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# News from Region X

## 2012 Community Resilience Innovation Challenge Recipients

FEMA announced the selection of 30 recipients to receive funding under the 2012 Community Resilience Innovation Challenge program, including two in FEMA Region X. The program focuses on building local community resilience to man-made and natural disasters, with an emphasis on innovation, collaboration with community stakeholders, sustainability, repeatability and measurable benefits to the community.

Preparedness is a process that requires continued focus year-round. This year's award recipients are recognized for programs designed to continue to move community preparedness forward, and assist local areas in building and revitalizing community-based partnerships to advance the nation's resilience to disasters.

FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate said, "The goal of this effort is to further empower communities to collaborate and develop innovative approaches to effectively respond to disasters."

The program is being funded by the Rockefeller Foundation and administered by the Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Foundation who acted as a third-party intermediary to encourage local communities to engage in creative activities that enhance disaster resilience. Funding levels ranged to a maximum award level of \$35,000, and applications were open to most local, state, and tribal

agencies and governments; business entities; associations; organizations and groups.

Over 1,900 applications were received across the country. FEMA is grateful to all applicants for their dedication and commitment to building community resilience. FEMA recognizes that a government-centric approach to disaster management is insufficient to meet the challenges posed by a catastrophic incident. To meet our nation's preparedness goals, the whole community must be actively involved in all phases of the preparedness, response, and recovery cycle. These awards are designed to invest in and enhance the whole community effort.

### Recipients from FEMA Region X

#### ***Radio in a Box***

KRBD Community Radio -  
Rainbird Community Broadcast -  
Ketchikan, AK

#### ***Emergency Hubs at P-Patch Community Gardens***

Seattle Office of Emergency  
Management - Seattle, WA

*Additional information on the Challenge program and a detailed summary of each recipient's project can be found at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) and [www.ResilienceChallenge.org](http://www.ResilienceChallenge.org).*

### Ask the Help Desk

Need help with a mapping project or mitigation planning? The Region X Service Center can connect you to the resources you need. Email us today!  
[RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com](mailto:RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com).

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## 100 Resilient Cities Centennial Challenge

As natural and man-made shocks and stresses grow in frequency, impact and scale, with the ability to ripple across systems and geographies, cities are largely unprepared to respond to, withstand, and bounce back from disasters.

With more than 75 percent of people expected to live in cities by 2050, public and private sector leaders are expressing an increasing desire to build greater resilience, yet many have neither the technical expertise nor the financial resources to create and execute resilience strategies on a city-wide scale, in a way that addresses the need of the poor or vulnerable populations.

To enable 100 cities to better address major 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges, the Rockefeller Foundation is inviting cities from around the world to apply for the 100 Resilient Cities Centennial Challenge, a \$100 million commitment to building urban resilience around the world.

Beginning this summer the Foundation will select 100 cities through an application process. The Foundation will provide support to the winning cities to analyze the risks that will inform development of a city-wide resilience strategy. To drive the implementation of the city-wide strategy the Foundation will provide support to hire each city's first Chief Resilience Officer as well as provide advice to leverage billions of additional dollars in infrastructure financing. Selected cities will also gain membership to the 100 Resilient Cities Network to share what works.

For more information visit [www.rockefellerfoundation.org](http://www.rockefellerfoundation.org).

## 40<sup>th</sup> Oregon Planning Institute Conference



Oregon Planning Institute (OPI), is hosting its 40<sup>th</sup> conference in September 2013. OPI is a conference for land use planners and related professionals to obtain relevant training, discuss issues and opportunities, and to connect with peers for creative problem solving. 2013 is also the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Oregon's land use program hence, the theme for OPI 2013: The Next Oregon. Much is changing in the Oregon landscape. OPI strives to provide the best and most current information with which to address the exponential scale and pace of change. OPI has a strong record of providing resources for hazards planning and mitigation. Sessions have included: Floodway Development Standards; Compelling Compliance in Special Flood Hazard Areas; FEMA Consultation with National Marine Fisheries; Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning in Oregon; and Oregon Seismic Lifeline Identification. Just a few of the 2013 session topics are; discussions of scenario planning, energy transmission siting, and planning and public health. Keep an eye out for additional trainings throughout the year for resources to make and to keep Oregon communities resilient.

Scholarships are available to cover 50% of the OPI registration fee for those that meet the qualifications. The scholarship application is available at [center.uoregon.edu/OPI/](http://center.uoregon.edu/OPI/)

For more information on the conference, additional training opportunities and educational resources visit [www.oregonplanninginstitute.com](http://www.oregonplanninginstitute.com)

## How to be Financially Prepared for a Disaster

If a disaster struck your neighborhood, you would only have seconds or minutes to react. Is that enough time to find your homeowners insurance policy, bank account information, or backup your financial software? Probably not.

