



ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update

Produced by Emergency Support Function 15 – External Affairs

June 2015

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR ESF 15

What NOAA's 2015 Hurricane Forecast Numbers Really Mean

Despite more predictions from experts that it will likely be a quieter than normal hurricane season, the information comes with two caveats — they don't know where the storms will go and below average doesn't mean zero. NOAA predicts 6-11 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), of which 3-6 could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including 0-2 major hurricanes (winds of 111 mph or higher) for the 2015 hurricane season. They also project a 70 percent likelihood that it will be below average. In a similar report released last month, Colorado State forecasters William Gray and Phil Klotzbach also projected a season that won't make the average of 12 named storms, six hurricanes and two major hurricanes. Still, anyone in areas that could be affected by hurricanes should make their plans before a storm is bearing down, said Joseph Nimmich, FEMA deputy administrator. Families should assemble kits that include three days' worth of food and water, secure their homes and make evacuation plans before the June 1 start to hurricane season.

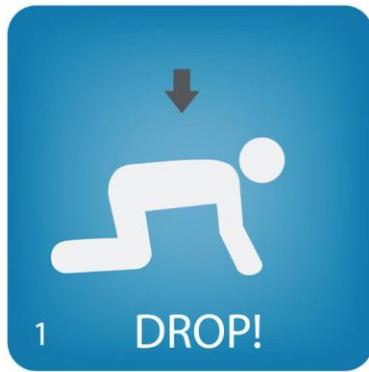
<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/What-NOAAs-2015-Hurricane-Forecast-Numbers-Really-Mean.html>



Dwayne Johnson Encourages People to Drop, Cover and Hold On During an Earthquake

In an effort to raise awareness of earthquake preparedness, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Ad Council have partnered with Warner Bros. to launch a new series of public service advertisements (PSAs) featuring scenes from the action thriller San Andreas, starring Dwayne Johnson. "As a father, safety is always a top of mind issue for me," said Dwayne Johnson. "That's why I am proud to be partnering with FEMA and the Ad Council, to make sure as many people as possible know what to do in the event of an earthquake. They can happen anywhere in the U.S. without warning, so if you ever find yourself in the middle of one, remember – drop, cover and hold on." It is critically important to highlight the steps people can take to protect themselves from an earthquake. According to joint research by the U.S. Geological Service (USGS) and FEMA, nearly half the U.S. population, 150 million Americans, are exposed to potentially damaging earthquake shaking. "Earthquakes can occur anywhere in the U.S. without warning," said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. "The PSA provides earthquake safety tips that are vital to preparing yourself and your family to react quickly, which will save lives."

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Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Fact Sheet Now Available

On Jan. 30, the President issued an Executive Order, “Establishing a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and a Process for Further Soliciting and Considering Stakeholder Input.” Future federal investments in and affecting floodplains will be required to meet the level of resilience established in the Standard. This includes projects where federal funds are used to build new structures and facilities or to rebuild those that have been damaged. These projects make sure that buildings are constructed to withstand the impacts of flooding, improve the resilience of communities, and protect federal investments. This standard requires agencies to consider the best available, actionable science of both current and future risk when taxpayer dollars are used to build or rebuild in floodplains. On average, more people die annually from flooding than any other natural hazard. Further, the costs borne by the federal government are more than any other hazard. Water-related disasters account for approximately 85 percent of all disaster declarations. The fact sheet clarifies the requirements of the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard as it relates to FEMA programs. FEMA looks forward to continuing to work together to reduce flood risk, increase resilience, cut future economic losses and potentially save lives.

<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/106303>

Fairfax County Emergency Blog article:

<https://fairfaxcountyemergency.wordpress.com/2015/06/02/hollywood-earthquakes-versus-reality/>

A blue banner with white and red text. On the left, it says 'Emergency News by email' in white and red, with 'by email' on a yellow brushstroke. Below that is 'Subscribe' in white with a red arrow pointing right. On the right, it says 'Receive emergency preparedness information and emergency news by email' in white. Below that is a yellow brushstroke with the URL 'www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/blog' in white.

2015 National Preparedness Report

FEMA and its partners recently released the 2015 National Preparedness Report (NPR). The NPR is an annual status report summarizing the nation’s progress toward reaching the 2011 National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. The 2015 NPR places particular emphasis on highlighting preparedness progress in implementing the National Planning Frameworks, which describe how the whole community works together to achieve the Goal. The report was developed to meet the requirements of Presidential Policy Directive 8/PPD-8: National Preparedness. PPD-8 (<https://www.fema.gov/learn-about-presidential-policy-directive-8>) is aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparation for the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to the security of the nation. The NPR also addresses several reporting requirements from the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (PKEMRA), including components of the Federal Preparedness Report and State Preparedness Report (SPR). The NPR presents a national perspective, highlighting the contributions to preparedness

made by the whole community — namely, federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, the private and nonprofit sectors, faith-based organizations, communities, and individuals. The report integrates data from the annual Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) process and State Preparedness Reports (SPR) from the 56 states and territories. The NPR also highlights tribal preparedness progress and includes a case study of the first tribal implementation of the National Disaster Recovery Framework. FEMA also conducted research to identify any recent independent evaluations, surveys, and other data related to the core capabilities.

