



ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update

Produced by Emergency Support Function 15 – External Affairs

July 2010

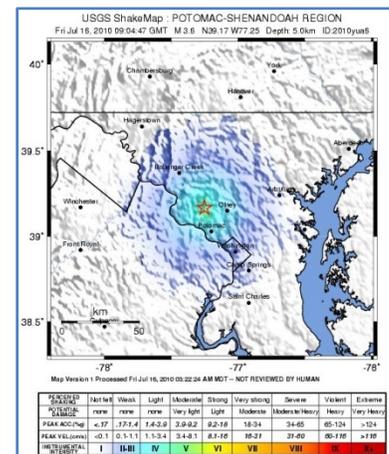
ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR ESF 15

Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning Workshop

Fairfax County, led by the Office of Emergency Management, has begun development of a Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan. This project is supported by a Department of Homeland Security Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant. The county hopes that area businesses, nonprofits and faith-based organizations will play a part in this important planning effort. A Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan information workshop will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 4, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (MPSTOC), located at 4890 Alliance Drive, Fairfax. The workshop will more clearly define how a Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan can best serve the needs of Fairfax County and also explore how area participation can streamline disaster recovery and mitigate hardships your organization could face in the aftermath of a disaster. During the workshop, emergency management staff will share various disaster preparedness tools and tips that are currently available and that can assist your organization in its disaster preparedness efforts. To guide the development of the Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan, the County has begun to form a Disaster Recovery Task Force (Task Force) comprised of representatives from county agencies, other municipalities, nonprofit groups, and private stakeholders. Contact Amanda Phan in the Office of Emergency Management at 571-350-1010, TTY 711 with any questions. To register to attend, before July 28, or for more information on the Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan project, visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/pdrp/>.

Earthquake

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, earthquakes in Maryland and Northern Virginia are uncommon but not unprecedented. The earthquake on July 16, occurred in a part of the Eastern Seaboard that is less seismically active than central Virginia, New England, and the area surrounding New York City. A 3.6 magnitude quake, it was 10 miles NW of Rockville, Md.; 15 miles ENE of Leesburg, Va.; 20 miles NW of Washington, D.C. and 45 miles WNW of Annapolis, Md. Since 1980, 14 earthquakes have been felt within 80 km (about 50 miles) of the July 16 earthquake. All were smaller than this event. Other earthquakes have been reported in that area as far back as at least 1758. The most recent earthquake to have been widely felt in the Washington area occurred west of Richmond, Va. on Dec. 9, 2003, in the Central Virginia Seismic Zone. It had a magnitude of 4.3 and was felt throughout the Washington-Baltimore area. The largest earthquake on record in Virginia is a magnitude 5.9 in Giles County on May 31, 1897.



<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/recenteqsus/Quakes/us2010yua6.php#details>

Homeland Security Grants Awarded to the National Capital Region

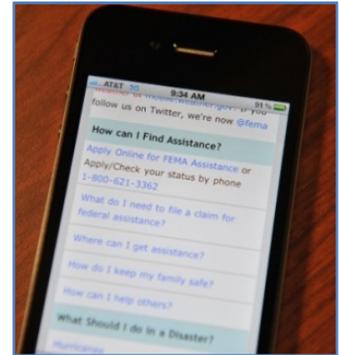
Earlier this month, homeland security officials said the National Capital Region will receive \$59 million in federal homeland security funds from the Urban Areas Security Initiative Program (UASI) for fiscal year 2010. The announcement came from local and state officials in the National Capital Region (NCR), representing the District of Columbia Mayor Adrian M. Fenty, Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley and Virginia Governor Robert F. McDonnell. The money was awarded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. This year DHS pre-identified the funding available to each urban area through the UASI program. As in the past, this year's UASI funds will be used to improve the region's readiness for disasters. The funds will be focused in several key areas, including law enforcement; critical infrastructure protection; information technology integration; and health and medical readiness. Later this summer, officials will announce the specific projects to be funded. Officials also noted that the region will get \$3.57 million from the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program. These grants are intended to help

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.

high-risk urban areas across the country plan for catastrophic emergencies like the detonation of a nuclear bomb. The National Capital Region — which is comprised of 11 local jurisdictions, two states and the District of Columbia — prepares for disasters collaboratively. This unique regional structure, in the area that is home to the nation’s capital with the associated elevated risks, requires an equally complex system to determine how to best and most equitably allocate scarce resources such as UASI funds. The NCR’s elected officials, emergency management, law enforcement, fire and public health personnel, along with the nonprofit and private sectors, work together across the region’s jurisdictional boundaries to identify and prioritize projects to improve the region’s emergency preparedness and response capabilities.

