

CONFLUENCE confluence serves as an intersection where we share events, interests, and important information about our Center and the state's all-bazard emergency management pathway programs.

bout our Center and the state's all-hazard emergency management pathway programs.

BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION 2022 | ISSUE 44

www.coehsem.com



BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Looking for a great career opportunity? Thinking about career options or looking to change careers?

The climate change crisis has created significate educational opportunities in Emergency and Risk Management for industries, government, and public service. Join the workforce to help maintain national security, response to all-hazard events and help build strong resiliency in a changing world.

Our current CTC programs focus on 6 major pathways:

- Criminal Justice •
- Cyber/Technology •
- Medical and Health Services •
- Fire/Wildland •
- Homeland Security Emergency Management ٠
- **Occupational Health and Safety** •

These pathway programs begin in the K-12 systems with 15 of our statewide skill centers. Students can gain credits toward certificates and degrees with the Washington's 34 community and technical colleges. Occupational and degree paths are also listed by colleges and programs.

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PUBLICATION CREDIT

MONTH - PREPARE TO PROTECT

OUR TEAM

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Criminal Justice

The Criminal Justice pathway includes the processes and interactions that occur between the police, courts, and correctional services.



Cybersecurity/Technology

Those who pursue the Cyber Security pathway will develop and use the skills necessary to detect, document, and counter virtual security threats.



Homeland Security Emergency Management

The pathway of Homeland Security Emergency Management is comprimised of individuals who are ready to respond to emergency situations such as natural disasters or public health threats.



Fire/Wildland Services

The Fire Service pathway deals with things like fire protection, fire prevention planning, fire education, and emergency preparedness.



Emergency Medical and Health Services

The pathway of Emergency Medical and Health Services deals largely with the performance of basic life-saving skills.



Occupational Health and Safety

Occupational Safety and Health professionals work to prevent accidents and health hazards to workers, the community, and the environment.

All programs with degree options can be found at: https://www.coehsem.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Career-Pathway-Resource-Guide_2021.pdf

COE HIGHLIGHTS

FY22 IMPACT STATEMENT

Economic Development Focus

Currently, 86,000 employees are documented in the CTE Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security Clusters. Government and public service organizations employ about 80% of this workforce with 20% employment in private sector. There is a growing demand in this cluster for security and protective service professionals, law enforcement.

A CoE-HSEM 2021-22 Careers Pathway Guide was published and distributed. It provides up-to-date information on all-hazard emergency management career pathways as well as six career pathway programs located at our State Board Community and Technical Colleges and Washington State Skills Centers.

For more information, visit: <u>https://www.coehsem.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Pathways-Resource-Guidebook.pdf</u>

Industry Sector Strategy Focus

The Center supported the establishment of a corporate emergency management work group. The group will complete a compressive and inclusive assessment of current curriculum and will collect research data to support the development of a private sector corporate EM certificate. Private hiring authority KSA needs are not well understood in the private sector in a time when there are ever increasing corporate risks and threats caused by natural and intention acts causing emergencies and disasters.

Washington State Firefighter JATC (Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee) brought together fire departments and their respective labor associations to support Pierce College Fire Services Apprenticeship which offers valuable on-the-job training in conjunction with technical instruction which meets NFPA standards, is accredited, and provides college-level credit. The apprenticeship consists of accredited recruit academy training, hazardous materials training, EMT training, followed by on-the-job training and academic instruction that supplements the craft of firefighting. Apprenticeships are eligible for G.I. benefits and applies toward a college education. The Center's Pathway Resource Guidebook provides information and links to every state community and technical college.

