

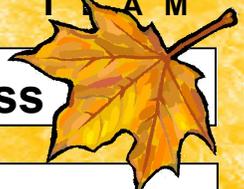


CERT NEWS

HSR3—SERVING THE CITIZENS OF
GRAYS HARBOR, LEWIS, MASON, PACIFIC
AND THURSTON COUNTIES

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Flooding Happens - so Practice Flood Preparedness



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Flood Preparedness

Like any disaster, preparedness is the key to reducing the impact. To prepare and respond to a flood, you should consider these suggestions:

- Even though any location can flood, determine your risk by reviewing your local flood maps.
- Assemble an emergency kit, make a family communications and evacuation plan then practice it
- Avoid building in a floodplain unless you elevate and reinforce your home
- Plus, if you live in such an area, elevate the furnace, water heater and electric panel
- Consider installing "check valves" to prevent flood water from backing up into the drains of your home
- If feasible, construct barriers to stop floodwater from entering your home and seal walls in basements with waterproofing compounds
- Learn about the water hazards in flood water; contamination, disease danger, hidden hazards, drowning, etc. Teach your kids!
- Anchor fuel tanks which can contaminate your basement or damage buildings downstream if torn free
- Do not camp or park your vehicle along streams, rivers or creeks - particularly during threatening conditions

- Do not walk through moving water. Six inches of moving water can make you fall. If you have to walk in water, walk where the water is not moving. Use a stick to check the firmness of the ground in front of you.

Driving During Flooding

- Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars causing loss of control and possible stalling
- A foot of water will float many vehicles
- Two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles including sport utility vehicles (SUV's) and pick-ups
- Do not attempt to drive through a flooded road. The depth of water is not always obvious. The road bed may be washed out under the water, and you could be stranded or trapped
- Do not drive around a barricade. Barricades are there for your protection. Turn around and go the other way
- Do not try to take short cuts. They may be blocked. Stick to designated evacuation routes
- Be especially cautious driving at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers
- Do not "surf" behind vehicles or play in flooded waters
- Please share this information with young drivers!



The Newest CERT Members

DSHS
 Grays Harbor College
 City of Lacey
 Centralia Police Dept and Riverside Fire Authority
 Harstine Island / Mason County
 WA State Dept of Personnel (2 classes)
 Panorama
 New Market Voc Skills Center (2 classes)
 Ocean Shores Elks Club
 Boy Scouts / East Oly FD



Upcoming CERT Class

Chehalis Tribe CERT class—September 17-19, 2012. Call Vivian Eason to register: (360) 867-2825

Preparedness Includes Your Computer

There is a great deal of preparation that users should take into account in order to protect data...just in case a computer is lost or destroyed.

First, most Internet Service Providers (ISPs) provide for online account access. Check with your ISP and find out how to read your email online. This will allow you remote access from any location with an internet connected computer. Write down that access information, including the URL (Internet address) along with your username and password.

Back up your important data. If that includes everything on your hard drive, then back up the entire hard drive. If you don't know how to do this, research your options. There are online sites that backup and store your information. You can also backup your data onto another piece of hardware like an external hard drive and/or a data storage device like a memory stick or CD/DVD disk. If you need help, ask a local computer expert to assist you.

Don't forget to backup your address book and favorite Internet sites list. If you have a super secret list of passwords, save that too.

Be sure to include your backed up data along with your other important papers in weatherproof storage and if you must evacuate, take it with you.

Please note that if your computer gets wet, do not attempt to turn it on. Serious electric shock can result. You should assume that all data is lost but if you must attempt it, ask for a data recovery specialist to help.



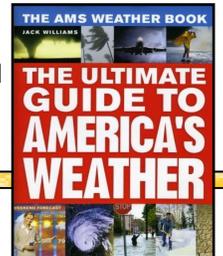
The HSR3 Disaster Library

The AMS Weather Book: The Ultimate Guide to America's Weather

by Jack Williams

"The most comprehensive and up-to-date guide to our weather and our atmosphere, it is the ultimate resource for anyone who wants to understand how hurricanes form, why tornados twirl, or even why the sky is cerulean blue. Written by esteemed science journalist and former USA Today weather editor Jack Williams, The AMS Weather Book, co-published with the American Meteorological Society, covers everything from daily weather patterns, air pollution, and global warming to the stories of people coping with severe weather and those who devote their lives to understanding the atmosphere, oceans, and climate. Words alone, of course, are not adequate to explain many meteorological concepts, so The AMS Weather Book is filled with engaging full color graphics that explain such concepts as why winds blow in a particular direction, how Doppler weather radar works, what happens inside hurricanes, how clouds create wind and snow, and what's really affecting the earth's climate.

For Weather Channel junkies, amateur meteorologists, and storm chasers alike, the AMS Weather Book is an invaluable tool for anyone who wants to better understand how weather works and how it affects our lives." - *an online review*



National Flood Insurance Program

Since standard homeowners insurance doesn't cover flooding, it's important to have protection from the floods associated with hurricanes, tropical storms, heavy rains and other conditions that impact the U.S.

In 1968, Congress created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to help provide a means for property owners to financially protect themselves. The NFIP offers flood insurance to homeowners, renters, and business owners if their community participates in the NFIP.

Participating communities agree to adopt and enforce ordinances that meet or exceed FEMA requirements to reduce the risk of flooding. Find out more about the NFIP and how it can help you protect yourself.

Check the site's online Flood Maps to assess your updated risk and for more information.

www.floodsmart.gov

The Great Washington Shakeout Earthquake Drill!



You are invited to join thousands of people who will Drop, Cover and Hold on October 18th at 10:18 am in the 2012 Great Washington ShakeOut!

