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# **Resilience Report**

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

With summer heating up, in this week's Resilience Report we take a look at how to truly integrate the threat of heatwaves into your all-hazards emergency management program. We also provide the latest news on Monkeypox, wildfires, and flood resilience, while looking forward to Monday's celebration of July 4th, from recipes to hot dog eating contests to community events.



# **Monkeypox Strategy Responds to Concerns**

- As cases of monkeypox have been reported in 27 states and D.C., including recent reports in <u>Michigan</u>, <u>New Hampshire</u>, and <u>Virginia</u>, the Biden-Harris Administration released its <u>Monkeypox Outbreak Response</u> on Tuesday. The strategy includes easier testing, expanded <u>vaccination</u>, and a robust community engagement strategy to educate individuals at high risk of infection.
- The campaign helps address concerns that federal agencies are <u>underreacting</u> to the monkeypox outbreak and <u>repeating delays in communication and access</u> to testing from the early days of COVID. Last week, the GAO recommended that the HHS prioritize the creation of a nationwide <u>Public Health Situational</u> <u>Awareness Network</u> to mitigate communication delays.

# **Even More Wildfire News**

- Experts expect an <u>above-average wildfire season</u> this year in California and other areas as much of the nation is experiencing <u>high rates of abnormally dry</u> to exceptional drought conditions. With the July 4th holiday this weekend, some agencies are urging people to <u>forgo fireworks</u> to help reduce the number of uncontrolled fires in dry areas.
- <u>CAL FIRE</u> and <u>Oregon</u> are increasing staffing for peak wildfire season. California is leveraging <u>helicopters</u> to help douse rapidly spreading fires and prevent

millions of dollars in damage, and Paradise, CA now has the first "<u>wildfire-prepared home</u>," providing individuals safer dwellings in areas of high fire risk.

#### **Equity in Flood Resilience**

- As we get deeper into hurricane season, FEMA is emphasizing equity in flood preparedness with a <u>widespread bilingual media campaign</u> to educate the public about free or inexpensive ways to prepare for floods, which can help mitigate the <u>impacts of socioeconomic inequality on flood resilience</u>.
- The Biden-Harris Administration has a vision to <u>update the National Flood</u> <u>Insurance Program (NFIP)</u> that would implement a nationwide disclosure law about a property's flood history while also preventing the NFIP from covering new homes in high-risk areas, forcing home buyers to get insurance elsewhere.



Every issue, we'll dedicate space for a topic that we think is especially important for emergency management professionals to read. With climate change exacerbating heatwaves around the world, this week we're looking at the forecast for summer 2022 temperatures, inequitable impacts, and mitigative steps for local governments.

- Above-normal summer heat is <u>forecasted</u> for most of the U.S. and across the world this summer. <u>Tokyo</u> is currently facing its worst heatwave since 1875 that is straining power supply. And <u>last week</u>, 12 U.S. states broke the 100-degree mark, tying or exceeding 21 heat records.
- Extreme heat and heat exposure <u>disproportionately affects</u> groups such as lowincome families, outdoor workers, people experiencing homelessness, and indigenous and Black populations. The EPA explains more about the concept of heat equity <u>here</u>. For a worldwide perspective on how elevated temperatures impact the poorest parts of the world, check out this study by <u>PBS</u>.
- Scientists continue to <u>evaluate</u> the link between climate change and extreme weather events. A recent journal article presents the correlation between global warming and heatwaves or rainfall and recommends that scientists continue to <u>scrutinize</u> the role of climate change in the occurrence of wildfires or drought.

# Tips for embedding extreme heat response into your EM program

As heat-related deaths continue, notably last summer in <u>Washington</u> and <u>Oregon</u>, more emergency management agencies are supplementing their individual preparedness informational campaigns by taking action to account for the growing threat of extreme heatwaves to community health. Here are some steps to take:

- <u>Recommendation 1: Review lessons learned from other agencies.</u> Multiple agencies have AARs publicly available with lessons learned from 2021 heatwaves, including <u>Sacramento County</u> and the <u>State of Oregon</u>. Reviewing these AARs may provide actionable recommendations that your organization can implement to improve preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.
- <u>Recommendation 2: Develop an Excessive Heat Response Annex for your</u> <u>EOP.</u> Jurisdictions across the U.S. have codified the threat of heatwaves in Excessive Heat Annexes, including elements such as concept of operations, roles and responsibilities, public information, authorities and references, etc. Here are some examples from the <u>City of Los Angeles</u>, <u>Santa Clara County</u>, <u>Marin County</u>, and the <u>State of Arizona Department of Health Services</u>. The <u>CDC</u> also has recommendations for how to develop Heat Response Plans.
- <u>Recommendation 3: Integrate equity considerations into your heat-related</u> <u>preparedness, response, and recovery efforts:</u> King County, WA made emergency management news recently for announcing an <u>Extreme Heat Mitigation</u> <u>Strategy</u> that will utilize data from a <u>heat mapping project</u> that demonstrated disparities in heat impacts between natural and hard landscapes. The Plan will include multi-disciplinary, multi-ethnic, and multi-racial perspectives.



#### Happy Birthday America

• The 246th anniversary of our <u>nation's birth</u> is right around the corner. If you're looking for an epic celebration, here are five <u>amazing events</u> to consider (two are in CA!). And if you're tracking, the 250th anniversary of Independence Day is four years away, and <u>planning</u> has started already.

#### National Grilling Month - Suns Out, Grills Out!

 July is officially national grilling month, and you can get your grill ready <u>here</u>. Continuing your preparation, make sure you're equipped with the right <u>tools</u> and avoid these <u>common mistakes</u>. And we would be remiss if we didn't provide some amazing recipes <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>, and <u>here</u>. If you're feeling really adventurous, consider grilling these <u>very unusual foods</u> (they lost us on the grapes).

# Hot Diggity Dog, We Relish a Good Time

 Loyal readers will know that we like to highlight sports events in our Resilience Report, so we are especially excited to *ketchup* on one of the year's <u>greatest</u> <u>sporting competitions</u> – the country's annual <u>Hot Dog Eating Contest</u>, sponsored by Nathan's Famous Hot Dogs! To be *frank*, we will definitely be <u>watching</u> on Monday to see if reigning champ and world record-holder Joey Chestnut can *cut the mustard* for the 15th time (who will be the *wurst* is anyone's guess).



# We're Here to Support You

If you need help with disaster preparedness, COVID-19 AARs, or anything in between, send us an email at <u>donna@constantassociates.com</u>. We are here to help.

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Constant Associates, 21250 Hawthorne Blvd, Suite 400, Torrance, CA 90503 Manage preferences