To view our Pathway Resource Guidebook, visit: https://www.coehsem.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/

Pathways-Resource-Guidebook.pdf

Fire Service Program links

Pierce College: https://www.pierce.ctc.edu/fire-servicesleadership-management

Bates Technical College: <u>https://www.batestech.edu/programs/</u> fire-service/

Columbia Basin College: <u>https://www.columbiabasin.edu/learn/</u> discover-your-path/health-sciences/fire-science/index.html

Everett Community College: <u>https://www.everettcc.edu/</u> programs/prof-tech-ed/public-safety/fire-science

North Seattle College: <u>https://northseattle.edu/programs/fire-</u> science

Skagit Valley College: <u>https://www.skagit.edu/academics/areas-of-study/public-service-social-science/fire-science/</u>

Spokane Community College: <u>https://scc.spokane.edu/What-to-</u> Study/Public-Services/Fire-Science

Walla Walla Community College: <u>https://dept.wwcc.edu/fire/</u>

Wenatchee Valley College: <u>https://www.wvc.edu/academics/fire-</u> science/index.html

Equity/Access

Women in Leadership Profiles

Confluence news magazine has published 12 feature stories on women (*photographed on right*) in emergency management career fields since the winter quarter of 2021. Each profile highlights women from different HSEM career fields in public, private, and non-profit organizations.

To view the articles, visit: <u>https://www.coehsem.com/</u> <u>confluence-newsletter/</u>

The Center expanded current and future workforce supply recruiting future Native educators and tribal members to obtain a Tribal HSEM Certificate. The certificate can be completed in 3 terms and applies to the Associates Degree in HSEM. This effort also supports ESSHB 1130 (2020) legislative focused on expanding future educator workforce supply.

The Center identified training capacity, skills gaps, trends, and best practices gaps and needs within the HSEM career pathway that requires the development of curriculum and a certification process for a Certificate in Accessible and Equitable Emergency, Risk, and Crisis Management to be established. Research and data have identified that implicit bias and inequity are present throughout the structure, procedures, and outcomes of emergency management. The certification process will integrate equity as a core tenant of community engagement in resilience, preparedness, response, and recovery processes.

12

Stories on women in emergency management career fields published







Elizabeth Klute



Michele Turner



Brittany Barnwell



Tanya Knight



Shannon Marheine







Toya Moore



Mary Kay Bredeson



Brandi Hunter



Dr. Amelia Phillips



Tiffany Brown





Workforce Supply/Demand Focus

The Center supported the HSEM Program and collaborating colleges to develop a new Healthcare Emergency Management Certificate being offered through Pierce College. The certificate allows students to take on emergency management duties as part of existing healthcare jobs, or to embark on new careers in healthcare emergency management which is a rapidly growing field as nearly every healthcare organization and hospitals are being required to implement emergency preparedness programs.

To view, visit: <u>http://catalog.pierce.ctc.edu/preview_</u> program.php?catoid=15&poid=6620&returnto=874

The Center worked with the HSEM Program to establish a Disaster Risk Management Certificate to address business and industry needs for KSA in the business continuity and risk management for employment in private/corporate sector. The certificate is designed to be completed in 2 terms and supports military service members and others wanting career advance in the business sector.

To view, visit: <u>http://catalog.pierce.ctc.edu/preview</u> program.php?catoid=15&poid=6619&returnto=874

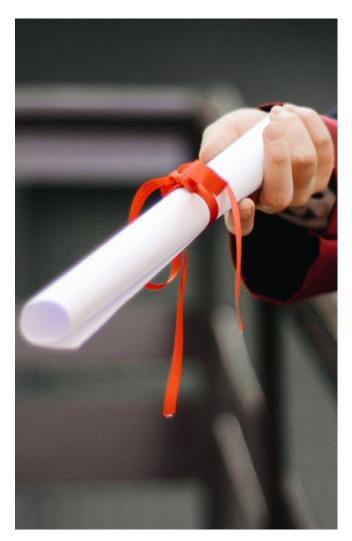
Education/Innovation/ Efficiency Focus

Worked with 19 Criminal Justice (CJ) SBCTC programs and employers to implement standard course numbering, a statewide model core curriculum, completed the CJ OER curriculum, and embedded DEI work in its curriculum. The model core curriculum assists colleges with their CJ programs marketability and provides a common assessment mechanism for CJ program in WA.

