



ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update

Produced by Emergency Support Function 15 – External Affairs

May 2011

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR ESF 15

Historic Tornado Outbreak Across the South

NOAA's preliminary estimate is that there were 362 tornadoes during the entire outbreak from 8 a.m. EDT April 25 to 8 a.m. April 28, 2011. Expert analysis by NOAA Research and the National Weather Service of the fatality information indicates that at least 350 people were killed during the entire outbreak from 8 a.m. EDT April 25 to 8 a.m. April 28. There were 340 fatalities during the 24-hour-period from 8 a.m. April 27 to 8 a.m. April 28.

- The April 26-28 period had the most people killed by tornadoes in a two-day period since April 5-6, 1936, when 454 people were killed, mostly in Tupelo, Miss., and Gainesville, Ga.
- April 27, 2011, is the deadliest single day for tornadoes since the March 18, 1925, tornado outbreak that had 747 fatalities across 7 states (including the Tri-State Tornado).
- The largest previous number of tornadoes on record in one event occurred from April 3-4, 1974, with 148 tornadoes.

http://www.noanews.noaa.gov/april_2011_tornado_information.html

"On April 27th, NOAA tracked a total of 211 tornadoes, with the majority across northern Mississippi and Alabama. While we continue to focus on forecasting and as analysts survey the damage, our hearts are with the families and friends who lost loved ones in this major tornado outbreak of historic proportions."

*Dr. Jane Lubchenco,
NOAA administrator*



Smithville, MS, May 9, 2011 -- This home is now a twisted ruin after being hit by a tornado in Smithville Mississippi. FEMA provides funds to homeowners to help with the recovery. Howard Greenblatt/FEMA

Tornado Relief Fund

During April, at least 30 tornadoes were recorded in Virginia (2 in Pulaski, 11 from mid-April, 17 from late April). Ten people lost their lives, and more than 100 were injured. An estimated 212 homes were destroyed and more than 1,000 were damaged. Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell has started a fund for tornado relief. Make checks payable to Treasurer of Virginia and note "tornado relief" in the memo line. Send to Comptroller's Office, P.O. Box 1971, Richmond, VA 23218-1971. Donations are tax deductible.

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

Tornado Preparedness



Governor Encourages Everyone to Assist Virginia's Tornado-Impacted Communities

Governor Bob McDonnell is encouraging private companies, nonprofit organizations, volunteers, faith-based organizations and residents to rally to provide additional aid to communities across Virginia that were impacted by April's devastating tornadoes. While requests by the Commonwealth to obtain aid from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have been denied, **Governor McDonnell has pledged state resources to localities who are rebuilding following the outbreak of storms from April 8 through April 28.** The storms left 10 dead, more than 100 injured and destroyed 212 homes and damaged more than 1,050 homes and businesses. Individual aid efforts and those sponsored by many other private and faith-based organizations have contributed significant resources or funds toward rebuilding efforts. The governor has also pledged to contribute state Disaster Recovery Funding to assist localities in their efforts to rebuild. Earlier this month, Governor McDonnell requested federal disaster assistance for the counties of Halifax, Pulaski and Washington. He also requested FEMA include April 8-28 as one incident period so other localities, such as Gloucester and Middlesex, could be added later. The Federal Emergency Management Agency denied Virginia's request for federal disaster assistance for those affected by the April tornadoes. On May 17, the **governor announced that he will appeal the May 7 denials by the Federal Emergency Management Agency** of disaster assistance for Virginians affected by a series of strong tornadoes during April. "Local and state governments and volunteers are doing all they can to help, but federal assistance would make a big difference in ensuring that hundreds of Virginians recover from this devastation," Governor McDonnell said. "I urge FEMA to reconsider this decision and to expedite my request. I also sincerely appreciate the tremendous assistance we have received from our entire Congressional delegation in making and now moving forward with this decision. This has been a bipartisan effort and I want to particularly thank Congressmen Morgan Griffith, Robert Hurt and Robb Wittman and Senator Mark Warner for their leadership and commitment to ensuring we take every step possible to help Virginians who have been harmed by these horrific storms." In the meantime, the governor urges that relief efforts continue and that local, state, and federal partners work with businesses, private organizations and volunteers to assist those in need and help rebuild our affected communities. The Virginia Department of Emergency Management has established a webpage to make it easier for citizens and private companies to offer their assistance. Those wishing to pledge their support should visit www.vaemergency.com. (See related story above.)

Tips on Avoiding Fraudulent Charitable Contribution Schemes

In response to the recent tornadoes that affected several Southern states and caused loss of life and flooding that has damaged property, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and National Center for Disaster Fraud remind the public to be aware of and report any instances of alleged fraudulent activity related to relief operations and funding for victims. Unfortunately, criminals can exploit these tragedies for their own gain by sending fraudulent emails and creating phony websites designed to solicit contributions. The FBI has already received complaints alleging fraudulent schemes. Tips should be reported to the National Center for Disaster Fraud, (866) 720-5721. The line is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Additionally, emails can be sent to disaster@leo.gov, and information can be faxed to (225) 334-4707. Consumers can also report suspicious e-mail solicitations or fraudulent websites to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center, www.ic3.gov.

<http://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/tips-on-avoiding-fraudulent-charitable-contribution-schemes-1>

American Red Cross Launches National Ready Rating™ Program

The American Red Cross earlier this month launched a newly designed website, ReadyRating.org, to help businesses, schools and other organizations better prepare for emergencies. The announcement was made at an event involving business, education and government leaders at Red Cross national headquarters in Washington, D.C. Ready Rating™ is a free, self-paced, Web-based membership program that helps a business or school measure how ready they are to deal with emergencies, and gives customized feedback on how they can improve their efforts. Schools and businesses may face a number of emergencies that could disrupt their operations, ranging from natural disasters such as hurricanes and floods to outbreaks of illness such as the flu. The Ready Rating Program can help them feel more confident about the safety of their employees or students. Ready Rating begins with a comprehensive assessment of whether a business or organization is prepared to handle a disaster. Members score themselves on how prepared they are and receive steps they can take to improve their readiness planning. The assessment covers items from hazard vulnerability to continuity of operations and employee readiness. Ready Rating is also consistent with Private Sector

or PS-Prep Standards developed by the Department of Homeland Security. The program began with a successful pilot in nine cities with a \$2.1 million grant from Anheuser-Busch. Sam's Club is now supporting Ready Rating™ by providing \$500,000 to help bring the program to additional cities. The program has been revised with an enhanced website that can be used across the country by schools, businesses and other organizations. More information about this new preparedness program for schools and businesses can be found at www.ReadyRating.org.
http://l.pr/a4gk8q/Red_Cross_Ready_Rating

