



Preparedness News and Information

From FEMA's Preparedness Division

March 5, 2004

NATIONAL NEWS

[Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge Approves National Incident Management System](#)

Firehouse.com, March 2, 2004

DHS Secretary Tom Ridge has put his imprimatur on the nation's first standardized management plan for incident response.

- [Fact sheet on NIMS.](#)

[Is The US Safer Now?](#)

Christian Science Monitor, March 2, 2004

A year after the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security, many are taking a step back to look at the agency's accomplishments as well as its challenges for the future.

[Incident Shows Subway's Vulnerability](#)

New York Newsday, March 2, 2004

After an incident caused by metal objects on the track creates havoc for the New York City subway, many are calling into question the vulnerability of the nation's largest mass transit system.

[March is Red Cross Month](#)

RedCross.org, March 1, 2004

With preparedness as this year's theme, President Bush signed a proclamation designating March as Red Cross Month, continuing a 61-year tradition.

[FCC Releases Emergency Preparedness Guide for Local Media](#)

TVTechnology.com, March 4, 2004

A summary of two years of work by stakeholders from a variety of interests, the media guide explains ways for stations to get back on the air quickly in the event of an emergency.

- [Readiness Guide for Local Media to Prepare for Emergencies](#)

CONGRESS

HEARINGS

- [To hold hearings to examine the role of the U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Special Operations Command in defending the homeland and in the global war on terrorism, in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005](#), Senate Armed Services Committee, March 25, 2004.

LEGISLATION

- [H.R.3839](#): To authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to make grants to address homeland security preparedness shortcomings of units of municipal and county government.

STATE AND LOCAL ACTIVITIES

[Awareness Week Planned for Storm-Prone Region](#)

Shreveport Times, March 1, 2004

To support their Severe Weather Awareness Week, officials in the Caddo-Bossier Office of Homeland Security and Emergency preparedness held tornado drills throughout their area.

[March Proclaimed Disaster Preparedness Month](#)

Moberly Monitor-Index, March 2, 2004

With possibility of spring floods just around the corner, the Governor of Missouri has declared the month of March Disaster Preparedness Month.

['AIR SCOUTS': Unit's Anti-terror Role Grows](#)

Las Vegas Review-Journal, March 5, 2004

The Nevada Reconnaissance Aerial Interdiction Detachment (RAID), an Army National Guard, has been taking an increasing role in providing support to Homeland Security, and participates in training, education, and terrorism preparedness drills.

[Local Terror Response Boosted](#)

The Cincinnati Enquirer, March 3, 2004

Local health departments play a key role in state preparedness, the director of the Ohio Department of Public Health explained. Local planning will play a key role as well, he maintained.

[Bloomberg Appoints Commissioners to Lead Housing and Emergency Management Agencies](#)

New York Times, March 5, 2004

NYC Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg appointed Joseph F. Bruno, a state judge and former fire commissioner, to head the city's Office of Emergency Management.

[Spreading Message of Disaster Readiness](#)

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, March 3, 2004

Americorps volunteers throughout the state are helping children and families get better prepared by integrated preparedness education into their classrooms.

[Towns Ensuring Emergency Connections With Own Radio Stations](#)

Kansas City Star, March 3, 2004

More than 200 communities throughout the nation have enhanced their preparedness by developing local radio stations that can provide much needed information in a time of emergency.

[County To Participate In Statewide Weather Emergency Exercise](#)

Fulton County News, March 3, 2004

As part of Severe Weather week, Fulton County, PA will join with other Pennsylvania counties to participate in a statewide severe weather exercise as well as a series of local public education programs.

[Radio Amateurs Drill for Emergencies](#)

Reedsburg Time-Press, March 3, 2004

The Sauk County Amateur Radio Emergency Service staged a mock search and rescue exercise to hone their ability to provide low-level communications during emergencies.

[Grant Will Make Clinic Ready to Become Emergency Room if Disaster Strikes](#)

Grand Coulee Starline, March 3, 2004

The Coulee Community Hospital last week announced that it received grants that will allow its facilities to be better prepared when a disaster strikes.

RELATED INFORMATION

SPOTLIGHT WEBSITE

- [National Incident Management System](#)

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.