Climate Change: A Practical Guide

The Center published a guide through the Confluence Newsletter on climate change impacts and how more extreme weather, rising temperatures, and climate change can affect our health, homes, finances, safety, and day-to-day activities. The guide provides information on what actions can be taken to prepare for floods, wildfires, landslides, snow, and other weather emergencies.

To view the guide, visit: <u>https://www.coehsem.com/</u> <u>climate-change-a-practical-guide/</u>



Summary of FY 21-22 Work Plan Report

Activity

01

Provide leadership and Guidance that aligns with State Boards Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) vision and goals – "Recovering and Eliminating Racism and Implicit Bias"

The Center, working with its Advisory Board, has adopted program goals that supports the SBCTC system to integrate and maintain DEI principles in all of the Center's Career Pathway Programs curriculum. The goal is to improve education outcomes for all underrepresented communities to build a diverse and competitive workforce.

The Board established a working sub-committee. Michele Turner leads with board members, faculty, staff, and students.

Outcomes

- DEI subcommittee chair will lead a discussion during Strategic Planning session to share what we have learned and our Outcome objectives.
- Report on collaboration with DRB Women in Business Continuity Management: key themes for discussion include professional development, growth in women's careers, skills or functional limitations, innovation and growth skills.
- CHMURA data available and reports have been completed on most programs areas.

Activity

Pathways to Partnerships: Collaboration among COEs, pathway programs, and public/ private partnerships.

02

The Center Directors and staff continue to hold bi-weekly meetings to expand and enhance their collaborations to partner with others including college leadership and SBCTC staff. COEs have worked together to support transitions in staffing that have occurred in 50% of the Centers over the past two years.

- Board established the Public and Private Partnerships subcommittee being lead by Vince Davis.
- Identify and lead discussion on career prospects for emergency management, role of an emergency manager plays in the corporate setting including industry terminology, compiling job descriptions, and conducting interviews with private sector risk/emergency managers.
- Develop curriculum/courses that could be implemented within the HSEM Degree Program.
- Assist in developing training on the topic of emergency management roles in the corporate setting. Trainings will be offered to students and working professionals.

Continued from Page 6

Activity

Career Connected Pathways-Assessment, Training, Curriculum Development, and Experiential

The goal is to develop student experiential learning opportunities and easy access to employers by developing a plan to cultivate strong partnerships with business and organizations that are able to offer these opportunities

Outcomes

- Established an active Scholarship Board to advise the endowment of the Jamye Wisecup and award scholarships and currently has raised over \$10,000 of the \$30,000 needed.
- Center Advisory Board established a subcommittee for the Work Experience objectives being lead my Meg Ryan and has been focused on best practices of a career management system with a professional career network and platform to effectively improve access and enhance current systems in our colleges.
- Center and an identified Working Group of collaborators will assess the need for developing curriculum/courses for an Inclusive Preparedness: Access/Functional Needs Certificate.
- Centers of Excellence are collaborating on a data base initiative utilizing the CHMURA data management tool that provides workforce trends reports and the Center staff have completed initial reports on all of our programs.

Activity

04

The state currently supports over 86,000 employees in the CTE Cluster of law, public safety, corrections, and security. There is a growing demand in this cluster for security and protective service professionals, law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians. Governmental and public service organizations employ about 40% of the workforce, with 60% employment in the private sector.

CTE Cluster: Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security Educational Attainment

- Center continues its collaboration with its statewide Criminal Justice (CJ) Work Group Programs holding quarterly meetings to implement a core curriculum, standard course numbering, OER textbooks, and embed DEI work in the curriculum.
- Center working with the state's Fire Services Programs and fire fighter associations/councils has established a working group to continue our discussions and efforts to build program capacity and increase the pipeline of firefighters in the workforce. Our Board Member Joey Dilley has a lead role in organizing the colleges work group and helping to design a training study that will include impact on recruitment, retention, funding, and resource need. They are expected to hold their first virtual meeting on May 26.

