



National Preparedness Month – September 2007 Events and Activities in the NCR

District of Columbia

- The Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) will draft language for a Mayoral proclamation declaring September 2007 as National Preparedness Month in the District of Columbia and will compile and distribute a city-wide calendar of events. A kick-off event will be held at a D. C. Public School where Mayor Fenty will issue the proclamation.
- HSEMA will be among the exhibitors at the “2007 Rawlins Park National Preparedness Month Kickoff Event” on September 5, at Rawlins Park.
- On September 11, Serve DC will hold graduation ceremonies for its Neighborhood Corps program at the Unified Communications Center.
- Serve DC and HSEMA will work with the Golden Triangle Business Improvement District (BID) to plan an outreach fair to be held on September 14, in Farragut North Park. It is anticipated that the revised version of HSEMA’s business preparedness guide will be available for distribution at this event.
- HSEMA will conduct a city-wide full-field and command post exercise on September 19, to involve all DRP lead agencies as well as many of the support agencies.
- HSEMA will work with OLA, the Asian Liaison Unit at the Metropolitan Police Department and the Office of African Affairs in planning activities to be held September 16–22, the week designated by DHS for multi-cultural preparedness activities.
- Serve DC has indicated it will conduct a senior CERT training class.
- HSEMA will participate in an EPA employee forum on September 12 at a downtown EPA location.
- HSEMA staff are considering a preparedness town hall meeting to gain input from the community about the issue of preparedness.

Virginia

Arlington County (Va.)

- Tested the pilot outdoor warning system on two occasions, enabling emergency managers to fine-tune volume levels, voice quality, and content.
- Used the outdoor warning system on July 4th to alert people in Rosslyn and Iwo Jima to evacuate the area due to weather concerns.
- Added a new “rapid enrollment” feature to Arlington Alert, enabling residents to sign up by sending a text message from their mobile phones.

- Met with about a dozen businesses to educate their employees about emergency preparedness and their roles in preparedness.
- Worked with Culpeper Gardens (senior residential home) to assist with a planned power outage and distributed emergency preparedness materials to every resident.
- Began to meet with day care centers to help them with their emergency plans and parent preparedness.
- At the Arlington County Fair in August, OEM will be answering questions about preparedness, distributing survey cards, the NCR's "Z" cards, Arlington's emergency preparedness brochures and bottles of hand sanitizer.
- In September, OEM will continue outreach efforts to day care centers, businesses (e.g., EPA), and assisted living facilities.

Fairfax County (Va.)

- Emergency preparedness materials – including literature and promotional materials for the Community Emergency Alert Network (CEAN) – and air quality materials were distributed during Celebrate Fairfax in June.
- Fairfax County will host a Business Preparedness Summit on Friday, July 20. The summit includes workshops on business preparedness and continuity of operations planning, risk communications/emergency messaging and a tour of the county's emergency operations center.
- In July, the Health Department is mailing a reference guide "Caring for Yourself and Others: Seasonal and Pandemic Influenza" to all households in Fairfax County to help individuals and families prepare for influenza.
- In late August, the Office of Public Affairs is producing a special 8-page employee newsletter supplement specifically dedicated to emergency preparedness that will be distributed to the county's 11,000-plus employees.
- Weekly preparedness ads will run every Thursday in the Washington Post Fairfax County Extra section.
- Unveil the new Social Needs Registry and Medical Needs Registry for special needs populations.
- Media tour of the Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (PSTOC), which is under construction.
- 9/11 Memorial Grove Garden ceremony.
- Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) ceremony, kicking-off the county's 1670 AM radio signal for emergency communications to county residents.
- In September, emergency preparedness information will be highlighted on the county's Web site.
- The county's emergency information page will be redesigned in September to make information more user friendly.
- The "Health and Safety" Podcasts for September will feature emergency preparedness information and specifically promote National Preparedness Month.
- The county's cable television station (Channel 16) will air specific emergency preparedness programming and PSA's for the CEAN.

City of Falls Church (Va.)

- Emergency preparedness booth at the Fall Festival on September 15.
- Distributing an emergency preparedness brochure to all city residents and businesses this summer.

- Regularly publish articles in newsletters and content on the city Web site promoting preparedness.

Loudoun County (Va.)

- The Health Department is conducting its main preparedness exercise on October 24 -- a test of the Non-Medical POD plan which will involve three facilities and over 3,500 participants.
- The Health Department also is participating in an exercise on July 24 with the CDC and the Airports Authority.
- OEM is preparing Preparedness campaigns that focus on developing a plan, establishing a kit and getting informed.
- Staff will move to the new Emergency Operations Center during the middle of September.
- OEM is planning to participate at open houses in Sterling, Ashburn and Leesburg, in October.
- Several pandemic flu information sessions are also planned, but these are for private organizations and not open to the general public.

