



LA National Guard Emergency Management Bulletin

September 2019
Volume FY19 Issue 12



Purpose

The National Guard (NG) Emergency Management (EM) program is responsible for all activities and operations related to preparing for, mitigating the potential effect of, preventing, responding to, and recovering from all multi-agency and/or multi-jurisdictional emergencies on or impacting NG installations nationwide. The NG EM Program functions within an all-hazards environment consisting of all natural, technological (man-made), and terroristic hazards.

Vision

To provide the NG EM services when and where they are needed with the joint and interagency capacity necessary to effectively and efficiently protect the NG community and mission capabilities from all hazards.

Mission

To provide integrated and comprehensive NG EM services necessary to protect our community and mission capabilities from all hazards in a cost effective, implementable, and sustainable manner through resiliency.

LANG EM WEB PAGE:

<http://geauxguard.la.gov/resources/emergency-management/>



IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

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LA National Guard Joint Operation
Center 888-278-8748

GOHSEP 225-925-7500

American Red Cross
1-800-RED-CROSS

Federal Emergency Management
Agency 1-800-621-FEMA

National Poison Control Center
1-800-222-1222

National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-7233



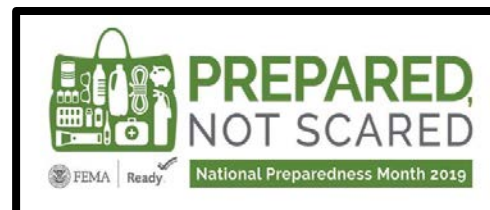
**AMERICA'S
PrepareAthon!**
Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
National Preparedness Month (NPM), recognized each September, to promote Family and community disaster and emergency planning now and throughout the year. The 2019 theme is "Prepared, Not Scared". FEMA's Prepareathon motivates people and communities to take action to prepare for and protect themselves against disasters. Its chief goals are to increase the number of people who:

- Understand which disasters could affect their community
- Know what to do to stay safe
- Take action to increase preparedness
- Improve their ability to recover from a disaster

Prepareathon events mobilize people to take an active role in protecting themselves, their loved ones, and their communities.

I hope you find this information useful. Always Remember "Be Prepared".



Michael Green
Emergency Manager Program Coordinator
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September is National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month (NPM), is recognized each September to promote Family and community disaster and emergency planning now and throughout the year. The 2019 theme is *“Prepared, Not Scared. Be Ready for Disasters”*

The 2019 National Preparedness Month Weekly Themes are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Week 1: September 1-7 | Save Early for Disaster Costs |
| Week 2: September 8-14 | Make a Plan to Prepare for Disasters |
| Week 3: September 15-21 | Teach Youth to Prepare for Disasters |
| Week 4: September 22-30 | Get Involved in Your Community’s Preparedness |

Emergencies, by definition, leave little or no time to react. The increased threat of terrorism and naturally occurring disasters demonstrate the need for our Guard Community to be prepared for any emergency.

To help prepare the Guard Community for all hazards, Ready Army encourages everyone to – Be informed. Make a plan. Build a Kit. Get involved. The Army’s campaign expands upon the national Ready campaign to provide targeted information to support the unique needs of our Guard community stationed around the world.

The Guard recognizes the continued commitment and sacrifice that Soldiers and their Families make every day. Ready Army supports that commitment by strengthening our Army community and the peace of mind of our deployed Soldiers, who can focus on their critical duties knowing their loved ones know what to do if an emergency strikes.

Soldiers take care of Soldiers; Guard Families take care of Guard Families; and in the Guard, we take care of each other. This underlying compassion creates an attitude that we are in this together. Instituting emergency preparedness and education programs such as Ready Army helps prepare the entire Army Community; and a prepared community saves lives.

