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# News from Region 10



## FEMA Region 10 Youth Preparedness Camp

### Empowering teens to practice emergency preparedness

FEMA Region 10 is seeking 40 high-school aged youth representing Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska to be selected to attend a Youth Preparedness Camp in Stanwood, Washington in August 2019. This will be an engaging and empowering way for teens to learn about and practice emergency preparedness. There will also be a variety of exciting leadership opportunities, team building, and of course, traditional camp activities to ensure for a fun week for all.

Developed under a youth engagement concept, this six-day, five-night camp, hosted and staffed by emergency management professionals, will teach students how to safely assist in the immediate aftermath of a disaster when the professional response may be delayed or limited. Subject matter experts and local emergency responders will support the curriculum delivery and introduce participants to various emergency response professions. As part of the camp program, youth participants

will identify and develop a concept for a give-back project where they will utilize their skills to improve preparedness in their communities.

*For more information about the Youth Preparedness Camp, visit: <https://www.fema.gov/region-x/community-preparedness>.*

## Mitigation March

### Communities investing in future safety and sustainability

“Mitigation March” is a campaign to encourage everyone to understand their risk of exposure to natural hazards and take actions to mitigate those risks. Throughout the month of March, FEMA Region 10 will highlight projects demonstrating mitigation, share information and ideas about understanding your risk, and provide steps to making mitigation part of our daily lives.

### What is Mitigation? Consider this:

- What if we had an earthquake and buildings were not damaged because community officials required that buildings be constructed or retrofitted to withstand intense shaking?

*Continued on next page*

*Mitigation March (cont.)*

- What if a river overtopped its banks but nearby schools were protected from flooding because they were built high enough to not get wet?
- What if a wildfire burned, but homes were not threatened because landowners had trimmed branches and thinned forests to create a large enough defensible space?

This is mitigation in action; it is the result of homeowners, building professionals, engineers, community planners, and elected officials working to provide a safe community for all of us. Mitigation is an investment in your community's future safety and sustainability. Join us to learn how proactive mitigation actions and policies help reduce risk and create safer, more disaster resilient communities. Mitigation is most effective before a natural disaster affects your community but is equally important when a community is rebuilding after a devastating hazard.

**Weekly themes for Mitigation March:**

- Week 1: March 3-9 Earthquake
- Week 2: March 10-16 Tsunami
- Week 3: March 17-23 Flood
- Week 4: March 24-30 Wildfire

Follow Region 10 on Twitter throughout Mitigation March: <https://www.fema.gov/region-x-ak-id-or-wa>.



## Recommended Reading: Are You Prepared?

### FEMA Blog provides insight on personal & community preparedness

Being prepared for an unexpected circumstance can be challenging for individuals and communities but having a plan in place for these occurrences can help decrease the amount of loss following a destructive event. "When it comes to disasters, mother nature does not discriminate," Rebecca Wiggins, Executive Director of the Association for Financial Counseling & Planning Education warns readers in her recent [FEMA blog posting](#). Focusing primarily on financial preparedness, Wiggins provides resources for individuals seeking information on how to improve financial health to expand their security in the event of a natural disaster.

In addition to material on financial preparedness, these blog postings offer perspective on what individual and family preparedness looks like in the event of an unforeseen dangerous situation.

Through her recount of a recent vacation, Rachael Neal explains the importance of small precautionary measures in her FEMA blog post, [The Importance of Personal Preparedness](#). Neal breaks down her strategy for safety in an unexpected accident during which her "Go-Bag," lifejacket, and preexisting emergency plan proved to be crucial for her survival.

For more information on preparedness and other FEMA initiatives, please visit: <https://www.fema.gov/blog>.

## Featured Trainings

### L0273: Managing Floodplain Development through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

April 29 – May 2, 2019  
Central Point, OR

Spaces are still available for this course, hosted by FEMA Region X and the Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM). This course is designed for local officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinance. The course will focus on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and concepts of floodplain management, maps and studies, ordinances administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance. The course is designed for those officials with less than three years of floodplain management experience

Tuition is free for those accepted; there are no travel or salary stipends available. To apply, please use the following application form: [FEMA Form 119-25-1 Application](#).

Please direct any questions to the course coordinator at: [michelle.schmeling@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:michelle.schmeling@fema.dhs.gov).



## Ask the Help Desk

The Region 10 Service Center is here to help local community officials and stakeholders with technical, training, mitigation, and mapping questions.

Email [RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com](mailto:RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com).

## We're Hiring! Join the RSC10 Team!

SNC-Lavalin's Atkins business (part of the STARR II Team) is hiring a GIS Analyst as part of our FEMA Geospatial Group in Lynnwood, Washington. Join the team of experts dedicated to serving the needs of FEMA Region 10 and their state and local community partners. Go to <https://careers.atkinsglobal.com/job/gis-analyst-jobid-na-003057> for details.

## Newsletter Ideas?

Want to spread the word about an upcoming event or recent success story? Let us know what you want to see in future issues! Articles can be up to 500 words and may include pictures. Email [RXNewsletter@starr-team.com](mailto:RXNewsletter@starr-team.com).

### Online Training

(All times Pacific)

#### Floodplain Development Permit Review

March 7, 9 am  
Online - 1 CEC

#### Inspecting Floodplain Development

March 7, 10:30 am  
Online - 1.5 CEC

#### CRS: Preparing an Annual Recertification

March 19, 10 am  
Online - 1 CEC

#### CRS: Credit for Floodplain Mapping (Activity 410)

March 20, 10 am  
Online - 1 CEC

#### Elevation Certificates

March 28, 10 am  
Online - 2 CECs

#### CRS: Preparing for a Verification Visit

April 16, 10 am  
Online - 1 CEC

#### CRS: Flood Insurance Promotion (Activity 370)

April 17, 10 am  
Online - 1 CEC

#### NFIP Basics

April 25, 10 am  
Online - 1 CEC

To register for online courses, visit STARR's training site:

[j.mp/starronlinetraining](http://j.mp/starronlinetraining), or email [RXTraining@starr-team.com](mailto:RXTraining@starr-team.com).