

LA National Guard Emergency Management Bulletin

#### March 2020 Volume FY20 Issue 6



#### 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 multijurisdictional 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.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

EMERGENCY Fire-Police-Ambulance 911

Michael Green 504-278-8031 LMD Emergency Management Program Coordinator <u>michael.s.green39.mil@mail.mil</u>

MAJ Christopher Pace 318-290-5666 Camp Beauregard EM Manager christopher.g.pace.mil@mail.mil

Cristina Steib 504-278-8011 Jackson Barracks EM Manager <u>cristina.m.steib.mil@mail.mil</u>

Chris Letendre	225-319-4693
GWLC EM Manager	
christopher.a.letendre.nfg@mail.mil	

MSG Robert Cooper 318-382-4151 Camp Minden EM Manager robert.a.cooper33.nfg@mail.mil

LA National Guard Joint Operation Center 888-278-8748 GOHSEP 225-925-7500

ONSER

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



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

This is Red Cross Month, so you guessed it, our bulletin will focus on the Red Cross.

The <u>American Red Cross</u> provides disaster relief recovery for Families and communities. Chapters are organized in communities all over the country. Staffed primarily by volunteers, the Red Cross Movement provides educational, monetary and medical supplies in order to provide relief to people affected by natural disasters.

For 24 hours per day, 365 days a year, the American Red Cross provides relief for Families and communities in the form of blankets, food, blood and shelter. Volunteers provide these services for American people free of charge. These services and gifts include clothing, shoes, shelter, food, medical supplies and treatment are the very definition of humanitarian aid from one group of humans to another.

The best time to prepare is before the event happens. Always Remember, "Be Prepared".



Michael Green Emergency Manager Program Coordinator michael.s.green39.mil@mail.mil



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### The Beginning of the Red Cross



### **Origins of the Red Cross Movement**

The Red Cross belief in the power of kindness can be traced back to the creation of the Red Cross Movement.

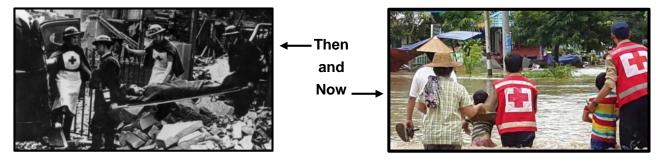
The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement started in 1863 and was inspired by Swiss businessman Henry Dunant.

The suffering of thousands of men on both sides of the Battle of Solferino in 1859 upset Dunant. Many were left to die due to lack of care.

He proposed creating national relief societies, made up of volunteers, trained in peacetime to provide neutral and impartial help to relieve suffering in times of war.

In response to these ideas, a committee (which later became the International Committee of the Red Cross) was established in Geneva. The founding charter of the Red Cross was drawn up in 1863.

Dunant also proposed that countries adopt an international agreement, which would recognize the status of medical services and of the wounded on the battlefield. This agreement – the original <u>Geneva Convention</u> – was adopted in 1864.





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# New Research: Older Adults More Vulnerable after Disasters



February 1, 2020 Yauco, Puerto Rico. Red Cross team member Jose, who is from the capital of Puerto Rico, give Lucia information on how to prepare for future emergencies. Photo by Isaac Leon/American Red Cross

New research has found that older adults are more vulnerable and experience more casualties after natural disasters compared to other age groups.

Based on a review of the latest evidence and legislation on disaster preparedness, response and recovery for older adults, the <u>report</u> was produced by members of the American Red Cross Scientific Advisory Council and the American Academy of Nursing Policy Expert Round Table on Emergency/Disaster Preparedness for Older Adults.

Being prepared for disasters is important for people of all ages. But, there are several factors that make older adults more vulnerable, including:

- A greater prevalence of chronic conditions, multi-morbidity, cognitive impairment and medication concerns during disasters.
- A greater dependence on assistive devices (i.e. walkers, glasses) and support requirements, from caregivers and others, during disasters.
- Likelihood of social isolation.
- Potential for psychological distress.
- Gaps in how prepared the caregivers of older persons are, especially those who care for older adults with dementia.

The research also identifies strategies and resources to improve both disaster preparedness among older adults and response efforts. A clear need exists for greater disaster preparedness and response education, and the standardization of protocols for health care professionals and emergency responders.



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# New Research: Older Adults More Vulnerable after Disasters Continued:

To help address these gaps, the report includes evidence-informed expert recommendations such as:

- Older adults and their unpaid caregivers need tailored, easy-to-access information related to disaster preparedness and guidance on how to develop custom emergency plans. Access to these programs should also be increased.
- Older adults who are reliant on mobility aids should remove or minimize barriers affecting their ability to evacuate and should take steps to ensure their safety within their surroundings.
- Programs that provide essential community services and assistance with daily living activities for older people (financial, medical, personal care, food and transportation) should develop plans and protocols related to responding adequately to the needs of their clients during emergencies and disasters.
- Local governments should leverage data sources, such as registries, that identify at-risk individuals to enable emergency responders to more easily prioritize their search and rescue efforts following an emergency.

Healthcare professionals and emergency response personnel should receive training on providing geriatric care relevant to their discipline and how best to assist both older adults and their unpaid caregivers during disasters.

The report and its recommendations have been endorsed by both the American Red Cross and the American Academy of Nursing. As a result of the report findings, the Red Cross will update its resources for older adults, people with aging Family members and caretakers.



### **Blood Supply Statistics**

The Red Cross provides about 40% of our nation's blood and blood components, all from generous volunteer donors. But supply can't always meet demand because only about 3% of age-eligible people donate blood yearly. Each new donor helps us meet patient needs.

