



Region III Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 2

Summer 2007

Special points of interest:

- Number of units Nationwide:
681
- Number of volunteers Nationwide:
121,696
- Number of units in Region III:
66
- Number of volunteers in Region III:
18,623

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Hurricane Season is Here...Are You Ready??

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) encourages you to begin preparing for hurricane season. Hurricane season begins each year on June 1.

Follow the important preparedness tips CDC provides in [Key Facts About Hurricane Readiness](#). These tips include

- [Preparing for a Hurricane](#)
- [Emergency Supplies You Will Need](#)
- [Preparing to Evacuate](#)
- [If You are Ordered to Evacuate](#)
- [If You are Ordered NOT to Evacuate](#)
- [Protecting Pets](#)

After you have read these tips, please review the other resources available on the [CDC Hurricanes](#) Web site.

CDC strongly recommends that you print all important resources before a hurricane strikes. Power outages during and after a hurricane can prevent you from accessing information online when you most need it. Preparing now can help keep you and your family safe. tiredness.

These are the questions you should be able to answer before a hurricane could potentially impact your area:

- ***What are the Hurricane Hazards?***

- ***What does it mean to you?***
- ***What actions should you take to be prepared?***

When reviewing all the resources that are available, remember....these tools are a guide. It is well agreed that common sense is the key, if faced with the threat of a hurricane.

Below are some resources that may prove to be helpful:

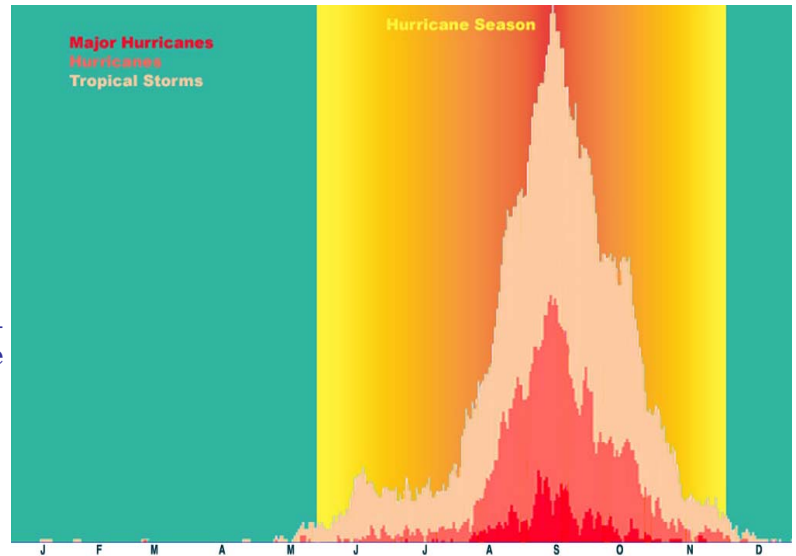
To learn more about the historical tropical cyclones occurring in different areas located throughout the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico, visit the NOAA Coastal Services Center [Historical Hurricane Tracks web site](#). The web site provides information about U.S. coastal county population versus hurricane strikes as well as links to various Internet resources focusing on tropical cyclones. The interactive mapping application allows you to search the National Hurricane Center historical tropical cyclone database and graphically display storms affecting your area since 1851.

The [COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT TOOL](#) (Ex. North Carolina) is an informational aid designed to assist communities in their efforts to reduce hazard vulnerability through strategies relating to awareness, education and mitigation. This product contains a methodology that helps State and local governments determine and prioritize their locality's vulnerabilities to coastal hazards. Physical factors such as the location of critical facilities and infrastructure relative to high-risk areas, the distribu-

Again, When Is Hurricane Season?

tion of vulnerable populations such as the elderly, poor and under-insured, significant environmental resources and the vulnerability of primary economic sectors are all included as issues for consideration.

NWS STORM-READY - To help Americans guard against the ravages of severe weather, the National Weather Service has designed StormReady, a program aimed at arming America's communities with the communication and safety skills necessary to save lives and property.



TAKING ACTION is as easy as 1-2-3:		
1 BEFORE	2 WATCH	3 WARNING
<p>Before Hurricane Season Starts <i>YOU SHOULD:</i></p> <p>Assemble your <u>Disaster Supply Kit</u>. These items are often scattered around your home and simply need to be brought together into one location.</p> <p>Write out your <u>Family Disaster Plan</u>. Discuss the possible hazards with your family. Determine if you are in an evacuation area. Identify an out-of-town family contact.</p>	<p>When a Hurricane Watch is issued <i>YOU SHOULD:</i></p> <p>Check your Disaster Supply Kit. Make sure nothing is missing. Determine if there is anything you need to supplement your kit. Replenish your water.</p> <p>Activate your Family Disaster Plan. Protective measures should be initiated, especially those actions that require extra time (for example, securing a boat or leaving a barrier island).</p>	<p>When a Hurricane Warning is issued <i>YOU SHOULD:</i></p> <p>Ready your Disaster Supply Kit for use. If you need to evacuate, you should bring your Supply Kit with you.</p> <p>Use your Family Disaster Plan. Your family should be in the process of completing protective actions and deciding the safest location to be during the storm.</p>

Welcome New Region III Units!