For more information about disasters, preparedness, and ways to get involved In America’s PrepareAthon!, go to: <https://www.fema.gov/plan-prepare>



**“Prepared, not Scared.
Be Ready for Disasters”**



Financial Preparedness

Week 1: September 1-7 Save Early for Disaster Costs

Americans at all income levels have experienced the challenges of rebuilding their lives after a disaster or other emergency. In these stressful circumstances, having access to personal financial, insurance, medical, and other records is crucial for starting the process of recovery quickly and efficiently. Taking the time now to collect and secure these critical records will give you peace of mind and, in the event of an emergency, will ensure that you have the documentation needed to start the recovery process without delay.



1. Gather financial and critical personal, household, and medical information.
2. Consider saving money in an emergency savings account that could be used in any crisis. Keep a small amount of cash at home in a safe place. It is important to have small bills on hand because ATM's and credit cards may not work during a disaster when you need to purchase necessary supplies, fuel or food.
3. Obtain property (homeowners or renters), health, and life insurance if you do not have them. Review existing policies for the amount and extent of coverage to ensure that what you have in place is what is required for you and your family for all possible hazards. Homeowners insurance does not typically cover flooding, so you may need to purchase flood insurance from the [National Flood Insurance Program](#).
4. For more helpful financial preparedness tips, download the [Emergency Financial First Aid Kit](#) (EFFAK) to get started planning today.

The [Emergency Financial First Aid Kit](#) (EFFAK), a joint publication from [Operation Hope](#) and FEMA to help you prepare financially and provide tips to reduce the impact disasters can leave you with financially.

Household Identification

- Photo ID to prove identity of household members
- Birth certificate to maintain or re-establish contact with Family members
- Social security card to apply for FEMA disaster assistance
- Military service
- Pet ID tags

Financial and Legal Documentation

- Housing Payments to identify financial records and obligations
- Insurance policies to re-establish financial accounts
- Sources of income to maintain payments and credit
- Tax statements to provide contact information for financial and legal & apply for FEMA disaster assistance





Financial Preparedness Continued

Week 1: September 1-7 Save Early for Disaster Costs

Medical Information

- Physician information to provide doctors with health information if medical care is needed
- Copies of health insurance information to ensure existing care continues uninterrupted
- Immunization records
- Medications

Insurance Information

Having insurance for your home or business property is the best way to ensure you will have the necessary financial resources to help you repair, rebuild, or replace whatever is damaged.

[Document and insure your property now.](#)

Household Contact information

- Banking Institutions
- Insurance agent
- Health professionals
- Service providers
- Place of worship



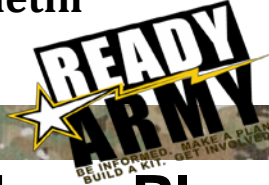
Get your benefits electronically

A disaster can disrupt mail service for days or weeks. If you depend on Social Security or other regular benefits, switching to electronic payments is a simple, significant way to protect yourself financially before disaster strikes. It also eliminates the risk of stolen checks. The U.S. Department of the Treasury recommends two safer ways to get federal benefits:

- Direct deposit to a checking or savings account. Federal benefit recipients can sign up by calling (800) 333-1795 or [sign up online](#)
- The Direct Express® prepaid debit card is designed as a safe and easy alternative to paper

Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK)

- The Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK). Use EFFAK to identify your important documents, medical records, and household contracts.
- Include pictures or a video of your home & belongings: Keep your documents in a safe space.
- <https://www.ready.gov/financial-preparedness>
- Following an emergency, having your personal documents & contact information easily available can make your recovery quicker & less stressful.



Make a Plan

Week 2: September 8-14 Make a Plan to Prepare for Disasters

Make a plan today. Your family may not be together if a disaster strikes, so it is important to know which [types of disasters](#) could affect your area. Know how you'll contact one another and reconnect if separated. Establish a Family meeting place that's familiar and easy to find.

Step 1: Put together a plan by discussing these 4 questions with your family, friends, or household to start your emergency plan.