FY 23 Work Plan Report

Guidance Assessing Programs for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Provide leadership and Guidance that aligns w/State Boards Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility(DEIA) vision and goals – "Recovering and Eliminating Racism and Implicit Bias

The Center, working with its Advisory Board, has adopted program goals that supports the SBCTC system to integrate and maintain DEIA principles in all of the Center's Career Pathway Programs curriculum. The goal is to improve education outcomes for all underrepresented communities to build a diverse and competitive workforce. The Board established working sub-committees. Michele Turner's leads w/Board Members, faculty, staff, and students. Pattijean Hooper leads the work group for access/functional needs.

Outcomes

- DEIA initiative will connect with the Women in Business Continuity organization by working with the Advisory Board's DEIA sub-committee. Florence Moss, a Women in Business Continuity organization member, will be invited to join the Center's Advisory Board and work with the Committee to review current Work Plan and revise it as needed.
- Continue to utilize the Project Management Tracking System/Dashboard established by the DEIA committee to track outcomes/products. Quarterly reports will be completed.
- Current 11 member workgroup for the Center Board and Senior Fellow members along with organizations and groups with DEIA expertise will develop a curriculum/course for a Certificate in Accessible and the 3rd quarter.

Activity

Activity

02

Pathways to Partnerships: Collaboration among COEs with an Employer Engagement Seminar/Conference.

Hold a state-wide conference/seminar in Collaboration with the Supply Chain Center of Excellence and other Centers that choose to participate, employers, affiliated organizations, professional/technical faculty, and students to develop and deliver information and training opportunities.

- Educate up to 45 professional and technical faculty, instructors, and deans on how to meet the changing economic and environmental challenges. 15 faculty/instructors and deans per quarter.
- Develop a certification/training program for faculty and industry. Complete in 3rd quarter of the year.

Activity

Pathway to Understanding Public-Private Partnership in Crisis, Risk, and EM and Continuity of Operations Management

Develop a "corporate" Emergency Management Program which describes career options for emergency managers outside of the public sector; the pros and cons of corporate and public sectors EM; the role of EM in the corporate setting; challenges for EM in corporate environments.

Outcomes

- Board sub-committee work group will complete an assessment of current capabilities and gaps in first quarter.
- Complete data research to understand key risks and threats, both natural and human-caused, need to hire for corporate/company positions for managing emergencies and disasters in the 1st quarter.
- Complete design steps for Corporate EM curriculum including identify corporate culture types, skills needed/require, and strategies aligned with the culture and best practices. Complete in 3rd quarter. Review comments and identify additional action items by 4th quarter.

Work Experience Market Place – Mentorship, Coaching, and Job Shadowing Opportunities

Activity

04

Develop 20 (5 per quarter) experiential learning opportunities, e.g. internships and mentorships, for students in all-hazard HSEM programs which includes a strategy that aligns w/mission of DEIA and connects employers/students directly reducing barrier to participation in marketplace. Continue with Women in Leadership Profile series for Confluence News Magazine. Continue to support several activities related to Career Connect and help K-12 students, parents, and high school and college staff/faculty to navigate the dual credit, career and technical education (CTE) pathway.

- Center and Pierce College partners will continue working on the Pierce County Careers Connection (PC3) project and offer other SBCTC system colleges the template and support to replicate similar website capabilities. Identify funding resources to add 2 additional districts that would be interested in replicating the Pierce pilot. Report quarterly.
- Continue to engage employers/colleges in joining Handshake and AWB jobs website services.
- Provide opportunities/incentives to employers to provide career/skills advancement for employees. Quarterly education/training workshops and seminars will provide skills development learning opportunities for participants to mentor and coach student. Job shadowing opportunities will be included in outcome.
- Identify apprenticeship/inter-agency internships that support disciplines. Will be reported quarterly with a goal of 20 work experience opportunities. Reported quarterly.

Activity

CTE Cluster: Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security Education Attainment

The state currently supports over 86,000 employees in the CTE Cluster of law, public safety, corrections, and security. There is a growing demand in this cluster for security and protective service professionals, law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians. Governmental and public service organizations employ about 40% of the workforce, with 60% employment in the private sector.

