Sunday marks the beginning of Indiana’s second annual EMA Appreciation Week. Based on the information we’ve received, and will be highlighting next week on social media and our EMA Appreciation Week page, each of you have and continue to do amazing things to protect your communities.

On behalf of everyone here at IDHS, thank you for all that you do.

IDHS Director of Emergency Management

COVID-19 Update

Vaccine Eligibility

The Department of Health has maintained eligibility for Indiana residents 65 and over. It is projected that age and specific comorbidities will be among the next groups opened.

The OurShot.in.gov website continues to be the best source for current information. A detailed breakdown of the groups currently eligible can be found here.

OSHA Guidance Updates

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration has posted updated guidance for mitigating and preventing the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace. The information can be found on the OSHA website.

Exercise Quick Hits

The IDHS Exercise Section has several events coming soon:

- The north Cybersecurity Workshop will be offered 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. EST Friday, Feb.
Public Assistance Program

Due to the long-term nature of the COVID-19 response, the Request for Public Assistance deadline is remaining open. A specific deadline for RPAs will be announced when an end date for this disaster event is established by FEMA.

Continue checking the IDHS Public Assistance Program webpage for updates on guidance, trainings and other vital information.

Distribution of KN95 Masks and Sanitizer

KN95 masks and bottles of hand sanitizer are available to law enforcement, public safety, first responders, food and agriculture, energy, water and wastewater, transportation and logistics, public works and infrastructure, communications and IT, as well as community- or government-based operations.

To submit a request for KN95 masks and bottles of hand sanitizer, click here. Information for using the order entry portal can be found here.

Available Training

National Exercise Program Nominations

FEMA is accepting nominations for exercise support as part of the National Exercise Program (NEP) Spring Nomination Round, with nominations due by April 1.

To assist partners in preparing nomination packages, the National Exercise Division (NED) will host a National Exercise Program (NEP) Spring Nomination Round Webinar with two remaining date options, Feb. 25 and March 11. Each webinar will include the following discussion points:

- Nomination process overview;
- Benefits of nominating an exercise to the NEP;
- Exercise support within a COVID-19 environment and best practices for virtual exercises; and
- Approved 2021—2022 Principals’ Strategic Priorities (PSP).

To register for one of the offerings, visit the NEP Webinar page.

Community Responsibilities under the National Flood Insurance Program

CyberStart America Underway

CyberStart America returns to Indiana for the 2021 school year. Please help encourage high school students in
grades 9-12 to participate in this free opportunity.

**Registration is open through Feb. 28, 2021.**

Students interested in participating can register at [cyberstartamerica.org](http://cyberstartamerica.org).

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The National Flood Insurance Workshop is going virtual this year, with three different opportunities to attend each module. Community officials (i.e., floodplain administrators, zoning administrators, surveyors, planners, building officials, commissioners, council members, or mayors) who are new, or just want a refresher, are encouraged to attend.

**New Administrators Part I** covers general NFIP, mapping information, fundamental duties of the Floodplain Administrator, building protection standards, the Indiana Flood Control Act, and the Indiana Lake Preservation Act. Sessions are two hours, and will be available on Feb. 23, 24 and 25. [Register here](http://cyberstartamerica.org).

**New Administrators Part II** covers post-flood responsibilities, increased cost of compliance, variances in the special flood hazard area, and mitigation measures. Sessions are two hours, and will be available March 2, 3 and 4. [Register here](http://cyberstartamerica.org).

**New Administrators Part III** covers the Indiana Floodplain Information Portal (INFIP), Division of Water’s Online Research Center (DoWORC), mapping examples, permitting examples, and additional resources for local officials. Sessions are two hours, and will be available on March 9, 10 and 11. [Register here](http://cyberstartamerica.org).

The workshops are free, but registration is required. The workshops are eligible for Continuing Education Credits for Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs).

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**K202 Debris Management Planning**

FEMA will offer a virtual delivery of this course, designed for state, tribal and local officials responsible for planning, managing and/or implementing debris removal and disposal activities from all types of disasters.

[Learn more about the March 16-18 opportunity](http://cyberstartamerica.org).

[Learn more about the March 23-25 opportunity](http://cyberstartamerica.org).

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**K210 Recovery from Disaster Local Community Roles**

This course addresses newly updated content about concepts in disaster recovery and the latest guidance on recovery planning. [Learn more here](http://cyberstartamerica.org).