



# FEMA: Week in Review

Louisiana Recovery Office  
Serving Recovery Needs from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita  
New Orleans, LA

## Calendar

**Mar. 12-15:** [Public Health Preparedness Summit](#), Atlanta, Ga.

**March 14:** St. Paul's Episcopal School Grand Opening, New Orleans

**March 25-28:** [2013 National Hurricane Conference](#), New Orleans

March 8, 2013

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge Receives \$1 Million to Rebuild Research Complex

FEMA recently announced more than \$1 million in recovery aid to build a new Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge Fish Lab and Fish Lab Complex, which were destroyed during Hurricane Rita. The Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge encompasses more than 76,000 acres in Cameron and Vermilion parishes and is noted as one of the most biologically diverse wildlife areas in the nation. The Refuge was also home to a biological research complex, where staff and biologists studied the American alligator, fish, plants and waterfowl populations.

Hurricane Rita destroyed the Refuge's Grand Chenier biological research complex of buildings. Six of the buildings—a fish lab, fish lab boat shed, chemical storage building, alligator incubator shed, alligator storage shed and freezer storage shed—will be consolidated into three new buildings. The final blueprint calls for a 5,460-square-foot fish lab and an alligator incubator shed, both elevated on pilings 13 feet above base flood elevation, as well as a boat shed. Funding for the consolidated structures also comes from an alligator pump house, trappers camp and airstrip, all of which will not be rebuilt.

### City of New Orleans Breaks Ground on Lower Ninth Ward Projects

FEMA officials joined state and local representatives and members of the community to break ground on multiple major projects in New Orleans' Lower Ninth Ward on March 6. The ceremony celebrated the upcoming work that includes repairs to the neighborhood's streets and sidewalks, rebuilding the Sanchez Center multi-purpose facility (pictured above right) and construction of a consolidated facility to house New Orleans Fire Department Fire Station Engines 22 and 39 (pictured below right). FEMA Public Assistance provided nearly \$60 million in federal funding for the projects.



### An App for Severe Weather Preparedness

Prepare for severe weather hazards with free mobile apps on your smartphone. The FEMA App contains disaster safety tips, interactive lists for storing your emergency kit and emergency meeting location information and a map with open shelters and open FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers. The [app is free to download](#) through your smartphone provider's app store. The [Red Cross](#) also offers a suite of hazard-based preparedness apps. Download these apps today and be ready when severe weather strikes.

### Flood Safety Awareness

National Flood Safety Awareness Week, March 18-23, highlights some of the many ways floods can occur, the hazards associated with floods and what you can do to save life and property. Check out [www.floodsafety.noaa.gov](http://www.floodsafety.noaa.gov) or [www.ready.gov/floods](http://www.ready.gov/floods) for more information.

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