1. How will I receive [emergency alerts and warnings](#)?

Public safety officials use timely and reliable systems to alert you and your family in the event of natural or man-made disasters. This page describes different warning alerts you can receive and the types of devices that receive the alerts.



During an emergency, alert and warning officials need to provide the public with life-saving information quickly. Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs), made available through the [Integrated Public Alert and Warning System \(IPAWS\)](#) infrastructure, are just one of the ways public safety officials can quickly and effectively alert and warn the public about serious emergencies.

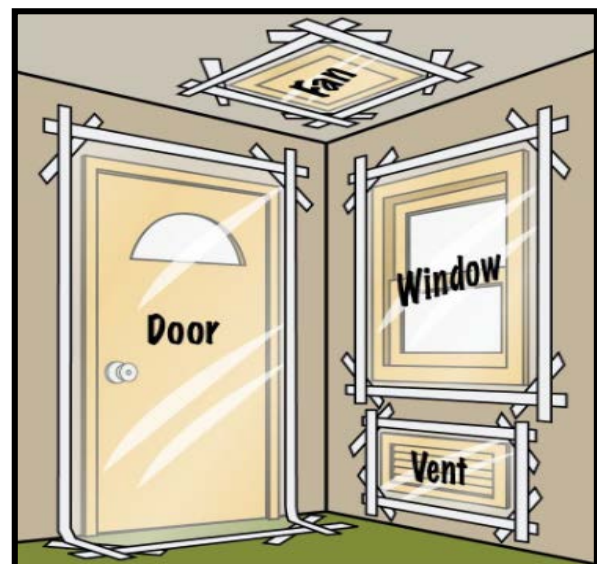
What you need to know about WEAs:

- WEAs can be sent by state and local public safety officials, the National Weather Service, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and the President of the United States
- WEAs can be issued for three alert categories – imminent threat, AMBER, and presidential
- WEAs look like text messages, but are designed to get your attention and alert you with a unique sound and vibration, both repeated twice
- WEAs are no more than 90 characters, and will include the type and time of the alert, any action you should take, as well as the agency issuing the alert
- WEAs are not affected by network congestion and will not disrupt texts, calls, or data sessions that are in progress
- Mobile users are not charged for receiving WEAs and there is no need to subscribe
- To ensure your device is WEA-capable, check with your service provider

2. What is my [shelter](#) plan?

Choosing to take shelter is necessary in many emergencies.

Taking appropriate shelter is critical in times of disaster. Sheltering is appropriate when conditions require that you seek protection in your home, place of employment or other location when disaster strikes. Sheltering outside the hazard area could include staying with friends and





Make a Plan Continued

Week 2: September 8-14 Make a Plan to Prepare for Disasters

relatives, seeking commercial lodging or staying in a mass care facility operated by disaster relief groups.

To effectively shelter, you must first consider the hazard and then choose a place in your home or other building that is safe for that hazard. For example, for a tornado, a room should be selected that is in a basement or an interior room on the lowest level away from corners, windows, doors and outside walls.

The safest locations to seek shelter vary by hazard. [Be Informed](#) about the sheltering suggestions for each hazard.

There may be situations, depending on your circumstances and the nature of the disaster, when it's simply best to stay where you are and avoid any uncertainty outside by "sheltering in place". The length of time you are required to shelter may be short, such as during a tornado warning, or long, such as during a winter storm or a pandemic. It is important that you stay in shelter until local authorities say it is safe to leave. Additionally, you should take turns listening to radio broadcasts and maintain a 24-hour safety watch.

During extended periods of sheltering, you will need to manage water and food supplies to ensure you and your family have the required supplies and quantities. Read more about [Managing Water](#) and [Managing Food](#).

3. What is my [evacuation](#) route?

A wide variety of emergencies may cause an evacuation. In some instances you may have a day or two to prepare, while other situations might call for an immediate evacuation. Planning ahead is vital to ensuring that you can evacuate quickly and safely, no matter what the circumstances.

