

Emergency Preparedness

Published by the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management
October 2014



Pictured above are Brian Spicer, OEM intern; and staff Bruce McFarlane; Dean Sherick; and Whitney Kazragis as they joined a zombie hoard for the Northern Virginia Community College's (NOVA) first zombie fair. A few hundred students learned about emergency preparedness and disaster volunteering while enjoying music from a "live" zombie DJ and taking zombie "selfies" with the NOVA Provost. The red coloring in the photo is actually corn syrup and no county employees were harmed during this event.

OEM staff was busy last month with numerous emergency preparedness presentations in conjunction with National Preparedness Month.

OEM staff kicked off the "preparedness season" at the U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Preparedness Fair, speaking with over 200 attendees about emergency preparedness, Fairfax Alerts and Capitalerts (www.capitalerts.gov). Late in the month, as seen above, several OEM staff joined a zombie hoard for the Northern Virginia Community College's (NOVA) first zombie fair.

If you would like a presentation on emergency preparedness, call OEM at 571-350-1000, TTY 711.

This newsletter is published by the
 Fairfax County
Office of
Emergency
Management

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It's Not Spooky to be Prepared!

Halloween is right around the corner – are you and your kids prepared for trick-or-treating? Here are some safety tips to share with your kids in preparation for Halloween festivities:



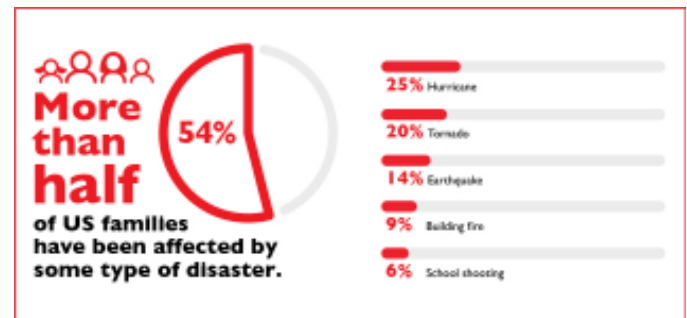
- Never go into a stranger's house; use the buddy system when trick-or-treating.
- Bring a flashlight and wear reflective accessories with your costume to ensure visibility.
- If your kids are trick-or-treating alone, make sure to agree on the route and give them contact information they can carry in case they get lost.
- If a costume includes an accessory such as a sword, make sure the edges are smooth to prevent injuries.
- If a costume includes a mask, make sure the eye holes are wide enough for peripheral vision.
- Don't put candles inside pumpkins – use a battery-operated light.

Save the Children 2014 Disaster Report Card

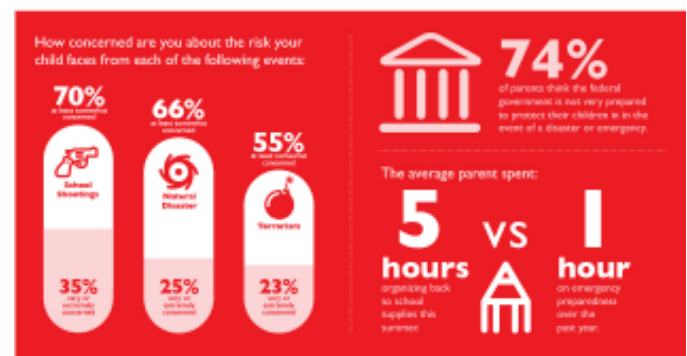
Save the Children's annual evaluation of efforts to prepare to protect U.S. children during disasters reveals that 21 states and the District of Columbia still do not require adequate emergency preparedness planning by schools or child care providers. Meanwhile, 69 percent of parents in those states mistakenly believe that protections are in place. More than 40 percent of parents say they would not know where to reunite with their child if their school or child care center was evacuated. The report includes an interactive map that summarizes the status of the National Commission on Children in Disasters' four minimum child protection standards by state.

www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.8777053/k.F31D/

[Get_Ready_Get_Safe_Disaster_Report_Card.htm](http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.8777053/k.F31D/Get_Ready_Get_Safe_Disaster_Report_Card.htm)



Parents are anxious about disaster, but not active.



The Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management is available to deliver emergency preparedness presentations to community organizations and homeowners associations. If interested, contact OEM at 571-350-1000, TTY 711, or via email at oem@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Celebrating 30 Years of Taking a Bite Out of Crime

Since 1984, October has been National Crime Prevention Month. And for 30 years, the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC), home to McGruff the Crime Dog, has marked the month with a focus on proactive crime prevention and public safety information for individuals and communities.



“NCPC has assembled an impressive array of partners to mark the 30th anniversary of Crime Prevention Month,” said Ann M. Harkins, president and CEO. “Since its inaugural debut in 1984, NCPC has used this month to focus on the personal safety and crime

prevention situations we each face every day and give the information you need to make the right choices.”

Each week during the month, NCPC and its select partner will unveil new resources for consumers and law enforcement to “Take A Bite Out Of Crime” in their communities. The weekly themes and corresponding resources are located on the Celebrate Safe Communities section of www.ncpc.org.

For more information on National Crime Prevention Month and other safety advice, visit NCPC’s website at www.ncpc.org.

A disaster supply kit is a collection of basic items your household needs in the event of an emergency. Try to assemble your kit well in advance of an emergency by having your own food, water and other supplies in sufficient quantity to last at least 72 hours. See www.ready.gov/build-a-kit and www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/prepare for more ways to help build your kit and prepare for any type of hazard.

Outreach Events

- Oct. 16 – Childcare Providers Workshop
- Oct. 16 – Braddock District Neighborhood College
- Oct. 16 – McLean District CAC Meeting Presentation
- Oct. 17 – Asian American Business Summit and Expo Booth
- Oct. 18 – Huntington Neighborhood Canvassing
- Oct. 18 – Merrifield Fall Festival
- Oct. 25 – Childcare Providers Workshop

To learn more about emergency preparedness or having an OEM representative attend your event or give a presentation at your homeowners association or civic association meeting, call 571-350-1000, TTY 711; email oem@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Shrout Featured on “County Conversation” Podcast

Roy Shrout, deputy coordinator of the Office of Emergency Management, was the guest on “The County Conversation” podcast in early September. You can listen via iTunes, Stitcher or online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/podcasts/health-and-safety.htm.



Roy Shrout



Fairfax County, Va., publication.

To request this information in an alternate format, call 571-350-1000, TTY 711.

Cyber Security Awareness Month

The Internet is part of everyone's life, every day. We use the Internet at work, home, for enjoyment and to connect with those close to us.

However, being constantly connected brings increased risk of theft, fraud, and abuse.

No country, industry, community or individual is immune to cyber risks. As a nation, we face constant cyber threats against our critical infrastructure and economy.

As individuals, cybersecurity risks can threaten our finances, identity and privacy. Since our way of life depends on critical infrastructure and the digital technology that operates it, cybersecurity is one of our country's most important national security priorities, and we each have a role to play – cyber security is a shared responsibility.



National Cyber Security Awareness Month

October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month, designed to engage and educate public and private sector partners through events and initiatives with the goal of raising awareness about cybersecurity and increasing the resiliency of the nation in the event of a cyber incident.

October 2014 marks the 11th annual National Cyber Security Awareness Month sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security in cooperation with the National Cyber Security Alliance and the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center.

Learn more about Cyber Security Month online at www.dhs.gov/national-cyber-security-awareness-month-2014.



STOP | THINK | CONNECT™

I MAKE MY
**PASSWORDS LONG
AND STRONG!**

Protecting my employer, my colleagues, my customers and myself is my responsibility.

www.stopthinkconnect.org

StaySafeOnline.org
National Cyber Security Alliance

Stay Connected to Emergency Information



Fairfax County Emergency Alerts
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts



Emergency Information Blog
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/blog



Fairfax County Government Radio
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/radio



Fairfax County on Twitter
www.twitter.com/fairfaxcounty



Fairfax County on Facebook
www.facebook.com/fairfaxcounty



Fairfax County on YouTube
www.youtube.com/fairfaxcountygov



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Ready-Set-Know Festival: A Success

By Dean Sherick

Members representing various organizations of the Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council participated in the Ready-Set-Know Festival as part of the Burke Centre Fall Festival on Sept. 6-7.

