



ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update

Produced by Emergency Support Function 15 – External Affairs

May 2013

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR ESF 15

SAVE MONEY

VIRGINIA'S HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS
SALES TAX HOLIDAY
MAY 25 - 31

Sales Tax-Exempt Products for \$60 or Less:

 <input type="checkbox"/> Ice packs artificial ice, blue ice, reusable ice	 <input type="checkbox"/> Batteries AAA, AA, C & D 6- & 9-volt, cell (excludes auto/boat)	 <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kits	 <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlights lanterns, glow sticks (excludes candles)	 <input type="checkbox"/> Radios battery-powered, hand-crank & electric	 <input type="checkbox"/> Two-Way Radios	 <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Extinguishers
 <input type="checkbox"/> Smoke Detectors & carbon monoxide detectors	 <input type="checkbox"/> Ratchet Straps	 <input type="checkbox"/> Bottled Water any size & number, including flavored & carbonated	 <input type="checkbox"/> Manual Can Openers	 <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel Containers gas, propane or diesel	 <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Anchor Systems or tie-down kits	 <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Electric Food Storage Coolers
 <input type="checkbox"/> Cell Phone Chargers	 <input type="checkbox"/> NOAA Weather Radios & weather band radios	 <input type="checkbox"/> Duct Tape	 <input type="checkbox"/> Tarps waterproof plastic sheeting & drop cloths	 <input type="checkbox"/> Buckets barrels, canteens, coolers	 <input type="checkbox"/> Rope & bungee cords	 <input type="checkbox"/> Storm Shutters specific for storms, excludes plywood

\$ Portable generators, generator power cords, inverters & inverter power cables for \$1,000 or less are also tax-free.

Customers can use manufacturer's coupons to lower the price of an item so that it will qualify for the \$60 or \$1,000 price cap.

The Virginia Department of Taxation's Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday Guidelines and Rules are available online at go.usa.gov/TmGR.

For detailed information about how to prepare your family for hurricanes and other emergencies, visit www.ReadyVirginia.gov.



NIMS Review and Update: Browse Recent Ideas

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) is foundational doctrine, providing a blueprint for unified all hazards incident support and management, and is applicable at all levels, including: local, state, territorial, tribal and federal agencies as well as across the whole community. The NIMS is an integral part of the National Preparedness System that supports a unified national effort to build, sustain and deliver the core capabilities needed to protect,

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prevent, mitigate, respond to and recover from disasters; and achieve the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. The Homeland Security Act of 2002, Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006, and Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) -5 "Management of Domestic Incidents" require DHS to establish a process to maintain and refine the NIMS document. To this end, FEMA's National Integration Center was established to support this process; ensuring the NIMS remains current and consistent with public law, national policy, emergency management best practices and lessons learned from incidents or planned events, planning initiatives, training and exercises. Consistent with this guidance, the National Integration Center is leading the National effort to update the NIMS. Engagement with the whole community is critical to ensuring that a national perspective is reflected in the resulting update. Your input will be used to guide the NIMS update.

<http://fema.ideascale.com/a/ideafactory.do?id=14692&mode=recent&discussionFilter=byids&discussionID=59687>

Hurricane Sandy After Action Report from New York City

This after action report is a high-level summary of recommended improvements to the City's operations before, during and immediately following Hurricane Sandy and was developed by the Mayor's Office with input from the many city agencies that responded and continue to participate in the city's recovery from the storm.

http://www.nyc.gov/html/recovery/downloads/pdf/sandy_aar_5.2.13.pdf



National Planning Frameworks

Earlier this month, the federal government and its partners released three of the five National Planning Frameworks directed in Presidential Policy Directive 8: National Preparedness. These National Planning Frameworks document the roles and responsibilities of the whole community in all facets of national preparedness and illustrate how we work together to support one another before, during, and after an emergency. The benefit of this unified effort is a more informed, shared understanding of risks, needs, and capabilities across the whole community; and, in the end, a more secure and resilient nation. There is one Framework for each of the five mission areas: Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response and Recovery. The National Disaster Recovery Framework was the first to be released (September 2011), and the National Protection Framework is currently under development to ensure it aligns with emerging national protection policy. The National Response Framework is based on the familiar 2008 version. You can download the National Planning Frameworks and view the tutorial at www.fema.gov/national-planning-frameworks. For more, you can check the online collaboration forum at fema.ideascale.com and the website www.fema.gov/national-preparedness-system for additional opportunities to provide input.

Governor Issues Proclamation Designating Fire and EMS Memorial Week

Governor McDonnell issued a proclamation this month designating June 2-8 as Virginia's first ever Fire and EMS Memorial Week. The memorial week will serve to honor and remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving the Commonwealth as Fire or EMS personnel. Official events for the week will begin with the annual Virginia Fallen Firefighters Memorial on June 1 at the Richmond International Raceway's Main Exhibition Hall.

<http://www.governor.virginia.gov/OurCommonwealth/Proclamations/viewproc.cfm?id=340>

Mosquito Traps

The Fairfax County Health Department has started to trap mosquitoes as part of its routine surveillance for West Nile virus. Members of the public are asked not to disturb the traps. These traps will be placed on public properties. The traps are clearly marked with the words "mosquito trap" and have other markings to let people know what these devices are. These also include Health Department contact information. Health Department staff who set out and

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collect the traps will be driving marked county vehicles and will be wearing county-issued identification. Some traps are about the size of an office trash can and are set on the ground; others are hung from a tree and are about 5 feet long. Both of these traps are placed under a tarp suspended in the trees. If you have questions about the traps, contact the Health Department at 703-246-8931, TTY 711; email fightthebite@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/westnile/wnvtraps.htm.

Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs)

Wireless Emergency Alerts are like text messages that include a special tone and vibration received by your mobile device during an emergency in your area. Most of these alerts will be issued by the National Weather Service for imminent and severe weather conditions, like tornado, hurricane or flood warnings. They could also be used by some local officials – including the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management to issue evacuation orders or other life safety information for specific areas in the county. Getting familiar with the alerts is a great way to get prepared, especially if you live in a hurricane-prone area, since the alerts use a unique tone and vibration. Learn more at <http://fairfaxcountyemergency.wordpress.com/2013/05/13/wireless-emergency-alerts-now-available-in-fairfax-county/> or www.fema.gov/wireless-emergency-alerts. The Ready.gov website also features information on the wireless alerts at www.ready.gov/alerts. Get a WEA fact sheet at www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7249; watch a :30 second PSA at http://youtu.be/wDpcGypv2_U.

FEMA Promotes Its Wireless Emergency Alert System

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is releasing new public service advertising, created in conjunction with the Advertising Council, to educate Americans about its wireless emergency alert system. The system, which enables local, state and federal authorized government authorities to send emergency messages through wireless carriers' networks, started two years ago, but has not been publicized through advertising. Wireless emergency alerts – issued for extreme weather like hurricanes, tornadoes or flash floods; Amber Alerts; or alerts from the president about catastrophic disasters – come as text messages that feature a special tone and vibration. No longer than 90 characters, the message discusses the type and time of the alert, action individuals should take, and the issuing agencies. Over 100 wireless carriers offer the free alert service; no subscription is necessary. Alerts are broadcast from cell towers and warn everyone in range who has a device that is capable of receiving a wireless emergency alert. Many new cellphones and smartphones can transmit these messages.



<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/29/business/media/fema-promotes-its-wireless-emergency-alert-system.html>

Changing Severity of Home Fires Workshop Report

On Dec. 11-12, 2012, in response to an invitation from the U.S. Fire Administration, 28 leading national organizations representing the fire service, fire researchers and other stakeholders in home fire safety came together at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute in College Park, Md., to explore how changing building construction methods, materials and building contents are affecting the way fires grow and develop in today's homes. The report from this workshop is now available for download.

http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/ops_tactics/firefighting/residential_environment/index.shtm

New Weather Station at Virginia Emergency Operations Center

A new weather station at the Virginia Emergency Operations Center is available for the public and for local emergency managers, as well as the staff members at the EOC. Online at <http://vdem-richmondva.alerteagle.com/> and on display at the EOC, the weather station reports hour-by-hour rainfall, lightning, humidity and barometer data. The station data is free online and accessible on mobile devices, and posts NOAA Weather Radio alerts as well as

text alerts from the National Weather Service. The station also features historical graphs to assist local emergency managers in after action reports and mitigation reports, in organizing data such as proof of lighting to support damaged radio insurance claims, or how much rainfall accumulated in specific time frames to gauge the amount of damage and flooding.

Virtual Roundtables for The National Planning Frameworks

Join FEMA next month for upcoming virtual roundtables to have in-depth discussions of the National Planning Frameworks. During these 60-minute events, you will learn how to apply the National Planning Frameworks to build, sustain and deliver the core capabilities. The dates for the virtual roundtables are:

- Monday, June 10 at 2 p.m. EDT
- Friday, June 14 at 10 a.m. EDT
- Wednesday, June 19 at 6 p.m. EDT

Framework authors will be on hand to provide background information and engage in an interactive dialogue. To prepare for the virtual roundtable, you may view the online tutorial and download the Frameworks at <http://www.fema.gov/national-planning-frameworks>. The National Planning Frameworks are part of the National Preparedness System (<http://www.fema.gov/national-preparedness-system>), which outlines the tools and processes to help us achieve national preparedness. There is one Framework for each of the five mission areas: Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response and Recovery.



www.CapitalRegionUpdates.gov

Prepare for Hurricane Season

The deadly tornadoes and massive storms that affected the Midwest recently is an all-too-familiar reminder that Virginia must be prepared to face calamities of its own. With the 2013 hurricane season knocking on the door, now is the perfect time to assess whether you and your family are prepared to face potential power outages, strong wind and rain, and little access to outside food and water. “I hope people pay attention to this sales tax holiday and take the time to prepare their homes and themselves for whatever may come our way, while saving some money,” said Governor Bob McDonnell. “In recent years, we've seen hurricanes, earthquakes, tropical storms and tornadoes in Virginia. Stocking up on water, flashlights, batteries, first aid kits and other essentials can make a big difference in an emergency.”

<http://www.governor.virginia.gov/News/viewRelease.cfm?id=1824>

Active 2013 Atlantic Hurricane Season

In its 2013 Atlantic hurricane season outlook, NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center is forecasting an active or extremely active season this year. For the six-month hurricane season, which begins June 1, NOAA’s Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook says there is a 70 percent likelihood of 13 to 20 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), of which 7 to 11 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). These ranges are well above the seasonal average of 12 named storms, 6 hurricanes and 3 major hurricanes.

http://www.noanews.noaa.gov/stories2013/20130523_hurricaneoutlook_atlantic.html

Emergency Alerting

GAO Report Says Capabilities Have Improved, but Additional Guidance and Testing Are Needed

An effective system to alert the public during emergencies can help reduce property damage and save lives. Since 2009, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has taken actions to improve the capabilities of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) and to increase federal, state and local capabilities to alert the public, but barriers remain to fully implementing an integrated system. The Government Accountability Office GAO examined how IPAWS capabilities have changed since 2009 and what barriers, if any, affect its implementation and results of the nationwide EAS test and federal efforts to address identified weaknesses. GAO recommends that FEMA work in conjunction with FCC to establish guidance for states to fully implement and test IPAWS components and implement a strategy for regular nationwide EAS testing. Without a strategy for regular nationwide testing of the relay distribution system, including developing milestones and timeframes and reporting on after-action plans, there is no assurance that EAS would work as intended.

