": Warns of a credible terrorist threat against the United States.
- "Imminent Threat": Warns of a credible, specific, and impending terrorist threat against the United States.

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.

Budget for Preparedness

In a recent FEMA household survey, we learned more than a quarter of participants reported they believe getting prepared is too expensive. Creating your disaster preparedness kit does not have to be costly! In fact, many of the items for your kit may be found around your home. After you have built the majority of your kit from items already in your home, you can begin to build a list for the remaining items. Here are some additional tips for keeping your disaster kit cost-friendly:

- Shop at discount and dollar stores where appropriate.
- Trade extra supplies with friends or family.
- Check the newspaper or online listings for discounted products.

For more simple and cost-friendly disaster kit suggestions, and easy steps you should take if disaster strikes, you can access FEMA's free online "Preparedness on a Shoestring" activity module. The "Preparedness on a Shoestring" activity module (http://emilms.fema.gov/IS909/assets/01_PreparednessOnAShoestring.pdf) is part of FEMA's "Preparedness Activities for Communities Everywhere" tools (<http://emilms.fema.gov/IS909/CP0101150.htm>), which educates individuals about relatively easy steps to take to become prepared for all types of hazards.

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Community Emergency Alert Network (CEAN)

Get emergency alerts by email, as well as by text or pager. Sign up at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cean. Businesses can also register up to five people in their organizations – such as security officers – who can receive alerts and then share that information with their workforce.



Disaster Recovery

While recovering from a disaster is usually a gradual process, there are important financial decisions to make in the days immediately following it. Organizations like the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (www.consumerfinance.gov) can guide you through some of those decisions. Here's what you need to know regarding finances and your home:

- Take pictures of the damage and contact your insurance company to start the claims process.
- If your income is interrupted and you can't pay credit cards or other loans, contact the lenders before the next payment is due.
- Take a look at your bills and set priorities. Pay your mortgage, rent and insurance payments first.
- Ask your utility companies to suspend your service if you are unable to live in your home.

Remember, damage to your home does not stop your responsibility to pay your mortgage. Contact your mortgage servicer and let them know your situation. There are a number of options available that may help you delay or reduce your payments. You may also qualify for FEMA disaster assistance if you are in a presidentially declared disaster area. Should an immediate need for food, shelter or water arise, the American Red Cross or United Way can also help.

Reprinted from FEMA's "Individual and Community Preparedness e-Brief," Feb. 13 edition.

Hackers Targeted Key U.S. Industries Through Compromised Websites

The Homeland Security Department last year alerted dozens of critical infrastructure operators that attackers might have accessed their networks by tainting external websites that personnel had visited. The detail was disclosed in an annual summary of efforts undertaken by the DHS Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team, which aids utilities, banks and other key U.S. sectors whose business networks government officials have deemed essential to national and economic security. This type of malicious campaign -- known as a watering hole attack -- takes advantage of vulnerabilities in Web software to insert code that can then infiltrate the computers of site visitors. Of the roughly 260 cyber incidents reported to DHS last year, the majority -- 59 percent -- occurred in the energy sector. There are 16 U.S. resources marked as critical, including water plants and manufacturing facilities. About 30 percent of the reports turned up compromised systems or suspected compromises

<http://www.nextgov.com/cybersecurity/2014/02/hackers-targeted-key-us-industries-through-compromised->

[websites/78917/](#)

10 Fire Emergency Tips for Pets

According to the National Fire Protection Association an estimated 500,000 pets are affected annually by home fires. Additionally, pets can be responsible for these fires, with over 1,000 cases reported with an animal as the cause. While you've likely spent a lot of time thinking about preparedness for yourself and your loved ones, have you stopped to think about the well-being of your pet in a disaster? Here's a list of tips from FEMA's National Preparedness Community for preparing yourself and your furry friends for a home fire. Many of these tips could be what prevents your animal from falling victim.

