



FEMA



National Preparedness Month

Archive of Past Events (2004-2008)

National Preparedness Month (NPM) is a nationwide coordinated effort sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) *Ready* Campaign and Citizen Corps that is held each September to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. In 2008, over 3,200 NPM Coalition Members across the nation worked to highlight the importance of emergency preparedness and promote individual involvement through events and activities during NPM. This September is the perfect time to get involved, and there are many ways in which everyone can help. NPM 2009 will focus on changing perceptions about emergency preparedness and continuing to build a culture of preparedness across the nation. The following events and their descriptions, separated by year, are examples of past NPM events planned across the country to promote national emergency preparedness. These examples may help stimulate the development of preparedness initiatives in your community by allowing you to build off of past successes.

To view the National Preparedness Month website, visit <http://www.ready.gov/america/npm09/index.html>.

2004

Alabama 'Be Ready' Day

September 10, 2004

A press conference and rally were held at the Alabama State Capitol in Montgomery to promote emergency preparedness.

Alexandria Prepares

September 9–11, 2004

In an effort to promote preparedness, the Alexandria, VA Citizen Corps Council took part in the National Emergency Preparedness Month with a local effort: "Alexandria Prepares." The Citizen Corps Council, along with partnering organizations, distributed door-to-door emergency preparedness materials that encouraged and educated residents and businesses on how to prepare an emergency survival kit. During the initial week, volunteers reached over 6,000 households and 400 businesses with flood and hurricane educational materials. The outreach program continued for several months, reaching the city's 135,000 residents and 8,000 businesses.

American Legion Convention

September 1–2, 2004

Through its 15,000 posts across the country, the American Legion encouraged its 2.8 million members within communities across the Nation to be prepared. Additionally, the American Legion shared emergency preparedness information with the 5,000 attendees of its National Convention, held in Nashville, TN.

American Legislative Exchange Council

September 2004

The American Legislative Exchange Council released survey results concerning state legislator's knowledge about citizen preparedness. The American Legislative Exchange Council also encouraged its members to get involved in emergency preparedness in its communities.

American National Standards Institute

September 2004

The American National Standards Institute launched an emergency preparedness awareness campaign within the standardization community and developed a standardization workshop on citizen readiness and emergency preparedness.

America Prepared Campaign, Inc.

September 2004

The America Prepared Campaign galvanized the private sector in support of National Preparedness Month by providing preparedness information and resources at some of the nation's largest retailers, including Home Depot, Starbucks, Wal-Mart, Costco, and Sam's. The campaign also included public service announcements (PSAs) focused on raising awareness about the importance of preparedness. The PSAs were released in September through broadcast, print, and postings on outdoor vehicles. In addition, the America Prepared Campaign sponsored a short film contest judged by Miramax Co-Chairman Harvey Weinstein in support of school and family preparedness.

Autumn Fest

September 18, 2004

An outdoor booth event was held for the community's clubs and groups in Wheaton, Illinois's Memorial Park. *Are You Ready?* band-aids and books were distributed at the event.

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

September 2004

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials shared information about National Preparedness Month and public health preparedness through its website. Preparedness information was also sent through the monthly preparedness e-newsletter, which reached 900 individuals in state public health agencies.

Be Aware, Be Prepared Day

September 9, 2004

The state of Ohio hosted "Be Aware, Be Prepared Day" at a Columbus, OH, fire station. During the event, Governor Bob Taft, Ohio's Homeland Security leaders, first responders, members of the Citizen Corps Council, and the Red Cross joined forces to highlight what Ohioans are doing to increase emergency preparedness efforts. Taft also promoted "Ohio Citizen Corps' Sign Up Day" and encouraged residents to get involved in state homeland security efforts through volunteering.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

September 10, 2004

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association encouraged approximately 800 employees nationwide to make a family communications plan by sending them a letter from CEO Scott Serota, distributing "Are You Prepared?" buttons to be worn on September 10, and publishing an article in its newsletter on

preparedness. The Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association also encouraged its 41 national affiliated programs to take participate in local emergency preparedness efforts.

Boy Scouts of America

September 2004

The Boy Scouts of America supported the *Ready* campaign during National Preparedness Month by encouraging the 309 Boy Scout Councils across the country (3.2 million Scouts) to get involved in Emergency Preparedness BSA, an emergency preparedness award program developed in partnership with Homeland Security to increase the level of citizen preparedness across the country.

Citizen Corps Summit at the Missouri State Capital

September 9, 2004

Displays and demonstrations were placed on the Capital Lawn at the Missouri State Capital, including information from all Citizen Corps programs and voluntary and public agencies with a role in preparedness and response. Missouri Baptist Convention displayed its mobile kitchen and training response workers by preparing lunch for Citizen Corps participants and others. The American Red Cross and Salvation Army assisted with serving lunch as it would on a disaster relief operation. The American Red Cross Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the National Weather Service, and others distributed preparedness materials.

Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives Training

September 2004

The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management Division sponsored a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives training intended for members of the media.

Christian Emergency Network

September 2004

The Christian Emergency Network planned several activities for National Preparedness Month including communicating to its over 2,000 organizational partners through e-newsletters and advisories with emergency preparedness information; producing and distributing personal, media, and organizational preparedness supply kits; educating national religious broadcasters and reporters on personal emergency preparedness while providing programming and public service announcements to prepare its over 12 million daily listeners and viewers; and partnering with Homeland Security of Pima County, AZ, and the Salvation Army to provide faith-based church survival training to create 30,000 survival churches in local neighborhoods.

Church World Service

September 2004

In an effort to support National Preparedness Month, Church World Service created materials on strategies to cope in times of stress and trauma. Church World Services developed an Interfaith Trauma Response Team and Seminars on Trauma Awareness and Recovery. The seminars included information from leaders in trauma-affected communities on how to break cycles of violence and instead build peace, justice, and understanding.

Clifton Park Family Safety Expo in Clifton Park, NY

September 11, 2004

The Clifton Park, NY Family Safety Expo began with a 9/11 memorial ceremony, followed by displays,

demonstrations, information, and services. All the events were designed to help citizens prevent crimes, ensure family safety, and promote emergency preparedness education, awareness, and neighborhood unity.

ComCARE Alliance

September 2004

ComCARE promoted its emergency preparedness campaign Engage, Empower, Ensure by distributing theme-based toolkits to more than 90 member organizations, encouraging them to support and plan activities for National Preparedness Month. It also dedicated its national membership meeting on September 23, 2004, to National Preparedness Month.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

September 20–24, 2004

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands hosted a week-long series of events in support of National Preparedness Month. Each day's activities focused on preparation for a specific type of hazard including typhoon, fire, earthquake, flooding, and terrorism.

Community Awareness Events at Potomac Yards

September 11, 2004

The Community Awareness Events at Potomac Yards, VA consisted of efforts focused on educating the community about the importance of emergency preparedness kits. Area partners in emergency preparedness along with city agencies presented their services. Potomac Yards and other area merchants highlighted emergency supplies that can be offered at stores.

Delaware Press Conference

September 2004

The State of Delaware promoted emergency preparedness among its residents through a series of events, including a press conference with the Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security that unveiled new homeland security assets at the Delaware State Police Headquarters in Dover, DE.