<https://www.fema.gov/national-preparedness-report>

NOAA's New National Water Center Will Bolster U.S. Ability to Manage Threats to Water Security

The National Water Center, a new facility located at the University of Alabama, aims to become an incubator for innovative breakthroughs in water prediction products and services. As the country becomes more vulnerable to water-related events, from drought to flooding, the predictive science and services developed by NOAA and its partners at the National Water Center will bolster the U.S. ability to manage threats to its finite water resources and mitigate impacts to communities. Bringing experts together in this new collaborative center provides an unprecedented opportunity to improve federal coordination in the water sector to address twenty-first century water resource challenges, such as water security, and analysis and prediction of hydrologic extremes, like droughts and floods.

<http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20150608-noaa-s-new-national-water-center-will-bolster-u-s-ability-to-manage-threats-to-water-security>

FEMA and National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster Sign Memorandum of Agreement

FEMA and the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (National VOAD) are a key partnership in FEMA's whole community approach as it relates to working alongside a broad cross-section of voluntary and faith-based organizations that partner with other sectors. To reaffirm commitment to this partnership, FEMA and National VOAD signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on May 14. The MOA states that FEMA and National VOAD will continue to incorporate even more organizations and volunteers to participate in the disaster life cycle in coordination with state, local, tribal and territorial governments. National VOAD serves as the primary point of contact for voluntary organization coordination in FEMA's National Response Coordination Center, supporting Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing, and Human Service's needs. National VOAD works with a network of more than 55 national agencies and 56 state and territorial VOADs, providing volunteers and services to support preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts. More information about National VOAD can be found at

www.nvoad.org.



www.CapitalRegionUpdates.gov

A Roundup of May's Major Environmentally-based Disasters

Flooding was the main theme of May with significant incidents in the U.S., China and Australia. Impact Forecasting, Aon Benfield's catastrophe model development team, has published the latest edition of its monthly Global Catastrophe Recap report, which evaluates the impact of the natural disaster events that occurred worldwide during May 2015. The report highlights that powerful thunderstorms caused major flooding across the US states of Texas and Oklahoma during the month, killing 41 people and damaging more than 5,000 homes in Texas alone, resulting in what proved to be the wettest May on record for both states. Meanwhile, severe weather prompted 412 preliminary reports of tornadoes by the US Storm Prediction Center – which would equal the highest monthly number of U.S.

tornadoes since April 2011 (758). Total aggregated severe thunderstorm and flood economic losses for May were expected to near \$3 billion, with overall insured losses set to easily exceed \$1 billion despite low flood insurance penetration in parts of Oklahoma and Texas.

<http://www.continuitycentral.com/index.php/news/resilience-news/291-news7589>

Full report (PDF): <http://thoughtleadership.aonbenfield.com/Documents/20150604-if-may-global-recap.pdf>

FEMA Launches Innovative National Volunteer Program to Enhance Disaster Response and Recovery Efforts

Earlier this month, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with seven technology organizations to provide state, local, tribal and territorial governments with technology resources during a disaster to expedite response and recovery. Cisco Systems, Google, Humanity Road, Information Technology Disaster Resource Center, Intel, Joint Communications Task Force and Microsoft have joined FEMA's new Tech Corps program – a nationwide network of skilled, trained technology volunteers who can address critical technology gaps during a disaster. During major disasters or emergencies, trained technology volunteers can complement ongoing response and recovery efforts, including installing temporary networks; enabling internet connectivity, and telephone, and radio communications; and providing other support, such as geographic information system (GIS) capacity, coding and data analytics. In 2002, Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) proposed a mechanism of leveraging private sector technology capabilities to innovate the way federal, state, local and tribal governments respond to disasters. Tech Corps is based on this model, which was developed beginning in 2013 to assemble the initial group of companies for the voluntary program. Already, Tech Corps partners have been active on their own during national and global technology disaster response efforts, including providing support during Hurricane Sandy and the earthquakes in Nepal and Haiti. This initiative signifies a greater level of coordination between volunteers and the emergency management community through FEMA. To learn more about Tech Corps, please visit www.fema.gov/tech-corps.

<http://www.fema.gov/news-release/2015/06/17/fema-launches-innovative-national-volunteer-program-enhance-disaster>

New Disaster Declarations Data Visualization Available on FEMA.gov

FEMA launched a new data visualization tool that enables the public to see when and where disaster declarations have occurred across the country. As hurricane season continues, the tool helps educate people about the history of hurricanes and other disasters in their communities. The Public Data Visualization Tool, accessible at www.fema.gov/data-visualization, allows users to view and interact with FEMA data. Through an interactive platform, users can view the history of disaster declarations by hazard type or year and financial support provided to states, tribes and territories, and access public datasets for further research and analysis. The Open FEMA data used in the visualization are from the publicly available datasets on www.fema.gov and www.data.gov. View the visualization tool at www.fema.gov/data-visualization.