<http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/readynpm/messageshowthread?threadid=42894>

MEDIA ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Mental Hospital Spending Faulted in Report

A new report by Virginia's inspector general says the state is spending millions of extra dollars each year to house state mental hospital patients who no longer need or qualify for state care. That means patients are occupying hospital beds that could be used for people requiring emergency or long-term psychiatric hospital care, according to the Office of the State Inspector General, which said the state lacks adequate controls over funds meant to address the problem.

http://www.dailyprogress.com/news/state-s-mental-hospital-spending-faulted-in-report/article_c598a1ba-984a-11e3-a71e-001a4bcf6878.html



Power Cuts Will be More Common in the Future

U.S. figures show that since 2007, commercial and domestic air-conditioning alone consumed 484 billion kilowatt hours of electricity – not much more than the country's total energy consumption in the mid-1950s. The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has warned that U.S. generation systems could collapse by 2020 without \$100 billion of new investment in power stations. Demands of high-powered electrical appliances, a growing world population, and inadequate investment in the power sector will create more frequent power blackouts in Western societies.

<http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20140218-power-cuts-will-be-more-common-in-the-future>

White House Releases Security Road Map for Critical Infrastructure

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) released version 1.0 of the Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity in compliance with President Barack Obama's February 2013 order directing its development. The 41-page framework is meant to help operators of critical infrastructure develop comprehensive cybersecurity policies. The Obama administration described the document as a "how-to" guide for the critical infrastructure community.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/White-House-Releases-Security-Road-Map-for-Critical-Infrastructure.html>

Hospitals Scrambled to Deal with Chemically Contaminated Water in West Virginia

Although the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have declared the tap water safe in Charleston, West Virginia, local residents and even health officials remain concerned about the effects of exposure to the coal-cleaning chemicals that leaked into the water supply in early January. In the days following the spill, the region's two major health systems managed to access adequate drinking water, but struggled with services such as sterilization and laundry. Amid continued local skepticism of the water supply, hospitals are now dealing with patient concerns such

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as how to safely bathe newborns.

<http://www.newsweek.com/hospitals-scrambled-deal-chemically-contaminated-water-west-virginia-229010>

Missions to Mars Can be Achieved from Wallops

The mid-Atlantic spaceport is a great option for many types of missions, including missions to the International Space Station, the moon, and beyond, according to a space industry official. “Missions to Mars can be achieved from Wallops,” said Mark Pieczynski, vice president of Orbital Sciences’ Launch Services Group. Another private company announced earlier this month it wants to use Wallops’ facilities for missions that would include human spaceflight. The Virginia spaceport and NASA Wallops Flight Facility also are a good spot for launching many types of satellites into orbit – and they give an East Coast option for the first time for some missions.

<http://www.delmarvanow.com/article/20140224/NEWS/302240029/-Missions-to-Mars-can-be-achieved-from-Wallops->

Food Safety Emergency Preparedness for Families

You may not know when a disaster will strike, but keeping an emergency food supply will help you and your family be better prepared in the situation. Preparing your household through self-confidence based on knowledge, preparation and practice can give your family a better chance for recovery during an emergency. Disasters can happen anytime, anywhere and sometimes without warning. Having an emergency food supply will mean you will not go hungry when transportation, weather, health, power outage or other problems prevent you from getting your usual grocery supplies. The American Red Cross recommends keeping a three-day emergency food supply.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/food_safety_emergency_preparedness_for_families

Bar Association Protests NSA Spying

The country’s top lawyers’ trade group is raising a formal complaint about the US government’s support for spying on confidential legal communications. The American Bar Association (ABA) sent a letter to leaders at the National Security Agency (NSA) expressing concern about reports that the agency’s Australian counterpart had spied on a U.S. law firm working for Indonesia. The agency allegedly offered to share details with the NSA, including “information covered by attorney-client privilege.”

