



Highlights:

Ebola Guidance for 9-1-1 and EMS Responders

FEMA's PrepareAthon! Set for September 30th

WUI Wildfire Mitigation Desk Reference Guide

Westerners Joining Jihad: Implications for U.S.

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For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov.

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Ebola Guidance for 9-1-1 and EMS Responders

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) posted "[Interim Guidance for Emergency Medical Services \(EMS\) Systems and 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points \(PSAPs\) for Management of Patients with Known or Suspected Ebola Virus Disease in the United States](#)" to their website this week. The guidance is also intended for law enforcement and fire service agencies.

This interim guidance aims to help medical first responders effectively treat patients with potential [Ebola](#) symptoms and to keep those workers safe. It provides proposed caller queries for PSAPs in areas where Ebola cases might be confirmed. It also provides guidance on patient assessment procedures for pre-hospital EMS, patient transport, infection control, use of PPE, cleaning transport vehicles, and reporting.

Two American patients were transported to the United States after catching the virus, but so far no confirmed cases have been detected here. This report stresses that the likelihood of contracting Ebola is extremely low, but all first responders should understand their role should confirmed cases of the virus show up here.

Coordination between PSAPs, the EMS system, healthcare facilities, and the public health system is important for a coordinated response to Ebola. Each 9-1-1 and EMS system should seek the involvement of an EMS medical director to provide appropriate medical oversight. This guidance is not intended to set forth mandatory requirements or establish national standards.

Staff and representatives from the Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services (FICEMS) collaborated with the CDC to provide technical input to the guidance. FICEMS includes representatives from multiple federal agencies including the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Health Affairs, the U.S. Fire Administration, and an appointed State EMS director.

(Source: [CDC](#))

FEMA's PrepareAthon! Set for September 30th

The second [America's PrepareAthon!](#) for 2014 will focus on preparing for winter storms and earthquakes. This national day of action is scheduled for Tuesday, September 30th, and is a chance for citizens, organizations, and whole communities to prepare and learn about hazards specific to their region in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The InfoGram is distributed weekly to provide members of the Emergency Services Sector with information concerning the protection of their critical infrastructures.

This is a great opportunity for emergency management agencies to work more closely with citizens in the community, including them in mitigation and planning efforts and educating them on the hazards they face. There is still time to organize a local event to be included on the PrepareAthon! website and map.

Groups holding events include scout troops, multi-agency partnerships, communications companies, and survival groups. Over 13 million participants are registered nationwide. By [registering](#), people have access to collaboration efforts, national forums, updates from FEMA, and other resources.

Other hazard-specific guidance available includes wildfire, flood, hurricane, and tornado. Visit the program website to find out more about [America's PrepareAthon!](#) or participate in the conversation via Twitter by using #PrepareAthon.

(Source: [PrepareAthon!](#))

WUI Wildfire Mitigation Desk Reference Guide

The National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) released the [Wildland Urban Interface \(WUI\) Wildfire Mitigation Desk Reference Guide](#) (PDF, 1.26 Mb) this week, giving communities a new reference tool to assist in boosting their wildfire mitigation plans and preparations.

The desk reference explains wildland urban interface (WUI), wildfires, mitigation efforts, and risk more fully. It goes on to list the various national mitigation groups, programs, and opportunities working to make communities safer. It also lists important research done on the topic as well as various laws and policies.

The guide provides consistent terminology for all levels of government, the media, communities, and citizens, and will enable them to better work together toward a common goal as wildfire season continues.

(Source: [NWCG](#))

Westerners Joining Jihad: Implications for U.S.

Two recent deaths of Americans overseas are bringing increased attention on westerners traveling to the Middle East to fight in the ongoing unrest and uprisings. Reports of the [beheading of an American journalist by an apparent British national](#) were quickly followed by the [death of an American in Syria](#) where he was fighting with the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

Both the British and American governments are concerned these fighters could come home and put their new training to work. [England requested help from the public](#) in identifying people who have gone to learn to fight, then returned and may be showing signs of radicalization, concerned they may carry out attacks at home.

The United States has not made that plea, but it is [concerned about Americans being recruited by terrorist groups](#) and believes at least 100 citizens are fighting overseas with groups such as ISIS.

ISIS has threatened to attack the United States, though what an attack may look like is unknown. There are currently no known specific threats, but increased situational awareness and caution as the 9/11 anniversary approaches is advised.

(Source: [Congressional Committee on Homeland Security](#))

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For information specifically affecting the private sector critical infrastructure contact the [National Infrastructure Coordinating Center](#) by phone at 202-282-9201, or by email at nicc@dhs.gov.