<http://www.gao.gov/assets/660/654135.pdf>

NOAA Extreme Weather Case Study Useful for Utility Managers and Communities

NOAA has released a case study on the National Capital region's recent extreme weather events, including data on Superstorm Sandy and the 2012 Derecho in the National Capital region. Communities and utility managers alike can benefit from lessons learned in the reports. According to the report, "Two exceptional extreme events struck the Washington metropolitan area in 2012 that provide insight into the value and cost of utility and community preparedness. With little warning, a rare derecho windstorm left a swath of wind damage in its path. Four months later and after a week of tracking and preparation, Superstorm Sandy devastated much of the East Coast. The Washington region was largely spared, but many lessons were learned from full-scale emergency preparation. These two events highlighted critical interdependencies between power, transportation, and water infrastructures and the need for more coordinated planning for resiliency."

http://cpo.noaa.gov/sites/cpo/Reports/SARP/Nat%20Cap_Case%20Study%20Factsheet_Extreme%20Weather%20Events_2013-4-4v1-1.pdf

Most Say Disaster Spending Does Not Require Offsetting Cuts

Majority of Americans (59 percent) say federal spending in response to natural disasters is emergency aid that does not need to be offset by cuts to other programs, while 29 percent say such spending must be offset by cuts to other programs. Democrats (69 percent), independents (57 percent) and Republicans (52 percent) say that federal spending in response to natural disasters does not require offsetting spending cuts elsewhere.

From the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press

<http://www.people-press.org/2013/05/29/most-say-disaster-spending-does-not-require-offsetting-cuts/>

National Preparedness Report

On Thursday, May 30, FEMA and its partners released the 2013 National Preparedness Report (NPR). The NPR is an annual status report on the nation's progress toward reaching the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. Overall, the NPR found the nation continues to make progress building preparedness in key areas and identifies several significant areas of national strength. The report also identified areas for national improvement in enhancing the resilience of infrastructure systems and maturing the role of public private partnerships. The report was developed to meet the requirements of Presidential Policy Directive 8/PPD-8: National Preparedness. PPD-8 is aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparation for the threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the nation, including acts of terrorism, cyber-attacks, pandemics and catastrophic natural disasters. The NPR identifies national areas of strength and progress made towards building a secure and resilient nation while identifying opportunities for improvement. Key overarching findings from the 2013 NPR include:

- The nation continued progress in key areas of national strength—including Planning, Operational Coordination, Intelligence and Information Sharing, and Operational Communications—identified in last year's inaugural NPR.
- The nation has made notable progress in improving national areas for improvement—including cybersecurity, recovery-focused core capabilities, and integration of individuals with disabilities and access and functional needs.
- Experiences from Hurricane Sandy and other events in 2012 confirmed that enhancing both physical and

cyber resilience of infrastructure systems is a newly identified national area for improvement.

- Maturing the role of public-private partnerships is also a newly identified national area for improvement. Specifically, recent assessments of preparedness-related public-private partnerships across mission areas revealed challenges in addressing long-term resourcing and support for these partnerships.
- Hurricane Sandy response and recovery efforts highlighted strengths in the nation's ability to expedite resources, develop innovative solutions to meet survivor needs, and work with nongovernmental partners. Hurricane Sandy demonstrated that challenges remain with the Federal Government's ability to coordinate efforts when surging resources to respond to disasters.
- States and territories continue to report the highest capability levels in areas they cited as high priorities.
- Whole community partners continue to use Federal preparedness assistance programs to maintain capability strengths and address identified gaps, while key Federal sponsors are identifying strategies to improve program effectiveness and efficiency. Resilience initiatives are improving the nation's ability to measure how well communities can prepare for and adapt to changing conditions, and withstand and recover rapidly from disruptions.

FEMA updated the NPR in close coordination with leaders of federal departments and agencies, and the report reflects input from state, local, tribal and territorial governments, private and nonprofit sector partners and the general public. Data from the inaugural regional Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) process, as well as SPRs, was analyzed and integrated. FEMA also conducted research to identify any recent, independent evaluations, surveys and other data related to the core capabilities. For a copy of the full report go to www.fema.gov/national-preparedness-report. To learn more about Presidential Policy Directive 8 and related documents, visit www.fema.gov/ppd8.

PLANNING / PREPAREDNESS

Despite Recent Disasters, Survey Shows Most Small Business Owners Still Not Getting Prepared

Despite the devastation and lasting effects caused by Superstorm Sandy and other disasters over the past year, 70 percent of small businesses don't consider themselves at risk for experiencing a similar disaster in the future, according to a new survey from FedEx Corp and the American Red Cross. Fewer than 10 percent of small businesses surveyed report taking any disaster preparedness actions based on the effects of Sandy. Even those small businesses which have been impacted by Hurricane Sandy or another disaster (13 percent were impacted by Hurricane Sandy, eight percent impacted by other local/regional disasters), half feel it's unlikely they will be affected again in the next five years. This lack of concern by many small businesses has led FedEx and the American Red Cross to take action to help boost preparedness levels across the country.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/despite-recent-disasters-survey-shows-most-small-business-owners-still-not-getting-prepared-2013-05-02>

Helpful Hints for Summer Travelers

<http://blog.tsa.gov/2013/05/tsa-travel-tips-tuesday-summer-2013.html>

Poll: Americans Neither Worried Nor Prepared In Case of a Disaster

When asked of the likelihood if a series of emergency situations were to occur in their community, the following percentages said the emergency was "likely" or "very likely": 26 percent a general emergency, 24 percent an industrial accident, 23 percent a natural disaster, 20 percent a mass shooting, 19 percent a terrorist attack, and 15 percent a health pandemic. If such an emergency situation were to occur, the most likely locations cited were:

- Shopping mall (46 percent).
- Airport or train station (43 percent).
- Stadium or arena (42 percent).
- Bus/plane or train (38 percent).
- Outdoor sporting or community event (35 percent).
- School (30 percent).
- Roadway (28 percent).
- Office building (28 percent).
- Bridge (27 percent).
- Hospital (25 percent).
- Home (22 percent).