Applying For Disaster Aid on Your Smartphone

Earlier this month the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced a new feature to the m.fema.gov mobile platform to make it easier for disaster survivors to apply for federal aid from FEMA, and other federal agencies, after Presidential declared disasters. Now, in addition to being able to access critical information about emergency preparedness and what to do before and after a disaster on their smartphones, disaster survivors will also be able to apply for federal assistance directly through their web enabled mobile phone devices (such BlackBerry®, Apple iPhone® and Windows Mobile® device). By visiting m.fema.gov, individuals also can quickly access www.disasterassistance.gov to apply for federal assistance. On average, roughly 40 percent of disaster applicants complete applications online. More and more, when a disaster strikes, survivors are relying on their smartphones to stay in touch with friends and family. While computers and other means of applying for assistance may not be accessible for survivors right away, smartphones can help ensure that survivors have immediate resources and information at their fingertips. Smartphone models that will be able to access the new mobile platform include Blackberries, Apple iPhones and Windows Mobile. Watch a video of FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate demonstrating the new feature at www.youtube.com/fema.



* *Photograph of the FEMA mobile screen displayed on a smartphone showing that residents can now apply for and check on their assistance status from their phones, courtesy of FEMA/Bill Koplitz.*

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=52167>

DHS Launches Expansion of “See Something, Say Something” Campaign

On July 1, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano launched the first phase of DHS’ nationwide “See Something, Say Something” campaign, highlighting the public’s role in keeping our country safe. The “See Something, Say Something” campaign—originally implemented by New York City’s Metropolitan Transit Authority and funded, in part, by \$13 million from DHS’ Transit Security Grant Program—is a simple and effective program to raise public awareness of indicators of terrorism, crime and other threats and emphasize the importance of reporting suspicious activity to the proper transportation and law enforcement authorities. In the coming months, DHS will expand the “See Something, Say Something” campaign nationally with public education materials, advertisements and other outreach tools to continue engaging travelers, businesses, community organizations, and public and private sector employees to remain vigilant and play an active role in keeping our country safe.

http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr_1278023105905.shtm

TSA Launches “See Something, Say Something” Campaign for General Aviation

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano and Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Administrator John S. Pistole late this month launched two major enhancements to general aviation security—the general aviation component of DHS’s nationwide “If You See Something, Say Something” campaign, and a streamlined system for vetting passengers and crew on general aviation aircraft entering and exiting the United States through a single, Department-wide process. As part of the general aviation component of “If You See Something, Say Something,” DHS is asking the public to report suspicious general aviation activity to TSA’s hotline at 1-866-GA-SECURE. Additionally, DHS will streamline the process for pre-screening passengers and crews entering and exiting the United States on general aviation aircraft by allowing pilots and operators of general aviation flights to submit a single manifest to the Electronic Advance Passenger Information System (eAPIS)—U.S. Customs and

Border Protection's (CBP) online tool for submitting general aviation data. This will fulfill both CBP reporting and TSA international waiver requirements, and promote a Department-wide approach to maintaining robust general aviation security standards. DHS expects the streamlined system to take effect on Sept. 1.

<http://www.tsa.gov/press/releases/2010/0726.shtm>

7 P's of Preparedness

California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger recently announced that California was creating the "first-in-the-nation Disaster Corps to professionalize, standardize and coordinate highly trained disaster volunteers statewide." The Governor even tweeted the news (screenshot courtesy of the "In Case of Emergency" blog).

<http://incaseofemergencyblog.com>



Summer Safety Tips

Follow these tips to help beat the heat:

- Drink plenty of fluids: **Drink two to four glasses** of cool fluids each hour.
- **Do not drink caffeinated or alcoholic beverages** because they dehydrate the body.
- Keep cool indoors: If you can, **stay in an air-conditioned area**. Resting for just two hours in air conditioning can significantly reduce heat-related illnesses.
- Plan outdoor activities around the heat: If you must go outside, **go before noon or at night** when it's cooler. Avoid strenuous physical activities or reschedule them for the coolest part of the day, usually the early morning.
- Give your body a break: Heat is stressful on your body. **Limit physical activity** until your body adjusts to the heat.
- **Eat light meals**, avoiding high-protein foods because they increase metabolic heat.
- **Don't take salt tablets** unless directed by a physician.
- Wear light-colored clothing, which helps reflect sunlight.
- Wear sunscreen to prevent sunburn. Sunburn makes it more difficult for your body to cool off.
- **Never leave children or pets unattended in a car**—not even for a few minutes. Even with the windows slightly open, the temperature in a car on a 93-degree day can soar to 125 degrees in just 20 minutes and approximately 140 degrees in 40 minutes.



More tips and helpful summer safety information can be found online at:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/prepare/summer/>

NOAA: U.S. Had Eighth Warmest June on Record, Above-Normal Precipitation

NOAA's "State of the Climate" report shows the June average temperature for the contiguous United States was 71.4 degrees F, which is 2.2 degrees F above the long-term average (1901-2000). The average precipitation for June was 3.33 inches, 0.44 inch above the long-term average. A deep layer of high pressure dominated much of the eastern United States, bringing a southerly influx of warm air, which contributed to record high temperatures.