Over 70 volunteers from the Citizen Corps Council core programs – Community Emergency Response Teams, Medical Reserve Corps, Neighborhood Watch and Volunteers In Police Service, in conjunction with members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Annandale) – staffed the different stations at the festival over the two days.

An estimated 2,500 visitors gave the “Disaster Wheel” a spin and were then directed to teams that provided disaster information for making a plan, assembling a kit and learning how to stay informed through Fairfax Alerts. Organizations also provided information about getting involved at the outreach table.

It was hot Saturday, but after an evening of thunderstorms, the weather was perfect on Sunday and the number of attendees doubled. A review of the event has been completed and the Citizen Corps Council will discuss ways to improve for similar events in the future.

Dean Sherick is community liaison assistant with OEM and has nearly 40 years of experience in public safety.



The “Disaster Zone,” part of the Ready-Set-Know festival.

The Fairfax County Citizen Corps

harnesses the power of individuals through education, training and volunteer service to make communities



safe, stronger and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues and disasters of all kinds. There are five core programs:

Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)



Provides support for the police department by incorporating volunteers so that law enforcement professionals have more time for frontline duty. VIPS includes auxiliary police officers, administrative volunteers, and the Citizen’s Police Academy. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/getinvolved/120711volunteers.htm

Neighborhood Watch



Brings private citizens and law enforcement together to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. It brings to life the simple concept of neighbors watching out for neighbors. Volunteers may join an existing group or establish one in their neighborhood. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizencorps/nw.htm

Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)



The Medical Reserve Corps is composed of medical and non-medical volunteers of the Fairfax County Health Department that could support the Health Department if called upon to prepare for, respond to and recover from natural and man-made disasters and emergencies. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/MRC

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)



Trains people in neighborhoods, workplaces, and schools in basic disaster response skills, such as fire suppression and search and rescue, and helps them take a more active role in emergency preparedness. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cert

Fire Corps



Volunteers are trained to perform non-operational administrative duties at the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department Headquarters and at volunteer fire stations. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizencorps/firecorps.htm

Business Preparedness Corner

Get Your Business Shakin'

By Whitney Kazragis

There are over 800,000 business participants joining the Great Southeast ShakeOut earthquake drill on Oct. 16 at 10:16 a.m. Check out the following (partial) list of Virginia businesses and then join them in the drill by registering at www.ShakeOut.org. Employees will learn how to **Drop, Cover and Hold On** wherever they live, work or travel.

- Applied Research Associates, Inc., Analytical Solutions Division, Arlington
- BAE Systems, OSI, Radford
- Daikin Applied, Staunton
- Dulles Greenway, Sterling
- Fairlead Integrated Power & Controls, Chesapeake
- General Dynamics/General Dynamics Information Technology
- General Dynamics Information Technology, DSD, NAVSEA Ashore and SPAWAR Services Chesapeake (Independence), Chesapeake
- Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce, Richmond
- Inner-Vision Education Center, LLC, Powhatan
- Intellidyne-LLC, Facilities, Falls Church
- Klockner Pentaplast of America
- Intertrans Carrier Company, Gordonsville
- Markel NAI Eagle, Richmond
- Northrop Grumman - Northrop Grumman Information Systems, VITA Program, Chester
- Old Dominion Electric Cooperative, Glen Allen
- Panalpina, Inc., PA-WAS, Sterling
- Pathways Youth Services, LLC
- Pathways Youth Services III, Halifax
- PCI of Virginia LLC, Richmond
- Rappahannock Electric Cooperative, Fredericksburg
- RJT Industries Incorporated, Woodbridge



Whitney Kazragis

- SunTrust Bank, SunTrust Technology Center, Richmond
- SunTrust Bank, Richmond Operations Center, Henrico
- SunTrust Bank at HDQ Richmond Building, Richmond.