Financial responsibilities don't stop when disasters hit. Even if your house is destroyed, you still must pay your mortgage. And, failing to pay bills or loan payments could wreck your credit just when you need it most.

Being financially ready for a disaster is easy. Here are four steps you can take to get started today:

- Visit [Ready.gov](http://Ready.gov) to access tools and resources that will help you prepare financially for emergencies.
- Join the National Preparedness Coalition to access a national network of community partners seeking to strengthen disaster preparedness efforts.
- Download the Consumer Action Handbook, a comprehensive tool that provides guidance on how to recover after a disaster and information on other important financial aspects of your life.
- Visit [MyMoney.gov](http://MyMoney.gov) for tools and tips on ways to speak with youth on the importance of getting an early start on financial literacy.

When you're financially ready for a disaster you'll be able to get back on your feet faster

*FEMA posted this article on the USA.gov blog.*

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## Free Webinar: “Sure! I’ll move out of the floodplain!”

Information and lessons  
learned from an innovative  
flood protection project

June 18, 11 am Pacific

This webinar will describe how the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service offered a voluntary floodplain buyout for a flood-prone, economically distressed community. This unique approach prevents future flooding problems where dams, channels, and floodproofing may either be more expensive or not physically possible. One hundred properties have been purchased so far. Buildings were removed and the area was returned to natural floodplain. Participate in this webinar to learn more about this project and how it can apply to your local situations.

This webinar is sponsored by the USDA NRCS East National Technology Support Center. Contact Madalene Ransom, Ph.D., Economist, for more information about watershed economics. Contact Holli Kuykendall, Ph.D., for more information about our webinars.

For more information or to register, visit [www.conservationswebinars.net](http://www.conservationswebinars.net).

## Featured Training

Risk MAP and CRS Synergy  
for Local Officials

June 26, 8:00 am Pacific

June 28, 8:00 am Pacific

FEMA and STARR have partnered to present this one-hour session to introduce FEMA’s Community Rating System and Risk MAP programs and show how communities can use each to improve their floodplain management programs.

The overview of the two programs will be followed with specific ways Risk MAP products can help communities obtain credit under the CRS and recommended approaches for communities to take advantage of these programs.

The target audience is local floodplain managers, engineers, and CRS Coordinators.

One CEC for CFMs

Presenters: David Carlton, STARR; and French Wetmore, French & Assoc.

To register for online courses, visit STARR’s training site online at [j.mp/starrwebtraining](http://j.mp/starrwebtraining), or email [RXTraining@starr-team.com](mailto:RXTraining@starr-team.com).

## Upcoming Events & Training

(All times Pacific)

### Elevation Certificates

June 6, 10am

July 25, 10am

August 22, 10am

Online\* – 2 CECs

### Elevation Certificates for A Zones

June 19, 10am

August 15, 10am

Online\* – 2 CECs

### Determining Base Flood Elevation

June 20, 9am

August 28, 11am

Online\* – 1 CEC

### Risk MAP and CRS Synergy for Local Officials

June 26, 8am

June 28, 8am

Online\* – 1 CEC

### NFIP Basics

July 3, 9am

September 11, 10am

Online\* – 1 CEC

### Using DFIRMS and Other Digital Flood Data

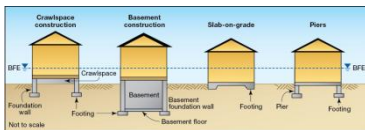
August 14, 9am

Online\* – 1 CEC

\*To register for online courses, visit STARR’s training site online at [j.mp/starrwebtraining](http://j.mp/starrwebtraining), or email [RXTraining@starr-team.com](mailto:RXTraining@starr-team.com).

## Suggested Reading

### Home Elevation Guidance



FEMA has released a Hurricane Sandy Recovery Fact Sheet titled “Foundation Requirements and Recommendations for Elevated Homes” The well-illustrated fact sheet focuses on how to elevate homes on small lots. The fact sheet can be found in our Tools and Resources at [www.starr-team.com](http://www.starr-team.com).

### American Surveyor

There is a great article in the latest issue of the American Surveyor titled “**Taking the Mystery Out of Flood Openings**” by Terri L. Turner, AICP, CFM. Surveyors and local floodplain officials will appreciate this useful resource that illustrates some important considerations when evaluating flood openings.

The newsletter can be viewed at [www.amerisurv.com](http://www.amerisurv.com).



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