Prince William County (Va.)

- Run programs and PSA's about emergency preparedness on the County's government access channel, Channel 23.
- Distributing bags that have the Web site for PWCAN (Prince William Community Alert Network) at multiple events, including library book sales, etc.
- Working to send out magnets to every household in the county that will have information about PWCAN and emergency preparedness.
- Fire and Rescue will promote emergency preparedness in its bi-weekly column in the local newspaper during September.

Commonwealth of Virginia

- July 14 - Disaster Volunteer Day – Peninsula
- July 28 - Pittsylvania County Volunteer Recognition Day
- July 31-August 2 - Campus CERT, VEOC
- August 25-27 - Teen CERT, VEOC
- September 25 - James City County Business Disaster Preparedness Seminar
- November 9-10 - EMS Symposium
- November 14 - Virginia Public Safety Outreach Conference

Maryland

Frederick County (Md.)

- Pet Emergency Preparedness Day – Animal Control, DEP
- Distribute DVDs to FCPS elementary families – DEP and partners
- LEPC Drill – LEPC, DEP and partners
- All Hazards Preparedness for Senior Officials Workshop - DEP
- Press Releases/news articles – DEP/Public Information Officers' Committee
- Annual Field Training Exercise – Ft. Detrick
- Mailing to special needs providers - DEP
- Awareness communication/emergency kit to Meals on Wheels recipients –Department of Aging

- Conduct planning meeting to develop an emergency preparedness outreach program with the Boy Scouts – DEP and partners
- Planning stages for FCHD employee emergency preparedness education.
- Preparing a series of FNP articles starting in last July running through to perhaps September on pandemic influenza, including business preparedness and family preparedness - FCHD
- Distribution of small emergency kits/boxes – American Red Cross – Frederick County Chapter.
- Emergency preparedness message on school calendars - FCPS
- Emergency preparedness message on city, quarterly water bills - Frederick City
- Emergency preparedness message on VFRS Association Web site - DEP
- Emergency preparedness message on Frederick County Government Web site – DEP
- Emergency preparedness message on Frederick County Government Web site - DEP
- Present emergency preparedness materials in conjunction with the opening of Fire Prevention Month – VFRS - DEP
- Conduct planning meeting for a campaign to address the non-English speaking populations – DEP and partners
- Conduct planning meeting for a special needs and responder exercise – DEP and partners
- Emergency preparedness messages through the faith-based community – DEP and partners
- Emergency preparedness display at the Frederick Fair – DEP

City of Bowie (Md.)

- Bowie now has an Emergency Management Resource Coordinator.
- Emergency preparedness presentations will be given this summer, including to the Chamber of Commerce and the Bowie Lions Club.
- A demonstration of the Vials of Life initiative will be conducted at one of the senior apartments in July.
- Alert Bowie will be promoted at all events.
- During National Night Out (August 7) we'll be promoting emergency preparedness at the Bowie Baysox Stadium and encouraging people to sign up for Alert Bowie at a booth with information, a slide show and radio giveaways.
- For September we have plans to go into each of the schools in the city to do an emergency preparedness presentation.

Prince George's County (Md.)

- September 1, 2007 - Citizen Corps Volunteers will pass out Emergency Preparedness Information at the various Labor Day activities
- September 6-9, 2007 - Prince George's County Office of Homeland Security will have a display and distribute preparedness information at the Annual Prince George's County Fair. The fair will be held at the Prince George's County Equestrian Center and the Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.
- September 8, 2007 - Third Annual METRO Simulated Disaster Drill place at METRO's Carmen Turner Training Facility, which is located at 3500 Pennsy Drive in Landover, Maryland. Accelerated Community Emergency Response Team Training

- September 12, 2007 - Commencement of Six-Week CERT training for County Residents in the City of Hyattsville. The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute will conduct the training.
- September 13, 2007 - Conduct Volunteers in Police Service Training at County Police District II
- September 17-22, 2007 - Citizen Corps Volunteers will visit Senior Living Facilities to talk and pass out senior-related Emergency Preparedness Information to the residents. (The Citizen Corps Council will coordinate this project through the Prince George's County Office of Aging.)
- September 25, 2007 - Commencement of TEEN CERT at selected county high schools
- September 30, 2007 - Advance Community Emergency Response Team Simulation Drill (This drill will be for the "Super CERT" volunteers; super CERT volunteers are individuals that are the volunteers that will be called out to assist outside of their communities if required. They have been involved in extensive training beyond the basic CERT training. The DelMarVa Search and Rescue Group will conduct the training.