Never Leave a Child in a Vehicle Unattended

Heatstroke is the number two killer of children behind car crashes. As outside temperatures rise, the risks of children dying from being left alone inside a hot vehicle also rises. According to safercar.gov, one child dies from heatstroke nearly every 10 days from being left in a hot vehicle. In 2014 there were at least 30 heatstroke deaths of children in vehicles. What is most tragic is that the majority of these deaths could have been prevented.

1. Never leave a child in a vehicle unattended.
2. Make it a habit to look in the backseat every time you exit the car.
3. Always lock the car and put the keys out of reach.



If you are a bystander and see a child unattended in a vehicle:

- Always make sure the child is okay and responsive. If not, call 9-1-1 immediately.
- If the child appears ok, you should attempt to locate the parents; or have the facility's security or

management page the car owner over the public address system.

- If there is someone with you, one person should actively search for the parent while someone waits at the car.
- If the child is not responsive and appears in great distress, attempt to get into the car to assist the child, even if that means breaking a window.

Never leave children unattended in vehicles. Children's body temperatures can rise up to five times faster than that of an adult, and heatstroke can occur in temperatures as low as 57 degrees. On an 80-degree day, a car can reach deadly levels in just 10 minutes. According to safercar.gov, 59 percent of all vehicle-related heatstroke deaths in children are caused by a child accidentally being left in the car; 29 percent are from a child getting into a hot car on their own. Remember to "look before you lock."

<https://fairfaxcountyemergency.wordpress.com/2015/06/19/never-leave-a-child-in-a-vehicle-unattended/>

Nominations Open for Award for Excellence

Nominations are being sought for the next CRS Award for Excellence, which recognizes an individual who has provided leadership in raising awareness about the dangers of flooding, implementing floodplain management programs that reduce flood damage, and promoting the purchase of flood insurance through the CRS and the National Flood Insurance Program. A nominee could be a local government official, insurance agent, business professional, real estate professional, floodplain manager, or other local leader. He or she should:

- Be actively involved in a CRS community and knowledgeable about the risk of local flooding.
- Be active in promoting the use of flood insurance to help households prepare for the possibility of flood damage.
- Be active in encouraging community leaders to improve local safety and resilience to flooding and other disasters.
- Have noteworthy achievements in the area of alerting residents and businesses to potential flood dangers and promoting the purchase of flood insurance.

Nomination forms for the CRS Award for Excellence can be downloaded at <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/17014>. The deadline for nominations and applications is July 31.

PLANNING / PREPAREDNESS

Beach Dangers

Now that warmer weather is here, you may be planning some fun in the sun with a beach getaway. But before you hit the sand, check out the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) safety tips for nine dangers at the beach, including lightning.

<http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/news/features/july13/beachdangers.html>

According to NOAA, lightning strikes the United States about 25 million times a year and an average of 33 lightning deaths occurred in the United States each year from 2006-2013. Although most lightning occurs in the summer, people can be struck any time there is a thunderstorm. Remember, if you hear thunder, lightning is close enough to strike you! There is no safe place outside when thunderstorms are in the area. When thunder roars, go indoors! Move immediately to a safe shelter: a substantial building with electricity or plumbing, or an enclosed, metal-topped vehicle with the windows up. As you plan your beach vacation, follow these NOAA tips to reduce the risk of being struck by lightning:

- Plan ahead and know where to go for safety.
- Monitor weather conditions.
- Cancel or postpone activities if thunderstorms are in the forecast.



There is no safe place outside when thunderstorms are in the area. If you hear thunder, you are likely within striking distance of the storm.

- Take action early so you have time to get to a safe place.
- Stay in the safe shelter at least 30 minutes after you hear the last sound of thunder.

www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/

Photo courtesy of NOAA

Hurricane Preparedness: Home Edition

The Atlantic hurricane season runs June 1 through Nov. 30. Now is good time to prepare your home for hurricanes, which are often accompanied by harsh winds and flooding. Taking a few simple, but important steps before a hurricane strikes can help you mitigate property damage. The “How to Prepare for a Hurricane” guide from America’s PrepareAthon! – online at <http://1.usa.gov/1Pvh9Zi> -- has valuable information about these powerful storms and how to protect yourself and your property. On page 12 of the guide, you’ll find information about ways to protect your home, including:

- Cover your home's windows using impact-resistant glazing or permanent storm shutters, which offer the best protection. You can also board up windows with 5/8 inch plywood, cut to fit and ready to install.
- Install metal brackets and straps to strengthen the connection between your home’s roof and wall systems.
- Bring patio furniture, garden tools, garbage cans, and toys inside.
- Elevate the furnace, water heater, and electric panel if the location is susceptible to flooding.
- Keep gutters and drains free of debris.

Since flooding often occurs during a hurricane, it is also important to consider flood insurance protection. Flood insurance is the only way to financially protect your property from flood damage. Visit www.floodsmart.gov for more information about flood insurance.

Reprinted from FEMA's Individual and Community Preparedness e-Brief, June 4, 2015

70 Percent of Breaches are Detected by a Third-party

Forty-six percent of organizations that have suffered a data breach took more than four months to detect a problem, and more than three months to mitigate the risk. Worryingly, the survey of 1,000 IT professionals, conducted by OnePoll on behalf of LogRhythm, also revealed that 70 percent of breaches were detected by a third-party, rather than the organization itself. Perhaps unsurprisingly, 73 percent believe their company’s data is vulnerable to being hacked, while 47 percent think their company should be doing more to improve the time it takes to detect and respond to threats. While 59 percent of IT professionals say poor cyber security practices can have a big impact on business growth, a corresponding survey of 2,000 consumers found that many employees lack the awareness required to identify potential threats.

