

# The InfoGram



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## Active shooter response resources and training websites

Active shooter incidents are not going away. They can and do happen without any notice or indication. Being prepared as a community will help keep people alive and improve overall response. The time to train, practice and prepare for an active shooter is before an incident happens. This applies not just to first responders but to everyone in the community.

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) [Active Shooter Preparedness website](#) divides resource up by category: [First Responder](#); [Human Resources or Security Professional](#); [Private Citizen](#); and [Active Shooter Workshop Participant](#). Each category provides information tailored to that group. This site is updated regularly.

The Emergency Management Institute's (EMI) Independent Study program offers the online course "[Active Shooter: What You Can Do](#)." One of the most accessed offerings in the Independent Study program, it has over 100,000 completions so far in 2018. The intended audience is non-law enforcement students; in fact, a large number of people who work in business or at schools take this course.

Local jurisdictions are encouraged to share the EMI active shooter course and DHS resources page with their communities. Most active shooters happen in businesses and workplaces, but schools, government buildings and houses of worship are also targets. Being prepared as a community will help keep people alive and improve overall response.

(Source: [DHS](#))

## NFPA updates alternative energy storage and solar safety training

In response to the increasing use of residential solar power and energy storage systems, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has updated and expanded its [Energy Storage and Solar Safety Training](#) program for the fire service.

According to [PV Magazine](#), residential use of energy storage systems increased by a factor of nine during the first quarter of 2018. In fact, use of energy storage systems have nearly doubled each quarter since the beginning of 2017. The trend shows no indication of slowing down as more states provide incentives for home owners to install solar power systems.

Fire departments are, therefore, more and more likely to encounter residential solar installations and associated energy storage systems at residential fires. These pose serious hazards to firefighters not familiar with high-power battery energy storage systems and without proper training they are at risk for electrical shock, exploding batteries and reignition of fires.

[NFPA's energy storage system website](#) highlights the updated instructor-led classroom training available, but also gives fire departments links to NFPA codes and standards associated with these electrical systems, reports on battery energy storage system hazards, quick reference guides for first responders and other related content.

## Highlights

Active shooter response resources and training websites

NFPA updates alternative energy storage and solar safety training

FirstNet deployable network provides communications in emergencies

2018 FDNY Symposium: now all-digital, on-demand and free



U.S. Fire Administration

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

NFPA also offers [free “Energy Storage Systems Safety Online Training”](#) self-paced program for fire departments in the United States. It covers terminology, types of systems, basic electrical theory, emergency response procedures, pre-incident planning and hazards involving high voltage commercial and residential energy storage systems.

(Source: [NFPA](#))

## FirstNet deployable network provides communications in emergencies

First responder agencies connected to FirstNet now have access to the full fleet of 72 dedicated deployable network assets, giving responders reliable connectivity during disasters and emergencies.

[FirstNet assets are mobile cell sites linking to FirstNet by satellite but not relying on commercial power.](#) The 72 deployables are housed in sites across the country, allowing a 14-hour maximum delivery window following an emergency request. Deployment is prioritized based on a number of factors.

The FirstNet Response Operations Program aligns with the National Incident Management System (NIMS), giving first responders better command and control of their network.

These assets are available for planned events or for emergencies. So far this year the AT&T FirstNet team supported almost 100 events including wildfire response, active shooter situations and the Merrimack Valley gas explosion. See how [FirstNet deployables supported Whiteville, North Carolina’s response to Hurricane Florence](#) after they [lost all land-based mobile communications](#).

(Source: [FirstNet](#))

## 2018 FDNY Symposium: now all-digital, on-demand and free

With support from the Fire Department of New York (FDNY) Foundation and the National Fallen Firefighter’s Foundation, the FDNY is proud to announce the Department’s Symposium is returning soon to its new home at [fdnypro.org](#).

What’s more, keeping up with the modern lives of the nation’s first responders, the [2018 FDNY Symposium is now all-digital, on-demand and free](#) to all first responders. The webcast event featuring the Department’s Bureau of Training will be available November 1 to December 31, 2018, streaming to any device, anytime.

Each Symposium Webcast speaker will highlight FDNY operations and hone in on topics of interest to those directly involved in the fire and EMS professions. Courtesy of the National Fallen Firefighter’s Foundation, this event is FREE to all first responders.

(Source: [FDNY](#))

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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**.

The U.S. Fire Administration maintains the Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC). 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](mailto:emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov).

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