- The Southeast, South and Central regions experienced their second, fifth and seventh warmest June on record, respectively.
- NOAA's Storm Prediction Center tabulated 387 preliminary tornado reports during June. If confirmed, this will be the second most active June on record, behind 1992.
- NOAA's Residential Energy Demand Temperature Index indicated June's temperature-related energy demand for the contiguous U.S. was 11.9 percent above average. The unusual warmth in the highly populated South and Southeast resulted in the second highest June value in 116 years.

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20100709_junetemps.html

Boy Scout Jamboree

The National Boy Scout Jamboree, (July 26-Aug. 4) at Fort A.P. Hill, hosted approximately 43,000 scouts and staff as they celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. The Virginia State Police, Virginia Department of Fire Programs, Virginia Department of Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services, Caroline County and the Fredericksburg Hazardous Materials team provided operational support. This is the last year the Jamboree will be held at Fort A.P. Hill, where the event has been held since 1981. The 2009 Jamboree was moved to 2010 to coincide with anniversary celebrations. The next Jamboree will be at the BSA's new permanent facility, The Summit: Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve, in 2013. More information is at <http://www.bsajamboree.org>.
Reprinted from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management

What's Your Plan?

Hurricane season is here. That means any part of Virginia could be affected by heavy rain, high water and wind. Are you ready? You need supplies on hand to last at least three days for each family member. Start an emergency kit with these essential items:

- Food that won't spoil, such as canned goods and packaged foods
- Water, one gallon per person per day
- A hand-crank or battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- A family emergency plan



Once you have these basics, put them in waterproof containers that you can carry or roll in case you need to leave your home quickly. Old suitcases or backpacks also can hold supplies. Other items are useful in an emergency supply kit, such as flashlights with extra batteries, a first aid kit, a list of prescriptions and doctors, special items for young children and disabled or older family members, and food and water for your pets. Think that's too much to do? At least get started with the essential items, and then add something to your kit each week. For a family emergency plan worksheet, go to www.ReadyVirginia.gov and click on Make a Plan. Emergency preparedness is everyone's responsibility. What's your plan? Visit www.ReadyVirginia.gov and www.ListoVirginia.gov to learn more about how to prepare for hurricane and flood season.

Reprinted from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, online at www.vaemergency.com.

National Preparedness Month

Add a FEMA widget about National Preparedness Month to your business Web site or company blog to help promote the readiness of your workforce. The widget can be found at <http://www.fema.gov/help/widgets/>.



Call for Stories! Individuals Going Above and Beyond in Community Preparedness and Safety

The American spirit is steeped in an appreciation for individual contribution and the guiding principle of helping others. FEMA would like to recognize individuals who have made a difference in making their community safer and better prepared. These are people who have given their time and energy, offered skills and capabilities, been leaders in providing education and training, responded to crises and disasters, or simply made a call when they saw something suspicious. As a result, they have saved lives, property, or positively impacted their communities. These are the individuals we wish to highlight and celebrate. By Aug. 15, 2010, send in stories about individuals who have made a difference in your community. Send stories by e-mail, in a format that is best for you, to citizencorps@dhs.gov with "Outstanding Individual" in the subject line.

Census Bureau Launches New Tool for Hurricane Planning and Assessment

The U.S. Census Bureau, in cooperation with the National Weather Service, announces the launch of OnTheMap for Emergency Management: Hurricanes, a Web-based tool that provides real-time workforce information when a hurricane strikes land in the United States. OnTheMap for Emergency Management: Hurricanes is an easy-to-use tool that provides a live feed from the National Hurricane Center. When a storm's leading winds make landfall, the application will allow users to view the characteristics of the local workforce, such as the affected industries, the ages of workers and workers' earnings with a simple click of the link.

<http://lehdmap4.did.census.gov/themap4/em/index.html>

DHS Releases Report on Progress Fulfilling 9/11 Commission Recommendations

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano marked the sixth anniversary of the issuance of the 9/11 Commission Report on July 22 by releasing a 2010 progress report outlining advancements in the Department's capabilities to protect against and respond to acts of terrorism and other threats—including a series of unprecedented steps to bolster aviation security in the United States and around the world. To view the Department's full 9/11 Commission progress report, visit "Progress in Implementing 9/11 Commission Recommendations: July 2010 Update" at <http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/9-11-commission-update-report-7-22-10.pdf>
http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr_1279807353759.shtm

PLANNING / PREPAREDNESS

Current Threat Level

- The United States government's national threat level is Elevated, or Yellow.
- The U.S. threat level is High, or Orange, for all domestic and international flights. Only small amounts of liquids, aerosols and gels are allowed in carry-on baggage. See the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Web site (<http://www.tsa.gov>) for up-to-date information on items permitted and prohibited on airlines.
- Virginia Threat Level: 



Under an elevated threat level, businesses should:

- Continue all precautions from lower Threat Conditions.
- Announce Threat Condition ELEVATED to employees.
- Review vulnerability and threat assessments and revise as needed.
- Identify and monitor governmental information sharing sources for warnings and alerts.
- Update and test call down list for emergency response teams and key employees.
- Review and coordinate and update mutual aid agreements with other critical facilities and government agencies.
- Establish and monitor active and passive security measures.
- Review employee training on security precautions (bomb threat procedures, reporting suspicious packages, activities and people).
- Conduct communications checks to ensure radio contact can be established.