NOAA Hurricane Outlook Indicates an Above-normal Atlantic Season

The Atlantic basin is expected to see an above-normal hurricane season this year, according to the seasonal outlook issued by NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center – a division of the National Weather Service. Across the entire Atlantic Basin for the six-month season, which begins June 1, NOAA is predicting the following ranges this year:

- 12 to 18 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), of which:
- 6 to 10 could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including:
- 3 to 6 major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5; winds of 111 mph or higher)

Each of these ranges has a 70 percent likelihood, and indicate that activity will exceed the seasonal average of 11 named storms, six hurricanes and two major hurricanes. To help prepare residents of hurricane-prone areas, NOAA unveiled a new set of video and audio public service announcements featuring NOAA hurricane experts and the FEMA administrator that are available in both English and Spanish. These are available at

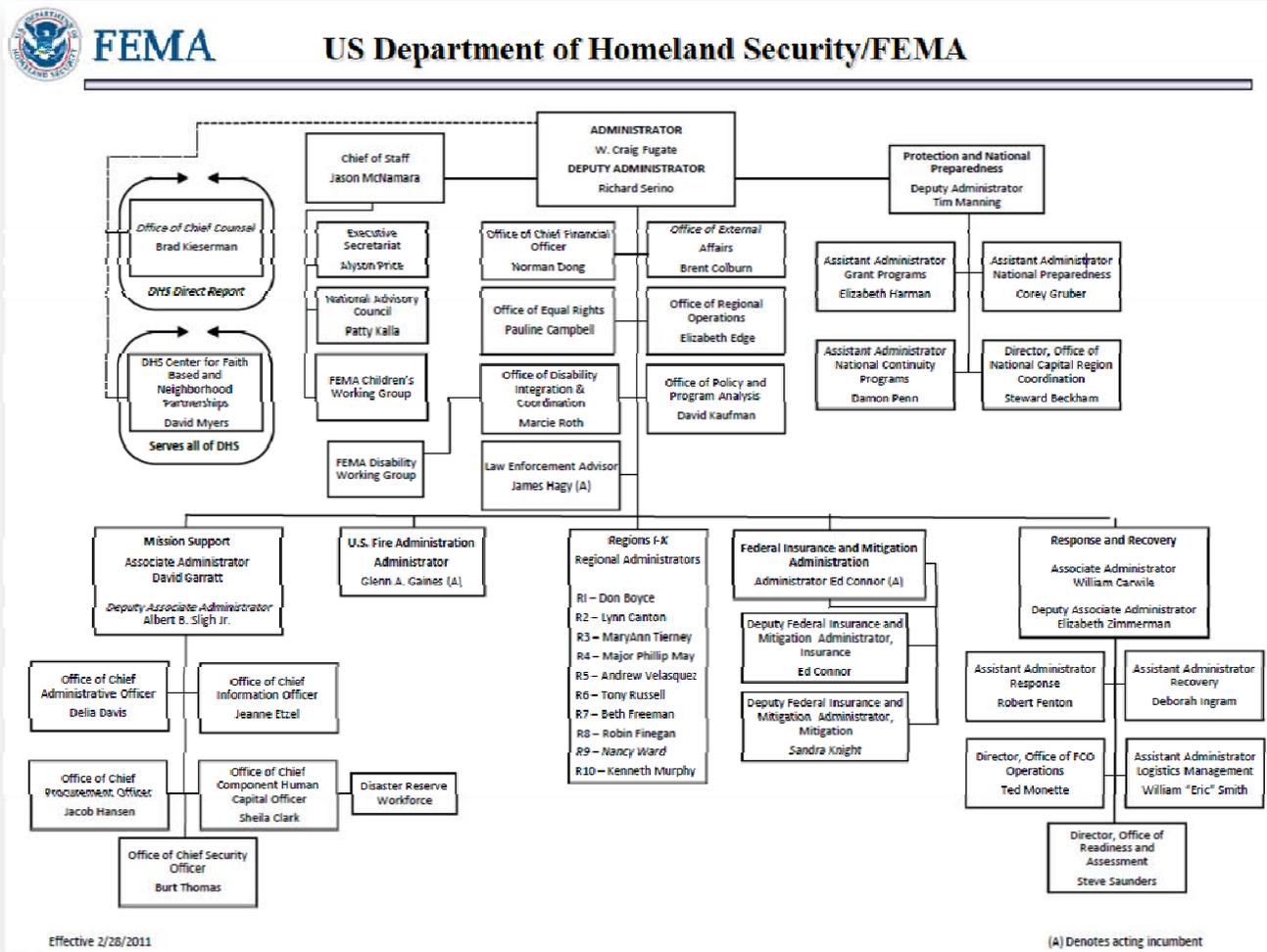
<http://www.hurricanes.gov/prepare>.
http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2011/20110519_atlantichurricaneoutlook.html

Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale for the Continental United States

Scale Number (Category)	Sustained Winds (MPH)	Types of Damage Due to Hurricane Winds	Hurricanes
1	74-95	Very dangerous winds will produce some damage: Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof, shingles, vinyl siding and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles likely will result in power outages that could last a few to several days.	Dolly (2008) on South Padre Island, Texas
2	96-110	Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage: Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block numerous roads. Near-total power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks.	Frances (2004) in coastal Port St. Lucie, Florida
3	111-130	Devastating damage will occur: Well-built framed homes may incur major damage or removal of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes.	Ivan (2004) in coastal Gulf Shores, Alabama
4	131-155	Catastrophic damage will occur: Well-built framed homes can sustain severe damage with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Most trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.	Charley (2004) in coastal Punta Gorda, Florida
5	>155	Catastrophic damage will occur: A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.	Andrew (1992) in coastal parts of Cutler Ridge, Florida

<http://www.weather.gov/os/hurricane/resources/TropicalCyclones11.pdf>

FEMA Org Chart



http://www.fas.org/irp/agency/dhs/fema/org_chart_2011.pdf

PLANNING / PREPAREDNESS

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.