- Learn the types of disasters that are likely in your community and the local emergency, evacuation, and shelter plans for each specific disaster.
- [Plan](#) how you will leave and where you will go if you are advised to evacuate.
 - Identify several places you could go in an emergency such as a friend's home in another town or a motel. Choose destinations in different directions so that you have options during an emergency.





Make a Plan Continued

Week 2: September 8-14 Make a Plan to Prepare for Disasters

- If needed, identify a place to stay that will accept [pets](#). Most public shelters allow only service animals.
- Be familiar with alternate routes and other means of transportation out of your area.
- Always follow the instructions of local officials and remember that your evacuation route may be on foot depending on the type of disaster.
- [Develop a family/household communication and re-unification plan](#) so that you can maintain contact and take the best actions for each of you and re-unite if you are separated.
- Assemble supplies that are ready for evacuation, both a “go-bag” you can carry when you evacuate on foot or public transportation and supplies for traveling by longer distances if you have a personal vehicle.
- If you have a car:
 - Keep a full tank of gas in it if an evacuation seems likely. Keep a half tank of gas in it at all times in case of an unexpected need to evacuate. Gas stations may be closed during emergencies and unable to pump gas during power outages. Plan to take one car per family to reduce congestion and delay.
 - Make sure you have a portable [emergency kit in the car](#).
- If you do not have a car, plan how you will leave if needed. Make arrangements with family, friends or your local government.

What is my [family/household communication plan](#)?

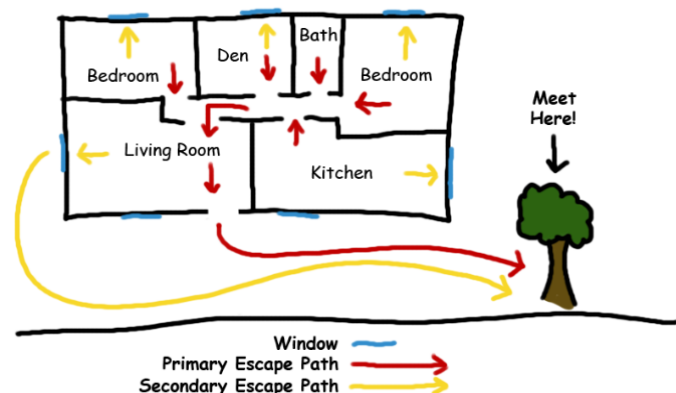
Emergencies can happen at any time. Do you know how to get in touch with your Family if you are not together?

Let them know that you are OK! Pick the same person for each Family member to contact. It might be easier to reach someone who's out of town.

Unless you are in immediate danger, send a text. Tests often have an easier time getting through during emergencies, and you don't want to tie up phone lines needed by emergency responders (like 911). Memorize your home and parent's cell phone numbers.

Know where to go and how to get there. Pick a meeting spot. Where will you meet up with your Family if you have to get out of your house quickly? Where will you meet if your neighborhood is being evacuated and you're not at home? Pick a place to meet (like a big tree in your yard or your neighbors house). You should also pick a place out of your neighborhood (such as the library or house of worship).

Know two exits out of your house or your school. Do you know two ways out of every room in your house in case of a fire. Draw the floor plan of your bedroom on a piece of paper and circle the two ways to get out. Hint: one may be the door.





Teach Youth to Prepare for Disasters

Week 3: September 15-21 Teach Youth to Prepare for Disaster

Youth Preparedness

Emergencies and disasters can happen at any time, often without warning. Disaster planning, response, and recovery efforts must take into account the unique needs of children, who make up roughly a quarter of the U.S. population.

Starting or getting involved with a youth preparedness program is a great way to enhance a community's resilience and help develop future generations of prepared adults. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers numerous resources that can help.