At this time there is no credible information warning of an imminent, specific threat to the homeland. All Americans should continue to be vigilant, take notice of their surroundings, and report suspicious items or activities to local authorities immediately. Everyone should establish an emergency preparedness kit and an emergency plan for themselves and their family, and stay informed about what to do during an emergency.

http://www.dhs.gov/xinfoshare/programs/Copy_of_press_release_0046.shtm

<http://vaemergency.com/>

Virginia's Official Hurricane Evacuation Guide Now Available

Virginia's official Hurricane Evacuation Guide is available at locations throughout Hampton Roads, the Peninsula and metro Richmond, as well as online at www.ReadyVirginia.gov. As part of the Ready Virginia public-outreach campaign, Virginia's Hurricane Evacuation Guide contains important information on:

- Several evacuation routes and traffic reversal plans for Interstate 64
- The effects of storm surge on coastal areas
- Bridge, tunnel and ferry closure plans
- Hurricane watches and warnings
- Personal emergency preparedness and making a family emergency plan

The guide was created by VDOT, the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the Hampton Roads Emergency Management Committee. A total of 250,000 copies were printed for the 2010 hurricane season. A grant

from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security covered the guide's printing costs. Any business or organization interested in distributing the guides should call VDEM's Public Affairs Office at 866-782-3470.

Resilient Homes: Last Room Standing

For 18 horrific hours on April 3, 1974, the largest and most cataclysmic tornado on record for a single 24-hour period took North America by storm. Actually, it was 148 tornadoes, which spun through and sacked 13 states and one Canadian province, ravaging some 900 square miles and killing 148 people. An iconic photo snapped in the tragedy's aftermath speaks the proverbial thousand words: amid trees knocked down like matchsticks and houses crushed like eggshells, one thing remained intact, standing erect and defying nature's wrath: an interior bathroom, whose walls had not been connected to the rest of the house. This image demonstrates how a single room can withstand the wrath of a tornado and serve as a safe haven.



http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/gc_1276203905125.shtm

Focus on Fire Safety: Residential Hazardous Materials Safety

Residential hazardous materials (hazmat) safety is important in preventing fires in and around your home. Hazmat safety involves the proper handling and storage of combustibles and flammable liquids such as gasoline, kerosene,



propane, oil, aerosols, certain household cleaning products, and painting supplies. Americans have about half a million different products containing chemicals available for use in our homes. The

average household contains between 3 and 10 gallons of materials classified as hazardous. Most people use chemicals safely everyday without incident, but as the number of chemical products increases, the rates of improper use and injury also increase.

<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus/hazmats.shtm>

A Business Continuity Plan for All Seasons

The next incident is always the one you have not thought of! Charlie Maclean-Bristol suggests some ways to ensure that your business continuity plan can cope with unanticipated incidents. "We cannot prepare for all incidents, so it is important to have a robust incident management process in place which can deal with any incident which comes along. Nassim Taleb makes the case in his book "The Black Swan" for not planning for black swans. He argues that 'most of the really big events in our world are rare and unpredictable, and thus trying to extract generalizable stories to explain them may be emotionally satisfying, but it's practically useless.' How can we plan for something we don't know about or have a probability for? Thinking about the recent European ash cloud crisis as an example of such an incident."

<http://www.continuitycentral.com/feature0792.html>

Enterprise Risk Management Lessons from the BP Oil Spill

Every large organization can learn from the ongoing Deepwater Horizon disaster says Geary W. Sikich. "The BP Deepwater Horizon catastrophe casts a shadow reflecting on all oil company CEO's and senior executives, not just BP's Tony Hayward. It also provides lessons that every large organization can learn. While CEO Tony Hayward and COO Doug Suttles will suffer the brunt of criticism and subsequent consequences; all enterprise board members should see this as a wake-up call. How you decide to respond is what separates the leaders from the left behind. Today's smartest executives know that disruption is constant and inevitable. They've learned to absorb the shockwaves that change brings and can use that energy to transform their companies and their careers."

<http://www.continuitycentral.com/feature0790.html>

Twitter and Business Continuity

What do CNN, the Dalai Lama, FEMA, and Avalution all have in common? All embrace social media in the form of

Twitter to interact with users and share breaking news. Displaying topics ranging from H1N1 and Haiti to the best local cup of coffee, Twitter has created a new baseline for effective and efficient communication. With the ease of use and scalability that social media provides, organizations are looking to understand how social media not only fits into their marketing and branding efforts, but also their business continuity capability.

<http://www.continuitycentral.com/feature0784.html>

U.S. Small Businesses Ignoring Business Continuity

Business continuity management ranks relatively low among the many priorities facing US small business owners, according to a survey conducted by Travelers. The survey, conducted at America's Small Business Summit 2010, held May 17-19, in Washington, D.C., also found that nearly half of small businesses are operating without a business continuity plan. According to the survey, ranked in order from highest to lowest, business owners' most pressing priorities are:

- Marketing and sales.
- Managing cash flow.
- Attracting financing.
- Attracting and retaining employees.
- Identifying and managing insurable risks.
- Compliance with federal and state regulations.
- Protecting against litigation and lawsuits.