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.

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.
Public Guide:

The image shows a template for a National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) alert poster. At the top left is the DHS seal and the text 'National Terrorism Advisory System'. The word 'Alert' is prominently displayed in the top center. To the right, it says 'DATE & TIME ISSUED: XXXX'. Below this are several sections: 'SUMMARY' (describing the threat), 'DURATION' (stating the alert expires), 'DETAILS' (providing more information), 'AFFECTED AREAS' (listing locations), 'HOW YOU CAN HELP' (ways to assist), 'STAY PREPARED' (preparation steps), and 'STAY INFORMED' (notification details). At the bottom, there is a call to action: 'If You See Something, Say Something™ Report suspicious activity to local law enforcement or call 911.' and a footer with contact information.

Tornado Preparedness

Recently, severe storms and tornados have impacted multiple families, organizations and communities across the nation. Currently, people are helping these communities recover from multiple weather disasters by donating their time, resources as well as preparing for the next severe weather event. Below are some online tornado preparedness and disaster response resources.

Disaster Assistance.gov - <http://www.disasterassistance.gov/>

Help Others Impacted by disasters - <http://www.fema.gov/rebuild/recover/howtohelp.shtm> (FEMA Donations page)

Ready Tornado Preparedness - <http://www.ready.gov/america/beinformed/tornadoes.html>

What to do to before, during and after a tornado - <http://www.fema.gov/hazard/tornado/index.shtm>

Ready Evacuation Plan - <http://www.ready.gov/business/plan/evacplan.html>

New York City Unveils First-in-the-Nation Public Safety System

Enabled Mobile Devices Will Receive Emergency Alerts at Critical Moments with Potentially Life-saving Messages

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Craig Fugate, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Julius Genachowski, top executives from AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile and Verizon and others convened at the World Trade Center site this morning to announce PLAN – the Personal Localized Alerting Network. **PLAN is a free service that will allow customers with an enabled mobile device to receive geographically-targeted, text-like messages alerting them of imminent threats to safety in their area.** This service will be available in New York City by the end of 2011, at least two calendar quarters before the rest of the nation. PLAN ensures that emergency alerts will not get stalled by user congestion, which can happen with standard mobile voice and texting services. Authorized government officials can send messages, which participating wireless providers then push using their cell towers to enabled mobile devices in a targeted geographic area. “In both the public and private sectors, I’ve always believed in the need to harness technology in new ways, including ways that its designers hadn’t anticipated. The City’s opt-in Notify NYC system is a great example of that: it alerts people to dangers and delays via email and mobile devices, and it has become a national model of emergency communication,” said New York City Michael Bloomberg. “But given the kinds of threats made against New York City at the World Trade Center, Times Square and other places popular with visitors and tourists, we’ll be even safer when authorities can broadcast warnings to everyone in a geographic area regardless of where they came from or bought their phone,” Bloomberg continued. PLAN is a technology developed by FEMA that will allow any customers of participating wireless carriers to **turn their mobile phones into personal alert systems.**

- These alerts **will be geographically targeted**, so people will receive them based on where they are when an emergency hits, as opposed to where they live. This is a much more practical and useful way of getting emergency information, when it matters most.
- These alerts will be **able to get through to phones, no matter how jammed nearby cell towers are.**

- Third, they are **completely free of charge and require no sign up**. Wireless carriers voluntarily choose to participate, and in doing so, provide the technology to new and existing customers. Customers whose phones include the new PLAN technology will have the alerts already activated on their phones, but can opt out of receiving them if they choose to do so.

In 2006, Congress passed the Warning, Alert and Response Network (WARN) Act, requiring carriers that choose to participate to activate PLAN technology by a deadline determined by the FCC, which is April 2012. Participants that will offer PLAN at least two calendar quarters ahead of schedule in New York City are AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile, and Verizon. Ninety percent of New York subscribers who have a PLAN-capable mobile device in these cities will be able to receive PLAN alerts by the end of 2011.

<http://blog.fema.gov/2011/05/plan-another-part-of-publics-emergency.html>

Majority of U.S. Hospitals Meet All-hazards Preparedness Measures

More than 76 percent of hospitals participating in the National Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) met 90 percent or more of all program measures for all-hazards preparedness in 2009, according to a report released earlier this month by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. "From Hospitals to Healthcare Coalitions: Transforming Health Preparedness and Response in Our Communities," the program's first state-by-state report, identifies the advances that states have made in preparing hospitals for all types of disasters. The report also discusses the next steps the program will take to boost community resilience.

All states, eight U.S. territories and four large metropolitan areas participate in the cooperative agreement grant program, which provides federal funds, technical assistance, and guidelines for hospital preparedness. Of the more than 6,300 hospitals across the nation, more than 85 percent take advantage of the program. To learn more about the program, visit <http://www.phe.gov/preparedness/planning/hpp/Pages/default.aspx>. Read the report at [www.phe.gov](http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/05/20110505a.html). <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/05/20110505a.html>

Catastrophic Planning

Hurricane Katrina in 2005 highlighted gaps in the nation's preparedness to respond effectively to catastrophic incidents. The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency designed the Task Force for Emergency Readiness (TFER) pilot program to advance and integrate state and federal catastrophic planning efforts. FEMA developed program objectives and procedures for administering the TFER pilot, but did not develop other elements of sound management practices in designing, administering, and evaluating pilot programs that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) identified from its prior work and social science literature. GAO recommends that FEMA develop policies and guidance that follow sound management practices for future pilot programs, and share TFER results with stakeholders.