- [Download the Youth Preparedness Fact Sheet](#)
- [Subscribe to the Children and Disasters Newsletter](#)
- [Become a National Strategy for Youth Preparedness Education Affirmer](#)
- [Learn about FEMA's Youth Preparedness Council](#)
- [Find a Program](#)
- [Start a Program](#)
- [Request Technical Assistance](#)

FEMA's Youth Preparedness Council

FEMA created the [Youth Preparedness Council](#) (YPC) in 2012 to bring together young leaders who are interested in supporting disaster preparedness and making a difference in their communities, by completing disaster preparedness projects nationally and locally. The YPC supports FEMA's commitment to involve America's youth in preparedness-related activities. It also provides an avenue to engage young people by taking into account their perspectives, feedback, and opinions. YPC members meet with FEMA staff throughout their term to provide input on strategies, initiatives, and projects. YPC members also attend the annual YPC Summit in Washington, DC, meet periodically with FEMA representatives, and work to complete a number of emergency preparedness projects. The YPC members are selected based on their dedication to public service, their efforts in making a difference in their communities, and their potential to expand their impact as national supporters of youth preparedness.



Prepare with Pedro: Disaster Preparedness Activity Book

[Prepare with Pedro: Disaster Preparedness Activity Book](#) is a joint product of FEMA and the American Red Cross. Prepare with Pedro is designed to encourage youth and their families to be better prepared for disasters by offering safety advice alongside crosswords, coloring pages, matching games, and more.

Obtain copies of the activity book, now in both English and Spanish!

Download and print by visiting: [Prepare with Pedro: Disaster Preparedness Activity Book](#)

Order printed copies for free through the [publication warehouse online](#) or by phone at 1-800-480-2520 request publication number #2005 for the English version or publication number #2035 for the Spanish version.



Teach Youth to Prepare for Disasters

Week 3: September 15-21 Teach Youth to Prepare for Disaster

Ready 2 Help

Ready 2 Help is a card game that teaches youth how to stay safe and help in emergency situations. Ready 2 Help can be played by 2-4 players ages 8 and above. Parents, coaches, teachers, and other youth leaders can use the game and companion book to teach kids how to react to emergencies in a fun and friendly way. The game encourages discussion about preparedness using five simple steps: Stay Safe, Stay Calm, Get Help, Give Info, and Give Care. Everyone can play and learn!

Obtain copies of the card game and companion book –

- Download and print by visiting www.ready.gov/game.
- Free printed copies of the game will be available to the public in Fall 2018 by visiting www.ready.gov/game.



National Strategy for Youth Preparedness Education

Developed by FEMA, the U.S. Department of Education, and the American Red Cross, the [National Strategy for Youth Preparedness Education](#) presents nine steps partners can take to help build a Nation of prepared youth. The steps focus on building partnerships to enhance youth preparedness learning programs; connecting young people with their families, communities, first responders, and other youth; and increasing preparedness at school.

9 Priority Steps for Creating a Nation of Prepared Youth

Elevate the importance of youth preparedness learning programs at the national, state, and local levels.

Evaluate the quality and effectiveness of existing and new youth preparedness programs. Support the **implementation** of youth preparedness learning programs.

Create positive relationships between youth and the **first responder** community.

Link youth preparedness to **Family** and **community participation**, especially in communities where English may not be the first language spoken (or understood) among adults, in other underrepresented communities, and inclusive of individuals with access and functional needs.

Make **school** preparedness a key component of youth preparedness.

Build and strengthen productive **partnerships** among stakeholder agencies and organizations.

Identify opportunities to embed youth preparedness in **youth culture**.

Design a **sustaining, locally driven** model for developing, designing, and delivering programming.



Teach Youth to Prepare for Disasters

Week 3: September 15-21 Teach Youth to Prepare for Disaster

Student Tools for Emergency Planning (STEP)

[Student Tools for Emergency Planning \(STEP\)](#), is a classroom-based emergency preparedness curriculum for fourth- and fifth-graders in an easy, ready-to-teach format. Students will learn about disasters, emergencies, and hazards, and how to create a disaster supply kit and family emergency communication plan.