In addition to the relatively low priority placed on risk management, 44 percent of small businesses are operating without a business continuity plan.

<http://www.continuitycentral.com/news05221.html>

Get Flood Insurance Now, Officials Urge

On Friday, July 2, President Barack Obama signed into law a bill authorizing the extension of the National Flood Insurance Program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through September 2010. This program offers low cost insurance to homeowners, renters and business owners to cover their structures and personal property against flood losses. To learn the flood risk at your street address visit www.floodsmart.gov. There's an interactive tool on the site at www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pages/flooding_flood_risks/the_cost_of_flooding.jsp that shows how much damage can be caused by different heights of flood water from one to 18 inches inside a building. Information is also available toll-free from the National Flood Insurance hotline at 1-888-379-9531.

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=52119>

Five Years after Katrina, Report Reveals 38 States Unprepared to Protect Children during Disasters

Almost five years after Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast and displaced over 160,000 Louisiana and Mississippi kids, a new report reveals that the vast majority of states are still not fully prepared to protect children in disasters. Fewer than one quarter of all states and the District of Columbia have enacted four basic safeguards to protect kids who are in school or child care during disasters, such as requiring all licensed child care centers to have a plan to reunite children with their families and requiring schools to have a clear written evacuation plan in place. The report is the second disaster preparedness report released by Save the Children's U.S. Programs. The 2010 year report found that 38 states and the District of Columbia did not meet all four basic standards, and seven states met zero. Only 12 states meet all four standards, including Mississippi and Alabama, which is five more than in the 2009 report.

Report is available at: <http://www.savethechildren.org/publications/reports/2010-Disaster-Report.pdf>

<http://www.savethechildren.org/newsroom/2010/five-years-after-katrina.html>

Lightning Safety and Awareness

Each year in the United States, more than 400 people are struck by lightning. On average, between 55 and 60 people are killed; hundreds of others suffer permanent neurological disabilities. Most of these tragedies can be avoided with a few simple precautions. When thunderstorms threaten, get to a safe place. Lightning safety is an inconvenience that can save your life.



Get this fact sheet about lightning safety, and what to do if you are caught in a thunderstorm or if lightning strikes.
<http://www.weather.gov/os/lightning/resources/lightning-safety.pdf>

MEDIA ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Government Will Take Over Spill Response Information Website

The U.S. government is expected to take over control of the central information website on the Gulf oil spill response that has been run jointly by various agencies and BP for the 2½ months since the rig explosion. The Department of Homeland Security wants a one-stop shop for information that is completely overseen by the government as it settles into the long-haul of dealing with the response to the disaster. The U.S. Coast Guard falls under Homeland Security's authority. BP and the federal government are part of a unified command that is working together to try to contain the oil gusher, but the government has been directing BP at every turn. A DHS spokesman told The Associated Press on Sunday that the joint relationship won't change when the website is given a dot-gov address instead of a dot-com address. But who can post information to the site would change.

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/07/04/government-spill-response-information-website-happen-days/>

Emergency Preparedness With Pets

If an area is not safe for you, it is not safe for your pet. As hurricane season is upon us, remember those words when preparing for any emergency evacuation with your pet. The main thing to remember is to always be prepared. Natural disasters happen when one least expects them. It is also good to be familiar with all of the natural disasters that affect each area and the best way to react to them. If one is prepared with an emergency kit that has containers for food and water, medical records, identification information, medications and comfort items than one should be ready when an emergency strikes. It is also important to assemble a first-aid kit for pets in case of an emergency. The first-aid kit should contain diarrhea medication, hydrogen peroxide, eye dropper, towel, blanket, ice cream sticks that can be used as splints, scissors, tweezers, liquid dish detergent to clean mild wounds and non-adherent bandage pads.

<http://tamunews.tamu.edu/2010/07/08/emergency-preparedness-with-pets/>

Backlash Grows Against Full-body Scanners in Airports

Opposition to new full-body imaging machines to screen passengers and the government's deployment of them at most major airports is growing. Many frequent fliers complain they're time-consuming or invade their privacy. The world's airlines say they shouldn't be used for primary security screening. And questions are being raised about possible effects on passengers' health. The machines — dubbed by some fliers as virtual strip searches — were installed at many airports in March after a Christmas Day airline bombing attempt. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has spent more than \$80 million for about 500 machines, including 133 now at airports. It plans to install about 1,000 by the end of next year. The machines are running into complaints and questions here and overseas.

http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2010-07-13-1Abodyscans13_ST_N.htm



Dave Couts, a program analyst for the Transportation Security Administration, demonstrates how to stand in the new body-scanning machine at Sky Harbor International Airport in Phoenix. Some fliers are uncomfortable being scanned by the machines. Photo by Matt York, AP.