DRI International

September 2004

DRI encouraged 2,700 employees who are certified business continuity professionals to conduct mock disaster preparedness drills in conjunction with local emergency response agencies. DRI also hosted community open houses to educate citizens about the private sector's work to protect its employees, assets, and the surrounding community.

Easter Seals S.A.F.E.T.Y First

September 2004

Through the Easter Seals' S.A.F.E.T.Y. First initiative, the Easter Seals worked with its network of 94 local affiliates to share information with local communities about addressing the needs of people with disabilities in all emergency preparedness activities.

Emergency Management Accreditation Program

September 2004

The Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) emphasized, through media releases, articles, and other vehicles, the importance of focusing on improving preparedness throughout the nation,

and EMAP's role in evaluating and strengthening state and local disaster preparedness systems. EMAP also kicked off a new initiative focused on state and local preparedness activities as part of the national assessment and accreditation process standards.

Family Emergency Preparedness Day and Picnic

September 2004

The Family Emergency Preparedness Day and Picnic in Shawnee Mission, KS, was sponsored by Allied Barton Security Services and included information about family communication plans, emergency *Ready* kits, Allied Barton Security Services child I.D. kits, and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) team signup and information.

Fraternal Order of Police

September 2004

Information about National Preparedness Month was included in the Fraternal Order of Police's national publication, *The Journal*, reaching 318,000 members. In addition, it sent out information related to National Preparedness Month to its Grassroots Action Network throughout the month of September.

Gazette Features

September 2004

Each Thursday, the new issue of the *Frederick Gazette* from Fredrick, MD displayed a feature on emergency preparedness.

Girl Scouts of the USA

September 2004

The Girl Scouts of the USA organized preparedness "teach-in" sessions through Girl Scout Councils across the country for Scouts and their families.

Homeland Security Begins at Home Campaign

September 2004

The state of Illinois took part in National Preparedness Month by declaring September Homeland Security Begins at Home Month, releasing public service announcements highlighting preparedness activities and hosting a training conference for first responders.

Homeland Security Symposium

September 29, 2004

The National Conference of States on Building Codes and Standards promoted emergency preparedness among its members and worked with the Association of Major City and County Building Officials to create a special symposium entitled "Homeland Security—A Review of National Preparedness, State and Local Government Role, Responsibilities and Best Practices" at its joint annual meeting in Salt Lake City, UT.

Idaho Prepares

September 20–24, 2004

During the week of September 20, Idaho hosted "Idaho Prepares," a training course on emergency preparedness created for first-responders across the state.

Indiana Preparedness Month

September 2004

The state of Indiana planned several activities for National Preparedness Month, including meetings for local leaders across the state on homeland security efforts, testing of the Indiana Alert Network, and the release of a proclamation declaring September as Indiana Preparedness Month.

International Association of Fire Chiefs

September 2004

The International Association of Fire Chiefs posted information about citizen emergency preparedness and a link to www.ready.gov on its website to inform its members about National Preparedness Month.

International Union of Operating Engineers

September 2004

The International Union of Operating Engineers featured an article about emergency preparedness in its newsletter, which reached 600,000 members. It also continued to conduct preparedness and other homeland security–related training classes for its 425,000 members.

The Latino Coalition

September 2004

The Latino Coalition disseminated information regarding emergency preparedness to its network of Hispanic community associations throughout the nation.

Maine Emergency Preparedness Campaign

September 27, 2004

A large press release occurred in Maine during the visit of *Queen Mary II*. Appearances were made by Governor John Baldacci, Art Cleaves, Susan Collins, and others. The Maine Contingent of Northern New England was pre-deployed at the event and the coastal CERT programs and the NOAA Weather Radio project for Maine was showcased. This press release cumulated in the announcement of the Maine Preparedness Campaign, a joint project between the Maine Citizen Corps, Red Cross of Maine, Maine Emergency Management Agency, and the Maine Commission for Community Service.

Massachusetts Community Emergency Response Team Family Day

September 25, 2004

Massachusetts reached out to the citizens to focus on emergency preparedness through the public schools and family events. The hallmark event was Massachusetts Community Emergency Response Team Family Day on September 25, sponsored by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.

Medical Reserve Corps

September 2004

The Medical Reserve Corps National Program Office provided information to its local members about how to get involved in National Preparedness Month, linked its website to www.ready.gov, and discussed emergency preparedness through presentations and events throughout the month. Subsequently, local units participated in a variety of events throughout September, such as volunteer training, mock disaster drills, and a community fair emphasizing personal and community preparedness.

Milton Township, IL 1st Annual Car Wash

September 18, 2004

CERT teams volunteered at the Milton Township's first annual car wash to raise awareness for national and community preparedness. Citizen Corps members volunteered by serving coffee, giving away *Are*

You Ready? books, and registering volunteers.

Minority Business Roundtable

September 2004

The Minority Business Roundtable worked with its members; small, medium and large minority-owned businesses; and strategic partners to engage state and local organizations around the country in promoting emergency preparedness through information dissemination and community-level workshops.

Montana Preparedness Month

September 8, 2004

Montana Governor Judy Martz held a news conference where she presented a proclamation announcing Montana's participation in recognizing September as National Preparedness Month. She also issued a statewide news release, a letter to state employees, and posted information to the state's website inviting citizens to participate in the efforts involved in preparing for a disaster.

National Association of Counties Newsletter

September 2004

The National Association of Counties published an article on emergency preparedness in *County News*, which circulated to 20,000 families and businesses. The organization also encouraged its members, officials from more than 2,000 counties, to take steps to prepare its communities.

National Association of the Deaf

September 2004

The National Association of the Deaf provided information about National Preparedness Month on its website and highlighted emergency preparedness in its newsletter.

National Cable & Telecommunications Association public service ads

September 2004

The National Cable and Telecommunications Association (NCTA) distributed public service advertisements on emergency preparedness to cable systems and programmers across the country. In addition, NCTA shared emergency preparedness information with NCTA members, which include cable operators, cable programming services, equipment suppliers, and service providers.

National Crime Prevention Council Initiative

September 10, 2004

The National Crime Prevention Council took part in National Preparedness Month by talking about the close connection between preparedness and prevention through a discussion held at its regional conference in Cincinnati, OH.

National Fatherhood Initiative

September 2004

The National Fatherhood Initiative published an article on emergency preparedness in the quarterly newsletter, *Fatherhood Today*, which reached 10,000 individuals. The article was also featured in the organization's weekly *Dad E-mail* that was distributed to 8,300 people.

National Fire Protection Association Training Sessions

September 2004

The National Fire Protection Association held training sessions on private sector preparedness across the country.

National Guard Bureau Initiative

September 2004

Through its nearly 500,000 members, the National Guard Bureau educated its force, families, and local communities about how the National Guard supports civilian emergency responders in all 54 states and territories, and how it can assist in emergency preparedness. The National Guard also posted detailed information, including links to www.ready.gov, on its website.

National Organization on Disability Region Conference

September 22–24, 2004

The National Organization on Disability hosted the National Capital Region Conference on Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities in Arlington, VA.

National Preparedness Month in Kansas

September 9, 2004

Governor Kathleen Sebelius proclaimed September National Preparedness Month in Kansas and hosted a kick-off event at the Kansas State Capitol in Topeka. The event included numerous displays by Kansas Homeland Security partners, designed to inform citizens and enable them to be prepared and respond to emergencies and disasters.

