



AIR FORCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EXERCISE

Edwards Air Force Emergency Management Newsletter

September-November 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

September is National Preparedness Month

by Daven Solis

National Preparedness month occurs every September and was created to educate communities for any type of disaster. It is important for everyone to know what to do before, during, and after a disaster. At Edwards Air Force Base we are under constant threat from several hazards and being prepared can save you and your family stress, time, money, and even their lives. Do not procrastinate disaster planning. **Get a kit! Make a plan! Be prepared!**

Next month the Emergency Management Flight will providing vital information via social media on how you can and your family can be prepared for any type of disaster.

Things you can do to prepare:

- Create an emergency kit.
- Have a family emergency plan.
- Practice your family emergency plan.
- Develop multiple evacuation routes

- Include an emergency kit in your vehicle for when disaster strike away from home.
- Create an emergency kit for the workplace.
- Stay informed by having a NOAA weather radio.
- Develop and utilize a family communication plan.
- Keep your important documents together.
- Stay financially prepared by having an emergency fund.

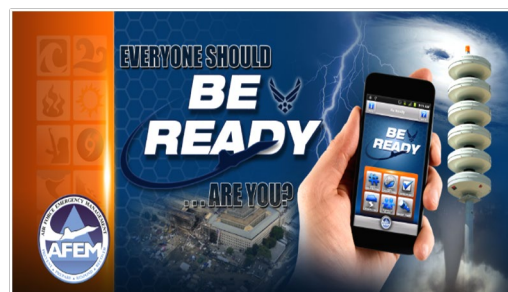
Due to covid-19 the Emergency Management Office will not be at the Exchange this year. However, the office will be putting PA announcements out and be active on social media. If you have any questions feel free to reach out to the emergency management office.



Different Types of Hazards

Natural hazards are not the only type of threat. Disasters can come from technological and human-caused hazards as well.

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Be Ready Campaign!

Being prepared for disasters is one way to limit potential financial, emotional, physical losses. Studies show implementing mitigation strategies saves four dollars for every dollar invested. \$\$\$\$

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Different Types of Hazards

By Daven Solis

Three different types of hazards currently exist: natural, technological and human-caused hazards.

Natural hazards are naturally occurring phenomenon which can be caused by geophysical (earthquakes and volcanoes), hydrological, (floods and avalanches) climatological, (drought and extreme temperatures), meteorological (hurricane and tornados) or biological (epidemics and vermin infestations) events.

Remember disasters are common occurring phenomena that occur anywhere with certain types occurring with little or no warning.

Technological hazards originate from technological or industrial accidents. Examples include airplane crashes, radiation leaks, and power outages.

Human-caused hazards result from intentional actions from an adversary,

such as a biological or chemical attack. These attacks can be natural or technological in nature; however, motivation is the key difference.

Unfortunately, many types of disasters are related and one disaster can cause another to occur, known as a cascading disaster. For example, after a fire burns vegetation on a hill erosion becomes more likely due to the soil being exposed. When it rains the water is not absorbed and this can lead to soil

being sent downhill creating debris flows and landslides.

CURIOUS?

Feel free to call the Operations department in the Emergency Management Flight if you want to know more. I look forward to hearing from you.

ANN
661-277-1380



Hazard of the Quarter: Wild Fire

By Daven Solis

California is being ravaged by the worst fires in the state's history. 18 major fires are burning across the state with several states assisting the disaster response.

Locally the Lake Fire darkened the sky in the Antelope Valley area and ash rained from the sky. The fire burned 31,089 acres is currently 65% contained.

Most of the fires burning were caused by lightning strikes. The amount of cloud to ground lightning in the past week was unprecedented and caused Cal Fire to call it the August 2020 lightning siege.

Southern California gets rain in the winter and has long stretches of dry conditions. Lack of rain causes

vegetation to die creating ample fuel. At certain times of the year strong winds dry out vegetation and enabling fires to spread rapidly.