County Starts Work On Disaster Recovery Plan

Fairfax County Executive Anthony Griffin is asking non-profit organizations, local businesses, county agencies and other municipalities for help in developing a local disaster recovery plan. Fairfax received a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland security to assist with planning for local disaster relief. Griffin sent out a letter in early July inviting stakeholders to register for a disaster recovery workshop held on Aug. 4, at the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center. For information on the workshop, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/pdrp/
<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=342745&paper=71&cat=104>

Survey Results/Key Findings

- **Mass-Casualty Preparedness and Response**

Key findings: *DomPrep readers and members of the DomPrep40 are generally doubtful over the nation's ability to manage the consequences of a mass-casualty event. A solid plurality view regional planning as the crux of a solution.*

A just concluded DomPrep survey focused on mass-casualty preparedness and response in general and responses to a nuclear event in particular. Although many believe that a mass-casualty event caused by a nuclear detonation is highly unlikely, evidence from the intelligence community suggests a high probability of occurrence within the next 3-5 years. Dr. Craig Vanderwagen, former assistant health and human services secretary for preparedness and response (ASPR), who prepared the DomPrep survey, has pointed out that the current response "environment" may be "more focused on other causes of mass casualties – large earthquakes, chemical exposures, or a bio-event involving a large population and such – but the dynamics of managing a large number of individuals needing medical care and public health interventions apply directly to nuclear detonation."

Report: <http://www.domesticpreparedness.com/userfiles/reports/MASSCAS10.pdf>

- **The Chemical Threat and The State of Chemical Preparedness**

Key findings: *The chemical threat is real. Chemical preparedness is inadequate. What is most needed now are government standards for chemical detection equipment and an "approved products list" for DHS (Department of Homeland Security) grant funds.*

This DomPrep report and survey on U.S. chemical preparedness (and the steps needed to improve it) finds DomPrep members very much in synch with the views of the DomPrep40. Both groups are highly attuned to the chemical threat and what it might mean for local emergency managers. Moreover, although local jurisdictions may consider a chemical warfare agent or TIC/TIM (toxic industrial chemical/toxic industrial material) event as high-consequence/low probability, they do not necessarily have the time, talent, and financial resources needed to apply to increasing local preparedness for such events.

Report: http://www.domesticpreparedness.com/userfiles/reports/CBRNE_CHEM10v1.pdf

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This DomPrep survey focused on mass-casualty preparedness and response in general and responses to a nuclear event in particular. Although many believe that a mass-casualty event caused by a nuclear detonation is highly unlikely, evidence from the intelligence community suggests a high probability of occurrence within the next 3-5 years. This information may have been a key factor in the Obama administration's re-evaluation of the U.S. Government's (USG's) policies in the field of weapons. President Obama has not only recently announced the signing of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty document but also released a statement of re-focused USG policy on nuclear threats that highlighted the need to focus on non-state actors and their apparent intent to create a catastrophic event using a nuclear detonation. That threat, of course, has major implications for the U.S. security community and its mission to prevent such an event. It also raises questions about the nation's domestic ability to respond.

<http://www.domesticpreparedness.com/userfiles/reports/MASSCAS10.pdf>

Website: <http://www.domesticpreparedness.com/>

Top Secret America

A three-part "Washington Post" report looks at the top-secret world the government created in response to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, [that] has become so large, so unwieldy and so secretive that no one knows how much money it costs, how many people it employs, how many programs exist within it or exactly how many agencies do the same work. The Post "discovered what amounts to an alternative geography of the United States, a Top Secret America hidden from public view and lacking in thorough oversight. After nine years of unprecedented spending and growth, the result is that the system put in place to keep the United States safe is so massive that its effectiveness is impossible to determine."

<http://media.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/special/nation/tsa/static/articles/hidden-world.html>

Fictitious Security Analyst Attracts Invitations and Offers

Robin Sage, “an attractive [but fictitious], flirtatious 25-year-old woman working as a ‘cyber threat analyst’ at the U.S. Navy’s Network Warfare Command,” in “less than a month ... amassed nearly 300 social-network connections among security specialists, military personnel and staff at intelligence agencies and defense contractors,” reports the “Washington Times.” “... Sage’s connections invited her to speak at a private-sector security conference in Miami, and to review an important technical paper by a NASA researcher. Several invited her to dinner. And there were many invitations to apply for jobs.” But “her profile was a ruse set up by security consultant Thomas Ryan as part of an effort to expose weaknesses in the nation’s defense and intelligence communities.”

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/jul/18/fictitious-femme-fatale-fooled-cybersecurity/>

FLU

H1N1 Flu: International Situation Update

WHO continues to report laboratory-confirmed 2009 H1N1 flu deaths on its webpage. These fatal cases are an under-representation of the actual numbers, as many deaths are never tested or recognized as flu related. According to WHO, the majority of 2009 H1N1 virus isolates tested worldwide remains sensitive to oseltamivir, an antiviral medicine used to treat flu. Approximately 1 percent of U.S. 2009 H1N1 viruses tested by CDC since Sept. 1, 2009, have been resistant to oseltamivir.

