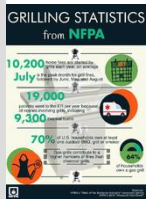


Individual & Community Preparedness Newsletter



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Fire Up Your Grill (Safely!)

Grilling is a popular summer activity! According to the [National Fire Protection Association](#) (NFPA), seven out of ten adults have a grill or a smoker. But along with tasty meals comes an increased risk of home fires and injuries. Check out these helpful tips to make sure you and your family stay safe while serving up delicious meals:

- Only use propane and charcoal grills outdoors.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill.
- Clean your grill consistently to prevent grease and fat buildup.
- Make sure the gas grill lid is open before you light.
- Check for gas leaks before use.
- Keep charcoal starter fluid away from children and other heat sources.
- When you are finished grilling, let coals cool completely before disposing.

Have fun and stay safe this summer! Check out additional grilling safety tips from NFPA [here](#).

CERT & Communities



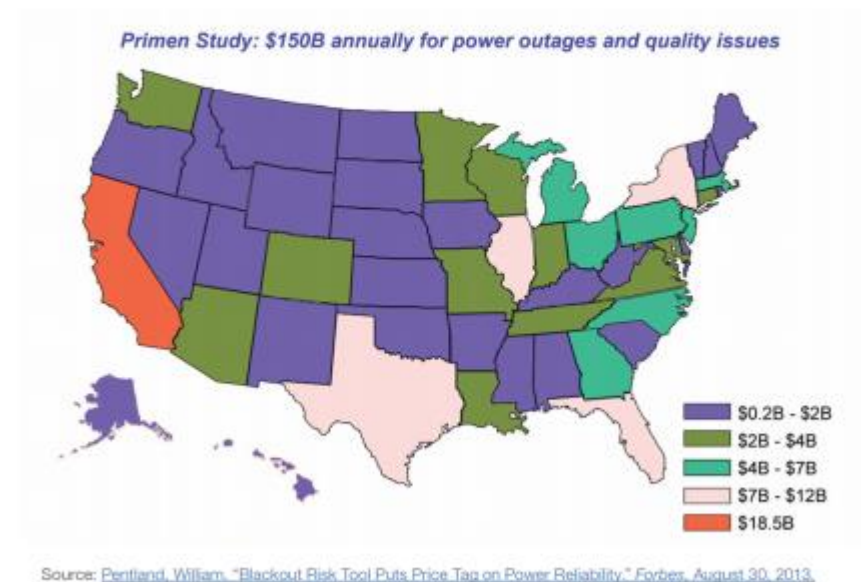
Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency “Rounds up” CERTs for a Rodeo

Building preparedness in your community is an ongoing process. [Community Emergency Response Team](#) (CERT) Rodeos are one way to keep skills fresh and maintain strong working relationships. They also give CERTs a

chance to work with local, state, and federal emergency management professionals.

On Saturday, May 4th, several Rhode Island CERTs gathered for a CERT Rodeo. They “saddled up” and took part in a day of skill-sharpening activities. They came together thanks to the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (EMA). Rhode Island EMA has been hosting CERT Rodeos for several years. This past May, about 40 members from six different communities attended the event. [Read more...](#)

ANNUAL BUSINESS LOSSES FROM GRID PROBLEMS



Empowering your Business or Organization for Power Outages

Even if you aren't in school anymore, fall can feel like a time for new beginnings. As mindsets shift away from summer vacation, it's a natural time to start planning for the future. It's a great time to review your own preparedness and become aware of resources that may help you. Some states are more prone to hurricanes, while others should invest in winter storm preparations. Some emergencies, like [power outages](#), can happen anywhere, at any time of year. FEMA's can help you prepare for things that may affect your area.

Power outages can be caused by high winds, flooding, or local infrastructure issues, like overwhelmed power grids or fires. [Read more...](#)

Webinar: Non-Traditional Facilities and Emergencies

Non-traditional facilities, like libraries and senior centers, can be powerful resources during disasters and emergencies. Join [FEMA](#) for a webinar August 27 from 12:00 – 1:00 PM EDT to learn more about their role in emergencies. For more information and to register, click [here](#).



Making Mitigation Work: A Webinar Series

The [Natural Hazards Center](#) in partnership with FEMA will soon launch a new webinar series, Making Mitigation Work. These free, one-hour webinars will feature innovative speakers and highlight recent progress made in mitigation policy, practice, and research. Webinars kick off Tuesday, August 13, 2019! Learn more about the series [here](#).