Wild fires ran rampant in areas with ample vegetation and dry brush. Long periods of drought exacerbate fire risk.

Some common preparedness tips are:

- Clearing combustible vegetation from 30 feet of your home.
- Develop and practice an evacuation plan.
- Store important documents in a fire proof safe.
- Create fire breaks in your yard.



An image of a fire whirl, commonly called a fire tornado. The National Weather Service issued a rare tornado warning for the fire whirl. Fire whirls can have temperature over 2000 degrees Fahrenheit, hot enough to melt steel!!

HEADING 4



Thunderstorms

Thunderstorms are formed from rising warm air and require the three following conditions to develop: Moisture, unstable air mass, and a lifting force (usually heat). Most thunderstorms in the Antelope Valley form in the late afternoon and last several hours before dying off in the evening.



Snow

Only 2 inches of snow is enough to disrupt traffic. On average, when snow is falling traffic is slowed by 40% and winds over 20mph severely decreases visibility. When in doubt slow down a pull over. If pulled over remember to keep your exhaust vent clear to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning!!!

FAST FACTS

80%

Of Americans live in a county impacted by a weather related disaster.

39%

Of Americans developed and discussed an emergency management plan.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please visit FEMA.gov or ready.gov.



Flash flooding can occur quickly from heavy downpours. At Edwards AFB the soil does not absorb much water causing water levels to rise. 6 inches of water can cause a car to float. If you see deep water do not drive into it. When in doubt, turn around!!!

GAS GAS GAS!!!

By Dave Babcock

Preparing for a Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Explosive (CBRN) attack is a marathon. Airmen are deployed to locations where chemical weapons have been used to devastating effects.

Earlier this year Syrian fighter jets dropped a Sarin bomb followed by dropping a chlorine cylinder. Many people were injured and the Syrian government denies the incident.

Alexey Navalny, a critic of Vladimir Putin was recently poisoned. Based on preliminary reports his symptoms mirror nerve agent exposure. He is in serious, but stable condition. The German hospital treating him specializes in mitigating Russian poisonings.

Nerve agents work by attacking the nervous system. Acetylcholine is a neurotransmitter used to contract muscles to move, breathe, etc. Nerve gas overloads the body through constant stimulation of the nervous system by constant, excessive exposure to acetylcholine. Eventually, the body tires out and death occurs through suffocation, choking or heart failure.

Nerve gas is not the only threat out of many that can cause these symptoms and even death, and that is why the base is ensuring Airmen are prepared and ready for any type of CBRN attack. In fact, Airmen are trained to put their mask on in under 9 seconds with their eyes closed. This is why we use Mission-Oriented Protective Procedures (MOPP) gear. At times, it will be uncomfortable and hot; however, the skills we teach our Airmen will help them survive under CBRN attacks.

MOPP gear consists of the following gear listed below.

- M-50 mask: Used to filter out CBRN agents.

- Mask carrier: Used to protect the mask from the environment.
- Over garments: Clothing designed to be worn over normal uniforms and keeps biological or chemical contamination out.
- Gloves and over boots: Durable butyl rubber used to prevent contact with contamination.

MOPP gear consists of different levels listed below:

MOPP Ready — Protective mask is carried. First set of suit, gloves, and boots are available within two hours, second set within six hours.

MOPP Level 0 — Worn: uniform. Carried: Protective mask. Immediately available: suit, boots and gloves.

MOPP Level 1 — Worn: suit. Carried: Protective mask. Immediately available: boots and gloves

MOPP Level 2 — Worn: suit and boots. Carried: Protective mask and gloves.

MOPP Level 3 — Worn: suit, boots and mask. Carried: gloves.

MOPP Level 4 — All protection worn.

Learning how to properly wear MOPP gear is a perishable skill that requires constant practice and training. Be ready!



Creating an Emergency Preparedness Kit

by Bill Hopper

An important part of an emergency management plan is having a kit enabling survival. Disasters often destroy or incapacitate critical infrastructure systems leaving people without food and water.

