



If you think preparing for disasters is difficult try explaining why you didn't !!



Emergency Management Update

City Wide Emergency Management Begins—Intro...

In the coming weeks I hope to share my experience and progress with you via this newsletter in regards to further implementing emergency management within the City. Not only for the City and it employees but for the Citizens we serve as well.

Coming from County Emergency Management and previous to that, Red Cross, I bring a diverse background and holistic approach to Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Mitigation.

My main duties will be to complete a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) for the City (*despite a disaster City business **must** continue*), and update the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), which will help us respond to the emergency or disaster in a complete way.

It is my hope to be able to meet and spend time with all City Departments soon so I can get to know what you do and how best to help your area plan for continuity of operations when disaster strikes. This could result from a reduction of staff due to illness, floods, or *the* devastating earthquake. It will be *our* job to continue to provide services as soon as possible after the event which will help start the recovery process. To many, recovery will be the start of "getting back to normal". Something we all will want to see happen quickly. I look forward to meeting you!

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For up-to-date WA State "watches and "warnings" go to:
www.wrh.noaa.gov/sew/

National Flood Safety Awareness Week 3/19-23/07

This week marks something familiar to us all. National Flood Safety Awareness Week. With a recent Presidentially Declared Flood Disaster (Nov. 2006) this issue is still fresh in the minds of our citizens. Now is the time to help them prepare for future flooding by providing simple tips and suggestions to get better prepared "just in case" spring floods hit us this year. The link to get more information on this story is <http://www.emergencyemail.org/newsemergency/anmviewer.asp?a=183&z=1>

You can also use this web site to sign up to receive emergency email notifications of local unusual weather, watches and warnings, FDA recalls, and homeland security issues which can be sent to your wireless, email or palm.

Employee Preparedness—Everyone Needs a Plan!



Creating a plan, for them.....

The likelihood of you and your family surviving a house fire depends as much on having a working smoke detector and an exit strategy, as on our well-trained fire department. The same is true for surviving a terrorist attack or other emergency. We must have the tools and plans in place to make it on our own, at least for a period of time, no matter where we are when disaster strikes. Just like having a working smoke detectors, preparing for the unexpected just makes sense. *Next issue: Creating a plan.*

Questions or comments can be directed to: cbadger@ci.arlington.wa.us or call 360-403-3600