



Mount Weather Emergency Operations Center

Mount Weather Emergency Operations Center (MWEOC) is a FEMA facility situated on 564 acres high in the Blue Ridge Mountains, approximately 64 miles west of Washington, D.C.

It's known simply as "Mt. Weather." During the early 1900s, the site was originally acquired by the National Weather Bureau to launch weather balloons and kites for upper air research. After World War I, Calvin Coolidge reportedly talked about constructing a summer White House at Mount Weather. Over the years, ownership transferred to the U.S. Bureau of Mines, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Office of Emergency Preparedness, the General Services Administration, and in 1979 to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), upon its creation. Today, MWEOC provides FEMA and other government agencies office space for their emergency management operations.

Mount Weather's Assets include:

- Office and warehouse space
- Dormitory and training rooms
- Conference room with classified capability up to 125 people
- Café that seats over 280 personnel
- Fully equipped fire department, ambulance service operated and staffed by FEMA Firefighters
- Health unit staffed by medical personnel
- Federal police force providing 24-hour, seven-day a-week security
- Motor pool : with shuttle service, courier services, and local supply pickups

Benefits and Next Steps

The MWEOC mission is to be "ready to support our partners at all times, under all conditions." The breadth and depth of capabilities offered by Mount Weather make it a unique facility.

The MWEOC supports a variety of emergency management missions, some classified. The Center is engaged in a massive infrastructure upgrade and has enacted its five-year Master Plan for the modernization of the site.

FEMA's MWEOC oversees the Olney Federal Support Center (Olney FSC) in Olney, Maryland. The Olney FSC is a much smaller facility providing federal agencies with office space.

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"FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, and recover from, and mitigate all hazards."