<http://thehill.com/blogs/hillicon-valley/technology/199075-lawyers-protest-nsa-snooping>

FLU

Pain Relievers May Amplify Flu Spread

Taking drugs like aspirin, acetaminophen or ibuprofen when you have the flu reduces fever and makes you feel better, but it may have unintended consequences. A new study using mathematical projections has concluded that the use of anti-fever drugs during flu epidemics increases disease transmission, both by raising the amount of flu virus shed and increasing the interaction that flu sufferers have with uninfected people. Fever fights viruses by reducing their ability to reproduce. Reducing fever defeats this effect, increasing the rate and duration of viral shedding.

<http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/01/22/pain-relievers-may-amplify-flu-spread/>

Deadly H1N1 Influenza Returns

The H1N1 virus responsible for the 2009 global pandemic is back. State health officials from across the country say the resurgence is resulting in a dramatic rise in flu deaths in young and middle-aged adults and in children this season. While the reported death tolls so far are only a fraction of what they were four years ago, they are significantly higher than last year. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the flu has been killing at epidemic levels since mid-January.

<http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20140220/NEWS02/140229916/Deadly-H1N1-influenza-returns>

H7N3 Vaccine Trial Shows Promise, Potential for Use Against H7N9

A phase 1 clinical trial of a candidate H7N3 live-attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) developed in Russia found that two doses were immunogenic and produced antibodies that were reactive not only to wild-type avian H7N3, but also to the new H7N9 virus that is infecting humans in China, according to a study in PLoS One. A Russian and U.S. team administered two doses of the vaccine to 30 of 40 randomly divided subjects, 10 of them receiving placebo. Among patients who got the LAIV doses, researchers found the majority (86.2 percent) of vaccine recipients developed serum and local antibody responses and generated antigen-specific CD4 and CD8 memory T cells. They also found that the vaccine was safe and well tolerated. In addition, they found that sera from some of the vaccinated patients prompted an antibody response that was able to neutralize the new H7N9 virus. The team also found clues that most B cells and cytotoxic T cells induced by the H7N3 virus are likely to recognize the H7N9 virus. They concluded that the H7N3 LAIV strain could be used in a priming vaccine strategy in the event of a pandemic until specific H7N9 vaccines are available.

<http://www.plosone.org/article/authors/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0087962>

Chinese Officials Report More H7N9 Cases

China reported two more H7N9 cases on Feb. 20, along with one more death, as new information released put the death toll in the outbreak so far at 112, which is considerably higher than previous indications. The two case-patients are an 81-year-old man from Guangdong province and a 60-year-old man from Anhui province, both hospitalized in critical condition, according to provincial health department reports translated and posted by FluTrackers, an infectious disease news message board. The fatal case involves a patient from Guangdong province whose infection was first confirmed toward the end of January, according to FluTrackers, which noted that the individual is most likely a 58-year-old woman who had been hospitalized in critical condition. The two latest cases lift the outbreak total to 361, according to a running list compiled by FluTrackers. So far 225 patients have been infected during the second wave of infections, which appears to be leveling off, compared to 136 during the first wave.

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2014/02/officials-report-2-more-h7n9-cases-list-deaths-112>

Study Reaffirms that H7N9 Rarely Spreads Person to Person

A detailed epidemiologic study of the first 9 months of the H7N9 avian flu outbreak in China reinforces the image of the illness as one that rarely spreads from person to person but may possibly do so when there is prolonged, close contact between the sick and the healthy. The lengthy report, released by “The New England Journal of Medicine,” covers 139 human H7N9 cases recorded through November 2013. All but two of the patients were hospitalized and 47 (34 percent) died. More than 80 percent of the patients were exposed to animals, mostly poultry, before they got sick. Monitoring of close to 2,700 contacts of the H7N9 patients turned up no additional cases, according to the report by a large team of mostly Chinese authors. However, they say person-to-person transmission might have occurred in four family clusters involving close contact. That conclusion is similar to what the World Health Organization said in May 2013, after the first wave of H7N9 cases subsided. The agency reported then that there had been four clusters of two or more case-patients who were in close contact, suggesting the possibility of limited human transmission.

