



City of Richmond Office of Emergency Management

Emergency Management Today

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Welcome

To the first issue of **Today**, the City of Richmond's Office of Emergency Management monthly publication. Today will publish articles that seek to educate and inform City of Richmond employees and residents in emergency management.

What is an EOC?

An Emergency Operations Center or EOC, is the command and coordinating facility during an emergency or disaster. The EOC is set up to analyze the situation and make decisions to protect life and preserve property. The EOC is staffed by City personnel from a variety of departments and agencies who have been trained in emergency management and are knowledgeable in their agencies mission.

Hurricane Season is Here

Did you know that hurricane season in the Atlantic begins June 1st and ends November 30th? Once a tropical storm's wind speed reaches 74 miles per hour it is considered a hurricane. While the City of Richmond is not a coastal community the effects of a tropical storm or hurricane may impact the City. A storm that travels into central Virginia will bring damaging winds and significant rainfall amounts. These effects may cause power outages, downed trees, and flooding. Current technology allows meteorologist to start predicting the path of a system days before expected landfall.

As the system develops over time, landfall and severity predictions become more accurate. In 2012, Virginia was bracing for a major impact from Hurricane Sandy. While some of the coastal areas of the State did receive damage from this storm, the City was spared. It is important during a Hurricane or any storm that produces heavy rainfall amounts to stay at home if you can as many streets and roads may become flooded. Never drive through standing water on roads, the water can be deeper and stronger than what it seems and often a car engine will stall if submerged in water. Tune in to local media outlets for changing forecasts and warnings, and with any emergency it is essential to be ready.

National Ready Campaign

The National Ready campaign was launched in 2003. The public service announcement style campaign seeks to educate and empower residents in preparing for emergency. In 2013, Al Roker of NBC's Today Show with the Ad Council and Ready released a PSA. The ad shows Roker reporting the news in what seems like an average sunny day by the ocean. As the

situation deteriorates Roker's forecast becomes dire. To see this video and to learn about the Ready Campaign, log on to

www.ready.gov/tl/psa_multimedia



Let us know

- ♦ *If you have a topic that you would like to see covered in Today, send it to us and we will consider it for upcoming publications*
- ♦ *If you have any questions or would like to have more information on a topic discussed in Today let us know.*

Today articles and questions

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