National Safety Council Congress and Exposition

September 10–17, 2004

The National Safety Council (NSC) supported National Preparedness Month by providing a link to www.ready.gov on its website, and by discussing the importance of individual preparedness during the annual NSC Congress and Exposition in New Orleans.

National Sheriffs' Organization

September 2004

The National Sheriffs' Organization featured National Preparedness Month in the September issue of *Sheriff Magazine*, which was circulated to approximately 22,000 individuals. It also asked its members, 3,088 sheriffs across the nation, to plan events during September related to preparedness.

New Hampshire Preparedness Month

September 8, 2004

Governor Craig R. Benson held a news conference at the New Hampshire State House in collaboration with the American Red Cross, the New Hampshire Bureau of Emergency Management, and other emergency management partners in an effort to encourage individual and family preparedness and participation in volunteer opportunities to support local preparedness.

Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons

September 2004

The Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons took part in National Preparedness Month by incorporating preparedness information in its daily e-mail newsletter, working with other regional organizations to better inform public officials of the unique needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals, and partnering with the National Deaf and Hard of Hearing Consumer Advocacy

Network coalition to release a national report on experiences of deaf and hard of hearing people during 9/11 and subsequent emergencies.

Online First Aid and CPR Training

September 2004

The state of Vermont planned virtual first aid and CPR trainings in coordination with the American Red Cross to support National Preparedness Month.

Operation HOPE

September 2004

Operation HOPE's economic disaster response initiative, HOPE Coalition America, unveiled the *Emergency Financial First Aid Kit*, a tool to help Americans prepare for the economic effects of natural disasters and national emergencies and the financial uncertainty that follows such events. Operation HOPE also launched community workshops throughout the nation on emergency financial preparedness.

Ohio Citizen Corps Signup Day

September 11, 2004

Participating McDonald's locations and fire departments throughout the entire state of Ohio opened their doors on 9/11 to provide community members with information about participating in Citizen Corps programs. Events and promotions were coordinated at the local level by participating Citizen Corps Councils, volunteer organizations, and local partners.

Pledge to Prepare

September 2004

Frederick County, MD, promoted its Pledge to Prepare campaign throughout September in which parents and children made individual pledges to prepare themselves and their communities for disasters.

Puerto Rico South Region Table Top Exercise

September 1, 2004

The Puerto Rico South Region Table Top Exercise offered participants an opportunity to develop an understanding of the problems they may face when responding to a chemical weapons attack. The exercise centered on a mock terrorist attack in the town of Ponce, Puerto Rico. The attack involved the use of chemical weapons and secondary devices, and the exercise focused on the overall response and decision-making process. The exercise provided an opportunity to focus on decision-making and problems with interoperability of communications while coordinating a multijurisdictional response.

"Ready North Carolina" Preparedness Guides

September 12, 2004

Governor Mike Easley proclaimed September as Ready North Carolina Month. A *Ready North Carolina* public health preparedness guide was inserted in newspapers statewide, with a Hispanic language version distributed through all of the local Latino newspapers.

School Crisis Preparedness Workshop

September 2004

The Wisconsin Citizen Corps sponsored a School Crisis Preparedness Workshop in which providers learned how to conduct a vulnerability assessment and prepare their schools for emergency situations. Co-hosts included the Office of Justice Assistance, the State Office of Homeland Security, the Wisconsin

Technical College System Foundation, and the Center for Emergency Health and Safety in Schools.

Shelter Exercises

September 18, 2004

The Town of Cortland, IL Department of Environmental Services Homeland Safety conducted a shelter operations exercise using the town's disaster supply trailer. The shelter operation exercise took place in one of the local schools, where a group of six volunteers recently trained by the Red Cross in basic shelter operation were given an opportunity to practice what they learned.

South Dakota State Fair

September 4–11, 2004

At the South Dakota State Fair in Huron, the South Dakota Department of Public Safety, along with state and local first responders and volunteers, educated South Dakotans about citizen preparedness. Also at the fair, Governor Mike Rounds declared September 9, 2004, as South Dakota Citizen Preparedness Day.

Together We Prepare Saturday

September 18, 2004

The city of Corona, CA hosted Together We Prepare Saturday to raise awareness of the advantages of emergency preparedness. Various preparedness groups came to Corona to help with the event. Participants included the American Red Cross, CERT, amateur radio operators, Communication Specialist Volunteers, animal control with their emergency response trailer, and the Trauma Intervention program. Handouts on preparedness emergency kits were distributed at the event.

Tsunami Awareness DVDs

September 28, 2004

The Hawaii State Civil Defense distributed copies of a DVD about the dangers of trying to surf a tsunami. In addition, Hawaii State Civil Defense launched a broader public education campaign about hurricane preparedness, flood awareness, and Citizen Corps to promote community safety.

Quick Guides to Emergency Preparedness

September 2004

New Jersey State placed two million copies of a *Quick Guide to Emergency Preparedness* in the Sunday edition of New Jersey newspapers throughout the month.

2005

"In The Balance" Television Series

September 12–19, 2005

Citizen Corps promoted a two-part public television series produced by the Fred Friendly Seminars called "In the Balance." The programs focused on tabletop exercises with community stakeholders who addressed a bioterrorism scenario and an incendiary device scenario.

Public Emergency Preparedness Fair

September 1, 2005

National Preparedness Month was launched at a public emergency preparedness fair sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the American Red Cross in the West Hall of Union Station, <http://www.citizencorps.gov/news/NPM>

Washington, DC. Brief opening remarks were given by Secretary Chertoff and Evans of the American Red Cross, and congressional co-chairs Senators Lieberman and Collins and Congressmen Cox and Thompson. Citizen Corps representatives distributed emergency preparedness information, manned booths, and presented preparedness demonstrations. The Public Emergency Preparedness Fair was open to the press.

2006

American Radio Relay League

September 16, 2006

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) hosted Amateur Radio Awareness Day. In support, ARRL public information officers promoted 30 Tips for Emergency Preparedness.

Are You Ready Portland

September 2006

In conjunction with National Preparedness Month, the City of Portland Citizen Corps Council partnered with community agencies to sponsor a one-day fair titled, "Are You Ready Portland." The *Are You Ready?* campaign materials were used to educate families and business owners of Portland about the dangers of natural disasters, terrorist attacks, and other emergency events and equip them with practical tools to survive and recover from an event that could devastate the metropolitan area. Portland Office of Emergency Management, the American Red Cross, and the Oregon Emergency Management provided demonstrations on topics such as home earthquake preparation and first aid.

Business District Evacuation

September 7, 2006

Chicago Citizen Corps hosted a Business District Evacuation as part of the National Preparedness Month activities. CERT volunteers assisted in distributing preparedness materials and evacuation information to participants.

California's Second Annual Nationwide Emergency Preparedness Conference

October 11–13, 2006

California's Second Annual Nationwide Emergency Preparedness Conference, hosted by the Sacramento Area Regional Citizen Corps Council at the Capital Christian Conference Center, presented a range of topics about emergency preparedness, such as the socioeconomic impacts of disasters; creation of vigilant, resilient, prepared communities in homeland security; animal rescue and preparedness; pandemic awareness; preparedness and response for educational institutions; and more.

Catasauqua Preparedness Fair

September 29, 2006

Pennsylvania's Lehigh County Citizen Corps Council conducted CERT demonstrations at the Catasauqua Preparedness Fair. The demonstrations included information on the importance of basic preparedness training and skills for citizens.