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/updates/international/>

Two Reports into UK Pandemic Response

Two reports were recently published which capture lessons learned from the H1N1 pandemic response, with the aim of improving the management of future pandemics. The reports are:

- “The 2009 Influenza Pandemic: An independent review of the UK response to the 2009 influenza pandemic.” This is an independent review into the UK’s strategic response to the 2009 swine flu pandemic. It outlines 28 recommendations that aim to enhance the proportionality of a future response, strengthen the development and handling of scientific advice and improve how government communicates with the public.
<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/416533/the2009influenzapandemic-review.pdf>
- “Report of the Swine Flu Critical Care Clinical Group and Key Learning Points for Future Surge Planning.” This Department of Health report builds on the work undertaken during the 2009-10 swine flu pandemic to increase critical care capacity. The report incorporates key learning points for future surge planning.
http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh.digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/documents/digitalasset/dh_117134.pdf

U.S. Songbirds Carry Low-risk Bird Flu, Study Finds

Songbirds such as sparrows and thrushes carry various forms of bird flu and could potentially spread the viruses to pigs and poultry, U.S. researchers reported earlier this month. The birds carried low-pathogenic avian influenza -- the less dangerous form of bird flu -- but flu viruses can and do swap genes and mutate into more dangerous forms, the researchers said. A major risk is that the birds would infect pigs, which are suspected “mixing vessels” for new strains of influenza -- notably the ongoing pandemic of H1N1 swine flu, the researchers wrote in the Biomed Central journal BMC Infectious Diseases, available at <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2334/10/187/abstract>.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20100706/hl_nm/us_birdflu_songbirds

Early Tamiflu Might Benefit Transplant Patients With H1N1 Flu

Early treatment with antiviral drugs appears to help prevent serious illness and death in organ transplant patients with H1N1 swine flu, researchers say. Because they take immune system-suppressing drugs in order to prevent rejection of their new organs, transplant recipients may be at increased risk for flu virus infection and related complications, the authors of the new study explained in a news release about the study, which was published online July 8 in “The

Lancet Infectious Diseases.” The study included 237 transplant recipients (154 adults, 83 children) in Canada, Europe and the United States who were infected with the pandemic H1N1 influenza strain A between April-December 2009.
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/news/fullstory_100853.html

Study Shows Healthy People Hit Hard by H1N1 Flu

More than half of people who died from swine flu or were admitted to hospital with it during the first wave of the H1N1 pandemic in Britain were previously healthy people with no underlying risks, a study has found. The research findings support many health authorities' policies to prioritize pregnant women, children under the age of 5 and those with long term respiratory problems such as asthma for vaccination against the H1N1 virus known as swine flu. But they also suggest that everyone with asthma might benefit from vaccination, not just those with severe disease, researchers from the University of Nottingham said. The findings, published on Tuesday, July 13, in the journal Thorax, a British Medical Journal title, were based on an analysis of clinical data from 55 hospitals in 20 towns and cities in the first wave of the H1N1 pandemic during May to September 2009.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKTRE66B6XA20100712>

NIH Scientists Advance Universal Flu Vaccine

A universal influenza vaccine — so-called because it could potentially provide protection from all flu strains for decades — may become a reality because of research led by scientists from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health. In experiments with mice, ferrets and monkeys, the investigators used a two-step immunization approach to elicit infection-fighting antibodies that attacked a diverse array of influenza virus strains. Current flu vaccines do not generate such broadly neutralizing antibodies, so they must be re-formulated annually to match the predominant virus strains circulating each year.

<http://www.nih.gov/news/health/jul2010/niaid-15.htm>

WHO Failing in Duty of Transparency

An editorial in “The Lancet Infectious Diseases”

Rather than the 4 million deaths predicted in the worst case scenarios, 15 000 people are estimated to have died from pandemic influenza so far. WHO is right to have sought advice from a range of experts, some of whom will inevitably have ties with pharmaceutical companies. However, the lack of transparency raises concerns that WHO did not take into account possible conflicts during its decision-making process and points to a system struggling to balance a relationship between drug companies and global health. WHO must address the failings of transparency in this event to recover public trust and restore its credibility.

[http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099\(10\)70147-X/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099(10)70147-X/fulltext)

TRAININGS / EXERCISES / CONFERENCES

Governor’s Campus Preparedness Conference

Aug. 3; Richmond, Va.

The conference’s goal is to empower students, faculty, and administrators with the tools and knowledge of proven techniques in order to promote a culture of preparedness on the campuses of Virginia’s colleges and universities, addressing the need for a high level of readiness for all potential hazards, including hurricanes, tornadoes, pandemic flu, and terrorism

<http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/trainingevents/gpolicy/GovCampusPrepare2010.cfm>

Social Media 4 Responders

Sept. 13-14; Charlotte, NC

Practitioners from the fire service, law enforcement, public health, and crisis and disaster response will present how and why their agencies and others are going directly to their communities using the Internet. They will walk participants through the latest developments in high-tech Web 2.0



tools such as Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and blogs to help participants' organizations communicate with their target audiences.