- Center continues its collaboration with its statewide Criminal Justice (CJ) Work Group Programs holding quarterly meetings to implement a core curriculum, standard course numbering, OER textbooks, and embed DEI work in the curriculum and organize and support quarterly meetings of the CJ Work Group and support implementation of their work plans. Report Quarterly.
- Center working with the state's Fire Services Programs and fire fighter associations/councils has
 established a working group to continue our discussions and efforts to build program capacity and
 increase the pipeline of firefighters in the workforce. COE will work with the newly established
 Fire Services Working Group (59 members) and its co-chairs to: connect all of the SBCTC programs,
 design and complete a survey identifying need/gaps in curriculum, equipment, training, critical
 KSAs/learning outcomes, and faculty/staff capacity. Quarterly reports.
- Assess effectiveness of expansion of Apprenticeship Programs for Fire and OSH. Look for opportunities for retraining sites funded by L and I. Complete first quarter.
- Working with the current six (6) Advisory Board Members who represent all-hazard EM/Security staff at State Agencies, organize a meeting to discuss the development of a All-Hazard EM State Agency Working Group, develop strategic plan for collaboration. Complete during first quarter.



Gov. Jay Inslee holds press conference about CJTC expansion



State Sen. John Lovick and Gov. Jay Inslee watch as King County Sheriff Patti Cole-Tindall speaks in support of the regional proposal unveiled Thursday (Governor's Office Photo)

On July 21st, governor Jay Inslee held a press conference where other law enforcement officials and legislators assembled to outline proposals on the expansion of the Criminal Justice Training Center to Pasco, Vancouver, and Everett-Bellingham.

Our Center and our CJ Work Group were involved in helping to publish a Basic Law Enforcement Training Study in 2018 which recommended a regional approach for enhancing and expanding training.

To view the conference, visit: <u>https://tvw.org/</u> video/governor-jay-inslee-press-conference-2022071114/?eventID=2022071114

New podcast featuring The Future of Emergency Management after 2020: The New, Novel, and Nasty

Jim Mullen interviewed authors, Curry Mayer and Robert McCreight on their brand new book, *The Future of Emergency Management after 2020: The New, Novel, and Nasty.*

About the featured authors:

Dr. Robert McCreight has advised federal and state government on spectrum risk issues such as WMD threats, EMP scenarios, crisis management and strategic analysis over a 47 year career. The author of 4 books and numerous journal articles on homeland security, national defense and emergency management he also served as an adjunct professor at Penn State , George Mason, George Washington, and Virginia Tech, where he taught graduate courses in crisis and emergency management, homeland security, defense policy and assessing WMD threats. He is the author of An Introduction to Emergency Exercise Design and Evaluation (Bernan Press, 2016).

Curry Mayer is currently the Director of Emergency Management for Seattle, Washington. She is an emergency management and homeland security expert with over 25 years of experience in California and Washington D.C. She has developed programs for all levels of government. Mayer is a Board Member for the WA211 network and Co-chairs the Advisory Board for the Center for Excellence in Homeland Security and Emergency Management. THE NEW, NOVEL, AND NASTY

Buy the book at:

https://read.amazon.com/kp/embed?asin=B09QMNLWFV&preview=newtab&linkCode=kpe&ref_=cm_sw_r_kb_dp_6YX-95P1Q4ZQX89X2N4T8

Other ways to order:

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Mail to:

Rowman & Littlefield, 15200 NBN Way, PO Box 191 Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214-0191

Listen at: https://soundcloud.com/user-851177719/ Blue F interview-with-curry-mayer-and-robert-mccreight - PAGE 11 -



BREAKING NEWS (LANDSLIDES) COLUMBIA RIVER BLOCKED BY MASSIVE LANDSLIDE 1446-1447 AD

By Nancy Aird

The 1446-1447 AD Bonneville Landslide (also known as The Bridge of the Gods Landslide) blocks Columbia River where the river bisects the Cascade Range near presentday Cascade Locks. The southern escarpment of Table Mountain in Washington State slid, releasing 5-6 square miles of debris up to 400 feet thick into the river. The resulting 300 foot deep lake backed up 170 miles back to present day Tri Cities. It was mostly eroded by 1690, but the Cascade Rapids and Celilo Falls marked the spot. How are we able to estimate the magnitude of the fault slippage, date, and devastation without modern seismic data? Indigenous knowledge and geo-forensics provided clues.

