



PREPAREDNESS NEWS AND INFORMATION

From FEMA's Preparedness Division

July 30, 2004

NATIONAL NEWS

[FEMA Director May Come Back To Discuss Devils Lake Roads](#)

Associated Press, July 24, 2004

The head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may return to North Dakota to help decide who should be responsible for fixing soggy roads near Devils Lake. In a tour of the flooded area last month, FEMA director Michael Brown told State officials he would help organize Federal agencies and get money to help repair roads and dikes.

[Campaign Aims To Ready Residents For Possible Emergency At Pine Bluff Arsenal](#)

The Commercial, July 26, 2004

When it comes to dealing with a possible chemical emergency at the Pine Bluff Arsenal, "the more you know, the better prepared you and your family will be." That's the message the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) is aiming to get out on radio and television and in print messages.

[N.Y.C. Team Is At The Ready: Elite Rescue Squad Poised Near Boston](#)

New York Daily News, July 27, 2004

An elite search and rescue group code-named New York Task Force One has been activated for the first time since it lost 100 members in the World Trade Center and is camped outside Boston. New York Task Force One is a disaster response team made up of firefighters, Emergency Medical Service doctors, Emergency Service Unit cops and other crisis support personnel.

[The Third Annual National Citizen Corps Conference Kicks Off This Week In Denver](#)

ABC7, July 28, 2004

Citizen Corps is the Department of Homeland Security's grassroots initiative to encourage citizens to play a role in hometown security through personal preparedness. Suzanne Mencer, the director of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness for the Homeland Security office, said the Citizen Corp allows anyone to feel empowered.

['Safe' Levels May Be Raised For Dirty Bomb Attacks](#)

NPR, July 27, 2004

The Department of Homeland Security is set to issue guidelines that will likely change the way emergency workers would respond to a dirty bomb attack. NPR received a preview of the new safety standards, which significantly increase the level of radiation exposure considered safe for emergency workers and residents.

[DHS Discusses Rural America, Sports Event Preparedness](#)

Firehouse.com, July 28, 2004

During this year various government and academic sources have published studies regarding the preparedness in rural America for man-made and natural disasters. Generally, the researchers examined the critical infrastructures and key resources found throughout the rural areas of the United States that could be incapacitated or destroyed by terrorists as well as nature.

THE CONGRESS

[Hagel Urges Expedited Review Of North Platte Flood Plain Maps](#)

Southwest Nebraska News, July 24, 2004

The city of North Platte has completed its Three-Year Flood Plain Mitigation Planning/Mapping and Analysis Project and formally submitted a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) request to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today. U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel (R-NE) sent a letter to FEMA urging an expedited review of the LOMR request submitted by the city.

GSFD Gets \$13,000

Daily Star, July 28, 2004

Federal lawmakers say the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has given approval to a \$13,400 fire safety grant for the Gore Springs Volunteer Fire Department. U. S. Rep. Roger Wicker and Senators Thad Cochran and Trent Lott said the funding will be used to enhance fire operations and improve firefighter safety.

HEARINGS

- [House Permanent Select Committee On Intelligence: Hearing On 9/11 Commission Recommendations: Counterterrorism Analysis And Collection—The Requirement For Imagination And Creativity](#), August 4, 2004

STATE AND LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Disaster Aid Reaches \$6.5 Million For Wisconsin Counties: Emergency Official Says Assistance Amount Is Still Expected To Rise

Journal Sentinel.com, July 25, 2004

Residents and businesses in 44 counties hit by severe weather have received more than \$6.5 million in grants and low-interest disaster loans to help repair damage, emergency management officials said. The assistance is being provided as a result of a series of storms, flooding and tornadoes that hit the State from May 19 to July 3. After the storms, 44 counties - including Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Washington and Waukesha - were declared disaster areas.

Marshall County Can Apply For Disaster Relief

Aberdeen News, July 25, 2004

Gov. Mike Rounds has signed the Federal Emergency Management Agency-State of South Dakota agreement finalizing the disaster declaration approved by President Bush on July 20 for storm damage in Marshall and seven other counties as well as an Indian reservation. By this action, cities, counties, townships and certain private non-profit organizations within the disaster declaration areas can now apply for immediate disaster relief on a 75 percent Federal and 25 percent local match basis.

Malibu Local Proposes A Secondary Response Team

Malibu Times, July 27, 2004

A proposal for a Malibu Medical Reserve Corps that would serve as a source of extra support for the city during an emergency or disaster period is in the preliminary stages of discussion. Malibu resident Victor S. Dorodny is proposing the idea, in which physicians and other medical workers may be recruited to assist in this secondary response team.

Grant Won To Fight Terrorism

Pantagraph.com, July 27, 2004

A \$227,000 Federal grant will help DeWitt County, Illinois, which is home to a nuclear power plant, beef up its resources to fight terrorism. Fred Zacher, coordinator of the DeWitt County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency, said the money will help the county: Upgrade the sheriff's department's dispatch center, buy portable radios for ESDA, and buy bioterrorism response gear.

[Will You Be A Survivor?](#)

Daily Journal, July 28, 2004

In the case of large-scale terrorist attack in San Mateo County, officials are warning residents to be prepared for three days on their own while emergency crews respond to a potentially paralyzing situation. "Preparation is a process that is never 100 percent finished," said Dr. Scott Morrow, director of the San Mateo County Health Services Agency.

[Pasquotank Officials May Loosen Rules](#)

Virginian-Pilot, July 29, 2004

An effort to change new flood maps for Pasquotank County could remove several properties from the strict limitations that were initially proposed. The revised maps, requested by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, drew the attention of residents whose property fell under one of two new classifications: floodways and non encroachment areas.

RELATED INFORMATION

RECENT REPORTS

- [Homeland Security: Federal Leadership And Intergovernmental Cooperation Required To Achieve First Responder Interoperable Communications GAO-04-740](#), July 20, 2004
- [Homeland Security: Federal Leadership And Intergovernmental Cooperation Required To Achieve First Responder Interoperable Communications GAO-04-963T](#), July 20, 2004
- [Volunteers In Police Service July 2004 Update](#), July 28, 2004

SPOTLIGHT WEBSITES

- [September 11, 2001 Commission Report](#), July, 2004
- [Two Days Of Discussion On Homeland Security, Terrorism, Law Enforcement, And Emergency Response Starts Wednesday, July 28, 2004 In Washington, D.C.](#), July 27, 2004
- [Congressional Oversight, Hearings And Legislation Introduced After The PATRIOT Act](#), July 27, 2004
- [Assistance To Firefighters Grant Program – 2004](#), July 27, 2004
- [FEMA Wildfire Mitigation Handbook](#), July 28, 2004
- [New - United States Disaster Timeline \(1965 - 2001\)](#), July 29, 2004

OPINION

- [Stop Playing Politics With Security Money](#), July 27, 2004
- [Taxpayer Money Will Move Kure Beach Condos, Ending Erosion Threat](#), July 29, 2004
- [Emergency Preparedness Plans Should Include Household Pets](#), July 29, 2004

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.