An emergency preparedness kit should have at least three days' worth of food, water and medicine, a weeks' worth of supplies is ideal. Food used in the kit should consist of non-perishable items. The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends emergency preparedness kits have one gallon of water per person for at least three days.



For those with large families this requires large amounts of water.

Other important items to place in a kit:

- Flashlight
- Utility tools to turn off utilities
- Can opener
- Battery-powered or hand cranked NOAA radio
- Extra cell phone batteries previously charged
- First aid kit
- Map
- Fire extinguisher



- Personal hygiene items
- Baby formula
- Whistle to call for help

Emergency preparedness kits for residences are not the only way to be prepared. A smaller emergency kit can be used for work and vehicles. These kits may not be as large as emergency kits used for households; however, they should have the essentials including food, water, medicine, flashlight and NOAA radio. Remember to check all emergency kits regularly to replace spoiled or broken items.

Staying Hydrated

By Daven Solis

Summer time is upon us and that means high temperatures. Edward's AFB has an average temperature of 100 degrees in July and 98 degrees in August. Temperatures regularly soar past 110 degrees requiring all personal to stay hydrated. California experienced a record heat wave and there are no signs of temperature letting up.

A good rule of thumb is if you are thirsty you are already dehydrated. The recommended daily intake of water is 3.7 liters (125 ounces) a day for men and 2.7 liters (91 ounces) for women. Drinking 8, 8 ounce glasses of water a day is not

enough and is a misconception not supported by scientific research.

Symptoms of dehydration include: headache, decreased comfort, tiredness, confusion, dizziness, less urination, and seizures. As water loss increases symptoms become more pronounced and severe. Two conditions caused by dehydration warrant immediate attention: Heat Exhaustion and Heatstroke.

Heat Exhaustion occurs when the human body begins to overheat. Symptoms include fatigue, dizziness, and cool moist skin. Loosening clothing, staying in a cool place, and drinking water are effective treatments.

Heatstroke is a more serious condition when the human body is unable to cool itself. Immediate medical attention is required; symptoms include high body temperature, lack of sweat, racing heart rate, rapid breathing and flushed skin. Doctors will treat the patient utilizing



various methods to lower body temperature. Proper hydration prevents Heat Exhaustion from turning into Heatstroke and everyone should try to stay hydrated.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please visit ready.gov/heat or reach out to your emergency management flight wing!



Edwards AFB Emergency Management Training Schedule

By Bradley Grupenhagen

Training is an important part of the Air Force's readiness campaign. Through training airmen are able to improve their strengths, gain confidence in their abilities, and rectify any deficiencies.

The Edwards AFB Emergency Management Flight Wing offers several courses for Airmen to take. Below is the training schedule for classes from September-November 2018.

Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Defense:

- Every Wednesday. Deployers and PCS personnel have first priority. Any seats available on the Friday prior to class can be filled by any member requesting CBRN. Class size is limited to 10 students due to Covid-19.

Base Emergency Preparedness Orientation (BEPO):

- First week of each month via Zoom or Microsoft Teams.

Unit Emergency Management Representative:

- Thursday: Every 6 weeks.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Operations

- Thursday: Every 6 weeks.

Control Center Operations (CCO)

- Thursday: Every 6 weeks.

*Schedule is subject to change.

We also offer 10 emergency management training courses online on ADLS. Topics include Contamination Control Team and Post Attack Reconnaissance training.