"Bridge of The Gods Landslide" on YouTube features Central Washington University's geologist, Nick Zentner's lecture on the slide. He quotes various people and evidence to date the slide, explaining how it affected the river and when the river started flowing again.

• Lewis and Clark journals from 1805 provided some clues from their canoe portage around Celilo Falls and the Cascade Rapids on the Columbia. They called it "The Greatest Mart of the West" and noted indigenous people came to trade there. The area was a gathering place to fish the annual salmon runs. They also noted partially submerged ghost tree stumps were created when the backed up water poisoned living trees, leaving dead and dying timber stands.

• Donald and Elizabeth Laurence (biologists) in 1930s surveyed 4,006 ghost trees and collected samples before the Bonneville dam submerged them and the rapids in 1938. Carbon-14 analysis was used to place the slide about 700 years before as described by John Allen in "Time Travel in Oregon". • Jim O'Connor's (USGS Research Geologist specializing in Pacific NW floods) evidence dated one outburst flood event from the landslide by locating downstream geologic rubble that had Mt. St. Helens eruption ash on top of it from 1490. The conference paper from GSA Connects in 2021 had O'Connor as co-author, Tree-Ring Dating of the Bonneville Landslide to Late 1446 or Early 1447CE.

• Chris Goldfinger is an underwater specialist in turbidities landslides. "T2" is an underwater landslide found along the full length of the Cascadia offshore in the Pacific Ocean on the Juan de Fuca Plate. Evidence of this Cascadia Subduction Earthquake shows T2 occurred 1456AD +-50 years estimated at 8.7magnitude. It is unknown if this contributed to the Bonneville Landslide.

LANDSLIDES IN WASHINGTON STATE – NOW

WA Department of Natural Resources (DNR) statistics list our state as one of the most landslide-prone states in the U.S. with 100s to 1000s each year. The following DNR site has many fact sheets to educate readers about this topic. https://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/geology/ geologic-hazards/landslides#resources_

Six of Washington's historic slides have occurred in many of our lifetimes: Tacoma Narrows April 1949, Lake Roosevelt 1944-1953, Mt. St. Helens May 1980, Aldercrest-Banyon Feb.-Oct. 1998, Nile Oct 2009 and SR 530 (Oso or Hazel) March 2014.

AFTER THE WILDFIRE – RECOVERY AND RECLAMATION OF LAND TIPS

As the population builds out into rural areas, the chances of wildfire impacting your life increases. The severity of the fire impacts not only the vegetation we see, but the soil structure and microbial community beneath. Slopes damaged by wildfire are prone to accelerated soil erosion, floods, and landslides (debris flow) from damaged vegetation and roots that protected the soil.

Evaluation of burn conditions on the land after a fire often uses $\underline{3}$ definitions to describe how the soil and vegetation was affected.

- **Burn intensity** is flame height, rate of spread, fuel load, thermal potential, canopy consumption, and tree mortality.
- **Soil burn** severity takes into consideration lack of ground cover, loss of raindrop interception by canopy cover, loss of organic matter and soil structure integrity.

• **Hydrophobic Soil** is the degree soil will absorb moisture.) Pour a cup of water on the soil. If the water beads up, the soil has been affected in that area. The temperature, duration, type of organic matter in the area produce organic chemical during combustion up to a depth of 6 inches. These substances condense and coat the soil particles making them hydrophobic.

To Test: Drop water on soil surface and observe time to infiltrate soil. Trench and test down a shallow trench to see degree soil was affected.

Slight: Less than 10 seconds. Moderate: Between 10 to 40 seconds. Strong: Greater than 40 seconds.

