

Monthly Newsletter



In Honor of Earth Month, FEMA Helps Communities Prepare for Climate-Related Hazards and Disasters

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WASHINGTON -- Each Earth Day, the Nation comes together to recognize the need for continued commitment to building a safe and sustainable planet. Throughout April, FEMA worked with partners across the Nation to recognize the effects of a changing climate and identify how communities can build resilience to withstand the risks of today, and those anticipated in the future.

“We’re looking at a future defined by climate change, one that requires FEMA to lean harder into our role as resilience-builders,” said FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell. “We’ve already seen a year of unprecedented weather events, and we need to use innovative solutions to tackle these problems today, to ensure a stronger Nation tomorrow. And thanks to President Biden’s Investing in America Agenda, we have historic-level funding to ensure communities have the resources and tools they need to prepare for future disasters.”

Throughout Earth Month, FEMA has and will continue to host activities supporting climate-change resilience, including upcoming webinars, open public comment periods on resilience-building guidance, and continued commitment to actions that protect our planet. These activities and resilience-building opportunities include:

- **Convening Partners to Share Best Practices:** On April 3, FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell opened the 2024 Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference. In her remarks to this gathering of Pacific Northwest Emergency Management, government, public, and private sector professionals, Administrator Criswell pledged the Agency’s support of their work to prepare their communities for the effects of climate-driven hazards and challenged participants to leverage partnerships to ensure the communities they serve get the help they need and deserve. On April 17, FEMA and the [DHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships](#) co-hosted a Multi-Faith Leader Climate Resilience Roundtable to address climate change and convene Federal partners and faith-based organizations focused on climate resilience. The event provided a platform for sharing resources, including [FEMA’s Guide to Expanding Mitigation: Making the Connection to Faith-Based Partners](#) and discussed opportunities for technical assistance for climate-related outreach and engagement.

- **Hosting Events to Help Communities Prepare for Extreme Heat and Wildfires:** FEMA will host two #SummerReady Extreme Heat Summits and an interagency Wildfire Webinar: These events will focus on understanding the dangers and defining actionable ways to combat and prepare for these increasing risks across the country.
 - The [first summit on April 26](#) will feature Biden-Harris Administration officials, including welcoming remarks from Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas and FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell. FEMA Senior Official Performing the Duties of Deputy Administrator for Resilience Victoria Salinas will moderate roundtable panel discussions examining Federal, state, and local initiatives to combat extreme heat risks. A second panel will include Emergency Managers, Resilience Officers, and other leaders on the front lines of extreme heat.
 - On May 21, FEMA's Extreme Heat series concludes with a hybrid in-person-virtual [summit hosted by FEMA Region 5 in Chicago](#). Building on the lessons learned from the 2023 Extreme Heat Summit, this 2-day engagement will offer opportunities for discussion, networking, and cross-collaboration between all levels of government and community partners.
 - To help individuals and communities protect themselves from the risks and effects of wildfire smoke, the Biden-Harris Administration through FEMA is hosting the first-ever [Wildfire Smoke Resilience Summit](#) on April 29. The Summit is an opportunity to learn about resources, get information about funding, and hear wildfire smoke best practices. United States Fire Administrator Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell will present along with Federal partners from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. FEMA Senior Official Performing the Duties of Deputy Administrator for Resilience Victoria Salinas will moderate roundtable discussions.
- **Building National Resilience:** On April 23, FEMA released the final "[Climate Adaptation Planning: Guidance for Emergency Managers](#)." The Guide helps Emergency Managers incorporate climate adaptation into Emergency Management planning. FEMA also released the new draft [National Resilience Guidance](#) for a 30-day public comment period. This new guidance highlights the interdependence required to build resilience including climate, ecosystem, social, economic, infrastructure, and disaster resilience.
- **Training Emergency Managers on Climate Change:** This fall, FEMA will offer a new Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Certificate Program through FEMA's Emergency Management Institute. This certificate program will be an opportunity for students to gain the knowledge and skills needed to lead climate-resilient initiatives in their community on a schedule that suits their professional and personal needs.
- **Telling the Story of Resilience:** To underscore the work FEMA and its partners do to build a Nation more resilient to the threats of stronger and more frequent weather events, FEMA publishes [case studies](#) that spotlight the projects and ideas being used across the country to increase local capacity to prevent, mitigate against, respond to, and recover from both natural and manmade threats.
- **Promoting Resources for Communities to Combat Climate Change, Funding Net-Zero Energy Projects:** Furthering President Biden's Investing in America agenda, FEMA's Public Assistance Program Grants will now cover post-disaster infrastructure investments to critical community infrastructure including schools, hospitals, and fire stations. Using technologies including solar power, heat pumps, and efficient appliances can increase energy security and resilience.

