



Preparedness News and Information

From FEMA's Preparedness Division

January 16, 2004

NATIONAL NEWS

Homeland Security Looks to Industry to Secure Nation's Infrastructure

Government Executive, January 12, 2004

DHS officials said that the federal government is not planning to place many security requirements on the private sector as they relate to infrastructure protection.

Bag at Landmark Went Unnoticed in Drill

AP/Yahoo, January 13, 2004

During a security drill in the fall, US Park Police did not detect a trash bag left at the base of the Washington Monument for at least 15 minutes, leading to a number of corrective actions and new security measures being implemented.

DOT and USFA Initiative Research with Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE)

USFA Press Release, January 14, 2004

The USFA and Department of Transportation have initiated a partnership with SAE to research how to mitigate the motorists' disorientation caused by the use of emergency warning lights.

STATE AND LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Round Twenty-Eight of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants Is Announced

USFA Press Release, January 9, 2004

FEMA and the US Fire Administration announced an additional 347 grants as part of the FY03 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

MSU Gets \$10.5 Million to Find Bioterror Drugs – Fast

Bozeman Daily Chronicle, January 12, 2004

Montana State University won a federal contract to develop a pill to strengthen individuals' natural immune defenses in an effort to fight diseases that could be used by bioterrorists.

Red Cross Scores High in Simulation

Edwardsville Intelligencer, January 10, 2004

The Southwestern Illinois Chapter of the ARC performed well during a table-top exercise highlighting the chapter's ability to respond to a disaster situation.

You Can Learn to Play the Safety CARD

Tri-Valley Herald, January 11, 2004

Dublin is hosting a course taught by Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disasters (CARD) that will focus on the concept of shelter-in-place.

➤ [Shelter in Place Kits Will Be Delivered Soon](#), *Cleburne News*, Jan 15

State's Homeland Security System Taking Shape

News-Miner, January 11, 2004

Following the September 11 attacks, Alaska has focused its homeland security efforts on state-specific threats and formed the Alaska Vulnerability Analysis Team.

Counties Preparing for Disasters

Washington Post, January 11, 2004

Health officials in two Virginia counties are increasing efforts to recruit volunteers to be part of the medical reserve corps, a group that could be mobilized to provide assistance during a disaster.

Grants Help County Prepare for Disaster

Billings Gazette, January 13, 2004

Grant funding has been used by Yellowstone County to improve technology, develop preparedness plans, and improve coordination efforts.

FEMA Announces New Citizen Corps Publication for Leaders of First Responder Organizations

USFA, January 12, 2004

The *Citizen Corps Opportunities for America's First Responders* brochure, developed by the USFA, provides a comprehensive list of suggested volunteer activities.

Baltimore County Hospitals Sign Disaster Plan

Sun-Spot, January 13, 2004

Five hospitals in the county have signed an agreement, that addresses liability and other legal concerns, to share resources and assist with patient management during emergency situations.

Draft Report on Pepco and Conectiv's Performance After Hurricane Isabel Released

Yahoo, January 13, 2004

A [draft report](#) of the analysis of how two power companies, Pepco and Conectiv, performed during Hurricane Isabel has been released for public comment.

\$45G Funds RVCC Study of Homeland Security

Home News Tribune, January 15, 2004

Raritan Valley Community College has received a grant as part of the Supporting Actions for Engagement project to be used to offer workshops and develop service-learning activities.

Tests Show D.C. Still Vulnerable from Air

AP/Newsday, January 15, 2004

Routine drills conducted since the September 11 attacks have shown that the intelligence and screening are the best ways to prevent a terrorist attack by air.

County Gets Bioterrorism Grant

Star-Telegram, January 14, 2004

Tarrant County received a grants for its health department to become an Advanced Practice Center for bioterrorism and emergency preparedness and to assemble medical professional teams in case of a regional medical emergency.

Officials to Conduct Citywide Earthquake Drill

NBC4 TV, January 15, 2004

LA officials are conducting an earthquake drill, commemorating the Northridge earthquake of 1994, to practice the city's coordination and response to a disaster.

RELATED INFORMATION

RECENT REPORTS

- [Information Security: Status of Federal Public Key Infrastructure Activities at Major Departments and Agencies](#) (GAO-04-257), Dec 15

SPOTLIGHT WEBSITE

- [Risk Management Series Publications](#), FEMA Mitigation Division

The information contained in this newsletter was collected from Internet sources. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position of the Department of Homeland Security or FEMA's Preparedness Division.