CERT Expo

September 9, 2006

The CERT Expo was designed to increase readiness and knowledge of local CERT members at a local fire-training academy facility in the Seattle/King County Area of Washington. Volunteers reviewed skills and conducted training to enhance the utility of simulated disaster scenarios. The Expo was a great opportunity for CERT graduates to exercise and refresh their skills, network with other teams, and learn techniques from expert instructors and first responders.

City Employee Emergency Preparedness Expo

September 12, 2006

The City Employee Emergency Preparedness Expo in California taught attendees techniques and processes used by local agencies in response to disasters.

College Park Proclamation

September 11, 2006

The City of College Park through the Citizen Corps Council and Public Services Department, recognized the fifth anniversary of 9/11 by distributing community emergency preparedness information. The Mayor and City Council presented a proclamation in honor of the volunteer efforts. Personal emergency preparedness information was broadcast on the City of College Park website, cable television, and local newspapers. Home Depot and Meals on Wheels, a Citizen Corps affiliate, worked with the Citizen Corps Council to distribute preparedness materials.

Farmer's Market Concert Series

September 29, 2006

The Fayette County Citizen Corps Council of Pennsylvania, in conjunction with a series of concerts in the county seat, distributed packets with preparedness information, including tips about heat-related emergencies. The packets were distributed with the choice of a handheld fan, sunglass strap, or other summer necessities.

First Annual Schuylkill County Preparedness Day

September 15, 2006

Citizen Corps of Eastern Pennsylvania presented several visual displays to promote preparedness at the Schuylkill Mall. This preparedness promotion was a component of the first annual Schuylkill County Preparedness Day.

Hispanic Annual Mission Possible . . . A Community Prepared

September 2006

The City of Orlando Citizen Corps and Medical Reserve Corps partnered with the American Red Cross and Orange County Citizen Corps for the first Hispanic Annual Mission Possible . . . A Community Prepared. This was a no-cost public event targeting Hispanic individuals and families. It offered training and preparedness information for hurricanes and other disasters through a series of interactive presentations. Participants received hands-on training in five disaster preparedness steps: Make a Plan, Build a Kit, Get Trained, Volunteer, and Give Blood.

Massachusetts SMART Training

September 2006

This unique emergency animal shelter training program prepared volunteers to serve at emergency shelters for pets and animals evacuated or displaced from their homes because of a disaster. This training event was sponsored by the Humane Society of the United States and the State of

Massachusetts Animal Response Team (SMART), which is a state Citizen Corps Council partner.

Monument Police Department Preparedness Initiative

September 2006

The Monument Police Department, a member of CERT, brought together representatives from local, state, and federal governments; public utilities; and private businesses to provide emergency preparedness information on a range of topics, including: how to prepare a 72-hour survival kit, emergency and evacuation plans for the school district, how to shut off electrical power, emergency preparedness for pets and livestock, and demonstrations on severe weather safety.

Mushroom Festival and Restaurant Festival Booths

September 8–9, 16, 2006

Chester County Citizen Corps volunteers of Bethlehem, PA, set up a booth at both the Mushroom Festival, as well as the Restaurant Festival in West Chester. The focus of the booth was to talk to attendees about preparedness, with the goal of recruiting CERT members.

Preparing for the Unexpected

September 2006

The Texas Cooperative Extension of the Texas A&M University System and the Brazos County Interjurisdictional Emergency Management team sponsored Preparing for the Unexpected, a disaster preparedness event for families, individuals, and business owners. Participants learned how to shelter in place, register people with special needs, and plan a family disaster supply kit. Educational seminars included Returning Home After a Disaster, CERT, Severe Weather: What You Need to Know, and Protect Your Home From Wild Fires. There were also information booths with access to the Standing Ready website where individuals could register as volunteers who would be ready to help in a disaster.

Readiness Survey

September 2006

The Adams County Citizen Corps Council in Othello, WA, used online and paper surveys to determine its residents' level of preparedness and areas of concerns. Through these readiness surveys, the Adams County Citizen Corps Council collected information that helped explain where funding should be directed and which areas of preparedness concern residents.

Redeem the Day Ceremony

September 11, 2006

Nebraska Citizen Corps held the Redeem the Day ceremony to challenge individuals to help others prepare and to personally practice emergency response activities. The Redeem the Day awards honored individuals who played an active role throughout the year through Citizen Corps Program initiatives. The Volunteer of the Year award and the Team of the Year award recognized some of the outstanding leaders in community preparedness activities.

2007

16th Annual Emergency Preparedness Fair

September 16, 2007

The City of Los Angeles's Emergency Preparedness Department hosted the 16th Annual Emergency

<http://www.citizen corps.gov/news/NPM>

Preparedness Fair at four different venues to teach about the importance of emergency preparedness. Representatives from the police, fire, water and power, disability, community redevelopment, public works, housing, aging, building safety, recreation and parks, animal services, county/state, and other agencies whose roles include emergency assistance during and after earthquakes, fires, floods, landslides and other emergencies came together to give demonstrations and distribute free emergency literature.

2007 American Radio Relay League Great Lakes Convention

September 22, 2007

The American Radio Relay League Great Lakes Convention focused on communications and new technologies used by amateur radio emergency operators to save lives. The conference included a series of forums on various topics, including the use of digital communications in emergency operations and new technologies.

Be Ready Camp

September 4–8, 11–15, 18–21, 2007

Be Ready Camp is a statewide activity that is held in Huntsville, AL. The Governor's Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives and the Alabama Department of Homeland Security partnered with the United States Space and Rocket Center to host the Second Annual Be Ready Camp. This residential camp explores ways to engage youth (6th graders) in individual, family, and community preparedness. Students from across the state participate in three sessions of the 5-day camp, which consists of a modified CERT training supplemented with additional team building and career awareness activities. Camp curriculum includes emergency preparedness, introduction to survival and first aid, development of an emergency kit, creation of a family disaster plan, water survival, light search and rescue, disaster psychology, triage, career exploration, and terrorism awareness. More information about Be Ready Camp can be found at <http://bereadycamp.org>.

Be Ready Sunday

September 30, 2007

Alabama encouraged faith-based organizations to speak to congregations on the importance of emergency preparedness, as well as include preparedness materials in bulletins, newsletters, and on websites.

Coalition of the Caring

September 1, 2007

The Save a Life Foundation sponsored the Coalition of the Caring event, which included local civic organizations, community groups, businesses, and other stakeholders in the Chicago area. The goal of the coalition was to increase public awareness of local organizations and to foster increased collaboration and cooperation between those who share a common goal of preparing and protecting Chicago's citizens, specifically children.

Connecticut CERT Weekend

September 8–9, 2007

Connecticut CERTs planned a CERT Weekend at the Connecticut Fire Academy in Windsor Locks, CT. All Connecticut CERTs were invited to attend and practice some of the skills that they have learned in training.

Distribution of Disaster Preparedness Guide

September 1, 2007

The American Legion distributed 30,000 copies of a Disaster Preparedness Guide. The guide went out to its 14,000 Posts, Districts, and Departments across the United States, and is available at the American Legion website.