<http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=18475>

Disaster Supply Kits: Budget-Friendly and Fun

Do you think preparing for disasters is too expensive and boring? Think again! Being prepared doesn't have to break the bank. You can create a budget-friendly basic disaster supply kit using items you may already have at home. You can also make preparedness enjoyable for the entire family. The Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) “Preparedness on a Shoestring” (http://emilms.fema.gov/IS909/assets/01_PreparednessOnAShoestring.pdf) activity guide suggests organizing a family scavenger hunt to locate items around your home such as first-aid supplies and food. After you’ve built your kit, there are several ways to maintain its low-cost quality. For example:

- Purchase items from your local dollar store or discount retailer.
- Take advantage of “Buy One, Get One” deals at your local supermarket.
- Trade extra supplies with family and friends.

FEMA advises to prepare your disaster supply kit with enough items to survive for at least three days. If you are packing a kit for more than just yourself, be sure to make necessary accommodations to fit each person’s needs. Also, remember to check your kit for expired items every six months.

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/prepare/make-a-kit.htm>

<http://www.ready.gov/individuals-access-functional-needs>

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.

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

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

You Choose the Type of Alerts

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

Alerts for Many Different Devices

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

Alerts for Your Locations

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

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



National Flood Insurance Program

If you have questions regarding your National Flood Insurance Program policy you can reach out to our call center at 800-621-3362. Representatives are available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (CDT) to answer your questions. Have at hand your name, telephone number, email address (if applicable), policy number and name of flood insurance carrier. More information is available at www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program.

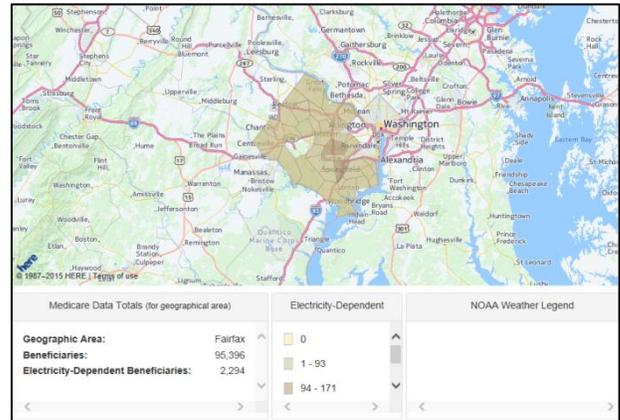
HHS Launches GIS-based Tool for Health Disaster Readiness

The HHS emPOWER Map, an interactive online tool, was launched this month to aid community health agencies and emergency management officials in disaster preparedness as they plan ahead to meet the emergency needs of community residents who rely on electrically powered medical and assistive equipment to live independently at

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home. The new tool is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) in its ongoing efforts to support community resilience and build national health security. More than 1.6 million Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries nationwide rely on electricity-dependent medical and assistive equipment, such as oxygen concentrators, ventilators and wheelchairs. The HHS emPOWER Map shows the monthly total number of Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries' claims for electricity-dependent equipment at the national, state, territory, county, and zip code levels. The tool incorporates these data with real-time severe weather tracking services from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in a Geographic Information System (GIS). The integrated data accessible through the HHS emPOWER Map can help community organizations, including hospitals, first responders, and electric utility officials, work with health officials to prevent health impacts of prolonged power outages due to storms and other disasters on vulnerable residents.

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2015pres/06/20150623a.html>



MEDIA ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Unrest Will Cost Baltimore \$20 Million, Officials Estimate

The recent rioting and unrest in Baltimore will cost the city an estimated \$20 million, officials said earlier this month. The expenses — which go before the city's spending board for approval Wednesday — include overtime for police and firefighters, damage to city-owned property and repaying other jurisdictions for police and other assistance. Henry J. Raymond, Baltimore's finance director, said the city can temporarily cover the costs from its rainy-day fund while seeking reimbursement for up to 75 percent from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/Unrest-Will-Cost-Baltimore-20-Million-Officials-Estimate.html>



New Law Passes to Prevent Child Deaths in Hot Cars

A new law passed in the Commonwealth aims to prevent child deaths in hot cars. It releases people from liability for damages after breaking into someone's car to rescue a child in danger. Eight other states passed similar laws recently. The Virginia law will go into effect July 1.

<http://www.wsls.com/story/29232258/new-law-passes-to-prevent-child-deaths-in-hot-cars>

Army's Public Website Hacked by Unknown Intruders

Defense officials confirm the official public Army website has been hacked by unknown intruders demanding the U.S. stop training rebel fighters inside Syria. Unlike the massive hack into Office of Personnel Management records, the officials stress the website contains no official classified information or private personal data of any Army personnel, military or civilian.