Great ShakeOut Resources for Businesses

- Download a drill broadcast recording from www.ShakeOut.org/southeast/drill/broadcast
- Posters, flyers and other promotional materials at www.ShakeOut.org/southeast/resources
- Share photos and stories of your drill at www.Shareout.org/southeast/share

Get Ready to Shake Out.

Drop! Cover! Hold On!

October 16, 10:16 a.m.

Shake Out

Register at www.ShakeOut.org



Fairfax County and Northern Virginia residents can use the family and business emergency planners at www.ReadyNOVA.org.



FEMA Corps Team Tundra 3 volunteered to assist with a two-day booth at Fall for Fairfax. They talked with Fairfax County residents about emergency preparedness and shared information about the new Fairfax Alerts emergency alerting system.

CapitalRegionUpdates.Gov



News & Info - Around the Region

Emergency Car Kit Giveaway



Join the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management at the following Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings to learn about Fairfax Alerts and emergency preparedness. You'll also have a chance to win an emergency car kit from State Farm at each meeting.

- McLean District, Oct. 16
- Sully District, Nov. 12

Call OEM at 571-350-1000, TTY 711 for more details.

With almost two months left in hurricane season, the Virginia State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance reminds residents to remain vigilant when it comes to protecting their property from loss. Hurricane season runs through Nov. 30, and the bureau encourages homeowners, renters and business owners to review their insurance policies now to make sure they have enough coverage in the event of a hurricane or other disaster. Know what each policy does and does not cover and contact your insurance agent or company or the Bureau of Insurance if you have any questions. No matter where you live in Virginia, hurricanes and their accompanying winds and rains 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.

Emergency News

by email

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New Geographic Information System (GIS) Map Shows Hurricane Storm Surge Risk

When evacuations are ordered because of an approaching tropical storm system, it's not just the wind that concerns emergency officials – it's rising water called storm surge. A new preparedness tool created by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) helps people in Virginia find their storm surge risk.

The Geographic Information System (GIS) map allows users to find the maximum storm surge risk at their current location or the risk of an address location entered into the search bar.

Storm surge is the abnormal and dangerous rise of water, over and above the tide, that is pushed to shore by strong winds from a hurricane or tropical storm system. The storm surge zones of the GIS map show the maximum coastal area in Virginia that may be inundated by a hurricane generating a surge of a given value.

“Historically, 90 percent of the time, it's the inundation of water that kills, not the wind,” said Jeff Stern, state coordinator of emergency management. “We created this map for people to get an idea of what surging water could mean in their communities so they will pay closer attention when hurricane season storms are forecast.”

Every storm is different, and every forecast is different, so the exact impact of a particular storm may not reflect the modeled storm surge shown on the GIS map. The map is only a projection, but it can be used as one tool to better understand storm surge and the risk to Virginia coastal communities.

The localities shown on the map include the counties of Accomack, Gloucester, Isle of Wight, Lancaster, Mathews, Middlesex, Northampton, Northumberland, Richmond, Surry, Westmoreland and York, and the cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk and Virginia Beach.

The map is available in English and Spanish at www.ReadyVirginia.gov.

To use the map, click on the “find my location” button or type in an address next to the magnifying glass. Click on the evacuation routes and storm surge zones to identify them.

The data used to create the new GIS map came from the Virginia Hurricane Evacuation Study, a joint effort by VDEM, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and coastal localities.

Additional storm surge and hurricane season resources:

- Learn more about preparing for hurricane season in Virginia and download the 2014 Virginia Hurricane Guide: www.ReadyVirginia.gov.
- Residents of and visitors to the Hampton Roads region can sign up for weather alerts online at <http://readyhamptonroads.org/Resources/Map.aspx>.
- Download a storm surge brochure from the National Weather Service: www.nws.noaa.gov/om/hurricane/resources/surge_intro.pdf.