GAO Report 11-383: "Catastrophic Planning: States Participating in FEMA's Pilot Program Made Progress, but Better Guidance Could Enhance Future Pilot Programs"

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11383.pdf>

Exercise Tests Local, State and Federal Response Capabilities in Hampton Roads

The 2011 Hampton Roads Full-Scale Exercise (HRFSE) was held May 17-19 to provide the Commonwealth of Virginia the opportunity to strengthen its anti-terrorism capabilities as well as test local, state and federal response efforts in maritime, hostage and mass casualty scenarios. Planning for the HRFSE began 18 months ago, and it was held at different locations in Hampton Roads each day. The HRFSE involved more than 400 participants and actors. The three-day exercises simulated different response scenarios:

- Day 1 simulated a maritime terrorist threat. Responders coordinated their actions at the federal, military and local levels to interdict and respond.
- Day 2 simulated a building barricaded by a hostile group that has taken hostages.
- Day 3 simulated a mass casualty event that requires conduct of victim extraction operations, triage and treatment. Approximately 75 actors played wounded hostages, while local, state, and military agencies responded.

Funding for the exercise comes from the Department of Defense 2010 Appropriation Act.

<http://www.governor.virginia.gov/News/viewRelease.cfm?id=753>

Study Shows Evacuation Plans Need To Account for “Human” Interruptions

How people leave a devastated area such as the World Trade Center (WTC) after the 9/11 attacks is critical to their ability to cope with the risks they face while evacuating, thus affecting their chances of survival, according to new research funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). A survey of WTC evacuees after the 9/11 attacks found when they were leaving the buildings, they stopped to seek information and to connect with co-workers or friends. Approximately one-half of the respondents immediately departed the area and one-half did not evacuate quickly. Almost 73 percent of those who had not left immediately said they “stopped to see what was happening and/or get more information or assistance,” and 53 percent said they “stopped to look for friends or co-workers.” One of the major findings of the survey is that people’s comfort level and ability to take action during uncertain situations is apparently higher in the presence of people they know, a conclusion that emergency planners may increasingly need to take into account. The paper, entitled “To Leave an Area after Disaster: How Evacuees from the World Trade Center Buildings Left the WTC Area Following the Attacks,” was authored by Rae Zimmerman of New York University’s Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and Martin F. Sherman of Loyola University Maryland. The research was funded by the CDC through the Association of Schools of Public Health, and presents an analysis of Columbia University’s WTC Evacuation Study (WTCEs) data that focused on 1,444 evacuees to evaluate the factors affecting the length of time to initiate and complete the evacuation of occupants from the Towers.

<http://www.emsworld.com/article/article.jsp?id=17061&siteSection=1>

DHS Announces Grant Guidance for Fiscal Year 2011 Preparedness Grants

On Thursday, May 19, Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano announced the release of FY 2011 grant guidance and application kits for 12 DHS grant programs totaling \$2.1 billion to assist states, urban areas, tribal and territorial governments, non-profit agencies, and the private sector in strengthening our nation’s ability to prevent, protect, respond to and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters and other emergencies. In FY 2011, DHS grants were reduced by \$780 million from the FY 2010 enacted level, nearly a quarter of FY 2010 DHS grant funding. The grants focus on the highest risk cities that continue to face the most significant threats, while continuing to provide dedicated funding to law enforcement throughout the country to prepare for, prevent and respond to pre-operational activity and other crimes that are precursors or indicators of terrorist activity. The 9/11 Commission recommended that homeland security funds be allocated “based strictly on an assessment of risks and vulnerabilities” to focus limited funding in the highest risk areas. The grant guidance also incorporates feedback from DHS’ state, local, tribal and territorial and private sector partners and includes specific steps undertaken by DHS to improve the ability of state and local partners to apply for and utilize grant funding. Further information on DHS’s preparedness grant programs is available at www.dhs.gov and www.fema.gov/grants.

http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr_1305812474325.shtm

Backup Generators Fail During Tests at 33 U.S. Nuclear Plants

Nuclear plant emergency generators like those that failed in Japan following the tsunami, sparking that country’s nuclear crisis, also failed during tests at Seabrook Station [in New Hampshire] and 32 other [U.S.] nuclear plants in the last eight years, a new report by Massachusetts Congressman Edward Markey’s office shows, reports “The Boston Globe.” Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations also do not require emergency diesel generators to be operational when there is no fuel in a nuclear reactor core – even though it could leave spent-fuel pools without any back-up cooling system in case power is lost, according to the report.

http://www.boston.com/lifestyle/green/greenblog/2011/05/markey_back-up_generators_fail.html

American Red Cross Using Technology to Help People Prepare for Hurricane Season

With new predictions for an above-average 2011 Atlantic hurricane season, the American Red Cross is adding technology to the many ways it helps people to get prepared. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts that 12-18 named storms, 6-10 hurricanes and 3-6 major hurricanes will occur this year. The 2011 Atlantic hurricane season starts June 1, and families can take steps now to create a family emergency plan. To make that planning easier, the Red Cross has developed a free iPhone app that gives the location of all open Red Cross shelters. The app not only maps the location of a shelter, but also shows current capacity and population. To download the app, users can visit



the Apple store and search “American Red Cross shelters.” For those without an iPhone, the same shelter information also appears on the Red Cross website and can be accessed by visiting www.redcross.org and clicking on “Find a Shelter.” Both are refreshed with updated information every 30 minutes. In addition, the Red Cross Safe and Well website (<https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php>) now allows users to update their Facebook and Twitter status when they register on the site. Safe and Well is a secure way to let your loved ones know where you are going during a hurricane evacuation or that you are “okay” in the aftermath of a disaster. If users choose to do so, they can easily let their entire network of friends and family know they are safe in one step.
http://1.pr/a4h5z6/Red_Cross_technology

MEDIA ARTICLES OF INTEREST

2011 Already Virginia’s 2nd Deadliest Year for Tornadoes

April’s killer tornadoes have made 2011 the second deadliest year in Virginia since modern records began in 1950. The National Weather Service has confirmed 15 tornadoes in an outbreak that killed five people. Another outbreak earlier in April killed two people. Figures from the weather service and the University of Virginia show that it’s the highest death toll since 1959, when 12 people were killed by a tornado on Sept. 30. Before April’s outbreaks, there had been no tornado fatalities in Virginia since April 1, 1998, when two people were killed.