<http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/armys-public-website-hacked-unknown-intruders-n371781>

“Move Over” Laws Aim to Save Emergency Responders' Lives on Highways

In Oklahoma, a 30-year-old state trooper was killed and another officer seriously injured after a car struck them on a

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highway as they investigated an accident. In Kentucky, a 25-year-old volunteer firefighter died and his mother, also a firefighter, was injured when a tractor trailer sideswiped a fire truck and hit them as they tried to put out a car fire on a highway. And in North Carolina, a 44-year-old tow truck operator helping a family whose van had broken down was struck and killed by a car on the interstate. In all three incidents, which occurred in the past 10 months, the drivers responsible failed to move over or slow down when they passed. Speeding past emergency vehicles is an everyday occurrence on the nation's highways, even though every state has a "move over" law that requires drivers to slow down or switch lanes when emergency vehicles are on the scene. Failing to heed the laws can result in fines and serious criminal charges if someone is killed. Despite the laws, safety experts say many drivers remain ignorant of them and that states need to do a better job of educating motorists about what's at stake.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/Move-Over-Laws-Aim-Save-Lives-Highways.html>

Why the U.S. Grid Is Still Vulnerable to Cyberattack

On Dec. 10, 2014, the Department of Homeland Security's Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team (ICS-CERT) released a troubling update about an ongoing, sophisticated malware campaign that had compromised "numerous" industrial control system environments inside utilities and companies in other sectors. Several organizations working with ICS-CERT identified the malware, known as BlackEnergy, on a variety of human-machine interface (HMI) products connected to the Internet. Electric utilities use HMIs to help monitor and operate the grid; they also act as a user interface to the industrial control systems that generate, transmit and distribute electricity. ICS-CERT's analysis of the malware campaign suggests the actors behind it targeted organizations running specific HMI products vulnerable to cyberattack and executed the campaign to discover and compromise unpatched systems. While ICS-CERT had not identified any attempts to damage, modify, or otherwise disrupt the compromised systems at the time it released its update, the team noted intruders could potentially expand their access beyond the compromised HMIs into the underlying control systems. For utilities running vulnerable HMIs, this means attackers could conceivably gain access to the bulk electric system (BES) that runs the grid. The BlackEnergy malware campaign underscores the complexity and sophistication of many of the cyber threats facing the grid. It also illustrates a major point of entry for attackers — specifically, security flaws in device software.

<http://deloitte.wsj.com/riskandcompliance/2015/06/10/why-u-s-grid-still-vulnerable-to-cyber-attack/>

Syrian Electronic Army Claims Hack of U.S. Army Website

Hackers affiliated with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad swiftly claimed responsibility for knocking the U.S. Army's website offline earlier this month. The Syrian Electronic Army took credit for the hack of Army.mil on Twitter, posting a screenshot of an image of the site with the pop-up message reading: "Your commanders admit they are training the people they have sent you to die fighting." In a statement, the Pentagon acknowledged an intrusion had occurred, though it did not confirm the source. "Today an element of the Army.mil service provider's content was compromised," Army Brig. Gen. Malcolm Frost said. "After this came to our attention, the Army took appropriate preventive measures to ensure there was no breach of Army data by taking down the website temporarily." Army.mil is inaccessible. A cached version of the site prompts a pop-up that proclaims "Hacked by the Syrian Electronic Army." Upon closing that window, another appears: "Stop training the terrorists!" followed by "Your government is corrupt don't listen to it!"

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/tech/syrian-electronic-army-claims-hack-of-army-website-20150608>

Obama says Cyber attacks Like Office of Personnel Management Hack are "going to accelerate"

President Barack Obama said Americans should expect more attempts to hack sensitive data from the federal government's computer systems. "This problem is not going away," Obama said during a news conference in Germany following the end of the G-7 summit. "It is going to accelerate." Personal data of about 4 million current and retired federal employees were obtained by hackers who infiltrated the Office of Personnel Management's computer system, the government announced last week. Obama said both criminals and foreign governments are "sending everything they've got trying to breach these systems." China denied allegations that it was responsible for this most recent OPM cyberattack. The federal government is trying to figure out what it can fix through better practices, and where it needs to upgrade computer systems.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/bizjournals/washingtonbureau/2015/06/obama-says-cyber-attacks-opm-going-accelerate.html>

Untold Lines of Code Make Pentagon Weapons Vulnerable

Weapons systems remain vulnerable to hacking despite the billions of dollars the Defense Department spends annually on cybersecurity, Pentagon officials have acknowledged. Frank Kendall, the department's top acquisition official, is taking a stab at the problem through his latest round of guidance, but he appears to be up against formidable foes in the scope of the threat and the cost of addressing it. There are nine million lines of code in the F-35 joint strike fighter jet, plus 15 million lines in support systems, according to Richard Stiennon, chief research analyst at IT-Harvest. Cleaning up all the code in the weapons systems being produced for DOD would cost hundreds of billions of dollars alone, reckoned Stiennon, who is writing a book on cyber warfare. "In other words, if we ever go to war with a sophisticated adversary, or have a battle, they could pull out their cyber weapons and make us look pretty foolish," he said.

