

Building Nebraska Resiliency



Getting Business Back to Business Workshop Set for Sept. 12 in Omaha

Emergencies happen, but disastrous losses don't have to be the result, and the Nebraska Preparedness Partnership (NPP) is working to engage Nebraska businesses and citizens to build the readiness of private stakeholders in Nebraska.

NPP was established as a coalition of public and private entities forming relationships prior to incidents/disasters to build a more resilient community and state said **Sandra Hobson**, program coordinator.

Helping prepare, mitigate, respond and recover from disaster through advocacy, training and public partnerships is what NPP hopes to achieve.

Founded in 2014, the NPP structure includes a leadership committee and board of directors comprised of representatives from public, private and nonprofit sectors. Hobson said these groups have worked together alongside fire departments, law enforcement and emergency management agencies to design and initiate programs in the Tri-County area (Douglas, Sarpy, and Washington counties).

"We are working hard to make the State of Nebraska one of the most resilient, and to be a model for the remaining midwestern states in establishing their public-private coalitions," said Hobson. "With the support of public-private partnerships in neighboring states, FEMA, and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), NPP is continuing to grow with the intention of using a phased approach to roll out to the entire state by 2021."

NPP goals and objectives fall in step with national goals to build a

more resilient nation through awareness of not only businesses being prepared but of individual preparedness as well.

"We are eager to work with the Nebraska Preparedness Partnership to further prepare Nebraska for potential disasters," said NEMA Preparedness Section Manager **Nikki Weber**. "Nebraskans are known for supporting their neighbors and public private partnerships are just one example of how we can work together to improve the resiliency of our state."

Private/public partnerships are an integral part NEMA's efforts said NEMA Operations Section Manager **Earl Imler**.

"Private entities can do things that government can't do," Imler said. "They have resources we don't, and it just makes sense to work together to prepare for disaster."

Hobson said NPP works to empower businesses to integrate business resources, expertise and plans with those of government during all stages of disaster management. It is a coalition of the state's business and government leaders who share a commitment to strengthen the capacity of the state to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters through public-private collaboration.

Benefits of membership in NPP include:

- Earlier business re-entry to get businesses back to business to support economic recovery
- Representation in the Emergency Operations Centers to enhance communication and improve information sharing
- Business resource directory for

response and recovery resource sharing and support

- Mentoring on incident response
- Continuity planning and training with combined private and public knowledge and experience
- Private and public integrated exercises

"The larger the membership, the stronger our network and resiliency will be," Hobson said. "Please see our website (www.neprep.org) for more information on who we are and how you can join our membership."

One way to learn about the partnerships is to attend a workshop scheduled in September.

The Nebraska Preparedness Partnership has scheduled a Nebraska public/private partnership workshop:

Getting Business Back to Business

on Sept. 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Scott Aquarium Conference Center at the Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium, 3701 S. 10th St. in Omaha. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. – lunch will be provided,

The purpose of the workshop, is to emphasize the importance of building whole community resiliency to sustain economic recovery when dealing with local disasters.

How local, regional, and federal resources are available to assist businesses in preparing for a disaster before it strikes and responding to and recovering from a disaster when it happens.

Ways businesses can help rebuild the community and economy following a disaster.

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8th Annual Nebraska Citizen Corps Volunteer Preparedness Conference

Education • Training • Volunteerism

August 17-19, 2018

Bellevue University Campus

812 Bruin Blvd, Bellevue, NE 68005

Date / Time:

Friday, August 17th / 8:30am - 3:30pm

Saturday, August 18th / 8:30am - 4:30pm

Sunday, August 19th / 8:30am - 12:00pm

Who Should Attend:

Disaster responders, emergency managers, volunteers, clergy, public health officials, educators, and others interested in disaster preparedness and response. Please disseminate this widely.

Conference Agenda:

8/17: Choose from two different training tracks to improve your skills!

- Track 1: CPR / Save - A - Life training (includes Stop the Bleed, Hands Only CPR, Improvised Tourniquet, and Narcan Administration)
- Track 2: Volunteer Reception Center Training

Optional evening opportunity to tour Henry Doorly Zoo and talk with officials about disaster response procedures at the zoo

8/18: Hear from local & national experts about disaster preparedness and response. Featured speakers include:

- **Dr. Samantha Montano**, University of North Dakota
- **Chad Stover & Katrina French**, Corporation for National & Community Service
- **Mark Kitchens**, FEMA Region VII
- **Ashley Mueller**, University of Nebraska Extension
- **John Packett**, Henry Doorly Zoo

8/19: Practice your skills with a full-scale disaster exercise

Conference Registration: Free!

Light breakfast and lunch included on Friday/Saturday

Register Now

<https://go.unl.edu/2018NECitizenCorpsConf>

Questions?

email rlowry@unl.edu or call 402-472-0108

Nebraska Preparedness Partnership

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Public/private partnerships, who Nebraska Preparedness Partnership is, and what partnering with the organization means for businesses before, during, and after a disaster.

Participate with experts from emergency management agencies, corporate business partners, public/private partnerships, and other local businesses in an exercise to practice what you learned in the workshop and ask questions of other participants.

Major Topics Include:

- Emergency Preparedness for individuals, employees, and businesses
- How emergency responders, law enforcement, emergency management, and private businesses can work together to respond more effectively to local emergencies using public/private partnerships
- More rapid recovery of the community and economy following a disaster
- Participation in a local emergency tabletop exercise, prepared by Douglas County Emergency Management

The conference is designed for the following individuals:

- Small, medium and large business owners, managers, and business continuity professionals
- State, local, tribal and territorial government officials and managers
- Other business managers and personnel with business continuity and emergency responsibilities

To register contact the Nebraska Preparedness Partnership: (402) 979-7207; npp@neprep.org or visit: www.neprep.org the deadline to register is Aug. 31.