



August 27, 2021 | Issue 27

Resilience Report

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

Historic news about COVID-19 and wildfires continues as we near the end of the month, but August has also made history in years past. This week, the Resilience Report reflects on Hurricanes Katrina and Harvey and advises on how to prepare for the next storm.



Old School Preparedness Training

The previous Resilience Report focused on some of Emergency Management's new technologies. But, not all jurisdictions are diving all in – read about how [Flagler County, FL](#) uses an old school training methodology to test amateur radio operations for use when phone service or the internet is down.

More COVID-19 Vaccine News


Daily COVID-19 vaccine news continued this week. The Pfizer vaccine's full [FDA](#) approval made headlines on Monday, and on Wednesday, [Johnson & Johnson](#) published data supporting use of a booster shot for those who received a first J&J dose.

Emergency Management HERicane Camp

The Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management held a [HERicane](#) Camp this week in [Philadelphia](#). The program provides an opportunity for young girls ages 13-17 to explore the 'hidden' career opportunities in Emergency Management and receive training on response and incident management, natural hazards, and more.

Be Aware of Bad Air Quality

The [Caldor Fire](#) continues to rage on, creating historically bad air quality throughout California and Nevada. This [article](#) provides more information on the health implications of toxic smoke and what people can do to protect themselves.



SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT: HURRICANE SEASON

Every week, we'll dedicate space for a hot topic that we think is especially important for emergency managers to read. This week, we are focusing on hurricane season. The Atlantic hurricane season starts June 1 and goes through November 30, and with climate change impacting the frequency and intensity of storms, understanding the ins and outs of hurricane season—and lessons learned from past storms—is crucial for emergency managers.

- Sunday is the 16th anniversary of [Hurricane Katrina](#). Right now, another big storm could make landfall on the anniversary, and [local jurisdictions](#) are urging precaution for citizens. Here are some lessons learned for [public health](#), [community resilience](#), and [emergency management](#).
- Wednesday was the 4th anniversary of [Hurricane Harvey](#). These reports from [Harris County](#) and the [U.S. Geological Survey](#) detail the impact immediately after the event. [This look back](#) on the worst storm in recent memory to hit Texas underlines the resilience of the coastal Texas community.
- Curious about the most detrimental hurricanes in U.S. History? [Here's](#) an interactive map of the 10 most damaging hurricanes, and the National Hurricane Center provides [summaries](#) and informational links for some of the most notable storms.
- Now that the season is halfway over, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) updated their [forecast](#) for the 2021 hurricane season. Spoiler alert: we're looking at a strong likelihood of above average activity.

Hurricane Season and You

While we can't stop hurricanes from happening all together, we can implement lessons learned from previous hurricanes and best practices from emergency management to protect our communities from the worst effects. Here are some things to consider as we move into the second half of hurricane season:

Suggestion #1: Be informed about storm classification. In addition to Tropical Depressions and Tropical Storms, the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale categorizes storms from 1 to 5 based on estimated property damage, and [this animation](#) shows what that damage looks like at each category.

Suggestion #2: Keep COVID-19 in mind while building your emergency preparedness kit. In addition to the usual supplies, add items like extra masks and hand sanitizer to your disaster supplies kit.

Suggestion #3: Prepare for Hurricane season by researching your insurance coverage. There is no "[hurricane insurance](#)," but supplementing your homeowner's insurance with flood and windstorm insurance can help your recovery efforts. Look [here](#) for information about insurance coverage for natural disasters in your area.

CONSTANT staff are experienced in developing emergency preparedness and continuity of operations plans. [Email](#) us to learn more!



Fish and Cheese!

We love our monthly celebrations, and of course we also like eating, so it's always a happy coincidence when those two areas converge. August is national catfish month, national panini and national sandwich month (they're not necessarily the [same](#)), and national goat cheese month. While the combination of all three may be hard to find, [here's](#) a list of great fish and cheese sandwich options (check out the catfish pimiento cheese sandwich!).

Otter Fascination

Animal stories are always interesting, and this issue is no exception. Ever wonder how sea otters stay warm? It's not something we think about either but the [answer](#) is fascinating. And on the not-as-cute front, we have known that insects have been around for a long time, but scientists have just found [evidence](#) of their existence from eons ago. Literally.

National Just Because Day

Normally, we like to highlight special days of recognition or holidays. Today, join us in celebrating [Just Because Day](#) because, well, just because.



We're Here to Support You

If you need help with ARPA projects, COVID-19 AARs, or anything in between, shoot us an email at donna@constantassociates.com. We are here to help.

CONSTANT is certified as an 8(a) and Economically Disadvantaged Woman Owned Business (EDWOSB) and as a Great Place To Work. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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