Department of Emergency Management and Security

County Continuity and Business Resilience Guide

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County Continuity
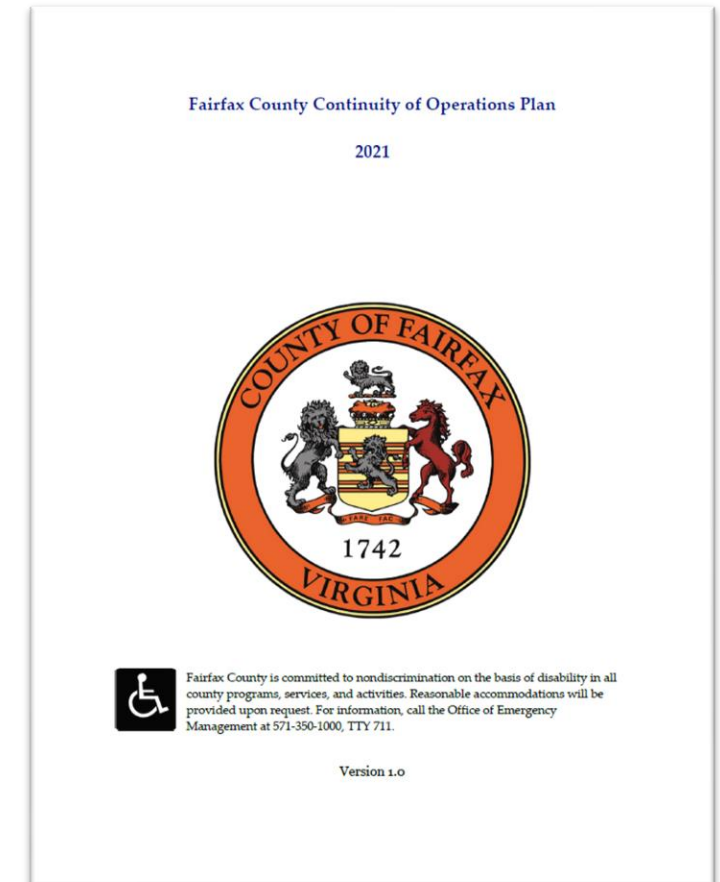
Overview of the county continuity program

Continuity Basics

"Continuity planning is simply the **good business practice** of ensuring the **execution of essential functions** through all circumstances, and it is a **fundamental responsibility** of public institutions and private entities to their **residents and stakeholders**."

County Continuity Plan

- Provides detailed procedures to keep the organization running and minimize loss of life and capabilities
- Improves service delivery by improving the organization's ability to recover and restore operations
- Identifies emergency response procedures
- Identifies backup and post-disaster recovery procedures

Fairfax County Continuity of Operations Plan

2021

COUNTY OF FAIRFAX

1742

VIRGINIA

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services, and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For information, call the Office of Emergency Management at 571-350-1000, TTY 711.
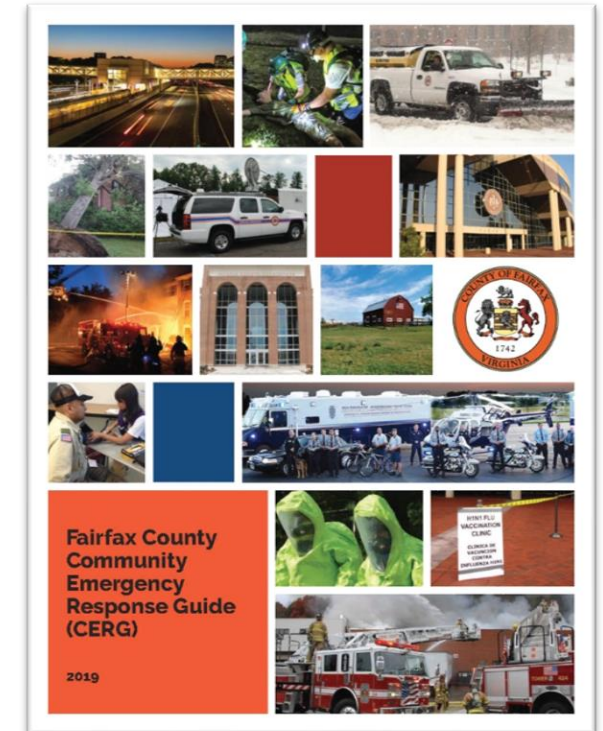
Version 1.0