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

Water Security Congress

Sept. 19-22; National Harbor, Md.

AWWA's 2010 Distribution Systems Symposium (DSS) and Exposition and Water Security Congress is the event for distribution, engineering, and plant operations

professionals. For more than 20 years, DSS has brought together decision makers and key influencers involved in water distribution. Water Security Congress is the event for water security and emergency preparedness professionals. Each year, the AWWA Water Security Congress draws water industry professionals who want up-to-date information on innovative products and services for protecting water and wastewater infrastructures and how to be prepared for new and emerging water security challenges.

<http://www.awwa.org/Conferences/securityconf.cfm?ItemNumber=753&navItemNumber=3543>



Homeland Security for Networked Industries (HSNI)

Sept. 20- 21; Park Hyatt, Washington D.C.

The Homeland Security for Networked Industries (HSNI) 2010 conference focuses on the topic of securing our nation's critical infrastructure industry networks, namely the Telecommunications, Utilities and Transportation industries. The conference also initiates dialogue between these industries and government in an environment dedicated to protecting the country, its people, its infrastructure and the nation's economy. In an atmosphere of cross industry collaboration and communication, the conference seeks to highlight challenges and success stories in these three major industries, and encourages leaders in these industries to share insight and experience with their peers.

<http://www.hsni2010.com/registration.html>

2010 Public Safety/Homeland Security Symposiums

Sept. 21 through Nov. 18; Various locations

These timely, thought-provoking symposiums coalesce local law enforcement leaders and industry specialists to exchange expertise, best practices and explore first-hand the state-of-the-art technologies around today's most pressing crime-fighting and homeland security challenges.

- Sept. 21: Louisville, KY
- Sept. 23: Charlotte, NC
- Oct. 5: New York City, NY
- Oct. 7: Columbus, OH
- Nov. 16: Tampa, Fla.
- Nov. 18: Dallas, TX

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/events/PublicSafety-HomelandSecurity-Symposiums.html>

Homeland Security Symposium and Exhibition

Sept. 28-29; Arlington, Va.

This year's theme is "America's Homeland Leaders Talk Risk." Among the symposium sessions: International Terrorism—The Threat from Abroad; Domestic Terrorism—The Threat at Home; The Wrath and Consequences of "Mother Nature"; Border Security; Cyber Threats and Enhancing Security of the IT Infrastructure; Critical Infrastructure Protection and Resilience; and a media panel on Covering Risks and Disasters.

<http://www.ndia.org/meetings/0490/Pages/default.aspx>



Virginia Hazardous Materials Conference and Expo

Oct. 18-22; Hampton, Va.

This year's theme is "Moving Forward With Renewed Commitment." Workshops will cover topics such as unified command, ethanol and hazmat operations, radiological and nuclear awareness, homemade explosive production signatures recognition, and hands-on training with the Safety Train by Amy Clymer and Heather Rose.

<http://www.virginiahazmat.org/displayconvention.cfm>

6th Annual Border Management Summit

Oct. 25-27; Arlington, Va.

The challenge to manage our nation's borders can only be answered by advancing surveillance,

biometrics, detection and information sharing technologies, as they are pushed forward by policies and mandates of government. With the suspension of SBINet, a recent uproar for immigration reform, and the constant violence along the US-Mexico and U.S.-Canada borders, this year's summit is a must-attend event for homeland security experts across all agencies and levels of government. In its 6th year, IDGA's flagship Border Management Summit brings together thought leaders and key policy-makers across local, state and federal law enforcement, the DHS, and international government organizations, as a forum for the discussion of current and future border security initiatives.

<http://www.bordermanagementsummit.com/Event.aspx?id=332720>



58th Annual IAEM Annual Conference and EXEM 2010

Oct. 30-Nov. 4; San Antonio, Tx.

The International Association of Emergency Managers will host its annual conference Oct. 30 through Nov. 4 in San Antonio, Tx. Also ongoing is EMEX 2010, the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Expo, showcasing leading technologies, products and services in emergency management. More information is online at www.iaem.com and www.emex.org.



2011 Virginia Emergency Management Symposium: "Managing the Emergency — All in a Day's Work"

March 30-April 1, 2011; Richmond, Va.

<http://www.vemaweb.org>

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

LINKS

Fairfax County Blogs and Web Resources

- Fairfax County CERT - <http://fairfaxcountycert.blogspot.com/>
- Fairfax County Citizen Corps Web Page - www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizen corps/

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.

- Fairfax County Citizen Corps Blog - <http://citizencorps.blogspot.com/>
- Virginia Citizen Corps - <http://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.

<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.

http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/editorial_0542.shtm.

Fairfax County Government Emergency Information Web Page

The county's emergency information page features easy navigation and a clean look so that residents can easily find emergency information.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/

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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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, please contact Merni Fitzgerald, Director of the Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs, at 703-324-3187, TTY 711, or by e-mail at merni.fitzgerald@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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