While 55 percent of respondents said that they were “confident in (their) knowledge of proper safety procedures,” only 36 percent said that they presently “have an emergency plan in place” in case of a major emergency. In case of a neighborhood emergency, Americans expressed more confidence in their family’s preparedness (53 percent) over local government (44 percent), their airport (41 percent), local school (39 percent), or employer (31 percent). In case of a national emergency, Americans are most trusting in local law enforcement in case of a shooting (58 percent), the FBI in case of a terrorist attack (53 percent), the Centers for Disease Control in case of a pandemic (49 percent), and the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in case of a natural disaster (45 percent). What are Americans prepared to give up in terms of privacy and convenience to combat terrorism? In several situations tested, Americans gave little support to retinal scans and searches of personal items – but there were some differences depending on the specific situations. A majority (58 percent) supported bag searches at airports and train stations. Armed security was more acceptable at airports and train stations (49 percent) but not at office buildings (23 percent), hospitals (32 percent), schools (34 percent), and shopping malls (38 percent). And metal detectors are fine at airports and train stations (63 percent), but not anywhere else – only 43 percent approved them at schools. The poll tested a number of techniques to determine whether Americans would support them as a routine in everyday life:

- Background checks for purchases of all firearms and large amounts of ammunition – 64 percent
- Mandatory national fingerprinting – 47 percent
- Registration and permits for products used in making bombs – 47 percent
- Security cameras at all intersections on public roads – 46 percent
- National identification cards for all adults – 42 percent
- Microchips for all felons who have served prison time for violent crimes – 34 percent
- National identification cards for all Americans – 27 percent

Americans feel they are knowledgeable about preparation for emergency/disaster situations but only one in three have actual preparedness plans. When it comes to such situations, all emergency relief is local – i.e. Americans trust family and local law enforcement more than government or larger institutions. We seek and trust the familiar more than the agencies we support by taxes. This country was founded on personal liberty and more than a decade after the events of 9/11 and only weeks after the Boston Marathon bombings, Americans are not too willing to give up many of those liberties. Americans feel they are knowledgeable about preparation for emergency/disaster situations but only one in three have actual preparedness plans. When it comes to such situations, all emergency relief is local – i.e. Americans trust family and local law enforcement more than government or larger institutions. We seek and trust the familiar more than the agencies we support by taxes. This country was founded on personal liberty and more than a decade after the events of 9/11 and only weeks after the Boston Marathon bombings, Americans are not too willing to give up many of those liberties. The poll of 1,000 adults nationwide was conducted online by Zogby Analytics on May 8-9 and has a margin of sampling error of +/-3.2 percentage points.

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/johnzogby/2013/05/16/americans-neither-worried-nor-prepared-in-case-of-a-disaster-sunyit-zogby-analytics-poll/>



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SCC's Bureau of Insurance Encourages Virginians to Plan Now for Hurricane Season

Virginians know all too well that Mother Nature can be a determined adversary. With hurricane season just around the corner, the State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance encourages Virginians to consider their insurance options before the winds and rains arrive. Hurricane season runs from June 1 through Nov. 30. No matter where you live in Virginia, hurricanes and their resulting flooding can threaten lives and property. Once a hurricane develops in the Atlantic, it will be difficult to find an insurance company willing to write related coverage until the storm threat passes.

- Review your existing insurance policy carefully so you know what it does and does not cover. Contact your insurance agent or company or the Bureau of Insurance if you have any questions.
- Some homeowners policies contain a special deductible for wind or hurricane losses. Some insurance companies automatically include a wind or hurricane deductible, while others offer this deductible at the policyholder's option. The deductible is the amount that you are responsible for paying before the insurance company pays its portion of the claim.
- Wind or hurricane deductibles may be written as a flat amount, such as \$1,000. Or, they may be applied to the loss as a percentage of the insurance coverage on the dwelling. For example, assume a hurricane causes damage amounting to \$3,000 and the dwelling is insured for \$100,000. If the policy has a two-percent hurricane deductible, the insured would pay \$2,000 and the insurance company would pay \$1,000. The amounts of these deductibles may vary depending upon where you live, so the Bureau suggests that you shop around and compare prices and terms.

The Bureau reminds Virginians that most hurricane damage comes from flooding, not high winds. Homeowners insurance policies issued in Virginia generally do not provide coverage for damage to your home and belongings due to floods. However, the federal government does sell insurance for direct flood and flood-related damage to residents of eligible communities through its National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). There is a waiting period for flood insurance policies to take effect. For more information on this program, contact your insurance agent or the NFIP at 1-888-225-5356 or visit www.floodsmart.gov. Be sure to find out whether your flood policy provides coverage for your contents. Policyholders may also want to consider the following:

- Does your insurance pay replacement costs, or actual cash value for a covered loss?
- Are contents of your home covered in the event of a hurricane? Homeowners policies generally cover contents up to specified limits, but additional coverage may be purchased.
- Are automobiles and other vehicles covered in the event of a hurricane or other windstorm?
- Have you purchased coverage for sewer backup? Most homeowners policies do not provide coverage for sewer backup, but policyholders may purchase additional coverage for this.

Ask your insurance agent or company how you can reduce the severity of a loss, should a hurricane strike. If you must evacuate, know the name of your insurance company and take your homeowners, auto and other insurance policies with you. They will contain your policy number and the phone number of your insurance company in case you have questions or need to file a claim. Prepare a complete inventory of your personal property ahead of time including serial numbers, photographs and videotapes. Keep your home inventory in a safe place and take it with you if you evacuate. If your property is damaged by a hurricane, make any necessary emergency repairs and take reasonable steps to protect your property from further damage. Make a list of all damage to the house and its contents and include photographs, notes and repair-related receipts. The Bureau of Insurance offers free consumer guides for

homeowners and commercial property owners with information about what to do when a disaster strikes on the Bureau's website at www.scc.virginia.gov/boi. The Bureau's specially trained staff can assist consumers with their insurance-related questions and concerns. For more information, contact the Bureau of Insurance Property and Casualty Division toll-free at 1-877-310-6560. Consumers who are hearing or speech impaired may call through the SCC's telecommunications device for the deaf and hard of hearing (TDD) at 804-371-9206. For additional emergency preparedness information relating to hurricanes and other types of disasters, visit www.ready.virginia.gov.