<http://fcw.com/articles/2015/06/03/pentagon-weapons-vulnerable.aspx>

Police Open Crime Data to Increase Trust with the Public

Today's public has a complicated relationship with the police, but a little governance may simplify things yet. In an attempt to increase trust with the public, Kentucky's Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD) recently opened three data sets: hate crimes, citations and assault on officer incidents.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/Police-Open-Crime-Data-Increase-Trust-Public.html>

May Was Wettest in U.S. Records

Last month was the wettest on record for the contiguous United States, according to meteorologists. On average 4.36 inches of rain and snow — mostly rain — fell over the Lower 48 in May, sloshing past October 2009, which had been the wettest month in U.S. records with 4.29 inches. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration records go back to 1895. NOAA climate scientist Jake Crouch calculated that comes to more than 200 trillion gallons of water in May.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/May-Was-Wettest-in-US-Records.html>

Ex-CIA Head: "Shame on Us: for Allowing Government Hack

The historic theft of millions of government workers' data was "honorable espionage work" and a "legitimate foreign intelligence target," according to former CIA Director Michael Hayden. "This is not 'shame on China.' This is 'shame on us' for not protecting that kind of information," Hayden, who also previously served as head of the National Security Agency, said at The Wall Street Journal's CFO Network meeting in Washington on Monday evening. The comments increase the pressure on the Obama administration and amount to the clearest signs of frustration from former intelligence leaders about the inability to securely guard records at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). "My deepest emotion is embarrassment," Hayden said. His comments appeared to go into more detail, saying the breach was the work of China's Ministry of State Security, a top intelligence arm that is "very roughly" the Chinese equivalent of the CIA. China has denied involvement in the data theft

<http://thehill.com/policy/national-security/245101-ex-cia-head-shame-on-us-for-allowing-government-hack>

Teens Create CERTPRO App to Track Volunteer Hours During Emergency Response

In the wake of the 2013 tornado in Moore, Oklahoma, streams of local volunteers helped with the disaster relief effort, but response and recovery efforts were hampered by disorganization. Three North Texas seventh-graders have created an app that not only would help keep track of volunteers, but may help improve information collection used to request federal disaster assistance.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Teens-Create-CERTPRO-App-Track-Volunteer-Hours.html>

All Industries Fail Cybersecurity, Government the Worst

Most sectors failed industry-standard security tests of their Web and mobile applications, but the government failed the worst, a report by application security company Veracode found. Most strikingly isn't how poorly the government's applications fared. It's how unlikely they were to be fixed. Government agencies fix fewer than one-third of all detected problems, according to the report. By comparison, financial services fixed 81 percent of its problems, while manufacturing fixed 65 percent. Only 24 percent of government agency applications passed security

tests, compared with those of financial services at 42 percent. Manufacturing followed at 35 percent. The report comes just weeks after a cybersecurity attack that exposed millions of federal employees' personal information. Just a month ago, a federal judge ruled that Target had to pay millions of dollars to victims of its massive security breach.
<http://www.cnn.com/2013/06/13/tech/target-breach/>

EBOLA / FLU

Health Department Confirms 103 Monitored in Virginia for Ebola Risk

The Virginia Health Department issued a statement confirming 103 travelers to the Commonwealth from Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone were under post-arrival monitoring for Ebola. The three countries had seen a spike in cases of Ebola due to improper burial. None of the travelers exhibited symptoms of the disease.

<http://www.wsls.com/story/29232786/health-dept-confirms-103-monitored-in-va-for-ebola-risk>

Ebola Activity Heats Up as West Africa's Rainy Season Begins

In its weekly epidemiologic profile of the outbreak (June 3), the World Health Organization (WHO) said Ebola activity in Guinea and Sierra Leone has become more intense and widespread since May 10, when the region saw cases hit a 10-month low. The week prior to the report, the two countries reported 25 new lab-confirmed cases, 13 in Guinea and 12 in Sierra Leone. The number is up from 12 reported the week before. Overall, the total of confirmed, probable, and suspected cases in the two countries and Liberia – which is now Ebola free – has risen to 27,145, including 11,147 deaths, the WHO said. No health worker infections were reported, keeping the total at 869, 507 of them fatal.

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2015/06/ebola-activity-heats-west-africas-rainy-season-begins>

Study of Ebola Survivors Opens in Liberia

The Liberia-U.S. clinical research partnership known as PREVAIL has launched a study of people in Liberia who have survived Ebola virus disease (EVD) within the past two years. The study investigators hope to better understand the long-term health consequences of EVD, determine if survivors develop immunity that will protect them from future Ebola infection, and assess whether previously EVD-infected individuals can transmit infection to close contacts and sexual partners. The study, sponsored by the Ministry of Health of Liberia and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health, will take place at various sites in Liberia and is expected to enroll approximately 7,500 people, including 1,500 people of any age who survived EVD and 6,000 of their close contacts.

<http://www.nih.gov/news/health/jun2015/niaid-17.htm>

CDC: No Human Bird Flu Cases Yet

While deadly strains of the bird flu have not infected humans on U.S. soil, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention remains concerned. Since December, the United States has wrestled with the worst outbreak of bird flu since 1980 in commercial poultry and wild flocks. The strains, including H5, have led to deaths and mass culling of more than 40 million birds. The current outbreak has infected birds across 16 states, hitting the poultry and egg industries.