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2014/02/study-reaffirms-h7n9-rarely-spreads-person-person>

Fairfax County 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

National Capital Region School Preparedness Seminars *Multiple Dates*

March 12; George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

March 25; Silver Spring, Md.

April 30; George Mason University, Fairfax, Va.

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) is pleased to announce three National Capital Region School Preparedness Seminars taking place this spring – one in Maryland, one in D.C. and one in Virginia. The seminars will feature a variety of topics in school preparedness and will help better prepare public, private and independent schools against a variety of hazards impacting today's schools. Space for this event is limited. Interested parties wishing to attend one or all of the seminars are asked to **register no later than March 5 for the D.C. seminar, March 18 for the Maryland Seminar and April 23 for the Virginia seminar**. Register online at <http://www.eventbrite.com/o/metropolitan-washington-council-of-governments-regional-planners-4914843753>

NHDF Global Forum

March 5-6; Washington, D.C.

The National Homeland Defense Foundation (NHDF) Global Forum is a thought leadership dialogue specifically designed to bring together Department of Homeland Security, Department of Defense, Department of State, Industry, and international partners to discuss, discover, and make a meaningful impact on the national security of our allies - current or future.

<http://www.nhdf.org/global-forum>

2014 AFCEA Homeland Security Conference

March 10-12; Washington, D.C.

The AFCEA Homeland Security Conference is the premier event in the National Capital area to learn about our nation's most significant homeland security issues. The conference offers an opportunity for attendees to engage with key government and industry leaders on these critical issues. This year's theme is "4th Generation DHS: Remaining Ever-Vigilant."

<http://www.afcea.org/events/homeland/14/>

connect:ID Conference & Exhibition

March 17-19, Washington, D.C.

connect:ID will unite identity solutions adopters and stakeholders worldwide, exploring the development and fusion of multiple identity technologies -- including biometrics, secure credentials and digital identity systems. Register for the free exhibition. Join the 2.5 day conference.

www.connectidexpo.com

2014 Virginia Emergency Management Symposium (VEMA)

March 19-21; Hampton Roads, Va.

The theme for the 2014 VEMA symposium is "Emergency Management Today: Limited Resources, Complex Threats." Join 400-plus participants including emergency managers, responders, law enforcement officers, public safety and hospital officials, and college/university representative.

<http://www.vemaweb.org/content/symposium2014/>

Preparedness Summit

April 1-4; Atlanta, Ga.

The Preparedness Summit is the premier national conference in the field of public health preparedness. The four-day annual event provides one of the only cross-disciplinary learning opportunities in the field and has evolved over time to meet the growing needs of the preparedness community. A diverse range of attendees includes professionals working in all levels of government (local, state, and federal), emergency management, volunteer organizations, and

healthcare coalitions. The Summit delivers opportunities to connect with colleagues, share new research, and learn how to implement model practices that enhance capabilities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters and emergencies.

<http://preparednesssummit.org/>

2014 Food Safety Summit

April 8-10; Baltimore, Md.

The Food Safety Summit is a solutions-based conference and expo designed to meet the educational and information needs of the entire food industry. The summit attracts industry professionals to learn from expert speakers and trainers, exchange ideas, find solutions to your current job challenges, and engage in the valuable opportunities the summit has to offer.

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

National Hurricane Conference

April 14-17; Orlando, Fla.

The primary goal of the National Hurricane Conference is to improve hurricane preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation in order to save lives and property in the United States and the tropical islands of the Caribbean and Pacific. In addition, the conference serves as a national forum for federal, state and local officials to exchange ideas and recommend new policies to improve.

<http://hurricanemeeting.com/>

IMPACT 2014

April 28-30; Westfields Marriott, Chantilly, Va.

