The InfoGram

Planning for supply chain disruptions

It doesn't take a major disaster to cause disruption to the medical supply chain. We are currently in the middle of a bad seasonal influenza peak which by itself caused a shortage of IV bags, flu shots, and both prescription and over-the-counter flu medications nationwide.

The "Supply Chain Disaster Preparedness Manual" from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) helps healthcare emergency managers and healthcare supply chain managers identify events that may impact their facilities, create plans to address supply chain disruption and plan an all-hazards cache of medical supplies to ensure operations can continue during and after a disaster.

The manual serves as a framework for a coordinated disaster response with supply chain management as a focus. Topics covered include team makeup, hazard vulnerability analysis, issues with planning and vendors, and state and federal response overviews. The manual also offers discussion questions to consider.

The CDC includes detailed worksheets covering different medical departments, supplies needed, departmental expectations, and reminders to consider things not normally kept on hand (e.g., non-medical sanitary or comfort care needs). Non-medical departments within the facility (e.g., security or janitorial services) should also be consulted.

The CDC takes a whole-community or system-wide perspective to this planning effort. Bringing people or teams together from different parts of the supply chain ensures the disaster plans are more robust and more contingencies are covered.

(Source: CDC)

2018 Wildfire Community Preparedness Day Grants Available

State Farm and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) are again providing grant funding to support community wildfire risk reduction projects through this year's Wildfire Community Preparedness Day on May 5, 2018. Communities can apply for the $500 grants through March 2, 2018.

Examples of projects include community clean-up days, fire prevention workshops, youth community service projects - anything that helps your community become more prepared for wildfire. For project ideas and tips on creating a winning application, check out the Wildfire Community Preparedness Day website.

The 2017 wildfire season was extremely active with nearly 10 million acres burned in the United States, very close to being a record. Many communities were devastated literally overnight.

This is a great opportunity for your fire department or emergency management office to partner with the community, teaching homeowners and businesses how to limit and mitigate their wildfire risk. These programs can go a long way to lessening damage and loss of life in future wildfires.

(Source: NFPA)

Highlights

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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.

State of 911 for 2017: report shows use of technology advancing

The 2017 National 911 Progress Report (PDF, 2 MB), just released by the National 911 Program, compiles the latest state and national data about 911 systems. This important tool gives information about progress toward NG911, annual funding and revenue, operations and more.

The 2017 report provides information state 911 leaders, National Association of State 911 Administration (NASNA) members and legislators can use to develop effective policies at all levels of government. 911 stakeholders can also reference this report when implementing strategies to improve 911 services.

One of the biggest trends seen this year is the increasing use of new technology, including Next Generation 911 (NG911), Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) and text-to-911. A few interesting findings from the report include:

- VoIP and text-to-911 calls increased by 20 percent in the last year.

- Among 25 reporting states, there was a collective 623 percent increase in the number of text-to-911 messages from 2016 to 2017.

- Twenty-two states reported being in the installation and testing phase of NG911 component implementation; an increase from 18 states in 2016 and 11 states in 2015.

The report summarizes data gathered from a record 48 participating states and territories, supported by NASNA, with the goal of improving local, state and regional emergency communication systems.

For more information, email Laurie Flaherty with the National 911 Program or call (202) 366-2705.

(Source: 911.gov)

Tactical EMS team needs and capabilities

The International Public Safety Association (IPSA) would like to better understand joint law enforcement and fire/EMS Tactical EMS (TEMS) teams' capabilities, and requests assistance from TEMS teams to do so.

IPSA's TEMS Committee created a comprehensive survey to accurately assess the number and capabilities of teams in the United States and abroad. There is currently no national knowledgebase allowing TEMS teams to connect with one another, and there are no national standards for such things as training needs.

IPSA hopes to get a baseline measurement of the current level of TEMS teams as well as their needs. The survey takes 3-5 minutes and is open to all TEMS teams both in the United States and around the world.

(Source: IPSA)

DHS and the FBI encourage recipients of this document to report information concerning suspicious or criminal activity to the local FBI office and also the State or Major Urban Area Fusion Center.

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.**