<http://www.wdbj7.com/health/cdc-no-human-bird-flu-cases-but-keep-watch/33370472>

CDC Tells Doctors to Watch for Human Infections From Bird Flu

A leading U.S. health agency this week advised health care personnel to be alert to the potential for human infections with the highly pathogenic bird flu virus that is devastating poultry in Iowa and other states. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advisory issued earlier this month also included recommendations for patient investigation and testing, infection control including the use of personal protective equipment and antiviral treatment and prevention.

<http://www.emsworld.com/news/11999216/cdc-tells-doctors-to-watch-for-human-infections-from-bird-flu>

USDA Won't Use Existing Vaccines to Fight Avian Flu

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) made it official this month that it won't use any existing poultry vaccines to fight the avian influenza outbreaks plaguing the Midwest, for reasons that include lack of effectiveness and likely loss of markets for US poultry products. In a statement, the USDA explained multiple reasons for not moving forward with any poultry vaccinations now, although the agency continues to work on developing a vaccine for the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N2 and H5N8 viruses circulating in US flocks. "Vaccines currently available are not well matched and do not meet a suitable level of efficacy," the statement said. "USDA also wants to be sure that the vaccine industry is in a position to produce enough doses to create an effective control measure. Finally, additional outreach with trading partners will be required to avoid significant market disruptions." <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2015/06/usda-wont-use-existing-vaccines-fight-avian-flu>

Netherlands to Save U.S. After Bird Flu Outbreak by Sending Egg Products

With an increasing egg shortage due to the widespread bird flu outbreak, the United States will soon allow imported egg products from the Netherlands to be used for commercial baking and in processed foods. It's the first time in more than a decade the U.S. has bought eggs from a European nation, and comes as consumers are seeing a surge in shell egg prices and a Texas-based supermarket began limiting purchases. Generally, the US produces enough eggs to meet domestic supply and export more than 30m dozen eggs a month to trade partners including Mexico and Canada, the largest buyers. But the H5N2 virus — which began to spread widely through midwest farms in the early spring, including in Iowa, the nation's largest egg producer — has left nearly 47 million birds dead or dying. <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jun/08/netherlands-bird-flu-egg-shortage>

Bird Flu's Cost to Iowa So Far: \$1.1 Million

Iowa Agriculture Secretary Bill Northey said earlier this month that the Bird flu outbreak ranks as Iowa's worst animal health emergency and could cost federal and state agencies up to \$300 million in the cleanup, disposal and disinfection process on top of the sizable losses being incurred by producers. "Animal-health wise, there is nothing that we've ever had like it," said Northey, who held out hope the spread is "winding down," since Iowa recently has reported fewer confirmed cases of the highly pathogenic flu that has led to the deaths and euthanizing of more than 32.7 million commercial layers and turkeys on 76 farms in 18 Iowa counties. All the infected birds in Iowa have been depopulated and humanely destroyed, he said. Northey said hotter temperatures and decontamination efforts have slowed the outbreak, although state officials said they were investigating a possible new case. He noted that Minnesota saw a resurgence in cases after a brief lull, and nearly 2,300 federal and state response personnel remained at work in the field assessing Iowa's situation and looking ahead to what might happen once fall weather returns along with migratory bird activity.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/health/Bird-Flus-Cost-to-Iowa-So-Far-1-Million.html>

Fairfax County Flu Preparedness

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

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



TRAININGS / EXERCISES / CONFERENCES

2015 National Sports Safety and Security Conference and Exhibition

July 6-9; Orlando, Fla.

NCS4 hosts its sixth annual National Sports Safety and Security Conference and Exhibition, which focuses on specific ways to provide better sports safety and security safeguards. Conference highlights include: unmanned aerial systems; a mock trial; workshops; roundtables; a technology showcase; and much more.

<http://www.ncs4.com/conference>

CyberMontgomery 2015

July 30; Rockville, Md.

CyberMontgomery is an annual cyber-security focused event produced by the Federal Business Council (FBC) in conjunction with leaders from federal and local government agencies, industry and academia. Visit

www.fbcinc.com/CyberMontgomery

Getting it Right! Workshop

July 31; Hilton Arlington, Va.

Portlight Strategies Inc. and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management present the Getting It Right! Workshop. This workshop will provide tools and information to emergency managers, lawyers, disability organizations and stakeholders as well as advocates who want to improve resources and services of older Virginians, Virginians with disabilities and their families. This workshop will encourage facilitation of full integration and inclusion in all aspects of emergency preparedness and response. We will also help you understand how to be in full compliance to avoid litigation. The speakers include representatives from FEMA, the American Red Cross, disability stakeholder organizations, and those involved in the recent litigation of the Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled v. City of New York. The workshop is free and will include lunch, snacks and all workshop materials to attendees. To register go to <http://www.portlight.org/page.html>.

Defense Strategies Institute (DSI) Cyber Security for National Defense Symposium

Aug. 4-5; Alexandria, Va.