Virginia

Missy Watts (Chesterfield Health District MRC)

West Virginia

Karen Hall-Dundas (Cabell-Wayne MRC)



*** I would like to acknowledge and apologize for the mistake I made in the last newsletter. Tracy Walker (Norfolk MRC) is located in Commonwealth of Virginia.*

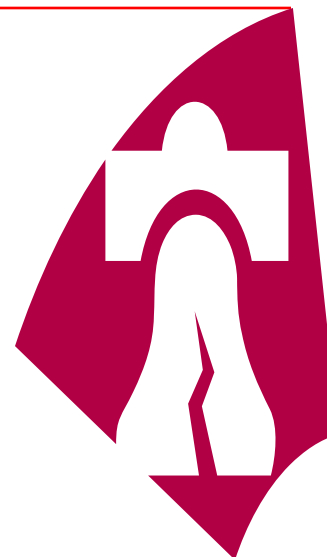
Farewell....



I just would like to take this time to acknowledge the appreciation Region III has for Joan Lawrence. She served as the Maryland State Coordinator. She was very committed to the MRC mission and to the Maryland MRC units. She brought a wealth of knowledge, insight, and ideas. She truly will be missed! Joan, we wish you much success in your future endeavors.

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

Planning has begun for the Region III Conference. Please save the date for **November 13-14, 2007**. The conference will take place in Philadelphia, PA. More to come....



**National Leadership and Training
Conference
Providence, Rhode Island
April 17-20, 2007**



National Conference

It was nice to see everyone who was able to attend the conference in Rhode Island. During our regional breakout session, the acting Surgeon General, RADM Moritsugu visited us to see what issues we thought were important in our region. Below are some issues that were raised throughout Nation.

- Provide a template for an ID card
- National marketing campaign/PSA's
- More funding for the MRC units
- Liability Protection

More issues specifically raised from Region III:

- Share recruitment and retention resources
- More focus on non-medical volunteers
- Encourage state licensing boards to connect with MRC leaders

In addition to the wealth of information, resources, and networking opportunities that was provided, the new slogan for the MRC was released:

***Volunteers Building Strong,
Healthy, and Prepared Communities***

Please feel free to utilize this tagline when promoting your local unit.

All the presentations that were given at the conference are now available online: <http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov/resources.asp?mode=BrowseByCategory&category=12>

The pictures on the next page are from the poster session during the evening with the Surgeon General. A big thank you to all of those individuals who created such wonderful posters.

National Conference cont.



RADM Moritsugu and Cynthia Baker, Prince Georges County MRC (MD)



Jolynn Matte, Virginia Beach MRC (VA)



Jennifer Freeland, Peninsula MRC (VA)



RADM Moritsugu and Kim Bannister, Southside MRC (VA)

MRC Webinars

The MRC program, in partnership with the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) has introduced a series of web-based seminars (Webinars) to provide information on a wide variety of topics for MRC leaders, volunteers, and others interested in the MRC. These Webinars are live and interactive between the presenter and the audience.

MRC Webinars should occur approximately every 6-8 weeks. Webinar topics, dates, and registration information, can be found at <http://www.naccho.org/topics/emergency/PREP-inars.cfm> (along with other preparedness topics). Archived Webinars can be accessed at <http://webcasts.naccho.org/archived.php>.

Profile Updates

Please continue to update your profiles on a quarterly basis. The National Program Office is keeping track of these profile updates. Thanks to all of you that have been updating your profile.



MOU Between National Red Cross and The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

At the end of May, a MOU was signed by RADM Vanderwagen, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and Joseph Becker, the Senior Vice President of the Preparedness and Response Department of the American Red Cross.

The purpose of the MOU between the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the American Red Cross ("the parties") is to endorse the use of the Red Cross - Health and Human Services Initial Intake and Assessment Tool to facilitate triage for functional support at Red Cross shelters and Health and Human Services Federal Medical Shelters during an Incident of National Significance or Public Health emergency response in which the Department of Health and Human Services and the Red Cross are engaged in supporting state, local or tribal authorities.

Below is the link to the assessment tool: (just double click)

ARC HHS
Assessment Tool May

We Want to Hear From You

The information obtained from your MRC unit is essential. Please send me your best practices, special events that will be taking place in your unit, and any other highlights you would like to be displayed in the quarterly newsletter.

Please feel free to contact me:

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What's going on....

See what is going on around the region. Please look for other unit websites that will be highlighted here in future newsletters.

[Erie Regional MRC](#)

[Arlington County MRC](#)

Upcoming Health Observances:

July

[UV Safety Month](#)



August

[National Immunization Awareness Month](#)

September

[National Preparedness Month](#)

MRC Website:

www.medicalreservecorps.gov