Federal Government Releases PPD-8 National Planning Frameworks

On Monday, May 6, the Federal Government and its partners released three of the five National Planning Frameworks directed in Presidential Policy Directive 8: National Preparedness. These National Planning Frameworks document the roles and responsibilities of the whole community in all facets of national preparedness and illustrate how we work together to support one another before, during, and after an emergency. The benefit of this unified effort is a more informed, shared understanding of risks, needs and capabilities across the whole community; and, in the end, a more secure and resilient nation.

<http://www.fema.gov/national-planning-frameworks>

How Do I Protect the Information on My Smartphone?

We've come to depend on our smartphones so heavily it is hard to remember what we did before we had them. If you have a smartphone, you now carry a fully functional computer in your pocket or purse. That's a tremendous amount of information at your fingertips! Therefore, it is paramount that you safeguard the smartphone. What are some of the simple steps you can take to protect your smartphone?

- Update the operating system.
- Password protect your device.
- Be cautious with public Wi-Fi.
- Enable encryption.

Additional tips and more information is online in the MS-ISAC Cyber Tips newsletter:

<http://msisac.cisecurity.org/newsletters/2013-02.cfm>

Preparing Makes Sense for Older Americans

FEMA recently produced a unique instructional video containing information specific to older Americans and tips on how to prepare for emergency situations.

<http://youtu.be/SByTKf2rrlg>



Wildfires: Getting Prepared and Protecting Your Home

Wildfires spread quickly and often go undetected until it's too late. Across our nation every year communities are affected by major wildfires. While some homes survive, more homes do not.

Homes have a much higher likelihood of surviving wildfires when residents are prepared. Predictability, prevention and being prepared can minimize your risk in case of wildfire and help reduce the loss of life, property and resources.

- In most cases, people start wildfires. Promote and practice wildfire safety in your community with these tips:
- Teach children about fire safety. Keep matches out of their reach.
- Make sure that fire vehicles can get to your home. Clearly mark all driveway entrances and display your name and address.
- Report hazardous conditions that could cause a wildfire.
- Post fire emergency telephone numbers.
- Ensure adequate accessibility by large fire vehicles to your property.
- Plan several escape routes away from your home - by car and by foot.

For more information, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/home_fire_prev/wildfire/.

National Terrorism Advisory System

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

public when the federal government receives information about a credible terrorist threat. NTAS alerts provide a concise summary of the potential threat including geographic region, mode of transportation, or critical infrastructure potentially affected by the threat, actions being taken to ensure public safety, as well as recommended steps that individuals, communities, business and governments can take to help prevent, mitigate or respond to a threat. NTAS Alerts will include a clear statement on the nature of the threat, which will be defined in one of two ways:

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

Depending on the nature of the threat, alerts may be sent to law enforcement, distributed to affected areas of the private sector, or issued more broadly to the public through both official and social media channels – including a designated DHS webpage (www.dhs.gov/alerts), Facebook and via Twitter @NTASAlerts. NTAS alerts and posters will also be displayed in places such as transit hubs, airports and government buildings. NTAS threat alerts will be issued for a specific time period and will automatically expire. Alerts may be extended if new information becomes available or as a specific threat evolves. For more information on the National Terrorism Advisory System or to receive NTAS alerts, visit www.dhs.gov/alerts.

Community Emergency Alert Network (CEAN)

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



MEDIA ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Social Media Strategies in the Aftermath of Disasters

Following tragic events like the Boston bombings, Newtown shooting or the Aurora massacre, it's imperative to be mindful and cautious about how to react on your business' social media accounts.

- Double-check earlier posts.
- Revisit pending posts.
- Use related hashtags wisely.
- Let news outlets report the news.
- When in doubt, don't post.
- Help, if you can.

<http://www.nbcchicago.com/blogs/inc-well/Social-Media-Strategies-in-the-Aftermath-of-Disasters-205993211.html>

Hurricane Center Chief Focusing on Water Hazards

Last year's hurricane season drove home some big lessons, that according to the nation's chief hurricane forecaster. Storm surge and flooding are dangerous and difficult to predict and sometimes it's even harder to communicate that sense of urgency to the public. It wasn't just high winds that posed a threat and caused damage, said National Hurricane Center Director Rick Knabb, who joined Florida's emergency managers in Fort Lauderdale at the annual Governor's Hurricane Conference.

<http://bdtonline.com/apnational/x730871427/Hurricane-center-chief-focusing-on-water-hazards>

Cyberattacks

According to Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano, The Obama administration is working “full-bore” on helping the business and government agencies confront the threat of cyberattacks. Napolitano's comments came two days after the Pentagon directly accused China's military of probing U.S. government computers for sensitive data

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-05-08/homeland-security-working-to-fight-cyberattacks-napolitano-says.html>

Tornado Activity Hits 60-year Low

The U.S. in the past 12 months has seen the fewest number of tornadoes since at least 1954, and the death tolls from the dangerous storms have dropped dramatically since 2011. Just two years after a ferocious series of tornado outbreaks killed hundreds of Americans, the USA so far this year is enjoying one of the calmest years on record for twisters. Through Thursday, tornadoes have killed only three Americans in 2013; by the end of May 2011, 543 Americans had died. The seven people killed from May 2012 to April 2013 is the fewest in a 12-month period since five people died in September 1899-August 1900, according to Harold Brooks, research meteorologist with the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, Okla. The year-to-date count of tornadoes is probably approaching the lower 10 percent of all years on record, said Greg Carbin, warning coordination meteorologist with the Storm Prediction Center in Norman.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/weather/2013/05/09/quiet-tornado-season/2148075/>

Hurricane Director: Prepare as Though One Will Hit

Will Florida escape a hurricane hit yet again? That's possible. But considering Florida is the most storm-clobbered state in the nation, it would be wise to prepare as though one will strike, National Hurricane Center director Rick Knabb said earlier this month. "It's a matter of when, not if," he said. "Take steps now while the weather is good."