Participation is a great way for your family or organization to become better prepared to survive and recover quickly from big earthquakes.

Washington State officials hope to register more than 1 million state participants and will count all who register at www.shakeout.org.

By registering for the ShakeOut, you or your organization will:

- Be counted in the largest-ever earthquake drill in Washington!
- Be listed with other participants in your area (*optional*)
- Be an example that motivates others to participate & prepare
- Be updated with ShakeOut news and preparedness tips
- Have peace of mind that you, your family, your co-workers and millions of others will be better prepared to survive and recover quickly from our next big earthquake!

Registering for the 2012 Great Washington ShakeOut commits yourself, your family or household to conduct a "drop, cover and hold on" drill on 10/18 at 10:18 am (get that "coincidence"?). If necessary, you can hold your drill at another time this day.

There are many ways for individuals, businesses, schools, faith-based organizations, community groups and others to participate in the ShakeOut, to get prepared for earthquakes and to share what you're doing with others so they can do the same.

Check out the ShakeOut website for tips about how to promote participation and how to prepare for and evaluate the event.

www.shakeout.org/washington



CERT Instructor Eric Moore consoling "victim" Darla

Around Homeland Security Region 3

• Grays Harbor ~ Tsunami Fact Sheets

Understanding Tsunami Hazards in the State of Washington ~ How vulnerable is....Aberdeen, Cosmopolis, Grays Harbor County, Hoquiam, Montesano, Ocean Shores and Westport

www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us/info/dem/Index.asp

• Lewis County ~ Sandbag FAQ's ~ General

information about using and filling sandbags.

lewiscountywa.gov/sandbags-frequently-asked-questions

• Mason County ~ Emergency Needs Survey

Form ~ This form is to provide Mason County with information and the location of those with special needs so that appropriate action can be taken in the case of an emergency.

www.co.mason.wa.us/forms/dem/special_needs.pdf

• Pacific County ~ PCEMA Updates, Current Information on Weather, Disasters and

More! Follow the latest information on Pacific County Emergency Management's blog!

www.pcema.blogspot.com

• Thurston County ~ Emergency

Management Moves into New Digs! ~ Last April, Thurston County Emergency Management moved into a brand new Emergency Management Coordination Center (ECC) and provides the county with an earthquake-stable ECC with improved technology equipment

9521 Tilley Rd. SW ~ Olympia

www.co.thurston.wa.us/em/



edited with abandon by:

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HSR3 County and Tribal Websites

Chehalis Tribe: <http://www.chehalis-tribe.org/>
 Grays Harbor County: <http://www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us/info/DEM/>
 Lewis County: <http://lewiscountywa.gov/em>
 Mason County: <http://www.co.mason.wa.us/dem/index.php>
 Nisqually Indian Tribe: <http://www.nisqually-nsn.gov/>
 Pacific County: <http://www.co.pacific.wa.us/pcema/>
 Quinalt Indian Nation: <http://209.206.175.157/>
 Shoalwater Bay Tribe: <http://www.shoalwaterbay-nsn.gov/>
 Skokomish Tribal Nation: <http://www.skokomish.org/>
 Squaxin Island Tribe: www.squaxinland.org/emergency_management/
 Thurston County: <http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/em/>

If you are reading this newsletter and are interested in seeking *free* CERT training, just ask how to set up a class. Thurston County residents please call or email Vivian Eason at (360) 867-2825 / easonv@co.thurston.wa.us. Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason and Pacific County residents contact Sonya Kroese at (360) 867-2817 / kroeses@co.thurston.wa.us.



Uniting Communities ~
~ Preparing the Nation



How to Find Government Help After a Disaster

If you've been affected by recent natural disasters, resources are available to help you recover from fire or flood damage. Visit www.USA.gov for current disaster recovery information, like how to apply for disaster assistance and information to help you recover and rebuild.

More Training Opportunities

Skywarn Weather Spotter Training

This is your opportunity to be a Weather Spotter Volunteer. The National Weather Service will train new and veteran spotters on how to look for and report significant weather events. Training is scheduled for October 25th, 2012 from 6:30-9 pm at Thurston County Emergency Management. To register, contact Vivian at easonv@co.thurston.wa.us or call (360) 867-2825.

www.co.thurston.wa.us/em/

2 FEMA Emergency Management Institute Courses

IS-907 - Active Shooter: What You Can Do – a very informative free course about what to do if you suddenly find yourself in an area with an active shooter. This is a 30-45 minutes video-based course designed to help you get out alive. This is a *highly* recommended course for family members, parents, adolescents and community members at large.

www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS907.asp

IS-55.a Household Hazardous Materials – A Guide for Citizens

This course was designed for the general public. The course will introduce you to household hazardous materials and things you can do to protect yourself and your family from injury or death. Dangers from chemical products depend greatly on the individuals using them. Chemicals are safe to use when people read the directions and use them correctly.

www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is55.a.asp



Don't be Caught in the Dark!!

Emergency Preparedness Expo

Saturday, October 13, 2012 ~ 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Saint Martin's University
Marcus Pavilion & Worthington Center
5300 Pacific Ave. SE, Lacey

Guest Speakers include:

10:30 a.m. Andy Wappler – PSE – Take Winter by Storm

1:00 p.m. Hollie Smith, Thurston Co. EM – Animal Preparedness

Expert speakers and vendors with information on emergency preparedness, food storage and other topics.
Games, door prizes and more!!



Details: 360-867-2825
www.co.thurston.wa.us/em/expo

Partners:

Thurston County Emergency Management Council • KGY
Saint Martin's University • The Olympian