Natural Hazards Centers Research Programs

The [Natural Hazards Centers](#) is offering small grants for post-disaster and mitigation research.

Quick Response Research Program

With the support of the [National Science Foundation](#), the Quick Response Research Program provides small grants to researchers after extreme events. This can allow them to collect data before memories fade and physical evidence is erased. Learn more [here](#).

Mitigation Matters Research Program

With the support of [FEMA](#) and the National Science Foundation, the Mitigation Matters Research Program provides small grants to researchers for studies on natural hazards mitigation. These grants are typically between \$1,500 and \$2,500. Proposals will be evaluated twice per year. The nearest deadline is October 1, 2019. Learn more [here](#).

Children & Disasters



FEMA's [Youth Preparedness Council](#) (YPC) Summit was held July 16-17, 2019. The [American Red Cross](#) National Headquarters in Washington D.C. hosted the event.

During the year, YPC members break into three teams to work together on a project. The teams focus on youth preparedness education, citizen responder programs, and financial preparedness. Members also meet with FEMA personnel to give feedback on strategies and programs. The YPC Summit is an annual event for YPC members to gather and share their ideas. YPC members serve on the Council for two years.

This year's Summit was packed with activities. [Read more...](#)



Youth Preparedness Council members with Acting Administrator Pete Gaynor (All YPC photo credits to Leslie Jean).

Introducing the 2019-2020 Youth Preparedness Council

FEMA's Youth Preparedness Council was created in 2012. It brings together young leaders from across the country who are interested in disaster preparedness and want to

make a difference in their communities. Members complete disaster preparedness projects to fit their community's needs.

FEMA selected the eight new members of the council based on their dedication to public service. They also evaluated community involvement and potential to expand their impact as national supporters for youth preparedness. Learn more about this year's Youth Preparedness Council [here](#).

The 2019 Youth Preparedness Council selectees are:

- **Maxwell Hahn**, Pennsylvania
- **Jordan Lin**, Georgia
- **Megan Wright**, Georgia
- **Banan Garada**, Illinois
- **Wyatt Reed**, Arkansas
- **Sibi Raja**, Colorado
- **Madeline Ortiz**, Alaska
- **Hsin Ya (Jessie) Huang**, Oregon

The returning Youth Preparedness Council members are:

- **Maryam Choudhury**, Connecticut
- **Katerina Corr**, New York
- **Mackenzie Hinson**, North Carolina
- **Hannah Schultz**, Michigan
- **Camden Larsen**, North Dakota
- **Roberto (RJ) Cárdenas**, California
- **Grace Harris**, California

Financial Preparedness



Back-to-School Spending and Saving

The end of summer means the beginning of another school year. Your family might be buying school supplies, sports equipment, or new books. You may even

be outfitting a dorm room or apartment. Back-to-school shopping can be a good opportunity to talk to kids about budgeting—and saving! [Read more...](#)



Emergencies and Disasters: Are You Financially Prepared?

Join FEMA this [National Preparedness Month](#) for a webinar on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 from 1:00 – 1:30 PM Eastern Time. This 30-minute webinar will include presenters from [FEMA](#) and the [Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation](#) (FDIC). Presenters will provide financial tools, resources, and strategies to help you better prepare and bounce back from unexpected events. Register [here](#) and share your preparedness activities using the hashtags #NatlPrep or #PrepareNow on social media!

Share Your Stories

If you have a story, event, or resource you would like to share, let us know at FEMA-prepare@fema.dhs.gov.

Register Your Event

Register your event today www.ready.gov/prepare. Whether you are hosting a Prepareathon event, CERT training, or other preparedness event—be counted, get access to resources, and share with others!

Important Dates

- **August 13:** First webinar in the [Making Mitigation Work](#) webinar series, 1:00–2:00 PM EDT
- **August 19:** [World Humanitarian Day](#)

- **August 26:** Women's Equality Day
- **August 27:** [Libraries and Non-Traditional Facilities in Emergencies](#) Webinar, 12:00–1:00 PM EDT
- **September:** [National Preparedness Month](#)
- **September 2:** [Labor Day](#)
- **September 4:** [Emergencies and Disasters: Are You Financially Prepared?](#) Webinar, 1:00–1:30 PM Eastern Time

Disclaimer: The reader recognizes that the federal government provides links and informational data on various disaster preparedness resources and events and does not endorse any non-federal events, entities, organizations, services, or products. Please let us know about other events and services for individual and community preparedness that could be included in future newsletters by contacting

FEMA-prepare@fema.dhs.gov.

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