Each year, an estimated 6.8 million people in the U.S. donate blood.

13.6 million whole blood and red blood cells are collected in the U.S. in a year.

About 45% of people in the U.S. have Group O (positive or negative) blood; the proportion is higher among Hispanics (57%) and African Americans (51%). Type O negative red cells can be given to patients of all blood types. Because only 7% of people in the U.S. are type O negative, it's always in great demand and often in short supply.

Type AB positive plasma can be transfused to patients of all blood types. Since only 3% of people in the U.S. have AB positive blood, this plasma is usually in short supply.

Red blood cells must be used within 42 days (or less).

Platelets must be used within just 5 days.



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# **Blood Needs & Blood Supply**

Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. It is essential for surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries. Whether a patient receives whole blood, red cells, platelets or plasma, this lifesaving care starts with one person making a generous donation.



1 donation can potentially save up to 3 lives.



Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood.



Less than **38 percent** of the population is eligible to give blood or platelets.



Blood and platelets **cannot** be manufactured; they can only come from volunteer donors

# **Facts About Blood Needs**



- Approximately 36,000 units of <u>red blood cells</u> are needed every day in the U.S.
- Nearly 7,000 units of <u>platelets</u> and 10,000 units of <u>plasma</u> are needed daily in the U.S.
- Nearly 21 million <u>blood components</u> are transfused each year in the U.S.
- The average red blood cell transfusion is approximately 3 units.
- The <u>blood type</u> most requested by hospitals is type O.
- Sickle cell disease affects 90,000 to 100,000 people in the U.S. About 1,000 babies are born with the disease each year. <u>Sickle cell patients</u> can require <u>blood transfusions</u> through their lives.
- According to the American Cancer Society, more than 1.8 million people are expected to be diagnosed with cancer in 2020. Many of them will need blood, sometimes daily, during their <u>chemotherapy treatment</u>.
- A single car accident victim can require as many as 100 units of blood.

"To know that my blood, O Negative blood, is literally the doctor's and emergency room's first line of defense – it's very important for me to donate, and donate on a regular basis." Ben C., type O negative donor

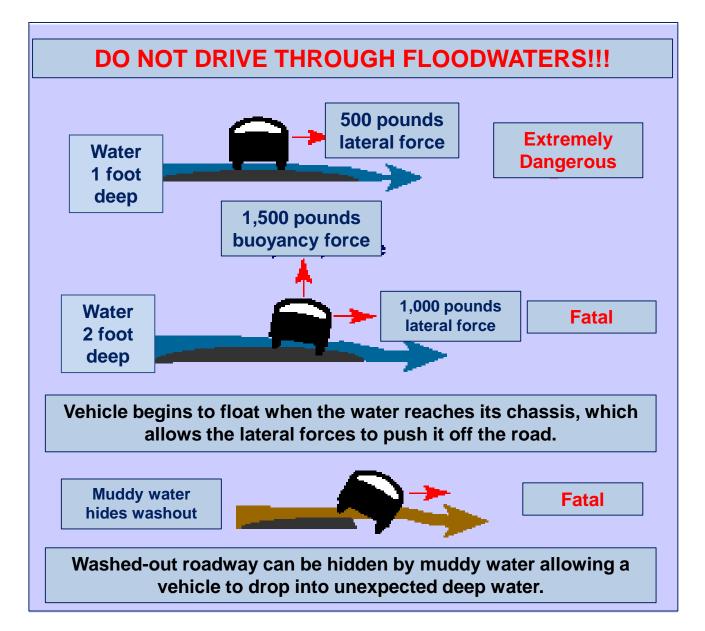


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#### FLOODING PREPAREDNESS

- ESTABLISH A PLAN, OPEN COMMUNICATION
- MOVE VALUABLES TO HIGH GROUND
- LOCATE WATER RESISTANT CLOTHING
- PUT TOGETHER AN EMERGENCY KIT
- DO NOT WALK TO DRIVE IN FLOOD WATER
- TURN OFF POWER AND GAS IF AREA FLOODS







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#### Turn Around Don't Drown at Flooded Roads Know What to do Before, During and After a Flood



Flooding is a coast-to-coast threat to some part of the United States and its territories nearly every day of the year. This site is designed to teach you how to stay safe in a flood event. If you know what to do <u>before</u>, <u>during</u>, and <u>after</u> a flood you can increase your chances of survival and better protect your property. For instance, it is vital to know what to do if you are <u>driving and hit a flooded road</u>. Here you will find an interactive <u>flood map</u>, information describing the different <u>types of flooding</u> and <u>educational material</u>. You will also learn how the National Weather Service keeps you aware of potentially dangerous flooding situations through <u>alerts and warnings</u>.

Learn how to better protect yourself and your family by reading our <u>flood survivor</u> <u>stories</u>. If you, or someone you know, have been a victim of a flood, please <u>share your story</u> so we can prevent others from becoming a victim. When you write, please note that NWS has permission to use your story and, if possible, let us know the town and state you were in and the year the event took place.





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### **Replace Your Batteries & Update Disaster Kit**

Daylight Savings Time starts on March 8, 2020. We will spring ahead and lose an hour of sleep this time of year. Did you know that you should change the batteries in your smoke detectors and weather radio twice a year? If you make a habit of doing this when the time changes you will always remember. It is very important to have fresh batteries in these devices in case of a power outage when you would need them to work during a storm or a fire.

It is also a good time to refresh your Family disaster kit. Change out stored food and water supplies every six months. Re-think your needs every year update your kit as your Family's need.



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