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/fl-rick-knabb-hurricane-20130507.0,1967146.story>

The Next Pandemic: Not if, but When

Terrible new forms of infectious disease make headlines, but not at the start. Every pandemic begins small. Early indicators can be subtle and ambiguous. When the Next Big One arrives, spreading across oceans and continents like the sweep of nightfall, causing illness and fear, killing thousands or maybe millions of people, it will be signaled first by quiet, puzzling reports from faraway places — reports to which disease scientists and public health officials, but few of the rest of us, pay close attention.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/10/opinion/the-next-pandemic-is-closer-than-you-think.html>

The Future of the Terrorist Threat to America

It has been more than three weeks from the Marathon day bombings in Boston, a good time to ask ourselves, what did it tell us about the future of terrorism? What is the nature of the threat we face – and are we prepared for it? The former CIA counter terrorism chief Robert Grenier says about what is happening in North Africa that we must be "very, very careful lest we internationalize what is fundamentally a local security concern." Turning local thugs into global terrorists could well prove to be a self-fulfilling prophecy.

<http://globalpublicsquare.blogs.cnn.com/2013/05/10/the-future-of-the-terrorist-threat-to-america/>

Report Warned Boston Marathon Finish Line was Target

An 18-page report that emerged days before the Boston Marathon proved chillingly accurate in its warning: It said the race's finish line was an "area of increased vulnerability," noting a threat of "small-scale bombings" by extremists.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/05/10/newser-boston-warning/2149901/>

Warning Signs: Technology Speeds Disaster Alerts, Response

In a world that can be app-addled, it's tempting to dismiss the idea that technology will solve all problems. Yet, technology has changed the way Americans get ready for disasters and respond to them – with more precise forecasts, personalized weather warnings and more efficient recovery efforts. And it will continue to help us be more prepared.

<http://bdtonline.com/local/x6230070/Warning-Signs-Technology-speeds-disaster-alerts-response>

Cyberattacks Against U.S. Corporations Are on the Rise

A new wave of cyberattacks is striking American corporations, prompting warnings from federal officials, including a vague one issued last week by the Department of Homeland Security. This time, officials say, the attackers' aim is not espionage but sabotage, and the source seems to be somewhere in the Middle East.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/13/us/cyberattacks-on-rise-against-us-corporations.html>

Accuweather Predicts Busy Atlantic Hurricane Season

A typical year, based on records that go back to 1950, has 12 tropical storms, of which seven are hurricanes, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Last year, 19 named tropical storms developed. A tropical storm has sustained winds of 39 mph; it becomes a hurricane when its winds reach 74 mph.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/weather/2013/05/15/hurricane-forecast-accuweather/2159337/>

High Tech Disaster Kits

Disaster can strike in the blink of an eye and unfortunately, most people aren't prepared. According to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency, only 16-percent of Georgians are ready to deal with a disaster. Thanks to technology, getting prepared is easier than ever. An App eliminates an Internet search. This makes information more readily available when time is limited. **Your phone can serve as an important tool in your disaster kit.** You can take a picture of important medical information, like your medicines in case you run out. The first step is downloading the apps, and familiarizing yourself with what all is needed. Then, build a kit slowly, adding an item or two every week.

<http://www.walb.com/story/22239082/special-report-high-tech-disaster-kits>

Weather-related Disasters World-wide Caused \$2.5 Trillion in Losses Since 2000

A 246-page report released by the United Nations earlier this month calculates that economic losses from weather-related disasters since 2000 are in the range of \$2.5 trillion. Analysts note this figure is at least 50 percent higher than previous international estimates. The report from the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction warns that economic losses from floods, earthquakes, and drought will continue to escalate unless businesses take action to reduce their exposure to disaster risks.

<http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/srdisasters20130516-weatherrelated-disasters-worldwide-caused-2-5-trillion-in-losses-since-2000>

Emergency? In Fairfax, There's a Text for That

Fairfax County is now part of a new system that automatically sends text messages to area phone users during the most dire of emergencies. In the event of an emergency, the Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) system will be used to send out messages of 90 characters to mobile phone users in the vicinity of the event. The text alerts will be accompanied by a loud sound similar to the beeping tone of an emergency broadcast on a television.

<http://tysonscorner.patch.com/articles/fairfax-launches-automatic-wireless-emergency-alerts>

The Big Problem with Disaster Planning

Mother Nature unleashes the energy stored in the earth, and we can try to anticipate and prepare for the results. We can build basements and shelters to protect us from those tornadic winds, flee from the countryside when the volcano erupts, and reinforce our infrastructure from the quaking ground. But we have not always anticipated the chain reactions that these natural disasters often trigger.

<http://ideas.time.com/2013/05/28/the-big-problem-with-disaster-planning/>

Many Businesses Not Ready for a Disaster

Natural disasters are the top safety concern among office employees, yet 60 percent of businesses said recent disasters, including Hurricane Sandy, haven't led them to reassess their safety plans, according to Framingham-based Staples' second annual workplace safety survey. The survey was released today in advance of month which begins June 1. Half of the employees surveyed said their company communicates a safety plan – a basic tenet of safety preparation – but, three out of four believe their businesses take safety seriously. In emergency situations, nearly 25 percent of employees report their companies only communicate what to expect “at the last minute.”

<http://www.boston.com/businessupdates/2013/05/28/survey-many-businesses-not-ready-for-disaster/kKyPD3bgP4z33CvoCttVcO/story.html>

FLU

Source of H7N9 Avian Influenza Virus Causing Human Infections Identified

In March 2013, a novel H7N9 influenza virus was identified in China as the etiological agent of a flu-like disease in humans, resulting in some deaths. A group of scientists, led by Professor Chen Hualan (National Avian Influenza Reference Laboratory, State Key Laboratory of Veterinary Biotechnology, Harbin Veterinary Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences) have investigated the origins of this novel H7N9 influenza virus (Shi et al., 2013). Following analysis of H7N9 influenza viruses collected from live poultry markets, it was found that these viruses circulating among birds were responsible for human infections. These novel H7N9 viruses are reassortants in which the six internal genes were derived from avian H9N2 viruses; however the origins of their hemagglutinin (HA) and neuraminidase (NA) genes were unclear.