<http://hamptonroads.com/2011/05/2011-already-virginias-2nd-deadliest-year-tornadoes>

Weather Service: 16 Tornadoes Hit Virginia

The National Weather Service says it now has confirmed 16 tornadoes hit Virginia. The tornadoes that struck all areas of the state killed five people, including four in Washington County where the most powerful of the twisters hit. Washington County suffered two tornadoes, including one that left a trail 18 miles long and 3/4 of a mile wide and packed winds of 140 miles per hour. The weather service also confirmed three tornadoes in Rockingham County, two in Prince William County, and one each in Halifax, Smyth, Prince Edward, Caroline, Augusta, Goochland, Hanover, Shenandoah and Fairfax counties. Most were much less destructive twisters, carrying winds of up to 100 miles per hour. No further confirmations are expected.

<http://hamptonroads.com/2011/05/weather-service-16-tornadoes-hit-va-last-week>

Cell Phones Get Emergency Alerts

Consumers will get emergency alerts for hurricanes, tornadoes and other disasters on their cell phones as part of a new alert network announced earlier this month by the Federal Communications Commission. The Personal Localized Alerting Network (PLAN) will allow emergency officials to send geographically targeted text messages to cell phones in areas where danger threatens. “The traditional alerts on radio and TV are still important, and they will continue, but more and more, mobile devices are becoming essential. You have them with you,” says FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski. “In the event of a major disaster, government authorities can get lifesaving information to you quickly.” On Tuesday, May 10, at the World Trade Center site in New York, Genachowski, New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator W. Craig Fugate announced that New York will have the free PLAN service operational by year’s end. Officials also expect to have Washington, D.C., on board by then. Four cellular providers — AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile and Verizon — have collaborated to voluntarily initiate the service prior to an April 2012 deadline for PLAN enactment throughout the nation. Officials hope to include the entire metropolitan area of the two cities.

http://www.usatoday.com/tech/news/2011-05-09-emergency-alerts_n.htm

New Terror Alert System Involves Local Governments

The next time there is a terrorist attack you may hear about it first from your local government. After the Sept. 11 attacks, the government created a system of color codes: Green, yellow, orange, red. Each color was supposed to alert us to a different level of terrorist threat. The system was never that clear and it was recently scrapped. The new National Terrorism Alert System or NTAS – as it is commonly referred to – will use many platforms, including traditional radio stations like WTOP to send out real time messages of an “imminent” or “elevated” terrorism alert,

with specific information. But, you may also get direct notifications from your local governments. **Fairfax County's public information officer Merni Fitzgerald**, who briefed the Washington Area Council of Governments Wednesday on the new system, says they need to give out the same information to make it less confusing. "We should be giving out the common message in all our different communication venues. We shouldn't be tweeting one thing and giving out something else on our hotline," she says. Local governments will also use websites, text messages, reverse 9-1-1 and social media tools like Twitter or Facebook to get messages directly to the public. Sometime next spring, the D.C. Metro region will also be a part of a new system that will send text messages directly to cell phones about a terrorist incident even if you have not signed up to get it.

<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=41&sid=2378936>

4 Steps for Preparing for Disaster – What Every Manager Should Know

If firms truly want to survive a disaster, preparation must be about more than just data. Disaster recovery is often viewed as the need for backup systems to safeguard an organization's data. Here's a little hint for the survival of your company: It's not just about the data. The IT and data elements of disaster preparedness are critical components to overall preparedness. In today's technological and global environment, organizations rely heavily on access to their data, 24/7, and any interruption of that access can be catastrophic to the organization. And increasingly, this data not only is for internal use, but also for use by business partners, vendors and customers. The availability of this information literally may mean the difference between a business's survival and demise; it can reduce the impact of the disaster and shorten the recovery time. In the information-hungry world we live in, reducing vulnerabilities of data access can impact an organization's ability to respond and the community's ability to recover. Yet according to a 2004 survey by AT&T Corp. and the International Association of Emergency Managers, nearly one-third of U.S. companies do not have a business continuity plan (BCP) in place. Large-scale disasters expose the quantity of organizations that are unprepared, while demonstrating just how damaging that lack of preparation can be.

<http://www.wallstreetandtech.com/technology-risk-management/229401007>

Creating an Emergency Plan

One of the most important ways to prepare for a natural disaster is to have an emergency plan. Laura Southard of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management says one of the first things you can do is make sure you're covered because, for example, things like flood insurance don't fall under your homeowner's policy. "What we're finding in Virginia because of the tornadoes, a lot of property is under-insured. If it had to be rebuilt today it would cost so much more," said Southard. Once that's taken care of, talk to your family. Figure out where you'll reunite if your family gets separated. ... A water proof bag with important documents should also be kept aside. Copies of the house deed, pictures of your belongings, insurance documents, and phone numbers – all that, could go in your supplies kit. Your kit should have least three days worth of supplies for each family member. And in it, you want to have the basics: water – at least one gallon per person a day. Non perishable foods – pop top can foods are made easy, but if you have regular cans, make sure to include a can opener. You'll also need a battery operated radio, with extra batteries. Once you have those items, add flashlights, a first aid kit, a list of prescriptions, toilet paper, soap, clothes, and a sleeping bag, it's everything you need to get by, in case of an emergency. For more help on making an emergency plan with your family, go to <http://www.readyvirginia.gov/>.



