



CERT CONNECTION



SERVICE
TO STAFF AND COMMUNITY

INTEGRITY
IN ALL WE DO

RESPECT
FOR ALL PEOPLE

Contact

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Quick Links

- [IDHS CERT Page](#)
- [Acadis Training Portal](#)
- [The Hoosier Responder](#)
- [IDHS Calendar of Events](#)

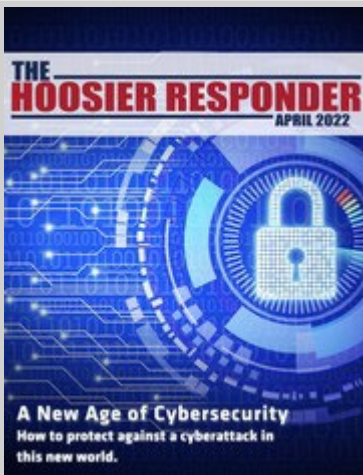
Get Prepared for Flooding



Winter may still be hanging on in parts of Indiana, but it's severe weather season and that means an increased risk of flooding. In 2021, 146 lives were lost in floods nationally. Natural disasters, such as floods, are unpredictable due to the fact that they can take a few weeks or a few hours to develop. Hoosiers can be prepared when a flood occurs by taking the following safety precautions.

- Before a flood ever occurs, contact insurance providers to purchase flood insurance. New policies take 30 days to become effective, so plan ahead. Learn more about the National Flood Insurance Program
- Make a plan for your household, including your pets, so that you and your family know what to do, where to go and what you will need to protect yourselves from flooding.
- Build a family disaster kit with the supplies you will need if you have to quickly evacuate your home. Gather supplies, including non-perishable foods, cleaning supplies and water for several days, in case you must leave immediately or if services are cut off in your area.
- Sign up for your community's emergency warning system. The Emergency Alert System and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration weather radios also provide emergency alerts.
- Learn and practice evacuation routes, shelter plans and flash flood response.

Language Barriers Shouldn't Limit Access to Information



[Read the April issue of the Hoosier Responder](#)

Upcoming Dates

EMA Shari Harrington of Montgomery County is planning a 1 to 2 day CERT Conference for mid to late 2022. Plans are underway.

CERT Requirements and Expectations

Following CERT requirements is essential to the integrity and benefit of the program in Indiana. As a refresher, below are the basic CERT program requirements.

Drills and exercises:

- Take part in a drill or exercise at least once per year.

CERT basic training:

- Deliver CERT basic training once per year, including a culminating exercise.

Programmatic information:

To remain a recognized CERT program in Indiana, each program must:

- Be approved by state coordinator.



2021 NHS data indicates that households whose primary language is not English want to prepare for disasters and hazards. These households also want to learn how to become better prepared, but there may be barriers preventing them from accessing the information they need. It is important to consider the following:

- What languages are spoken in your community?
- Visit [LEP.gov](#) and use the [Language Map App](#) to learn more about what languages are spoken in your community.
- How can you use the community ties to promote disaster preparedness to people whose primary language is not English?
- How can you make sure that people who have a limited English proficiency have access to disaster preparedness materials in a language that they understand?
- What free FEMA products could you share with your community to promote preparedness in your community?
- FEMA [offers free preparedness products](#) in Spanish, Korean, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese and Vietnamese.
- [Download](#) or [order](#) these products to share with your community.

Radiation Safety

Current world events have made people think more about how they prepare and respond to potential exposures to radiation. This sensitive topic can cause panic if not explained correctly, but it is vital to prepare communities for an event like this.

Indiana does not have any nuclear power plants, but 11 Indiana counties are in the Ingestion Pathway Zone of four commercial nuclear power plants (two in Michigan and two in Illinois). Each nuclear power plant's Ingestion Pathway Zone is a 50-mile radius. This 50-mile radius requires specialized emergency planning.