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/releases/259655.php>

U.S. Labs Progress with H7N9 Studies as CDC Urges Readiness

As labs in the United States study how the H7N9 virus behaves in humans and animals, state and local health officials should dust off their pandemic preparedness plans in case the virus becomes a bigger threat. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) made the recommendation in a review of China's H7N9 outbreak and US efforts to learn more about the disease that appears in an early release of Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR). The CDC has a close collaboration with China's Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC), and a team from the CDC was invited by China to help assess the situation and assist with investigations.

<http://crofsblogs.typepad.com/h5n1/2013/05/cidrap-us-labs-progress-with-h7n9-studies-as-cdc-urges-readiness.html>

Determination and Declaration Regarding Emergency Use of in Vitro Diagnostics for Detection of the Avian Influenza A (H7N9) Virus

The Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) is issuing this notice pursuant to section 564(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic (FD) Act, 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-3(b)(4). On April 19, the Secretary determined that there is a significant potential for a public health emergency that has a significant potential to affect national security or the health and security of United States citizens living abroad and that involves the avian influenza A (H7N9) virus. On the basis of this determination, she also declared that circumstances exist justifying the authorization of emergency use of in vitro diagnostics for detection of the avian influenza A (H7N9) virus pursuant to section 564(b)(1) of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. § 360bbb-3(b)(1), subject to the terms of any authorization issued under that section. The Secretary also specified that this declaration is a declaration of an emergency with respect to in vitro diagnostics as defined under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act Declaration for Pandemic Influenza Diagnostics, Personal Respiratory Protection Devices, and Respiratory Support Devices signed by then Secretary Michael Leavitt on Dec. 17, 2008.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/04/30/2013-10055/determination-and-declaration-regarding-emergency-use-of-in-vitro-diagnostics-for->

H7N9 Update; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Pandemic Preparedness Activities Progress

Published April 26

This H7N9 update published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) contains specific updates on CDC's efforts to monitor and combat the H7N9 virus. While the number of human infections in China has increased to 109, with 23 deaths, there have been no reported cases of H7N9 in the United States. Specific CDC efforts include:

- Growing and sharing the H7N9 strand.
- Conducting studies with the virus.
- Collecting antiserum.
- Creating a test to detect H7N9.
- Creating a test to detect this virus.
- Developing a vaccine virus candidate.
- Testing for antiviral susceptibility.

- Supporting H7N9 investigation in China.

Also included is an update on the H7N9 outbreak in China and information on the real time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) test used to identify influenza viruses collected from infected patients.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/spotlights/h7n9-cases-update.htm>

New Study by Chinese and CDC Experts Shows H7N9 Illness Uncommon in China

A study by CDC and Chinese public health experts published on May 8, 2013, indicates that human infections with the H7N9 virus remain very rare in China among people seeking medical care for influenza-like illness (ILI)*. This study presents some of the first available information regarding the prevalence of H7N9 among people in China. Researchers found that only 0.03 percent of patients who sought medical care for ILI at sentinel sites in China from March 4 through April 28, 2013 were infected with the H7N9 virus. However, the study's authors cautioned that China's ILI surveillance network covers mostly urban areas and may not capture H7N9 infections among people living in rural areas of China. Data for the study was collected through the "Chinese National Influenza Like Illness Surveillance Network" (CNISN), which includes 554 sentinel hospitals and 408 network laboratories operating in all 31 provinces of China.

*ILI is defined as fever (temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or greater) and cough or sore throat.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/spotlights/h7n9-new-study.htm>

Threat Of Flu Pandemic Is Real, Say MIT Researchers

Many H3N2 virus strains which are circulating in pigs and birds are genetically very similar to the 1968 "Hong Kong" flu, also an H3N2 strain that spread around the world and eventually killed approximately one million people, a new study carried out at MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) has found. The researchers added that current flu vaccines may not be effective against these H3N2 strains that currently circulate only in animals. Their study has been published in the journal "Scientific Reports" (May 10, 2013 issue).

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/260403.php>

H7N9 Virus is More Transmissible and Harder to Detect than H5N1, Say Experts

The outbreak of H7N9 avian influenza in China had killed 22 people and infected 108 by April 24. Of the remaining patients, 14 had been discharged from hospitals after receiving treatment, and the other 72 people were being treated in designated hospitals. Thirty three cases occurred in Shanghai city, 42 cases occurred in Zhejiang province, 24 cases occurred in Jiangsu province; four cases occurred in Anhui province; three cases occurred in Henan province; one case occurred in Shandong province; one case occurred in Beijing city; the official Xinhua news agency reported. Though the virus is less deadly in humans than H5N1 – a deadly bird flu that has killed more than 60 percent of the people it has infected but has not become transmissible between humans – it is still an extremely dangerous strain. If this virus mutates to be transmissible from human-to-human it will be a major issue. More than 40 percent of the H7N9 cases involve victims that have not handled poultry, state media said.

<http://www.bmj.com/content/346/bmj.f2568/rr/644663>

Fairfax County Flu Preparedness

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



TRAININGS / EXERCISES / CONFERENCES

16th Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium

June 3-6; Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Md.

The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) is hosting the 16th Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium primarily for representatives of colleges and universities that have an existing hazard, disaster or emergency management (EM) program in place, or are attempting to develop and implement a hazard, disaster or EM program on their campus (e.g., a degree, certificate, minor or concentration). The symposium will be held at 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 of the symposium is to provide a forum for collegiate faculty, administrators and students to network with each other and with representatives of EM professional organizations which are also invited to the symposium.

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/edu/educonference13.asp>

International Hazardous Materials Response Teams Conference

June 6- 9; Baltimore, Md.

The Hazmat Conference is recognized as a high quality, in-depth conference with cutting-edge educational programs designed for professionals at all levels of experience. For nearly 30 years the Hazmat Conference has offered informative sessions and unique hands-on training designed to tackle the most pressing issues facing hazmat professionals.