<http://www.nbc12.com/story/14636499/creating-an-emergency-plan>

Report: Major U.S. Metro Areas Vulnerable to Hurricane Storm Surges

Ten major U.S. coastal metropolitan areas are vulnerable to a total of hundreds of billions of dollars in property loss from hurricane related storm surges and flooding, according to a new report from CoreLogic, a Santa Ana, Calif.

based provider of consumer, financial and property information, analytics and services to business and government. The report, “2011 Storm Surge Report,” examined the potential financial impact of storm surges on single-family residential structures (homes) major urban areas along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts in the U.S. The findings show that of the 10 metro areas studied, Long Island, NY, has the most residential property at risk with \$99 billion of exposure. Although a Category 5 storm would not be sustainable off the coast of New York due to the cooler waters of the Atlantic, the report explained, “a Category 4 storm, however rare, is possible and would generate significant damage to the Long Island area of New York, if it were to make landfall. Even if the hurricane were only a Category 1 storm, the report said it could cause total property damage of over \$32.1 billion and impact nearly 74,000 residential Long Island properties. The second most vulnerable area, according to the report, is the Miami-Palm Beach, Fla. region with \$44.9 billion of exposure, **followed by Virginia Beach, Va. with \$44.6 billion of exposure.** <http://www.hstoday.us/industry-news/general/single-article/report-major-us-metro-areas-vulnerable-to-hurricane-storm-surges/7ed6c3e72e8c627ddef68995fd00a611.html>

Japan Government Body Detailed Tsunami Risks Before March 11 Documents

A government body conducted analyses on the damage tsunamis of various scale would inflict on a nuclear power plant, according to documents made public on Sunday, May 15, adding to allegations that Japan and its largest utility failed to heed warnings. The latest revelation, reported by the Mainichi daily, emerged as the government prepares to help Tokyo Electric Power (TEPCO) compensate victims of the crisis at the tsunami-crippled nuclear Fukushima Daiichi plant. The government and Tokyo Electric Power have repeatedly described the combination of the magnitude 9.0 earthquake and the ensuing 15-metre (46.5 foot) tsunami on March 11 as beyond expectations. The institution affiliated with the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, however, analyzed the dangers of tsunamis ranging from 3 meters to 23 meters in a report originally published in December. <http://www.trust.org/alertnet/news/japan-govt-body-detailed-tsunami-risks-before-march-11-documents/>

Task Force Urges Policy Makers to “Operationalize” the Concept of Resilience

A task force set up by the Homeland Security Policy Institute has issued an interim report stating that it is time for the concept of “resilience” to move beyond semantic definitions and into the realm where federal, state and local governments take concrete actions to brace themselves for “low probability,” but “high consequence” disasters. The task forth noted that resilience has become a popular buzzword among policymakers and homeland security experts, but argued that the term resilience must be “operationalized” to become effective. http://www.gsnmagazine.com/node/23345?c=disaster_preparedness_emergency_response

Richard Branson on Disaster Planning

One thing is certain in business: things will go wrong. So when you first start a business, one of your priorities should be emergency planning. Put a disaster plan in place that fits your situation – in case supply lines are cut, a hurricane hits, or other natural catastrophe looms – because if disaster strikes, a lot of people will look to you for answers. ... our disaster planning had prepared us to accomplish three main goals: get to the scene fast; be efficient in dealing with the passengers, staff and media; and be honest about what was happening. We knew those first steps would get communications established so that everyone – passengers, staff, the media – would obtain the information they needed. Beyond disasters and accidents, as you forge ahead, it's inevitable that you and your team will make mistakes. It is important to recognize this and ensure everyone in the company is prepared. <http://www.entrepreneur.com/article/219661>

FCC Website to Educate Businesses on Cybersecurity

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has launched a website (<http://www.fcc.gov/cyberforsmallbiz>) to provide information for small businesses about cybersecurity. The website provides cybersecurity resources for small businesses, including links to US government and private sector websites and information as well as 10 cybersecurity tips. The website recommends that small businesses train employees in security principles; protect information, computers, and networks from viruses, spyware, and other malicious code; provide firewall security for internet connections; install software updates for operating systems and applications as they become available; make backup copies of important business data; control physical access to computers and network components; secure Wi-Fi networks; require individual user accounts for each employee; limit employee access to data and limit

authority to install software; and change passwords regularly.

<http://www.infosecurity-us.com/view/18025/fcc-sets-up-website-to-educate-small-businesses-on-cybersecurity/>

More than 30 Cities Cut from DHS terror Funding

The Department of Homeland Security has notified more than 30 cities across that country that they are about to lose anti-terror funding from the federal government. The department said Thursday [May 19] that money for the Urban Areas Security Initiative grants has been cut by millions as part of a larger budget cut that eliminated more than \$780 million in grant money from the latest federal budget. The budget cuts mean that only 31 high-threat urban areas, including New York and Washington, will still receive grants this year. The grant program was launched in 2003 in response to security threats in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Initially, New York City, Washington, Los Angeles, Seattle, Chicago, San Francisco and Houston were eligible for the grant money. Since 2008 more than 60 cities have been awarded the risk-based grants. In Fiscal Year 2010, 54 smaller cities were eligible to split almost \$310 million in funding. Ten larger, higher-risk cities, like New York and Washington, vied for about \$525 million. Thirty cities in 23 states and Washington will now share more than \$662 million dollars.

<http://www.homeland1.com/domestic-international-terrorism/articles/1047339-More-than-30-cities-cut-from-DHS-terror-funding/>

FLU

Fairfax County Pandemic Flu Preparedness

Fairfax County's flu Web page for flu information and other preparedness news.

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

Bird Flu Entrenched in Indonesia

Avian influenza has become deeply entrenched in Indonesia with a number of provinces and districts being infected. The H5N1 avian influenza virus is endemic among others in Java, Sumatra, Bali, and Sulawesi with sporadic outbreaks reported from other areas. In North Sulawesi the bird flu spread rapidly and should be tackled optimally as it is disturbing the local community, a local poultry breeder said. "The spread of the H5N1 virus is already prevalent in a number of districts and towns, causing the sudden death of so many chickens there," North Sulawesi poultry breeders association spokesman Lexi Solang said in Manado over the weekend. Lexi then called on the local government to immediately deal with it optimally. He said that even around 56 chickens and ducks have been tested bird flu positive at Wineru village in North Minahasa district. According to Lexi, the bird flu virus has also spread to the districts of Kota Kotamobagu, Bolaang Mongondow, and South Minahasa but it has yet to be treated optimally.

