



FEMA

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BULLETIN

WEEK OF MARCH 31, 2014

Important Dates and Deadlines:

[Emergency Management Performance Grant Program](#)
(Applications Due April 9, 2014)

[NFIP Environmental Impact Statement Meetings](#)
(First Meeting April 22, 2014)

[FY 14 Preparedness Grants](#)
(Applications Due May 23, 2014)

FEMA Participates in the NEMA Mid-Year Forum

Administrator Craig Fugate addressed attendees of the National Emergency Management Association's (NEMA) Mid-Year Emergency Management Policy and Leadership Forum, held March 9 – 14, in Alexandria, Virginia. The Forum coincided with NEMA's 40th anniversary and had the theme of "servant leadership."



In addition, Agency senior leadership participated in a workshop and a number of key NEMA committees speaking on major and recent FEMA policies and programs. Among these are the President's Executive to prepare the United States for the Impacts of Climate Change, the Administrator's Intent for FY 2015-2019, the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013, implementation of changes to the National Flood Insurance Program and the National Preparedness Grants.

NEMA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) association dedicated to enhancing public safety by improving the nation's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from all emergencies, disasters, and threats to our nation's security. NEMA is the professional association of and for emergency management directors from all states, U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.

Participate in America's PrepareAthon! on April 30th

We encourage our partners to [participate](#) in the first National Day of Action on April 30, 2014 by hosting or joining a PrepareAthon! event. In addition to individuals, organizations such as schools, institutions of higher education, community-based organizations, workplaces and houses of worship will be hosting events in many parts of the nation.

America's PrepareAthon! is modeled on the success of The Great ShakeOut earthquake drills which have moved millions of people to practice what to do during an earthquake and improve preparedness.

America's PrepareAthon! materials include interactive tools and preparedness information, as well as support resources that describe appropriate protective actions for tornadoes, hurricanes, flood and wildfires, mitigation measures and guidance for hosting a drill or discussion and more!

Learn more about America's PrepareAthon! and register for the National Day of Action at www.ready.gov/prepare and follow us on Twitter using the [@PrepareAthon](#) handle. For more information contact PrepareAthon@fema.dhs.gov.

FEMA's Office of External Affairs provides this bulletin to highlight recent and upcoming program and policy activities and announcements. Feedback is welcome at fema-ea-bulletin@fema.dhs.gov.

Open Joint Field Offices
AK, CO, GA, MO, NM, OK, SC
[Learn more](#)

New Hours for National Processing Service Centers

Beginning Sunday, March 30, 2014, FEMA's National Processing Service Centers will operate from 7:00am to 9:00pm EDT.

Hours are subject to change and can be expanded based on disaster activity.

FEMA 101 – What is the Center for Domestic Preparedness?

The Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) started training in June 1998, as a training center for the nation's emergency responders.

CDP joined the FEMA team in 2007. CDP develops and delivers advanced training for emergency response providers, emergency managers, and other government officials from state, local, and tribal governments.

Located in Anniston, Alabama, the center offers training focused on incident management, mass casualty response, and emergency response to a catastrophic natural or man-made disaster.

Training at the CDP campus is federally funded at no cost to state, local, and tribal emergency response professionals or their agency.

To learn more about the Center for Domestic Preparedness, visit <http://cdp.dhs.gov>. Visit the CDP on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cdpfema and follow the center on Twitter at www.twitter.com/cdpfema.

This newsletter is not intended to provide a comprehensive list of policies that are open for public comment, nor does it describe all of the instructions or requirements necessary to submit a comment. For a complete list of instructions and deadlines please click the hyperlinks included.

National Preparedness and Emergency Management Performance Grants Application Periods Still Open

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the release of FY 2014 Funding Opportunity Announcements for six DHS preparedness grant programs totaling over \$1.6 billion.

The homeland security grants assist states, urban areas, tribal and territorial governments and nonprofit organizations as well as the private sector to strengthen our nation's ability to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies in support of the National Preparedness Goal and the National Preparedness System.

Completed final applications for these six preparedness grants are due no later than **11:59 p.m. Eastern daylight time (EDT), May 23, 2014.**

The Emergency Management Performance Grant Program (EMPG) assists state, local, territorial and tribal governments in preparing for all hazards. Also, \$100,000 is available from the Disaster Relief Fund for the Federated States of Micronesia and for the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Completed applications for the EMPG must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM EDT, April 9, 2014.

Funding opportunity announcements for FY 2014 preparedness grants and EMPG are available at www.grants.gov. For more information, please visit www.fema.gov/grants.

Reminder - FEMA to Host Virtual Public Meetings on National Flood Insurance Program Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, specifically directs federal agencies to thoroughly assess the environmental consequences of major federal actions that could significantly affect the environment. Because changes to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) are a major federal action, FEMA is undertaking the preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS).

In adherence to this law, FEMA is preparing the Impact Statement to evaluate the NFIP as it is currently implemented. The NFIP consists of three primary elements: mapping, floodplain management, and insurance. The modifications included in the Impact Statement may cover some or all of these elements.

Scoping efforts have been ongoing and FEMA is currently soliciting feedback from the public. FEMA will consider these comments, in combination with stakeholder input provided through previous and planned NFIP listening sessions, modifications to the program since the last Impact Statement was completed, and recent legislation changes in the development of the draft Impact Statement. Ultimately, the Impact Statement will chart the course for the Agency's considerations of environmental impacts in future NFIP rulemaking.

FEMA will hold virtual public meetings to provide information and take public comments on the NFIP PEIS. The meetings will be structured, as webinars, and will be held on April 22, 2014, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. EDT; May 13, 2014, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. EDT; and May 20, 2014, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. EDT. Information on the NFIP PEIS and instructions for online webinar registration are available on the [website](#).

April is National Financial Capability Month

Disasters not only affect community infrastructure and public works, but they often overcome family finances, making recovery difficult and sometimes impossible. Before, during and after disasters strike, we work with a number of non-profit, voluntary and faith-based groups who specialize in getting disaster survivors financially back on their feet.

Be financially prepared for emergencies. Start by completing an [Emergency Financial First Aid Kit](#). This document can help you keep track of important documentation, like insurance policy information, so you have clear financial records that will help maintain stability in the event of an emergency.

For a more in depth look at financial preparedness, read the transcript from our [Community Webinar Series](#).

The mission of the Office of External Affairs (OEA) is to engage, inform, and educate all of FEMA's stakeholders in support of the Agency's programs and initiatives to achieve its mission. OEA accomplishes its mission by coordinating and maintaining visibility of public and internal communications; advising FEMA program and support offices on decision-making regarding policies, plans, and actions that affect stakeholder, media, and Congressional audiences; and organizing outreach efforts targeted at principal stakeholders to include local, state, territorial, and tribal governments, the private sector, national organizations and associations, and the American public.