For those who want to look into more training FEMA offers over 185 online courses that can be completed at your own pace. Highlighted courses include:

- [IS-75: Military Resources in Emergency Management](#)
- [IS-100.C: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100](#)
- [IS-320: Wildfire Mitigation Basics for Mitigation Staff](#)
- [IS-322: Flood Mitigation Basics for Mitigation Staff](#)
- [IS-325: Earthquake Basics: Science, Risk, and Mitigation](#)
- [IS-394.A: Protecting Your Home or Small Business From Disaster](#)
- [IS-907: Active Shooter: What You Can Do](#)

More in-depth training can be found using the National Preparedness Consortium. They offer free online training through several university programs sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security including:

- The National Center for Biomedical Research and Training
- Center for Radiological and Nuclear Training
- Energetic Materials Research and Training Center
- National Disaster Preparedness Training Center
- Security and Emergency Response Training Center
- Center for Domestic Preparedness
- National Emergency Response and Training Center

UPCOMING BASE EVENTS



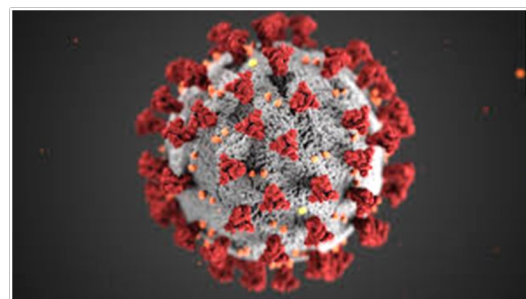
412 TW Active Shooter

The installation recently had an active shooter exercise. Follow local guidance and always be aware of exits.



Great ShakeOut

On October 15 the base will be participating in the Great ShakeOut exercise. This exercise will simulate an earthquake and test Edward's AFB response to a large earthquake. There have been several earthquakes this year along with an earthquake swarm in the Salton Sea. Due to last year's Ridgecrest Earthquake the odds of a large earthquake occurring on the Garlock and San Andreas Fault increased.



Covid-19

Base operations continue to be impacted by Covid-19. Always follow local guidance: stay 6 feet apart, wash your hands and avoid gatherings. Unfortunately, the Antelope Valley continues to be a hot spot with over 100 dead and thousands infected.

Be Ready Campaign

By Emergency Management Flight.

Launched in 2003 the Ready campaign was and still is a national public service campaign designed to educate and empower the American people to prepare for, respond to and mitigate emergencies, including natural, technological, and human-made hazards. The goal of the campaign is to promote emergency preparedness through public involvement. The U.S. Air Force adopted this proactive approach and created the Be Ready Campaign. Studies show emergency preparedness decreases anxiety, fear, and disaster losses. Knowing what to expect increases confidence and allows people to respond to any type of crisis.

The Be Ready Campaign emphasized these three tips:

1. **Get a Kit** - Assemble a collection of first aid supplies, food, water, medicines, and important papers that can sustain you and your family until the emergency passes.
2. **Make a Plan** - You and your family members may not be together when an emergency strikes. Planning ahead will improve your chances of keeping in touch, staying safe, and quickly reuniting.
3. **Be Prepared** - Anticipate emergencies most likely to affect you and your family. Being prepared will help you think through the basics of preparing yourself and your family for all hazards.

Everyone should have a plan and simple steps can be taken to improve emergency preparedness. Ask yourself the following questions:

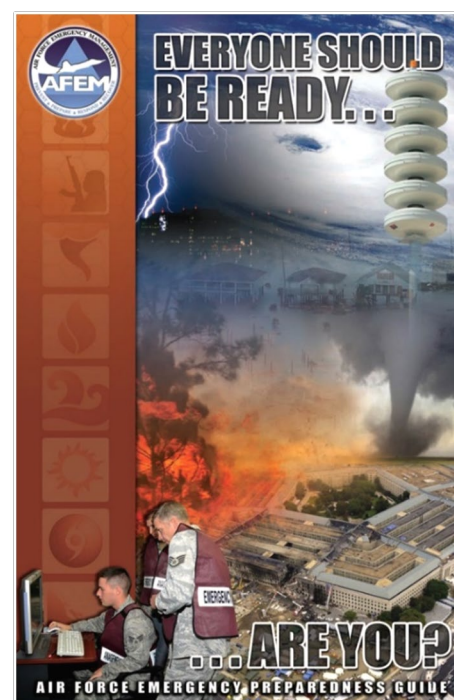
- Do I have an emergency preparedness kit with enough food, water, and medication to last me three days?
- Do I have a go bag in case I need to evacuate?
- Do I have a communication plan to contact my family?
- Are my important documents and valuables stored in safe location?