<http://english.kompas.com/read/2011/05/02/14564570/Bird.Flu.Entrenched.in.Indonesia>

Korean Government to Cut Bird Flu Compensation Up To 80 Percent

The government will reduce compensation to those affected by livestock diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease and avian influenza starting next year. The agriculture ministry says that in the future, if outbreaks of diseases were brought on by the farmers' negligence, compensation will be cut by up to 80 percent, and under no circumstances will their damages be fully covered. Also, when farm owners do not report the employment of migrant workers or fail to sterilize the area thoroughly enough to prevent animal diseases, their licenses will be revoked.

http://www.arirang.co.kr/News/News_View.asp?nseq=115708&code=Ne2&category=2

The Use of Twitter to Track Levels of Disease Activity and Public Concern in the U.S. during the Influenza A H1N1 Pandemic

Twitter is a free social networking and micro-blogging service that enables its millions of users to send and read each other's "tweets," or short, 140-character messages. The service has more than 190 million registered users and processes about 55 million tweets per day. Useful information about news and geopolitical events lies embedded in the Twitter stream, which embodies, in the aggregate, Twitter users' perspectives and reactions to current events. By virtue of sheer volume, content embedded in the Twitter stream may be useful for tracking or even forecasting

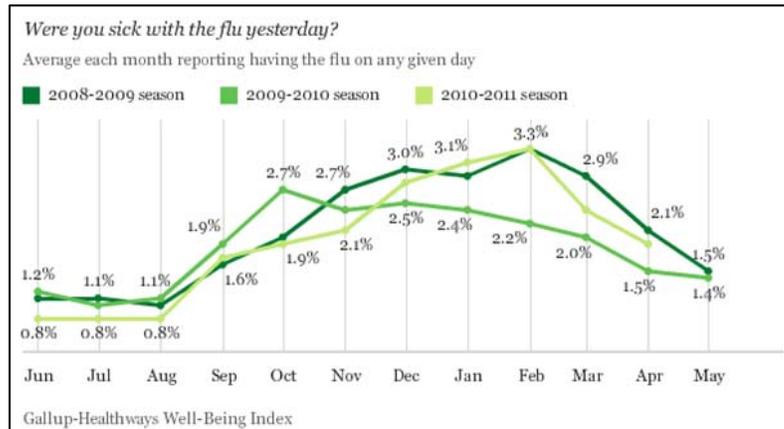
behavior if it can be extracted in an efficient manner. In this study, the authors examined the use of information embedded in the Twitter stream to track rapidly-evolving public sentiment with respect to H1N1 or swine flu, and track and measure actual disease activity. They also demonstrate how Twitter can be used as a measure of public interest or concern about health-related events. The results show that estimates of influenza-like illness derived from Twitter chatter accurately track reported disease levels.

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info:doi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0019467>

In U.S., Peak Flu Season This Year Was Worse Than Last

More American adults reported having the flu in April this year than did so in the same month last year, the fifth consecutive month in which monthly flu reports exceeded those from last season. Flu reports peaked in February, which is typical, at 3.3 percent, higher than the 2.2 percent in the same month last year. American adults' self-reports of the flu, however, were lower throughout the start of this flu season – in September,

October and November – than they were last season. Nearly 6 percent of American adults reported having a cold in April this year, up from 4.7 percent in April 2010. More Americans reported having a cold in most months this year than did so last year, although all three years of measurement have trended similarly. Many factors have likely played a role in the higher levels of the flu and colds this season. While the ease and availability of combined H1N1/influenza vaccinations were greater this year, other more



practical efforts to curtail the spread of the flu – and, by association, colds as well – may have declined as a result of a reduced sense of urgency. By asking 1,000 Americans each day whether they had the flu “yesterday,” the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index data provide a clear picture of the prevalence of flu throughout the course of the season and compare the findings with previous seasons.

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/147449/Peak-Flu-Season-Year-Worse-Last.aspx>

Business/Employers Influenza Toolkit

This podcast promotes the "Make It Your Business To Fight The Flu" toolkit for Businesses and Employers. This toolkit provides information and recommended strategies to help businesses and employers promote the 2010 – 2011 seasonal flu vaccine. Additionally, employers will find flyers, posters, and other materials to post and distribute in the workplace.

[Original audio source \(download.mp3\)](#)

Listen to this CDC podcast: <http://www2c.cdc.gov/podcasts/downloader/download.mp3?af=a&f=4165517>

TRAININGS / EXERCISES / CONFERENCES

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>

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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

MEMA 2011 Conference

May 31-June 3; Clarion Fontainebleau Hotel and Resort, Ocean City, Md.

The Maryland Emergency Management Association and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency present the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Maryland Emergency Management Association and the 2011 Conference, May 31-June 3. Updates on training topics and registration will be coming to www.mdema.org.

Hurricane Katrina's Strategic Context, Responses and Lessons Relevant to Recent Disasters in Japan and the U.S. Lecture Series

June 2; George Mason University, Founder's Hall, 3301 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Va.

InfraGard Nations Capital Members Alliance (INCMA), in partnership with the Center for Infrastructure Protection and Homeland Security (CIP/HS) at the George Mason University School of Law, is hosting this event. Check-in and refreshments begin at 5 p.m. Featured speakers are Colonel Bob Stephan, former Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Infrastructure Protection and currently Managing Director of Dutko Global Risk Management; and Jim Caverly, Director of the Partnership and Outreach Division (POD) within the Office of Infrastructure Protection (OIP) in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). There is a \$25 fee to attend the event, which includes refreshments. Tickets can be purchased through at

<http://incmalecture06022011.eventbrite.com>.

Hazmat Transportation (Road/Rail) Training

June 6-7; Piscataway, N.J.

Emergency responder awareness basic training in anhydrous ammonia, ethanol, hydrogen fluoride, and cryogenics (oxygen, nitrogen, argon, helium, and hydrogen), including properties, release type and responses, and railcar and cargo tank anatomy.

<http://www.transcaer.com/events.aspx>

14th Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Conference

June 6-9; Emergency Management Institute, National Emergency Training Center, Emmitsburg, Md.

