



# Resilience Report

*Brief insights and the latest innovations in emergency management and health security.*

*A costly year for disaster response continues and the highly-anticipated start of COVID-19 vaccine distribution inches closer. This week on Resilience Report...considerations for the COVID-19 response and tips for personal risk assessment going in to the holiday season.*



## A Derecho Costing Billions.

2020 continues to be record breaking with the [costliest thunderstorm \(\\$7.5 billion\)](#) in US history hitting the Midwest in August. The Derecho (a fast-moving, violent wind event) with gusts up to 140 mph carved a path 60 miles wide and 400 miles long from Iowa to Indiana.

## Dispelling Flood Myths.

Did you know floods are the costliest and most common disaster in the US? With 200 million Americans at risk, [knowing myth from truth](#) can help shape how we prepare and respond to it.

## Equitable Vaccine Distribution.

As we eagerly watch the progress of a COVID-19 vaccine, we feel the pressure to plan for its distribution. The National Academies [Framework for Equitable Allocation of COVID-19 Vaccine](#) is here to help and free to download with lessons from past efforts and detailed ethical and procedural principles for equitable allocation.

**COVID-19 / NOVEL CORONAVIRUS VACCINATION PLANNING & ASSISTANCE**

**CONSTANT**

Looking for more hands-on support for your vaccine planning? CONSTANT, as always, is prepared to provide public health agencies with a wide range of services to assist in carrying out COVID-19 vaccination programs.

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# SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT: COVID AND THE HOLIDAYS

*Every week, we'll dedicate space for a hot topic that we think is especially important for emergency managers to read. You've seen the news: case counts of COVID-19 are [increasing in nearly 75% of the country](#), with the most intense hotspots in the Midwest and Great Plains. So far, [California has avoided a new surge](#), but maintaining that success will hinge on the degree to which people in the state continue to follow guidance from health officials.*

With the holiday season just around the corner, people are developing pandemic fatigue and craving traditional gatherings more than ever, which concerns experts that things will get worse again before they get better.

The CDC has a [full webpage of guidelines and considerations](#) for engaging in gatherings during the fall and winter holiday season. Emergency managers should be familiar with this guidance to be able to inform public communications going into the holiday season. In addition to being familiar with this guidance, local emergency management offices can:

- Communicate with the public about safer alternatives to traditional holiday activities. One example for Halloween would be doing a scavenger hunt for candy around the house rather than trick-or-treating around the neighborhood.
- Continue to monitor [local and regional data](#) on case counts and hospitalizations. As we enter flu season, also begin to monitor local and regional [rates of influenza infection](#), as this will start to impact the availability of healthcare resources.
- Coordinate with local hospitals and alternate care sites to prepare for a potential surge in hospitalizations. This could be as simple as a quick web conference to review existing plans and answer any outstanding questions.
- On a personal level, know your risk! A new [online app](#) helps you to approximate the risk of infection associated with a given activity, based on a number of factors.



FUN  
THINGS

## Disadvantaged District Defeating COVID-19.

There is hope in an unlikely role model – Dharavi, India. This most densely packed human settlement on Earth has [largely stemmed the spread of COVID-19](#). Extensive community engagement, detailed contact tracing, employer support, and good public health measures have led to one of the lowest COVID-19 fatality rates in any urban area of India.

## Surprise Halloween Reunion.

Halloween is almost here! While many festivities have been modified or canceled a surprise [one-night reunion](#) of actors from the movie *Hocus Pocus* will take place on 10/30/20 to raise money for the New York Restoration Project.

## Seasonal Beauty.

If you love autumn, you'll love [Fall Color Watch 2020](#). The Portland Japanese Garden expects peak seasonal colors within the next few weeks. Too eager to wait? The Garden also has beautiful videos of past seasonal changes featuring vibrant Japanese maple trees.

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## Ask a Contractor!

We want to make Resilience Report more collaborative with you, our lovely readers. So we're introducing "Ask a Contractor." If you have any questions under the sun about emergency management, health security, good disaster movies, or anything in between, submit them [using this form](#) and we'll happily answer them in the next issue of Resilience Report!

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## We're Here to Support You

If you need help with vaccine planning, COVID-19 AARs, EOC surge staff, or anything in between, shoot us an email at [scott@constantassociates.com](mailto:scott@constantassociates.com). We are here to help.



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