Distribution of Preparedness Materials

September 1, 2007

The Civil Air Patrol distributed preparedness materials, as well as weekly bulletins promoting preparedness, through its internal communications to 100 members and its 55,000 volunteers—12,000 who are volunteer pilots.

Get Ready With Freddie

August 2007

The Home Safety Council launched its Get Ready with Freddie campaign, geared towards children in third and fourth grade. The program teaches the value of preparedness in the classroom and at home. Get Ready with Freddie packages were delivered in late August to 65,000 elementary schools nationwide, with an estimated 13 million children, teachers, and families. To access the resources that were developed as part of the Freddie campaign, go to www.homesafetycouncil.org/AboutUs/Programs/pr_wr_w005.asp.

Girl Scouts of America Camporee

September 21–23, 2007

Woodbridge, NJ, CERT hosted the Girl Scouts of America's Camporee for the first time and demonstrated the various skills the team can perform in times of emergencies. It also assisted Scout Leaders by providing additional adult supervision during the event.

Imagine the Possibilities Conference

August 29–31, 2007

This conference, sponsored by Meals on Wheels, featured a component on creating an emergency management protocol for all 5,000 partner Meals on Wheels agencies.

Magazine Promotion

September 2007

The National Safety Council featured an article on preparedness in its August edition of *Safety and Health* magazine, which was mailed to over 74,000 individuals. In addition to using media outlets to promote preparedness, the NSC offered free workshops entitled "Planning for Emergencies: Strategies for Small Businesses" throughout September.

My Good Deed Website Promotion

September 2007

MyGoodDeed.org promoted National Preparedness Month on its website, and encouraged visitors to post preparedness plans inspired by the tragic events that occurred on 9/11.

Nassau County, NY, Disaster Drill

September 9, 2007

The Nassau County Office of Emergency Management's Citizen Corps CERT conducted a practice

<http://www.citizen corps.gov/news/NPM>

disaster drill in Westbury, NY, to test its emergency preparedness training and communications plan. The exercise allowed local CERT members to practice their triage and communications skills in response to a simulated disaster. The Scouts, other regional CERT Teams, and the Nassau County Medical Reserve Corps also participated.

New Hampshire Preparedness Conference

September 22, 2007

The New Hampshire Preparedness Conference in Concord, NH, was open to emergency managers, Citizen Corps Councils, CERT members, and Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters groups. The Director of NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management addressed the plenary session, and there were two sessions of breakouts, hosted by FEMA, NH Public Health, faith-based leaders, and the NH Homeland Security Emergency Management training coordinator, among others. The Preparedness Conference was free and included lunch.

Proclamation by the President

August 30, 2007

President George W. Bush proclaimed September 2007 as National Preparedness Month, and urged citizens to do their part in helping prepare their homes and towns for disaster.

Virginia Beach Citizen Corps Disaster Preparedness Day 2007

September 15, 2007

Disaster Preparedness Day at Virginia Beach was an opportunity for attendees to gain a better understanding of the role of Citizen Corps and its program partners in an emergency or disaster. Attendees had the opportunity to receive training and education on how to prepare themselves as well as their community for disasters and emergencies. In addition, attendees had the opportunity to observe demonstrations from local and regional emergency responders. The demonstrations and training of the Virginia Beach Citizen Corps Disaster Preparedness Day were open to Virginia Beach Citizen Corps program and program partner volunteers as well as the students of the ODU/NSU Virginia Beach Higher Education Center.

Virginia Union University Preparedness Day

September 18, 2007

The City of Richmond Office of Emergency Management, Office of the Governor —Virginia Corps and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management joined together with Virginia Union University (a historically black college) for a preparedness event on the Richmond VUU campus. Virginia Union University Preparedness Day was promoted as Panther (VUU's Mascot) Preparedness Day. The City of Richmond public safety departments, including the City of Richmond CERT Team, state agencies, and several volunteer organizations provided training and education on how to prepare for disaster and emergencies. Other state and local public safety sector agencies and volunteers were invited to participate in the interactive preparedness event. Activities included speakers, vehicle demonstration, vendors, and functional displays.

2008

2008 York County Fair

September 5–6, 2008

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/news/NPM>

York County, ME Citizen Corps and partners, such as the American Red Cross, United Way, Wellspan Health, and County Human Services hosted a booth at the 2008 York County Fair to spread the word about emergency preparedness at home and in the workplace. Attendees were invited to stop by and pick up handout information and ask questions.

3rd Annual Preparedness Fair

September 29, 2008

To promote safety awareness and emergency preparedness, Temple University hosted its 3rd Annual Preparedness Fair. The event included response vehicles, demonstrations, meet and greet opportunities, and give-aways. Attendees included Philadelphia first responder organizations, SEPTA, Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, American Red Cross, and the Corporation for Community and National Service. The Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management and Philadelphia Citizen Corps hosted a booth at this annual event to provide an opportunity to sign up for ReadyNotifyPA, and distributed Ready Philadelphia personal preparedness materials for severe storms and electrical and other utility outages.

9/11 Commemorative Exposition and Symposium

September 11, 2008

The North Central Task Force in Lycoming County, PA sponsored a 9/11 Commemorative Exposition and Symposium as a way of letting its residents and first responders know what it, as a regional task force, is doing to protect the populations of Bradford, Clinton, Lycoming, Potter, Sullivan, Tioga, and Union Counties. As the lead county in the task force, Sullivan County Citizen Corps hosted a booth at this event to distribute information on emergency preparedness and Citizen Corps programs and affiliates. It also recruited for new members for its CERT team.

Ag Safety Day

September 8, 2008

Penn State Cooperative Ag Extension, Cumberland County Citizen Corps, and the Cumberland County Department of Public Safety hosted an Ag Safety Day Camp . This event allowed children to learn important safety information including how to create a home disaster plan and kit with their families. The children also got an opportunity to see the STAT MedEvac helicopter land and see first responder apparatus.

Allentown Employee Health Fair

Lehigh County, PA Citizen Corps, Lehigh County Emergency Services, and the Allentown Health Bureau sponsored a booth at the annual Allentown Employee Health Fair. They handed out information on emergency preparedness and Citizen Corps programs, such as CERT and Medical Reserve Corps.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

September 19, 2008

In addition to donating blood for a good cause, Bradford County, PA Citizen Corps representatives hosted a booth at the American Red Cross Blood Drive. Citizen Corps had available brochures and other materials on emergency preparedness for families, special needs populations, and others. Citizen Corps was also looking for interested people to sign up for its next CERT training.

Antes Fort Historical Days

September 17–19, 2008

Lycoming County, PA Citizen Corps sponsored a booth at the 2008 Annual Antes Fort Historical Days. This event featured a variety of exhibits and public safety partners helping to prepare citizens and communities for potential emergencies.

Are You Ready? Session

September 24, 2008

A session entitled "Are You Ready?" was sponsored by the Lehigh County, PA Citizen Corps, Emergency Services, Lehigh Carbon Community College, and the Millbrook Chase. This class featured tips for protecting individuals and families from a variety of potential hazards. The content focused the tools necessary to develop, practice, and maintain emergency plans. These plans address the steps to be taken before, during, and after a disaster in order to protect people and property. This class included information on assembling and stocking disaster supplies kits for individuals and families.

Austin Fall Festival

September 28, 2008

Potter County Citizen Corps in Coudersport, PA sponsored a booth at the annual Austin Fall Festival. Council members distributed brochures that addressed emergency preparedness and Citizen Corps programs. In addition, Citizen Corps used this event to recruit for new members. It also answered questions about CERT in the hopes of expanding its county team.