- Can I retrieve those important documents and valuables quickly, if required?
- Do I have food, water, medicine and shelter for my pet to last for three days?

If you do not have these plans in place it may be wise to invest in emergency preparedness. Creating plans now will reduce future stress.

Taking care of oneself and family is important, but so is taking of your fellow Airmen, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. Developing networks and building trust with those around you is important because it is better to have people to depend upon. The alternative is being alone after a disaster.

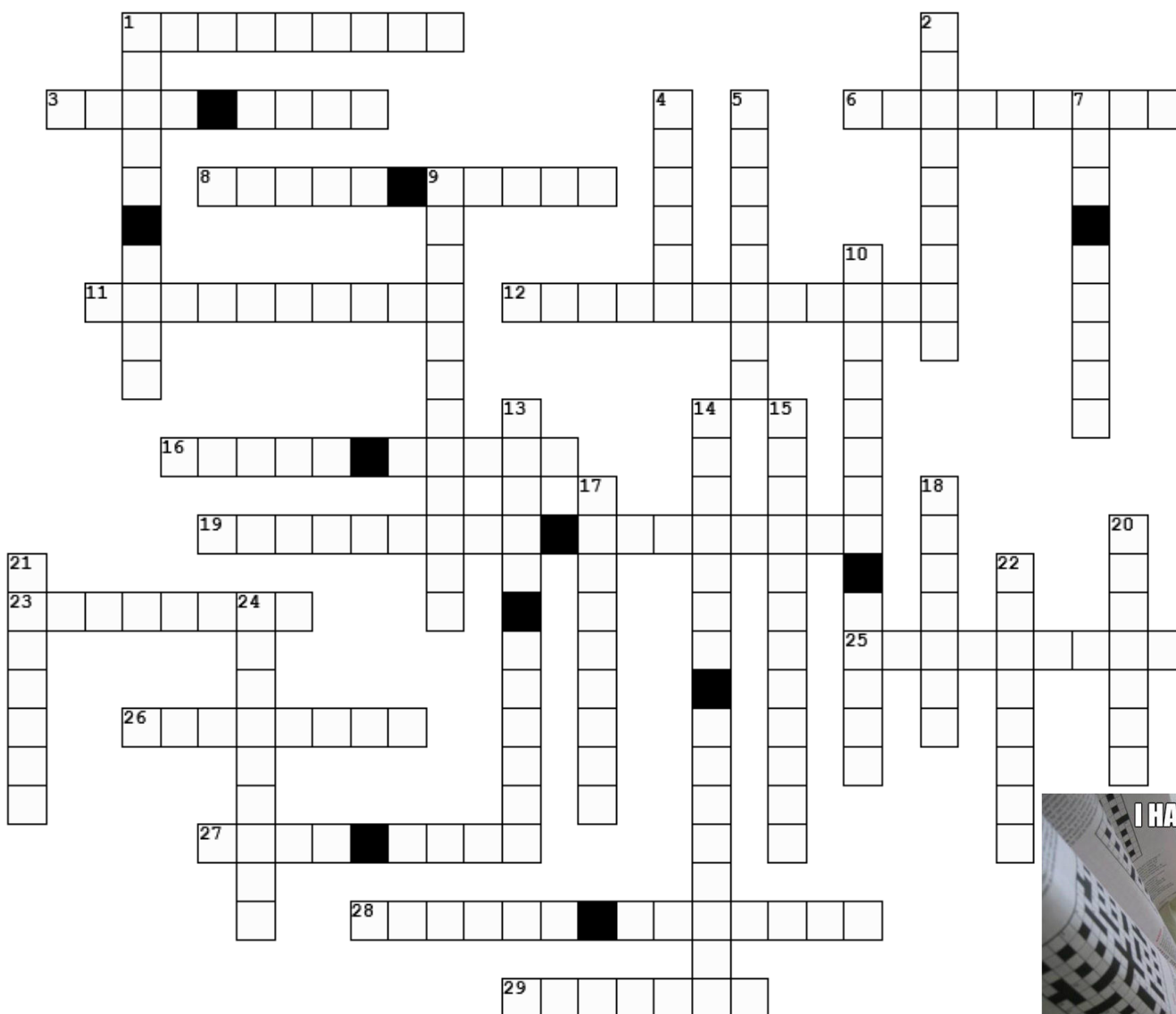
At times people may be focused on other aspects of emergency preparedness; however, it is paramount to remember our biggest asset: people. Without each other, disaster response is not possible. A single family dwelling is not a home, it becomes a home when family, and fellowship are involved. The same could be said about this installation. At the end of the day, we all have to help each other out and the first step is preparing ourselves and our family. After preparing ourselves and families we can focus on strengthening connections creating a resilient and sustainable community.