The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) is hosting the 14th Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Conference primarily for representatives of colleges and universities which (1) have an existing hazard, disaster, emergency management program in place, or (2) are attempting to develop and implement a hazard, disaster, emergency management program on their campus (e.g., a degree, certificate, minor, or concentration). The conference will be held on the grounds of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Emergency Training Center (NETC) in Emmitsburg, Md. – about 75 miles northwest of Washington, D.C. The primary goal is to provide a forum for collegiate faculty, administrators and students to network with each other and with representatives of emergency management professional organizations which are also invited to the conference.

<http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/edu/educonference11.asp>

Homeland Security Symposium

June 7-8; Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Va.

Christopher Newport University's Center for American Studies and Business Executives for National Security (BENS) will sponsor a two day conference at CNU from June 7-8, bringing together leading industry executives, current and retired government officials, and scholars on homeland security. Confirmed speakers include Dan Stoneking, Director of the Private Sector Division in FEMA's Office of External Affairs, and Mark Holifield, Senior Vice President for Supply Chain at Home Depot.

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

IAEM-USA 2011 Mid-Year Meeting

June 9-11; Emmitsburg, Md.

This meeting of the International Association of Emergency Managers is for members, emergency management professionals, congressional staffers and officials with a role in homeland security and emergency management.

<http://www.iaem.com/events/MIDYEAR/INTRO.htm>

CERT CON 2011

June 10-12; Silver Spring, Md.

The Montgomery County (Md.) Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is sponsoring a two-day conference to promote cooperation, coordination, and information-sharing among CERT teams in the Metropolitan Washington area. CERT-CON 2011 will help participants improve the readiness of their CERT teams and increase the resilience of their communities by making contacts, building relationships, and increasing knowledge and skills.

<http://fairfaxcountycert.blogspot.com/2011/04/cert-con-2011-connecting-certs-in.html>

10th Workshop on Economics of Information Security

June 14-15; Mason Inn, George Mason University Conference Center, Fairfax, Va.

The Center for Infrastructure Protection and Homeland Security (CIP/HS) at the George Mason School of Law will be hosting the 10th Workshop on Economics of Information Security (WEIS 2011). CIP/HS will be co-hosting this event with the Interdisciplinary Center for Economic Science at George Mason University. This two-day workshop will take place at George Mason University's Arlington Campus on Tuesday, June 14, and Wednesday, June 15.

<http://weis2011.econinfosec.org/index.html>

The Workshop on Cybersecurity Incentives (WoCI)

June 16; Mason Inn, George Mason University Conference Center, Fairfax, Va.

This workshop is a new one-day event to be concurrent with WEIS (previous entry above). WoCI is focused on understanding how incentives for security are created while addressing implementable mechanisms for cyberspace governance and risk management at the enterprise and national levels.

<http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=959995>

CounterACT Network Research Symposium

June 21-23; Washington, D.C.

This symposium on countermeasures against chemical threats facilitates information sharing and collaboration among investigators within the CounterACT Network and allows National Institutes of Health staff an opportunity to review the progress of each award. All CounterACT investigators will summarize scientific accomplishments and milestones attained in the current project year.

http://www.ninds.nih.gov/research/counterterrorism/Upcoming_Events.htm



Biodetection Technologies 2011

June 23-24; Washington, D.C.

This conference will explore the latest research and development and commercialization efforts in biodefense technologies.

http://www.knowledgefoundation.com/viewevents.php?event_id=259&act=evt

2011 BioSecurity Conference

June 29-30; Washington, D.C.

Obama administration officials, scientific and security experts and industry innovators will offer exposure to a full range of biotechnology and biosecurity professionals from industry, government and the research community. Seven sessions will address key issues, and there will be a Biosecurity Pavilion in the BIO Exhibition Hall.

<http://convention.bio.org/biosecurity/>



DHS Chemical Sector Security Summit

July 6-7; Baltimore, Md.

600 chemical industry professionals are expected to attend the summit, which will include sessions on topics such as Chemical Facility Anti-terrorism Standards, ammonium nitrate regulations, personnel surety, research and development activities, Coast Guard regulations, control systems security, and global and congressional perspectives on chemical security. Small group discussions will let attendees better understand the security landscape and will provide networking opportunities with Homeland Security Department officials, industry peers, and security experts.

http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/gc_1176736485793.shtm

VASART Summit

July 15; Meadow Event Park, Doswell, Va.

Mark your calendar now to attend the Virginia State Animal Response Team (VASART) Summit at the Meadow Event Park in Doswell on July 15. This year's keynote speaker is Terrie Suit, Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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

Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials - International 2011 Conference

August 7-12; Philadelphia, Pa.

"Powerful Connections." Don't miss this opportunity to make powerful connections with executives, dispatchers, and technicians involved in all aspects of public safety communications – from law enforcement to PSAPs to government agencies. The APCO Annual Conference is a great place to learn new skills, explore new products and services, and connect with people who will enhance your career.

<http://www.apco2011.org/>

5th Annual Conference on Security Analysis and Risk Management

Sept. 13-15; Founder's Hall, George Mason University, Arlington Campus

George Mason University School of Law's Center for Infrastructure Protection and Homeland Security (CIP/HS) is partnering with the Security Analysis and Risk Management Association (SARMA) for the 5th Annual Conference on Security Analysis and Risk Management. The conference will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. through Thursday, Sept. 15, at 12:30 p.m. The conference will be held in Founder's Hall on the Arlington Campus of George Mason University.

<http://sarma.org/news/homepageboxes/4thannualconferenc/>

16th Annual Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Conference

Oct. 4-7; Portsmouth, Va.

The Virginia Department of Labor and Industry is hosting the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Conference, Oct. 4-7 in Portsmouth, to help educate employers and employees in developing safe and healthy work environments and to provide affordable safety and health training opportunities to employers, employees and safety and health professionals.

http://www.doli.virginia.gov/vosh_conference/vosh_conference.html

LINKS

Fairfax County Blogs and Web Resources

- 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/>
- Virginia Citizen Corps - <http://www.vaemergency.com/citcorps/index.cfm>

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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 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.

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