Buffalo Grove Fire Department Open House

September 20, 2008

The Buffalo Grove, IL Fire Department's annual open house promotes fire safety awareness. Along with the traditional demonstrations and fire safety tips, the CERT volunteers staffed a booth. This enabled them to offer information on National Preparedness Month and recruit new CERT members.

Citizen Corps Outreach Event/CERT Refresher Training

September 27, 2008

The Palm Beach County, FL Citizen Corps Council sponsored a community education event that featured a hands-on refresher course for CERT members. CERT training comprised triage, cribbing, light search and rescue, and fire suppression. Citizens were encouraged to attend the Tri-City Family Affair to observe demonstrations and learn how to prepare for disasters.

City of Manzanita Community Emergency Prep

September 2008

The City of Manzanita, OR Emergency Management Division hosted a public information meeting that addressed pandemic preparedness and in-place sheltering. The meeting included a mini-fair that covered identifying and ordering survival gear, assembling go packs, in-home survival, and Reverse 9-1-1.

CERT Jamboree

September 12, 2008

The State of Maine hosted its second annual CERT jamboree in Gilead. The jamboree encompassed a weekend devoted to team building through training and exercise.

CERT Trailer Mobilization and Training Exercise

September 20, 2008

Sea Girt, NJ's State Police Academy was the venue for a statewide CERT Trailer Mobilization and

Training Exercise. This event covered the deployment of CERTs, trailers, equipment, and volunteer emergency response personnel for National Preparedness Month. New Jersey's Medical Reserve Corps units conducted simulated medical operations. The training was extensive, and comprised command and control, the National Incident Management System, Incident Command System, mobile command post, missing persons search, triage, fire suppression, and donations management and staging. Numerous county CERTs participated in this exercise.

CERT Training

September 23 and 30, 2008

Pennsylvania's Franklin County Citizen Corps hosted a CERT Training for Franklin County Library staff. Scheduled to coordinate with National Preparedness Month, this multiday CERT training demonstrated techniques to help individuals, families, and communities in the event of a catastrophic disaster. The training covered basic skills, including disaster preparedness, basic fire safety skills, basic medical operations, light search and rescue, disaster psychology, animals in disaster, and terrorism awareness.

Citizen Corps Outreach

September 10, 2008

Union County, PA Citizen Corps partnered with local vendors at the farmer's market in an effort to educate residents. This event included emergency preparedness information, Citizen Corps handouts, and recruitment of new members for local CERTs.

Community Day in Breinigsville, PA

September 29, 2008

North Whitehall, South Whitehall, Upper Macungie Emergency Management and the Parkland Area School District co-sponsored a Community Day to round out National Preparedness Month for the Lehigh Valley. Numerous public safety partners, including Lehigh County Citizen Corps, participated in an effort to prepare citizens for a wide range of emergencies..

Community Emergency Preparedness Day

September 20, 2008

The Dickson County, TN, Local Emergency Planning Committee/Citizen Corps Council used its Community Emergency Preparedness Day to educate and inform its citizens. The event included advice and training to better meet the challenges of emergency and disaster situations.

Coogan House Township Day

September 6, 2008

The Lycoming County, PA Citizen Corps sponsored a booth at the Annual Coogan House Township Day event. Numerous exhibits and public safety partners were available to advise attendees on a range of emergencies that may affect their community.

CT CERT Weekend

September 6–7, 2008

Connecticut CERT members were invited to the annual CT CERT weekend at the Connecticut Fire Academy in Windsor Locks. The CT CERT Program educates citizens and organizations regarding disaster preparedness and potential hazards. CERT also trains participants in basic disaster response skills, including fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

Dallastown Emergency Preparedness Day

September 13, 2008

The Dallastown (Pennsylvania) Emergency Management Agency hosted an all-day public preparedness event. This training featured demonstrations by the American Red Cross, local police and fire departments, the York County Emergency Management Agency, and the National Guard.

Disaster Awareness Program

September 12, 2008

The Union Township, PA Volunteer Fire Department was the venue for a community education and awareness event. Lawrence County Citizen Corps used this opportunity to distribute handouts and present a disaster awareness and preparedness program for all interested members of the community.

Disaster Preparedness Expo

September 20, 2008

A Disaster Preparedness Expo was held at the Hamilton Place Mall in Chattanooga, TN. A variety of exhibitors, including the Salvation Army and the Tennessee Office of Homeland Security/Citizen Corps, used this opportunity to educate citizens.

Disaster Volunteer Open House

September 13, 2008

The Orlando, FL, Office of Emergency Management Staff and Partners organized this Disaster Volunteer Open House to publicize volunteer opportunities in the emergency and disaster arena. Attendees learned about the emergency operations center and toured the operations center.

Earthquake Preparedness Safety Fair

September 17, 2008

Sun City (AZ) Disaster Services, Inc. organized the Earthquake Preparedness Safety Fair. Attendees were educated about the importance of pre-disaster planning and preparedness.

Emergency Preparedness Day

September 28, 2008

In conjunction with National Preparedness Month, Pennsylvania's Huntingdon County Citizen Corps sponsored an Emergency Preparedness Day. The event was co-sponsored by the county's first responders, American Red Cross, Office of Emergency Management, and Wal-Mart. There were demonstrations and brochures highlighting Citizen Corps programs and emergency preparedness for families and industries.

Emergency Preparedness Expo

August 9, 2008

The Miami (FL) Minority Chamber of Commerce hosted an expo featuring free resources, technical assistance, and workshops. Exhibitors gathered to educate individuals and corporations on emergency preparedness. This event was open for the public and was co-sponsored by state and local government agencies.

Emergency Preparedness Overview

September 10, 2008

The Potter County (PA) Citizen Corps made presentations covering emergency preparedness at a Pamona Grange venue. This overview session covered general emergency preparedness using 911 Citizen Corps programs and volunteer recruitment.

Emergency Services Day

September 20, 2008

New Jersey's Hopatcong Borough Emergency Services Unit hosted its 3rd Annual Emergency Services Day. Local, county, and state agencies provided information, demonstrations, give-aways, and games as part of an overall educational effort.

First Annual Western Berks Area Family Expo

September 6, 2008

Pennsylvania State Representative Jim Cox sponsored the First Annual Western Berks Family Expo. This event featured booths and exhibitors from over 60 agencies and organizations. There were seminars on healthy cooking and Internet safety. Sports team mascots entertained attendees and door prizes were provided. The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and Pennsylvania Citizen Corps distributed information on emergency preparedness and Citizen Corps programs.

Furry Friends Fest

September 7, 2008

The No Kill Shelter in Lehigh Valley, PA, and the Bethlehem Health Bureau hosted the Furry Friends Fest during National Preparedness Month. This event featured a canine and feline vaccination clinic, a pet adopt-a-thon, and numerous pet vendors. Issues related to pet preparedness were highlighted.

Health and Safety Fair

September 27, 2008

Pennsylvania State Police and its community partners sponsored a Health and Safety Fair for Montgomery County residents. The event included child safety seat checks, Citizen Corps program flyers, and insight into other emergency preparedness topics. There were a variety of demonstrations including canine search and rescue, special guest appearances, and door prizes.