STEP materials include:

- [STEP Overview](#)
- [Instructor guide](#)
- [Student Activity Book](#)
- [Disaster Dodgers Video Series](#)



The STEP curriculum and videos are also available for free from the FEMA Publications Warehouse. For more information, email fema-youth-preparedness@fema.dhs.gov. Be ready to provide your contact information and the number and type of materials you are requesting.

Teen CERT

[Teen Community Emergency Response Team \(CERT\)](#) basic training includes emergency preparedness and disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. High school students receive the CERT training including classroom instruction, hands-on activities and exercises to learn new life skills, serve their school and community, and experience the value of teamwork.

Youth Preparedness Technical Assistance

The FEMA Youth Preparedness Technical Assistance (TA) Center is a resource for current and potential youth preparedness practitioners to receive information, request materials, or connect with other practitioners. Assistance is available free of charge by emailing FEMA-Youth-Preparedness@fema.dhs.gov.

Children & Disasters Newsletter

The FEMA Children & Disasters Newsletter is a resource for youth preparedness practitioners, educators, parents, children, and teens. It shares timely research, examples of successful youth preparedness programs, safety tips, and resources related to youth preparedness.

- [Subscribe](#)
- [Archived Issues](#)





Get Involved in Your Community's Preparedness

Week 4: September 22-30 Get Involved in Your Community's Preparedness

About National Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster

National VOAD, an association of organizations that mitigate and alleviate the impact of disasters, provides a forum promoting cooperation, communication, coordination and collaboration; and fosters more effective delivery of services to communities affected by disaster.

The National VOAD coalition includes well more than 100 Member organizations, which represent National members, State VOADs, Local/Regional VOADs and hundreds of other member organizations throughout the country.



Community Emergency Response Team

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. CERT offers a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training and organization that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations, which allows them to focus on more complex tasks. Through CERT, the capabilities to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters is built and enhanced.

Since 1993, CERT has impacted communities across the country, building essential skills and capabilities to prepare for and respond to any disaster. There are now CERT programs in all 50 states, including many tribal nations and U.S. territories; each unique to its community but all essential to building a Culture of Preparedness.

The CERT program was designed as a grassroots initiative and specifically structured so that the local and state program managers have the flexibility to form their programs in the way that best suits their communities. CERT volunteers are trained to respond safely, responsibly, and effectively to emergency situations, but they can also support their communities during non-emergency events as well. There are over 2,700 local CERT programs nationwide, with more than 600,000 individuals trained since CERT became a national program.

FEMA's Community Emergency Response Team Program trains volunteers to prepare for the types of disasters that their community may face. Through hands-on practice and realistic exercises, CERT members:

- Learn how to safely respond to manmade and natural hazards
- Help organize basic disaster response
- Promote preparedness by hosting and participating in community events
- Please contact your local emergency manager or FEMA at FEMA-Prepare@fema.dhs.gov



Get Involved in Your Community's Preparedness

Week 4: September 22-30 Get Involved in Your Community's Preparedness

Teen CERT

For local CERT program managers and others who want to establish and maintain CERT training for teens, there are a number of tools at your disposal.

- [Download official Teen CERT Brochure](#)
- [Teen CERT public service announcement- watch or Download Video \(Español\)- 1:30](#)
- [Launching and Maintaining the Training Guide](#)
- [Teen CERT Annex to standard CERT Train the Trainer course](#)
- [Teen CERT Annex to CERT Basic Training Instructor Guide](#)
- [Watch the Teen CERT Public Service Announcement](#)
- [Teen CERT: Enhancing School Emergency Management through Youth Engagement and Preparedness – May 14, 2015](#)
- [Teen CERT: Connecting School Emergency Management and Youth Preparedness – February 5, 2013](#)