Name: _____

Disasters!!!

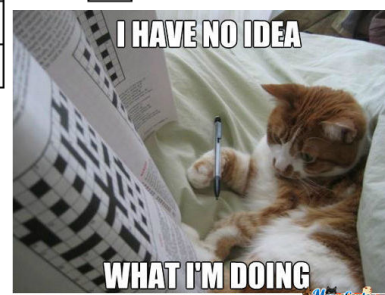
Complete the crossword below.

**Horizontal**

1. Watching your retirement go down the drain; cough 2008 cough.
3. A gusty meteorological event that can damage trees, property, and farms.
6. Acts of violence or threats against people or property with intimidating intentions.
8. Large amount of energy released from the sun.
11. Release of energy from Earth's lithosphere.
12. Saturated or partially saturated soil losses strength from applied stress causing it to behave like a liquid.
16. Overflow of water caused by large amounts of rain during a short period of time.
19. A disgruntled employee punches his boss.
23. A hole or depression in the ground caused by the collapse of the surface layer of sediment.
25. Can occur 10 miles away from rainfall, avoid isolated trees.
26. An unusual increase in a naturally occurring disease that already exists in a certain region or population.
27. An unpredictable conflagration.
28. An event where an individual or individuals use firearms to harm or kill others.
29. Method of the Earth releasing pressure.

Vertical

1. Large waves known to capsize ships at sea.
2. Large air system that moves around a low pressure system.
4. Widespread scarcity of food or livestock.
5. Severe winter storm with low visibility and temperature.
7. Mr. Freeze.
9. Slumbering giant underneath Yellowstone.
10. Slow rise of water leading to inundation of land masses.
13. A short or long term loss of electricity.
14. MMM Chernobyl.
15. An event that can create strong winds, hail, and tornados.
17. Large mass of snow and rock moving down a mountain side.
18. A period of prolonged below average precipitation.
20. Violent rotating column of air.
21. Large amount of water that breaks near the coast, receding water is a warning sign.
22. Wiped out the dinosaurs.
24. Mass displacement of rock and sediment.

***First 10 to complete the crossword puzzle get a prize!!!******Visit 501 N. Rosamond Blvd to receive your reward.***

Useful Resources

The following links are useful for emergency preparedness planning. Below is the schedule for the September National Preparedness Month 2018:

Air Force Be Ready - <https://www.beready.af.mil/>

FEMA.gov - <https://www.fema.gov/>

Ready.gov. - <https://www.ready.gov/>

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute: - <https://training.fema.gov/emi.aspx>

National Preparedness Consortium: <https://www.ndpc.us/>

Preparedness Checklists and Toolkits - <https://www.fema.gov/preparedness-checklists-toolkits>

Edwards Air Force Emergency Management Newsletter

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