- **The Agency is also funding net-zero energy projects for its Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP),** HMGP Post-Fire and Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program, while offering incentives through its Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) annual grant program. FEMA also funds low-carbon construction materials for Public Assistance, HMGP, and BRIC. These activities are enabled by [President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act](#), the largest [investment in clean energy and climate action in the history of the Nation](#).
- **Preparing Communities for the Increase in Severe Weather Events:** All year long, FEMA's Ready Campaign helps people understand the risks they face and outlines steps they can take to stay safe. This includes [making a plan](#) to protect themselves and their families, knowing the [types of flood risk where they live](#), having [trusted sources to receive warnings](#), and [purchasing flood insurance](#).

News from the EMI Branches

Preparedness:

Fall National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Management Team (IMT) Position-Specific Training Event:

The week of September 23–27, 2024, the Emergency Management Institute, along with our partners from California Office of Emergency Services and Colorado Office of Emergency Management, will host a hybrid training event. We call it a “Hub and Spoke” delivery. California and Colorado will host three classes each in two hub locations connected to several spoke classrooms across the Nation. These are not traditional resident nor are they virtual deliveries; all classrooms will have instructors (hubs will host lead/spokes will have at least one person in a support role) and will be teaching to each other. The class list has been selected, and we are beginning the process of helping organize the spoke classroom locations. We will be organizing a series of EMI E-Forums to help inform our stakeholders. Stand by for direct communications.

Integrated Emergency Management:

Master Exercise Practitioner Program (MEPP): The application period for Fiscal Year 2025 MEPP cohorts is open until June 15, 2024. Please see the following MEPP web page for application details and instructions: [National Standard Exercise Curriculum](#). The Training Bulletin for the FY2025 MEPP Cohort Applications is located at: [Training Bulletin No. 1855: MEPP Overview Application Process FY25](#).

Planning Practitioner Program (PPP): The application period for Fiscal Year 2025 PPP cohorts is open until June 15, 2024. Please see the following PPP web page for application details and instructions: [National Standard Exercise Curriculum](#). The Training Bulletin for the FY2025 MEPP Cohort Applications is located at: [Planning Practitioner Program \(PPP\) FY 2025 Application Process](#).

L0930 Integrated Emergency Management Course: Mobile County, AL: In April 2024, EMI's Integrated Emergency Management (IEM) Branch worked with Mobile County, Alabama, to deliver a 4-day Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC). The IEMC focused on the capabilities necessary to manage the impacts of a broad cyber-attack coupled with a localized domestic terror attack. The class was attended by an experienced and dedicated group of Emergency Management officials along with other county and city officials. Attendees participated in classroom learning and simulated activities focused on improving capabilities to respond to and recover from a cyber event and infrastructure impact. The IEM Branch would like to thank our partners at the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) for supplying expertise and knowledge throughout the week.



L0930 Integrated Emergency Management Course: Volusia County, FL: EMI worked alongside Volusia County Emergency Management and the State of Florida to provide an Integrated Emergency Management Course for the community. The course brought together many local communities from Volusia County and tested their EOC skillsets during a simulated building collapse scenario. The IEM Branch would like to thank Miami-Dade County for sharing their insights from the Seaside Champlain Towers South Collapse with those in attendance at the IEMC. The following news article links highlight the impact of the IEMC on preparedness for all-hazards:

- [Volusia emergency responders receive building collapse training \(wesh.com\)](https://www.wesh.com/story/news/emergency-preparedness/2024/05/01/volusia-emergency-responder-training/7618124002/)
- [With hurricane season nearing, Volusia emergency responders train with FEMA \(clickorlando.com\)](https://www.clickorlando.com/news/local/volusia-emergency-responders-train-with-fema/2024/05/01/volusia-emergency-responders-train-with-fema/)
- [Fake condo collapse in Daytona Beach Shores is focus of FEMA training \(news-journalonline.com\)](https://www.news-journalonline.com/story/news/emergency-preparedness/2024/05/01/fake-condo-collapse-in-daytona-beach-shores-is-focus-of-fema-training/7618124002/)



Since 1982, the Community-Specific IEMC has served as a valuable training program to our valued state, local, tribal, and territorial partners. For more information on the IEMC program and the application process, please visit the [IEMC webpage](#).

On April 8–11, 2024, EMI and the District of Columbia's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (DC HSEMA) hosted an Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC) at the District's Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The 4-day course included seminar topics on the District's Emergency Operations Plan, Situational Awareness and Common Operating Picture, Mass Care, Continuity of Operations, and more, which were presented by DC HSEMA and FEMA Region III subject matter experts. In addition to seminars, several activities occurred during the IEMC; a workshop and three tabletop exercises were conducted to prepare the District for a range of threats and hazards

including extreme heat, severe storms, and mass casualty incidents. On the final day of the course, the District EOC conducted an activity, a functional exercise based on a 2025 Presidential Inauguration scenario.

FEMA Region III Administrator MaryAnn Tierney was in attendance to kick off the event (picture below with HSEMA Interim Director Clint Osborn and Associate Director, Division of Operations and Intelligence Danny McCoy).



The course was attended by 128 personnel from more than 20 District-government agencies and many other organizations from the Federal government, military, healthcare, educational institutions, utilities, and more.

Mitigation:

Building Science: Seats are still available in the following classes:

- **E2461 Advanced Building Science Series I: Flood Mitigation** scheduled on EMI campus the week of May 13–15, 2024.
- **E2462 Advanced Building Science Series I: Wind Mitigation** scheduled for May 16–17, 2024, has been cancelled.

Please continue to monitor the EMI schedule for Building Science training opportunities.

Floodplain Management: Seats remain available for E0273 Managing Floodplain Development through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) scheduled September 9–12, 2024, on the EMI campus. This course provides local, state, tribal, territorial, and Federal officials with the knowledge and skills to administer and enforce floodplain management regulations. The course focuses on the NFIP and concepts of floodplain management, flood maps and studies, ordinance administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance Applications for the E0273 offerings are processed through the NETC Online Application system.

General Mitigation Information: Applications will be processed through the NETC Online Application system. If you need Mitigation courses to support Position Task Book (PTB) requirements, registration must be completed in the Deployment Tracking System. Please contact the FEMA Incident Workforce Academy/Workforce Development Division Training Team at: fema-fqs-training@fema.dhs.gov to coordinate. If you have questions about Mitigation course deliveries, please contact the EMI Mitigation Branch at: fema-emi-mit@fema.dhs.gov.

Emergency Management Professional Program (EMPP):

EMI's EMPP Branch will start accepting applications for the National Emergency Management Advanced Academy (NEMAA), National Emergency Management Executive Academy (NEMEA), and the Master Public Information Officer (MPIO) Course from April 1–June 1, 2024, for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Cohorts. A formal selection board will convene

to review the application packages with an announcement of the results made to applicants in August. There is a limited number of spaces for each Cohort, and applications are expected to be very competitive. Applicants should first look at the entire Emergency Management Professional Program (EMPP) website to gauge for which Academy they are best suited. Applicants are encouraged to review all selection and application requirements before submitting their application package.