NEW JOB TOOL ACCOUNCEMENT

A new CHMURA (JobsEQ Data Analytics) job posting tool is coming to our COE-HSEM website (www.coehsem.com) this fall. When posted, CHMURA will let you browse the current jobs in the hottest industries. Employers and job seekers will be able to post jobs and view jobs by category. Keep a look out for further news!

RECOVERY TIPS FOR HOMEOWNERS

- Washington State University states that <u>September</u> <u>15 - October 15</u> is the best time to reseed to establish roots before winter.
- Creating barriers from debris flows (shallow landslides of saturated water creating muddy flows carrying rocks and debris) will deter erosion, destruction of fish habitat, flooding, road and utility damage.
- Check out USDA and NRCS sites on recovery, available grants, and where to get additional help recovering from fire loss.
- BURN INTENSITY/SOIL BURN SEVERITY CLASSIFICATION

 Eric Robertson and Rob Ballard October 2020 paper
 on Soils from a study on California Dolan Fire present
 an understandable presentation on how BAER (Burned
 Area Emergency Response Federal team) rate the
 soil burn severity and use data to determine erosion
 prediction models.

https://www.co.montery.ca.us/home/showpublisheddocument/97569/637388687792270000

- CARE FOR DAMAGED TREES Taking Care of Residential Trees after Wildfire – Fact Sheet by University of Nevada Cooperative Extension. <u>https://www.ucanr.edu/sites/postfire/files/247977.pdf</u>
- NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) Wildfire Risk Reduction and Recovery Tips for Homeowners. <u>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/interst/FSE-PLANTMATERI-ALS/publications/azprusal/969.pdf</u>
- NRCS-WSU Wildfire Recovery Tips Southeast Washington. <u>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet?FSE</u> <u>PLANTMATERIALS/publications/wapmcpu6202.pdf</u>
- USDA –NRCS After the Fire: Resources for Recovery <u>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/wa/</u> <u>homes/?cid+NRCSEPRD337723%20</u>
- Washington State Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network (Community resource site lists) <u>https://www.fireadapted Washington.org/roles/</u>

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH -PREPARE TO PROTECT

"The theme of this year's National Preparedness Month is "Prepare to Protect." During the past year, natural disasters have sent our communities into turmoil, and we have seen the particularly devastating toll they take on disadvantaged, lowincome communities and people of color. Beyond the physical damage done by natural disasters, these storms also exact an emotional toll on their victims, from the pain of losing a loved one to the pressure caused by financial setbacks. Therefore, we must all prepare to better protect ourselves and our communities against both immediate crises and their residual effects." – President Joseph R. Biden Jr. - A Proclamation on National Preparedness Month, 2021

National Preparedness Month (NPM) is an observance each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. As President Biden mentioned in his Proclamation, this year's theme is "Prepare to Protect." It is crucial to prepare for disasters in any way one can. When a disaster strikes, we all want to protect ourselves and our loved ones.

No matter the month, we can always learn more about planning and preparing for disasters effectively. Here is a step-by step guide on how to become better prepared.



Make a Plan

Take the opportunity to talk with friends and family about developing a communications plan that will occur before, during, and after a disaster. Then, make sure to update your communications accordingly.



Build a Kit

Gather the necessary supplies you will need during a disaster. Make sure you have enough for several

days. Be sure to include supplies for everyone living in the home. Update your kits and supplies as needed.





Low-Cost, No-Cost Preparedness

Sign up for safety alerts that help track possible disaster occurrences. It is also vital to safeguard essential documents (e.g., insurance cards, medical records, identification). These lowcost/no-cost preparedness actions can help lessen the impact of emergencies during a disaster for your family and you.

Talk to the Younger Generation about Preparedness

Talk to your kids about the importance of personal preparedness during an emergency. Develop an action plan with them in case you are separated. Provide (and reassure) them with the correct information and additional resources on how they can be more prepared for a disaster.

Resources

https://www.ready.gov/september

https://www.weather.gov/bmx/outreach_npm

https://www.epa.gov/natural-disasters/septemberpreparedness-month https://www.fema.gov/blog/september-nationalpreparedness-month

https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-foremergencies/national-preparedness-month.html