The Cyber Security for National Defense Symposium offers educational and training “town hall” forum. The symposium focuses on increasing the security and resilience of the nation’s critical networks, which operate freely in the cyber domain, and protecting infrastructure in support of national defense and homeland security.

<http://cybersecurity.dsigroup.org/>

Hurricane Sandy Conference: Translating Research Into Practice

Aug. 10-11; New York, N.Y.

Shortly after Hurricane Sandy, a series of two-year research grants were funded to examine long-term recovery of health systems and communities in areas of the country hard hit by the storm. This conference shares the research outcomes and products, and discusses next steps for translating the research findings into public health policy and practice.

<http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/science/research-conference/Pages/default.aspx>

APCO 2015 Conference & Expo

Aug. 16-19; Washington, D.C.

The Association of Public-safety Communications Officials (APCO) annual conference will bring together leading public safety communications professionals from all across the United States. This year’s theme is “Explore, Inspire, Achieve.”

<http://www.apco2015.org/>

TacOps East Tactical Training Conference & Expo 2015

Sept. 9-11; Arlington, Va.

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The TacOps East Tactical Training Conference and Expo 2015 brings together officers, trainers, vendors and departments from across the country, to provide attendees with interesting and innovative law enforcement training. TacOps 2015 will include leadership, instructor, disorder control, K-9, negotiator and sniper training; in addition to an expanded exhibit space.

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

National Safety Council Congress & Expo

Sept. 26-Oct. 2; Atlanta, Ga.

The National Safety Council Congress & Expo is the largest annual must-attend event for safety, health, and environmental professionals. For more than 100 years, professionals have turned to this event for industry-leading technology, education, networking opportunities, and the tried-and-true products and services needed to stay at the forefront and remain competitive within the industry.

<http://www.congress.nsc.org/nsc2015/public/content.aspx?ID=2551&sortMenu=102000>

Inaugural Cyber Electromagnetic Activity 2015

Oct. 6-8; Belcamp, Md.

The theme for the inaugural CEMA 2015 event is “Synchronizing Cyber Electromagnetic Activities to Win in a Complex World.” The newly published Army Operating Concept (AOC) emphasizes the importance of ready land forces and their significance to the joint and coalition fight, and recognizes the need for continued innovation to “Win in a Complex World.” Cyberspace operations, in conjunction with electronic warfare and electromagnetic spectrum operations are identified in the AOC as one of the seven core Army competency areas critical to shaping the operational environment and winning decisively. Equally new to the Army is the concept of Cyber Electromagnetic Activities, or CEMA, which is outlined in the first doctrinal field manual of its kind that integrates and synchronizes cyberspace operations, electronic warfare (EW), and spectrum management operations (SMO). The CEMA 2015 event will allow for an exchange of ideas, concepts and information, and provide a venue to address these new and emerging concepts and a framework to discuss ongoing and future research and development to set the conditions for innovation and success.

<https://www.govevents.com/details/16173/inaugural-cyber-electromagnetic-activity-2015>

APHA’s 143rd Annual Meeting & Expo

Oct. 31-Nov. 4; Chicago, Ill.

The American Public Health Association's (APHA) Annual Meeting & Exposition is where public health professionals convene, learn, network, and engage with peers. With the Annual Meeting, we strengthen the profession of public health, share the latest research and information, promote best practices and advocate for public health issues and policies grounded in research.

<http://www.apha.org/events-and-meetings/annual>

63rd IAEM-USA Annual Conference & EMEX

Nov. 13-18; Las Vegas, Nev.

The 63rd IAEM-USA Annual Conference & EMEX is the premiere emergency management event of the year. The conference offers: CEM/AEM program offerings, pre/post-conference training, with more than sixty breakout sessions, spotlight sessions on contemporary issues, general sessions and unlimited networking opportunities during special events.

<http://iaemconference.info/2015/>

2016 Fire and Rescue Conference (Call for Presentations)

Feb. 24-28, 2016; Virginia Beach, Va.

The Virginia Fire Chiefs Association has put out a call for anyone who might be interested in being a presenter at the 2016 Fire and Rescue Conference which will be held on Feb. 24-28, 2016 at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. The due date to submit a proposal to be a presenter is June 1, 2015. The proposal application can be found online at

http://www.vaemergency.gov/webfm_send/1051/VaFireRescueConfCallforPresentations.pdf.

2016 Virginia Emergency Management Symposium

Planning for the VEMS 2016 program is already under way! The theme is “Exploring the Possibilities” and will be held March 29-April 1, 2016, at the Newport News Marriott. The call for papers is currently ongoing; papers are due by July 20.

National Capital Region Homeland Security Events

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

Virginia Emergency Management Courses

<http://www.vaemergency.com>

FEMA Independent Study Courses

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

American Red Cross Disaster Services Training

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

"EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS" NEWSLETTER **Check It Out!**

Published monthly by the Office of Emergency Management

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

LINKS

Fairfax County Web Resources

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

Additional Web Resources

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

DHS Science & Technology Directorate Newsletter

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

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

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report (OSIR)

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

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

Fairfax County Government Emergency Information Line

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/infoline.htm

Emergency Management Magazine

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

FEMA Private Sector

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



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To Unsubscribe:

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

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

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

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



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