<http://www.iafc.org/micrositeHazConf/homeHazConf.cfm?ItemNumber=6165&navItemNumber=6150>

11th Annual Emerging Infectious Diseases & Biodefense: Vaccines, Therapeutics & Diagnostics

June 17-19; Washington, D.C.

This conference provides the latest information on the Federal government's emerging infectious diseases, biodefense, and public health medical countermeasures research, development, manufacture, and procurement initiatives. Year after year, this conference brings together the CBRN and public health communities to explore strategies for dealing with various challenges, to share perspectives, and to establish collaboration to further the development of needed medical countermeasures.

<http://www.infocastinc.com/events/biovac13>

Biodetection Technologies 2013

June 18-19; Alexandria, Va.

The 21st conference in the Detection Technologies conference series is an internationally recognized meeting for experts in detection and identification of biological threats and point-of-care analytical methods. This conference will review feedback from the end-users on biodefense and biomedical technologies and explore the cutting-edge in R&D and commercialization efforts in the field.

http://www.knowledgefoundation.com/viewevents.php?event_id=290&act=evt

Pandemics, Bioterrorism, and International Security

July 22-24; George Mason University, Fairfax, Va.

Three-day, non-credit short-course designed to introduce participants to the challenges facing the world at the intersection of biodefense and public health. Research with dangerous pathogens and the development of dual-use biotechnologies poses a dilemma for policy-makers and researchers who seek to maximize the benefits of such research while minimizing the risks. Thus, public health, law enforcement and national security agencies, pharmaceutical and biotech industries, and the academic life sciences community need to establish new priorities, such as developing new types of expertise, adopting new types of risk assessment and risk management strategies, and learning to collaborate with each other.

<http://masonbiodefense.wordpress.com/summer-courses/>

2013 Building Resilience through Public-Private Partnerships Conference

July 23-25; Rutgers University-Newark, The Paul Robeson Campus Center, Newark, N.J.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Headquarters, in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Northern Command, and Rutgers University will present the third annual Building Resilience through Public-Private Partnerships Conference at Rutgers University in July. This year's conference themed, "Partnerships in Action: Enhancing National and Economic Security," will highlight successful public-private partnerships across the homeland security enterprise and is designed to identify solutions to coordination gaps between the public and private sectors. From Hurricane Sandy response efforts and global supply chain resilience to campus resilience and cyber security, building resilient communities continues to be a whole community approach. More detailed registration information and a call for topics is forthcoming. Call the DHS Private Sector Office at 202-282-8484 and PPPConference@hq.dhs.gov for immediate inquiries.

Terrorism Analysis: Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methodologies and Tools

July 25-26; George Mason University, Fairfax, Va.

This course introduces participants to a variety of quantitative and qualitative methodologies for the study of terrorism. This two-day course provides participants with an in-depth understanding of single and multi-methodological tools and techniques. Ultimately, participants learn how to create and utilize analytical tools applicable to the current and emerging needs of professionals and academics with responsibilities for preventing, preparing for, responding to, or predicting terrorism.

http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/programs/health_public_safety/terrorism_analysis.php

Learning in Disaster Health: A Continuing Education Workshop

Sept. 17-18; Washington, D.C.

The National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health (NCDMPH) presents Learning in Disaster Health: A Continuing Education Workshop which seeks to explore the following overarching question: How can the nation effectively conduct education and training in disaster health to mitigate death and injuries from all-hazards disasters?

<http://www.event.com/events/learning-in-disaster-health-a-continuing-education-workshop/event-summary-8688867233a844d3b5a3afeccebbf288.aspx>

International Facility Security Officer Conference (IFSO)

Sept. 17-19; Niagara Falls, N.Y.

The IFSO conference was created to give members of the international port community a unique opportunity to have direct access to the foremost leaders that establish the industry's best practices and procedures. The conference will allow port facility professionals from around the country and world to share their expertise as well as current and future trends.

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

IEEE Communications & Network Security Conference 2013

Oct. 14-16; Washington, D.C.

Cyber security has become an important research and development area for academia, government, and industry in recent years. As a leading professional society focusing on communications technologies, IEEE Communications Society (ComSoc) has identified the need for a high-quality security conference and will serve as a premier forum for cyber security researchers, practitioners, policy makers, and users to exchange ideas, techniques and tools, raise awareness, and share experience related to security and privacy.

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

120th Annual International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Conference

Oct. 19-23; Philadelphia, Pa.

This year, IACP 2013 is your best opportunity to learn, network, and problem solve at a one-of-a-kind event dedicated specifically to law enforcement professionals. With renowned keynote speakers, forums and technical workshops, and the largest exhibit hall of products and services in the law enforcement community, leaders from

around the globe come together at the IACP Annual Conference to foster a continuing exchange of information and experience.

<http://www.theiacpconference.org/iacp2013/public/enter.aspx>

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 Web Resources

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

Additional Web Resources

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

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report (OSIR)

The Department of Homeland Security provides a Web-based “Daily OSIR,” which is posted on the DHS public Web site. Accessing the report via the Web enables readers to retrieve the current Daily Report as well as 10 days of archived DHS Daily Reports. Once you arrive at the Web page you will find the most recent Daily OSIR at the top of the page, under the title “Current Report.” This report is posted each morning, except for weekends and holidays. Simply click on the title “DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report.” This will launch the current days report in PDF format. You can submit content comments or make suggestions by contacting the DHS Daily Report Team by telephone at 202-312-3421 or by e-mail at NICCCReports@dhs.gov. You can access the Daily OSIR at: http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/editorial_0542.shtm.

Fairfax County Government Emergency Information Line

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/infoline.htm

Emergency Management Magazine

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

FEMA Private Sector

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

FAIRFAX COUNTY 703-817-7771
EMERGENCY
INFORMATION LINE

ESF 15 Contact Information

Merni Fitzgerald, Director

Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs

12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 551 ♦ Fairfax, Va. 22035-0065

Tel: 703-324-3187 ♦ Direct: 703-324-3189

E-mail: Merni.Fitzgerald@fairfaxcounty.gov

Web site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov | Emergency Information: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency

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