Social Media Posts

- Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) trains volunteers to prepare for the types of disasters that their community may face. Find your local CERT: https://community.fema.gov/Register/Register_Search_Programs #NatIPrep
- Learn about the hazards most likely to affect your community and their appropriate responses. #NatIPrep #PrepareNow
- Every community has voluntary organizations that work during disasters. Visit <https://www.nvoad.org> to see what organizations are active in your community. #NatIPrep
- Encourage students to join Teen CERT so they can respond during emergencies. Learn more: www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/28048 #YouthPrep
- Your community needs YOU! Find youth volunteer and training opportunities to help your community here: www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness #YouthPrep #NatIPrep
- Finding support from friends, family, and community organizations can help kids cope with #disasters. #YouthPrep
- Take classes in lifesaving skills, such as CPR/AED and first aid, or in emergency response, such as CERT. #PrepareNow #NatIPrep
- Check in with neighbors to see how you can help each other out before and after a storm #HurricanePrep
- If you have a disability, plan ahead for accessible transportation that you may need for evacuation or getting to a medical clinic. Work with local services, public transportation or paratransit to identify accessible transportation options. www.ready.gov/disability #NatIPrep



Message from OPSEC

Is Your Smart Speaker Spying On You

By Tom Kelly, Fox News 24 July 2018

If you're a smart speaker owner – or even if you've just seen one in a friend's house – you've probably asked yourself, "Is that thing spying on me?"

The answer, as it turns out, is yes – sort of.

Just a few weeks ago, a married couple in Portland, Oregon found out that their Amazon Alexa had listened to a conversation they'd had about hardwood floors and sent it to a contact in their digital contact list. They didn't realize this until they got a call from the husband's coworker, warning him that he'd been hacked and urging him to unplug the device. Amazon investigated the device and found that it had misunderstood the conversation, hearing its name called and responding to what it thought was a request to send the message.

Admittedly, it's a fluke – but it's a telling one. Consumers all across America are welcoming smart speakers and other smart technology into their homes; according to one report, nearly 20 percent of adult Americans have access to a smart speaker. But while these devices offer us a new level of personalization and connectivity, they also open up a new pathway for invasions of our privacy. Innovative data thieves even managed to access a casino's database of its most extravagant patrons through a cloud-connected thermometer in a fish tank. In other words, the more connectivity, the more vulnerability.

This vulnerability has largely been overlooked in recent discussions about consumer privacy, with most of public and federal ire directed towards major digital platforms like Google, Twitter and Facebook. But smart speakers pose just as real – if not as ubiquitous – a threat to consumer privacy.

Much like these digital platforms, smart speakers are constantly collecting data to increase personalization and speed of service. Instead of the facial recognition of Facebook, there's the voice recognition of Alexa. Instead of the data collection via a "Like" button or a search bar, the device collects information about your location, favorite products, new sources and music. And instead of logging your typed conversations with contacts, it records the ones you dictate and send to them.

Smart speakers and their connected smart products are predominately used in homes – for now. Increasingly, however, businesses are using them, a move that introduces another level of complexity for IT and CISO workers. Effective digital hygiene is difficult enough with laptops and phones. but when you introduce a device that can overhear your employees' private conversations about sensitive consumer information, you've added yet another way for your organization's security to be breached and your reputation to be compromised.

As smart speaker sales continue to skyrocket, we must remember to proceed with caution. Our early enthusiasm for services like Facebook and Twitter led many of us to share personal information far more profligately and publicly than we would have thought of doing before these services came into existence. We must learn from experience and share information with these new interactive devices extremely carefully.

Above all, however, our federal leaders need to be on the watch. They're entirely right to scrutinize and question digital platforms, but they must be sure to direct their attention to smart speakers as well. Privacy is the hallmark of a civilized society – one that trusts its citizens to live, work and purchase as they see fit. Social media and other online companies may have managed to compromise this value significantly over the past several years. But if we can learn from past failures in vigilance and exercise caution in the coming years, we can develop a framework that allows consumers to shop, speak and share safely and securely for years to come.

