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Resilience Report

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

This week marks the unofficial end of summer, the start of the school year for many students, and the beginning of National Preparedness Month. This week, the Resilience Report looks at that designation, and the awareness the month is intended to raise.



20th Anniversary of 9/11

As the nation prepares to [commemorate](#) the 20th anniversary of the worst terror attack on U.S. soil, FEMA has released a [multi-media site](#) that honors the commitment and service of current and former emergency responders.

Ida Hits New Orleans on Katrina's Anniversary

Hurricane Ida made landfall in New Orleans last week on the same day that Hurricane Katrina hit the region 16 years ago. The city braced itself for a storm that was [stronger](#) than Katrina, but thankfully, the death toll was far lower this time. One area that proved devastating, however, was the widespread power loss. The [issues](#) were not with the power sources, but with the power grid.

Devastating Floods in New York and New Jersey

The effects of Hurricane Ida were felt far beyond New Orleans, which has had its share of storm [impacts](#) over the years. Both [New York](#) and [New Jersey](#) had major disasters declared, and the [relief efforts](#) include FEMA and other federal agencies. Meanwhile, a historic town in Maryland that was devastated by two “thousand-year floods” in 2016 and 2018, [refuses to give up](#), highlighting both the destructive nature of storms and the resilience of communities.

Back to School and COVID-19

Millions of children started the school year this week, and although the Delta variant has parents and teachers cautious, there is still [good news](#) about children and COVID overall. However, unprecedented shortages of both [school nurses](#) and [bus drivers](#) are causing additional challenges.



SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT: NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

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 September's National Preparedness Month, whose 2021 theme is "Prepare to Protect. Preparing for disasters is protecting everyone you love." The lessons of National Preparedness Month are critical for emergency managers to share with family, friends, and the community.

- This year, the Ready Campaign recognized the [Hispanic community](#) as a key audience of [National Preparedness Month](#). In cooperation with the Ad Council, focus groups conducted with the Hispanic community identified protecting one's family as a prime motivator for disaster preparation. Thus, this year's public service announcements have been designed to resonate with Hispanic communities as they prepare to protect the ones that they love the most.
- Since recognition of National Preparedness Month began in 2004, FEMA has sponsored the effort. [FEMA's Ready Campaign](#) leads the charge with informative videos, resources, social media graphics, and more that cover emergency alerts, supply kits, communications plans, and other considerations required when planning for a disaster. Take a look to keep on track with the themed weekly activities.
- Emergency managers recognize the importance of personal disaster preparedness. But what about the general public? FEMA has released the results of the [2020 National Household Survey](#) that describes how prepared people think they are for emergencies and disasters.

National Preparedness Month and You

We described emergency alerts and the importance of preparing emergency kits in the 26th issue of our Resilience Report, released on August 13th. But what else can you do to prepare yourself for the worse case scenario during National Preparedness Month?

Suggestion #1: Plan for a generator. During extended power losses, generators ensure adequate food and water supply for your home. However, generators come with risks as the exhaust could be toxic if the machine is used incorrectly. The American Red Cross provides information about using a [generator at home](#).

Suggestion #2: Keep finances in mind. When disaster strikes, important documents may be left behind. Here are [five ways](#) to organize your finances before a flood.

Suggestion #3: Coordinate with your neighbors. Involving the whole community can lead to greater resilience. Read about how the February 2020 Texas ice storms inspired [public emergency preparedness workshops](#) in Lakeway, Texas.

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



FUN THINGS

Rejoice! Football Lives!

The Dallas Cowboys faced defending Super Bowl champs Tampa Bay (and Tom Brady) last night with the Buccaneers coming out on top. [Here](#) are the other Week 1 games in reverse order of awesomeness. Meanwhile, we're in Week 2 of College Football, GameDay is coming to Iowa, and [these](#) are the top games of the week.

Pumpkin Spice is Coming.

Whether you love or hate pumpkin [berries](#), these [anti-pumpkin spice recipes](#) still call for sweater weather. Only 51 days until Halloween and 106 days until Christmas!

Need some T'Challa in your life?

The LA Philharmonic will be scoring Black Panther live this [Saturday](#). Mask up and [Wakanda Forever!](#)



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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