To apply, click the following links:

- [Application process for the Advanced Academy](#)
- [Application process for the Executive Academy](#)
- [Application process for the Master Public Information Officer Course](#)

The EMPP Academies and the PIO Program continue with a full slate of course offerings around the country this month. Here is a list of the EMPP courses scheduled in the field (L), on campus (E), or online (K) for May 2024:

Basic Academy Course Number	Location	Dates
L0101	Rockford, IL	April 29–May 3
L0101	Boston, MA	April 23–May 2
L0102	San Diego, CA	April 29–May 1
L0105	Portland, OR	April 29–May 1
L0105	Grand Junction, CO	April 20–May 2
L0105	Howell, NJ	April 30–May 16
L0110	Ellensburg, WA	April 29–May 3
L0102	Fargo, ND	May 7–9
L0103	Nassau County, NY	May 7–8
L0103	Franklin, MA	May 7–8
L0105	Schnecksville, PA	May 4–6
L0105	Richland, WA	May 8–10
L0105	Hopkinsville, KY	May 7–9
L0105	Chicago, IL	May 8–10
L0102	EMI	May 15–17
L0146	EMI	May 13–14
L0101	Lewiston, ID	May 13–17
L0101	Honolulu, HI	May 13–17
L0101	Hampton, VA	May 13–17
L0101	East Washington, NC	May 13–17
L0101	Phoenix, AZ	May 13–17
L0105	Troy, MO	May 15–17
L0105	Canyon, TX	May 14–16
L0105	Elko, NV	May 15–17
L0105	Cleveland, OH	May 15–17
L0105	Youngsville, PA	May 17–19
L0146	Bogalusa, LA	May 16–17
L0146	Troy, MO	May 13–14

Basic Academy Course Number	Location	Dates
L0146	Elko, NV	May 13-14
L0146	Boston, MA	May 14-15
E0103	EMI	May 20-21
E0105	EMI	May 22-24
L0101	Troy, AL	May 20-24
L0101	Crowley, LA	May 20-24
L0103	Boston, MA	May 21-22
L0105	Youngsville, PA	May 17-19
L0146	Nassau County, NY	May 22-23
L0146	North Richfield, UT	May 21-22
K0102	Virtual (VA)	May 29-31
L0103	Green Bay, WI	May 30-31
L0105	St Louisville, CO	May 28-30
L0105	Elyria, OH	May 28-30

Advanced Public Information Officer Course Number	Location	Dates
L0388	Santa Cruz, CA	May 6-10

Advanced Academy Course Number	Location	Dates
L0453*	Fairbanks, AK	May 6-10
L0453*	Birmingham, AL	May 20-24

**Only open to accepted Advanced Academy students*

The Basic Academy is seeking regional partners to host the L0110 Train-the-Trainer course in Fiscal Year 2024. Any interested training partners please contact: Rich Bashioum at: richard.bashioum@fema.dhs.gov.

For more information about the EMPP, please contact: Jeff Januchowski at: jeffrey.januchowski@fema.dhs.gov.

Ask a Course Manager:

Where can I find ICS 300/400 Course offerings?

ICS-300 or ICS-400 courses are conducted by Authorities Having Jurisdiction; they are authorized to teach the curriculum and provide certificates. Contact your State Emergency Management Training Office for information on deliveries [State Training Officers Contact List](#).

Why is ICS-300/400 not reflected in my transcript?

ICS-300 and ICS-400 are administered by the State Emergency Management Agency. Therefore, these courses will not reflect on your EMI transcript nor will you receive a "FEMA Certificate."

Current Training Opportunities:

Please refer to the [EMI Course Schedule](#) for a complete list of upcoming course offerings.

For More Information:

- [EMI Course Catalog](#)
- [EMI Course Schedule](#)
- [EMI Student Portal](#)
- [EMI Programs and Activities](#)
- [State Training Officers Contact List](#)
- [Independent Study Program FAQs](#)
- [FEMA Student Identification \(SID\) System website](#)

EMI Program Points-of-Contact:

EMI Branch	Email
EMPP	empp@fema.dhs.gov
IEM	fema-emi-iemb@fema.dhs.gov
Mission Support	fema-ms-branch@fema.dhs.gov
Mitigation	fema-emi-mit@fema.dhs.gov
Preparedness	fema-emi-prepbranch@fema.dhs.gov
Response & Recovery	fema-emi-RandR@fema.dhs.gov
G-course Program	fema-g-courses.fema.dhs.gov
General EMI Inquiries	emiactionoffice@fema.dhs.gov
Independent Study	independent.study@fema.dhs.gov
NETC Admissions	netcadmissions@fema.dhs.gov

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