Healthy Living Expo

September 5, 2008

In partnership with the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, Fayette County Community Action, and numerous other partners, Fayette County (Pennsylvania) Citizen Corps participated in a Healthy Living Expo. The Council addressed all hazards preparedness at this event.

H.O.L.A. Give-Away Bags

September 14, 2008

The H.O.L.A. Give-Away Bags Event celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month and Emergency Preparedness Month. The H.O.L.A. bags were given away containing emergency preparedness information. The event accommodated over 300 participants and was open to the public.

Holmdel Community Day

September 27, 2008

The Bayshore Emergency Management Alliance (BEMA) hosted a display at the Holmdel (NJ) Community Day at Cross Farm Park. BEMA displayed the CERT shelter trailer and BEMA CERT

members distributed preparedness materials and held a membership drive.

Human Services Expo

September 11, 2008

Franklin County (PA) Citizen Corps hosted a booth at the Annual Human Services Expo to spread the word about emergency preparedness for people with special needs. Attendees were invited to visit the booth for handouts and information.

Kennett Square Mushroom Festival

September 6–7, 2008

Chester County, TN Citizen Corps sponsored a booth at this annual, fun-filled event. It disseminated CERT materials to recruit new members and promote Chester County's Animal Response Team.

Luzerne County Fair

September 4–7, 2008

Luzerne County (PA) Citizen Corps hosted a booth at the yearly Luzerne County Fair. This Corps awareness event was an opportunity to educate attendees about emergency preparedness at home and in the workplace. In addition, there was a CERT PowerPoint presentation, recruitment of CERT team members, and distribution of Grab-and-Go kits.

Map Your Neighborhood

September 25, 2008

Map Your Neighborhood is a program empowering neighbors to help one another prepare for disasters and become as disaster-resistant as possible by creating disaster response plans. The Lewis and Clark County Citizen Corps Councils, in conjunction with Lewis and Clark County Disaster and Emergencies Services, sponsored a free Map Your Neighborhood training for citizens of downtown Helena, WA. The program features a step-by-step process through which groups of neighbors can collaborate to prepare their neighborhoods in the event of a disaster.

Medical Reserve Corps START Triage Training

September 17, 2008

Volunteers from the Bergen County Medical Reserve Corps in New Jersey took part in a class on simple triage and rapid treatment.

National Night Out

August 5, 2008

The El Cerrito, CA Police and Fire Departments hosted a city-wide open house event. This National Night Out included representatives from police and fire departments. The goal of National Night Out is to introduce neighbors to one another, and allow them to get to know their local police and firefighters. Attendees also learned personal safety techniques.

National Preparedness Month Kickoff Event

September 3, 2008

Philadelphia's Mayor Michael Nutter and his staff hosted a National Preparedness Month kickoff event with the Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management, Philadelphia Citizen Corps, the American Red Cross, and Target Department stores. Red Cross Kids assembled and distributed emergency "go bags" to attendees.

Neighborhood Briefing

September 5, 2008

A September Neighborhood Briefing event in Orlando, FL, included more than 300 homeowners associations that talked about National Preparedness Month, local upcoming trainings for community members, and a disaster volunteer open house. The briefing allowed representatives of homeowners associations to learn about local opportunities and resources for their neighborhoods. The education portion for families and homeowners focused on the importance of preparedness and the various events and resources the community offered.

New Volunteers Workshops

September 27, 2008

Greene County, PA Citizen Corps, in partnership with United Way Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, and the Greene County Department of Human Services, hosted a New Volunteers Workshop. The training covered essential CERT awareness and basic first aid training.

North Georgia State Fair EMA/CERT Booth

September 18–28, 2008

The North Georgia State Fair is an annual event that also serves as a significant recruiting opportunity for the Emergency Management Agency (EMA). During the fair, CERT members provided assistance to Cobb EMA by staffing the booth, disseminating preparedness materials, and educating fairgoers about the Cobb CERT program.

Oregon Tillamook County Coastal Emergency Evacuation Drill

September 23, 2008

The cities of Manzanita, Nehalem, Wheeler, Pacific City, and Cape Kiwanda, OR, conducted a voluntary tsunami emergency evacuation drill. Business, neighborhood, and citizen groups were encouraged to practice the drill. Those participating walked their evacuation routes to higher ground.

Parsippany, NJ, Preparedness 10th Annual Fall Festival

September 21, 2008

The Parsippany Office of Emergency Management team, including members from CERT RACES and HazMat, staffed booths at the festival. Team members circulated throughout the venues to distribute preparedness literature, answer questions, and enroll students for upcoming CERT classes.

Philly Blocks 2008

September 27, 2008

The Institute for the Study of Civic Values hosted an event known as “Philly Blocks 2008” in the city of Philadelphia, PA. Hundreds of local citizens gathered to discuss community issues, such as violence, schools, the environment, homelessness and affordable housing, green initiatives and recycling, and economic opportunities. State and city officials (and candidates), agency representatives, nonprofit organizations, the Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management, and the Philadelphia Citizen Corps Council were in attendance. Individuals signed up for ReadyNotifyPA at the Philadelphia Citizen Corps booth., Ready Philadelphia personal preparedness materials were distributed, which provide preparedness tips for severe storms, electrical and other utility outages, first aid, and fire safety. The state of Pennsylvania also launched its ReadyPA program during National Preparedness Month. This public outreach campaign encouraged Pennsylvanians to be informed, be prepared, and be involved—before a disaster strikes. Additional information is available at www.readypa.org.

Preparedness at the Ballpark

September 27, 2008

In conjunction with the annual West Virginia University–Marshall face off, West Virginia Citizen Corps and Appalachian Power Park promoted National Preparedness Month. Attendees arrived at Power Park to watch football on a big screen. They received information and handouts from state and volunteer agencies that included tips for assembling a disaster supply kit.

Public Emergency Preparedness Workshop

September 24, 2008

York County Citizen Corps and the American Red Cross hosted a training covering emergency preparedness for the general public. It included an overview on CERT training, Citizen Corps initiatives, volunteering, blood donations, and related topics.

Radio Disney Preparedness Events

September 2008

The Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security, Oklahoma State Department of Health, and the Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corps collaborated with Radio Disney to design a series of events aimed at teaching young people about preparedness. The diverse events included a preparedness competition with schools in Tulsa and Oklahoma City, and a Behaviors Gone Wild event at the Tulsa Zoo. As part of the campaign, Radio Disney also ran two 30-minute Saturday public service announcement broadcasts focusing on preparedness.

Ready, Set, Succeed! Pandemic Preparedness

September 9, 2008

Cumberland County, PA Citizen Corps, in conjunction with the American Red Cross, hosted a Ready, Set, Succeed! Pandemic Preparedness Open House. The event began with a brief presentation on home and business preparedness. Next, participants enjoyed several exhibits and displays on topics such as hand washing techniques, family preparedness kits, stocking up the home with the proper foods, and disaster planning for businesses.

Rodeo!

There were no animals or cowboys involved in this rodeo! The Oregon Rodeo event was a full day of CERT training, during which all the CERT teams from Longview to Salem, OR, came together to participate. Attendees were divided into mixed-jurisdictional teams and rotated through a series of 20 skill drill and demonstration stations. The event included lunch and a souvenir t-shirt.