NSI's annual IMPACT conference is essential for government and contractor security directors and managers responsible for protecting classified and sensitive information assets from a growing array of threats posed by espionage, terrorism, computer crime and information warfare.

<http://www.nsi.org/impact-2014.html>

The U.S. Cyber Crime Conference 2014

April 29-May 2; Leesburg, Va.

This event provides both hands-on digital forensics training and an interactive forum for cyber professionals to network. The conference covers the full spectrum of topics facing defenders as well as law enforcement responders. All aspects of computer crime will be covered, including intrusion investigations, cyber crime law, digital forensics, information assurance, along with research and development, and testing of digital forensic tools.

<http://www.usacybercrime.com/Home>

Fire-Rescue Med (FRM) 2014

April 30-May 3; Arlington, Va.

Fire-Rescue Med (FRM) has moved to Arlington. Come to the national capital region as FRM takes the attendee experience to the next level. Look for exciting new format changes including focused education tracks, new general session formats, new presenters and expo hall events that combine learning and networking.

<http://www.iafc.org/frm>

SPIE Defense + Security 2014

May 5-May 9; Baltimore, Md.

This long-standing symposium includes 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, etc.

<http://spie.org/x94874.xml>

CPM 2014 Conference & Expo

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.

May 12-14; Washington, D.C.

CPM East is the premier event for COOP/DR/BC and emergency response professionals looking for proven strategies and cost effective technology to achieve your mission of preparing and planning for emergencies and disruptions of operations including response and recovery.

<http://contingencyplanning.com/events/cpm-2014/home.aspx>

GovSec 2014-Government Security Conference and Expo

May 12-May 14; Washington, D.C.

GovSec is the nation's premier event for Government, Homeland Security, and Law Enforcement professionals looking for proven strategies and cost effective technology so they can achieve their mission of protecting our critical infrastructures, key assets, communities and the nation. This year's conference tracks include: Counter & Anti-Terrorism, Critical Infrastructure & Secured Cities, Cybercrime & Cyberterrorism, Campus Security & Life Safety, and Law Enforcement Strategies & Tactics.

<http://govsecinfo.com/events/govsec-2014/home.aspx>

FOSE 2014

May 13-15; Washington, D.C.

FOSE is the nation's premier event for government technology professionals seeking tools and best practices to equip their agency for the 21st century. From policy updates - straight from the hill - to exclusive insights from today's leading authorities, as well as the most comprehensive showcase of technology in action.

<http://fose.com/Events/Government-Technology/Home.aspx>

2014 National Homeland Security Conference

May 19-22; Philadelphia, Penn.

The National Homeland Security Association sponsors the National Homeland Security Conference, which is the annual meeting of local homeland security and emergency management professionals from the nations' largest metropolitan areas. This conference focuses on all emergency response disciplines at all levels of government.

<http://nationaluasi.com/dru/>

International Hazardous Materials Response Teams Conference & Expo 2014

May 29-June 1; Baltimore, Md.

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Hazmat Conference provides the latest classroom, hands-on, and field trip-based training covering all aspects of hazmat - specifically including such topics as transportation, safety, weapons of mass destruction, protective gear and equipment, terrorism, mass decontamination, bioterrorism, and more.

<http://www.iafc.org/hazmat>

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

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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

- 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/>

FAIRFAX COUNTY 703-817-7771
EMERGENCY
INFORMATION LINE

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ESF 15 Contact Information

Jeremy Lasich, deputy director
Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 551 ♦ Fairfax, Va. 22035-0065
Tel: 703-324-3187 ♦ Direct: 703-324-3189
E-mail: Jeremy.Lasich@fairfaxcounty.gov
Web site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov
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.

Please feel free to forward this ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update to other contacts you have inside or outside your organization. Should someone you know like to be added to our distribution list, have them send an e-mail to jim.person@fairfaxcounty.gov and ask to be subscribed to the ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update.

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