Community Engagement

Overview of new community engagement material

Community Emergency Response Guide
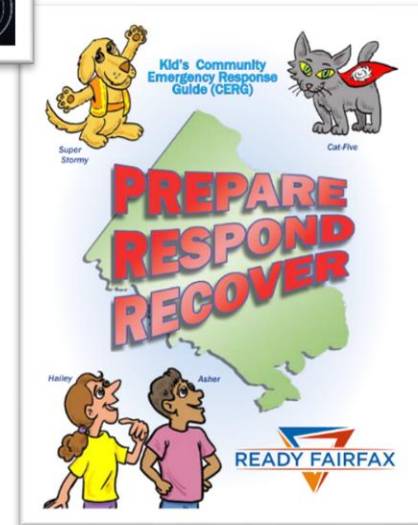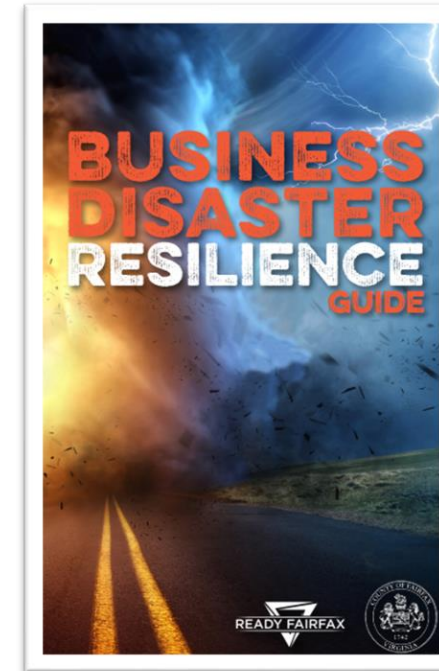
- One stop guide.
- Allows neighborhoods/communities to sustain themselves until county services and outside support can be obtained.
- Companion document to the County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).
- Structured by the 4 phases of emergency management.
- Hazards section.
- Appendices (various resources and templates).

Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Guide (CERG)

2019

Companion Guides

- Received positive feedback
  - Used by partners in VA, other states, and the Federal government.
- Creation of new guides
  - Kids Community Emergency Response Guide
  - Teen Community Emergency Response Guide
  - Business Disaster Resilience Guide

Business Disaster Resilience Guide

- Provides an overview of the threats and hazards within Fairfax County for businesses to be aware of and actions to take.
- Provides executable solutions that businesses can adopt to assist with efforts to prepare the facility, continue operations, and protect employees/customers.
- Demonstrates how businesses can be instrumental in their own preparedness and resiliency.
- Provides a template for businesses to work through during the Business Disaster Resilience Workshop.

40%-60% of businesses that close during a disaster never reopen.

Take the time now to create a plan of what you would do before, during, and after an emergency to prevent lost revenue, loss of data, extra expenses, and loss of customers. The better prepared you and your business are, the better the outcome.

Remember that no plan is perfect. By reading this far, you have taken the valuable first step towards making your business disaster resilient. Now, let's take the next step to safeguard your investment!

OPERATIONAL IMPACTS FROM BUSINESS DISRUPTIONS

- Lost sales and income
- Negative cash flow resulting from delayed sales or income
- Increased expenses (e.g., overtime labor, outsourcing, expediting costs, etc.)
- Regulatory fines
- Contractual penalties or loss of contractual bonuses
- Customer dissatisfaction or defection
- Delay executing business plan or strategic initiative

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Business Disaster Resilience Guide

- Next Steps/Action Items
  - Translation (English, Spanish, Korean, Arabic, Mandarin, Vietnamese)
  - Printing
  - Workshops
    - Host Business Disaster Resilience Guide workshop in district in collaboration with each District Supervisor.
    - Host 4 webinars for community businesses.
  - Board assistance with introducing the guide to the business community.