Sacramento State Emergency Preparedness Fair

September 25, 2008

The Sacramento State Emergency Preparedness Fair was designed to educate attendees about personal preparedness at home and while travelling. Attendees learned how to prepare for disaster, protect family members and pets, and how to help out in the community.

Safety Day

September 20, 2008

Bradford (PA) County Citizen Corps, in a public-private partnership with Wal-Mart, Guthrie Healthcare Systems, and WATS-WAVR Radio, hosted a Safety Day for National Preparedness Month. This event included demonstrations, equipment and informational handouts from first responder organizations,

Bradford County Citizen Corps, and the Animal Response Team. Attendees enjoyed a rock climbing wall and games for the children. There were refreshments provided by the fire departments and donated first aid kits were distributed to attendees.

Sammamish Safety and Preparedness Fair

September 20, 2008

Washington State's Fifth Annual Sammamish Safety and Preparedness Fair featured an array of exhibitors and vendors with emergency kits and products, fire safety and law enforcement personnel, and search and rescue representatives. The fair also had many informative displays and activities for children.

Second Annual Disaster Preparedness Day

September 20, 2008

The Erie County (PA) Citizen Corps, in partnership with county first responders and Erie County Department of Public Safety, hosted its second annual Disaster Preparedness Day, as part of National Preparedness Month. Fire, HAZMAT, and search and rescue vehicles were on scene and presentations on individual/family preparedness and a CERT overview were offered. In addition, Citizen Corps partners and affiliates were available to provide information and expertise on emergency preparedness and answer questions on volunteering for its programs.

Senior Day Out At the Mall

September 24, 2008

Senior Day Out At the Mall, sponsored by the Green River Regional Citizen Corps Council of Kentucky, was geared toward special needs populations, including the elderly, ill, and disabled. The Director of the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security spoke to a large crowd of seniors, disabled individuals, everyday shoppers, caregivers, and AARP and TRIAD agency representatives operating informational booths. Emergency services agencies from across the region set up equipment displays and provided demonstrations outside of the Towne Square Mall. The day focused on disaster preparedness education and awareness for the public in general and those with special needs in particular.

Senior Expo

September 12, 2008

Pennsylvania State Representative Rick Taylor sponsored a Senior Expo featuring a variety of exhibitors from state, local, county, and federal agencies. All information was geared toward the interests of senior citizens. Free blood pressure and heart and stroke assessments were administered by Abington Memorial Hospital staff. The event was offered free of charge as a community service. Refreshments and door prizes were available. The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and Pennsylvania Citizen Corps disseminated information on emergency preparedness and Citizen Corps programs.

Shelter Operations Training

September 9–16, 2008

The American Red Cross and Lee County Emergency Management teamed up to host a two-part Shelter Operations Course for CERT volunteers in Fort Meyers, FL. The first segment consisted of a classroom course, while the second segment, conducted one week later, was a simulation drill.

Sheltering Class

September 17, 2008

The American Red Cross presented this sheltering course in Marietta, GA. The goal of the course was to

train volunteers who manage or assist in the management of shelters. These shelters are often necessary to accommodate individuals and families in the aftermath of both natural and manmade disasters. This course certified CERT members to work and volunteer at American Red Cross emergency shelters.

Spanish CERT Class

September 9, 2008

CERT implemented a Spanish version of the CERT training program to educate the Spanish-speaking population regarding disaster preparedness for hazards that might impact their locale. Attendees were trained in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue team organization, and disaster and medical operations.

South Fulton Community Festival

September 27, 2008

The Fulton County, GA, Commissioner William Edwards hosted a South Fulton Community Festival with the theme of "South Fulton at Your Service." The Fulton County Fire Department/AFCEMA CERT featured the CERT trailer, distribution of emergency checklists, and registration of interested citizens for upcoming CERT classes.

Stay Healthy Fair

September 19, 2008

The Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management and Philadelphia Citizen Corps hosted a booth at the annual Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care Stay Healthy Fair. This event provided an opportunity for interested parties to register for ReadyNotifyPA and receive Ready Philadelphia personal preparedness materials for severe storms and electrical and other utility outages.

Tabernacle Touch a Truck Day

September 27, 2008

The Pinelands, NJ CERT, in conjunction with the Tabernacle Office of Emergency Management and a local Boy Scouts of America Cub Scout Pack, sponsored a free Touch a Truck event in . Attendees were welcome to visit the public information and domestic preparedness and security booth.

The Disaster Experience and Preparedness Conference

September 9, 2008

The Connecticut and Boston Chapters of the Association of Contingency Planners presented a full-day conference on emergency planning and preparedness. The event included Attainium's "The Disaster Experience" and a lecture by Bill Raisch of Intercep regarding the status of the voluntary business preparedness certification program. There were other highly regarded presenters and programs.

Town Hall Preparedness Workshop

September 22, 2008

A committee that encompassed the Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management; Philadelphia Citizen Corps; Town Watch Integrated Services; Philadelphia fire, police, and street departments; Philadelphia More Beautiful Committee; and the American Red Cross hosted a Town Hall Preparedness workshop. The workshop featured preparedness training, discussions regarding evacuation routes, opportunities to register for ReadyNotifyPA, and distribution of Ready Philadelphia personal preparedness materials.

Volunteer Open House

September 29, 2008

Clearfield County, PA, hosted a Volunteer Open House to spark interest among local residents who were considering volunteering for a variety of organizations and agencies in the county. Fire departments, emergency management services, the American Red Cross, the Area Agency on Aging, and Citizen Corps were represented. Staff and volunteers from these organizations were available to answer questions and provide outreach materials.

Volunteer Sign Up Day

September 15, 2008

The goal of Philadelphia's Volunteer Sign Up Day was to offer all citizens an opportunity to participate in making Philadelphia safer and stronger. The day was designed to encourage attendees to be better prepared for preventing and handling threats of terrorism, crime, and disasters of all kinds. Citizen Corps asked town members to take simple steps to be prepared for emergencies, undergo training in basic first aid, and volunteer to help local emergency responders.

Wasco County Home Preparedness Fair

September 6, 2008

The Wasco County, OR, Home Fair provided a venue for Red Flag Task Force members to disseminate information on assembling a home emergency kit. It also offered ancillary information relating to home preparedness. The task force used door prizes to distribute some components of a basic emergency kit, a first aid kit, and a fire extinguisher.

Wegman's Community Preparedness Event

September 27, 2008

In a private-public partnership, Wegman's Grocery Store and the Lehigh County Citizen Corps collaborated to sponsor a community preparedness event at the Wegman's Allentown, PA location. Pamphlets and brochures on citizen preparedness were available for store patrons. In addition, Citizen Corps and CERT team members were available to answer questions regarding the importance of these programs.

West Chester Restaurant Festival

September 21, 2008

The Chester County, PA Citizen Corps sponsored a booth at the 2008 Annual West Chester Restaurant Festival. Citizen Corps members distributed brochures highlighting CERT materials and encouraging recruitment of new members. The festival also provided a vehicle for promoting Chester County's Animal Response Team.

Wyeth Business Continuity Program Awareness Day

September 25, 2008

The Chester County, PA Citizen Corps sponsored a booth at the 2008 Wyeth Business Continuity Program Awareness Day. Citizen Corps members distributed brochures highlighting CERT materials and encouraging recruitment of new members. The event also provided a vehicle for promoting Chester County's Animal Response Team.