One line of preparedness that gets overlooked is cyber preparedness. It can be easy to think getting hacked or compromised could never happen to us or here. Still, according to the Identity Theft Resource Center (ITRC), in 2021, there were more data compromises reported in the U.S. than in any year since the first State Data Breach Notification Law became effective in 2003. That is 68% higher than 2020 reports. With that in mind, here are some tips to keep yourself, your family and your organizations safe from cyberattacks.

- **Implement multi-factor authentication:** This can make you 99% less likely to get hacked. Enable multi-factor authentication on your email, social media, online shopping, financial services account, etc.

- **Update your software:** Update the operating system on your mobile phones, tablets and laptops. Also update your applications on all your devices. Turning on automatic updates can make it easier to stay safe.

- **Think before you click.** More than 90% of successful cyberattacks start with phishing emails. A phishing scheme is when a link or webpage looks legitimate, but it’s a trick designed to have you reveal your sensitive information. If it’s a link you don’t recognize, trust your instincts, don’t click the link and report the email.

One other great tool is Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency’s (CISA) Shields Up program. It gives guidance for all organizations to protect against malicious cyber activity.

**Organizations should report anomalous cyber activity and/or cyber incidents 24/7 to [report@cisa.gov](mailto:report@cisa.gov) or (888) 282-0870.**
world to share information with each other before people fall victim to the newest cyberattacks.

The next discussion will be held in **Pulaski county**.

- 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
- March 28, 2022
- Pulaski County Highway Garage 1131 North US 35, Winamac, IN 46996

For any questions contact thollenbeck@iot.in.gov.

**Response and Recovery Update**

IDHS RACES AUXCOMM is hosting an HF net on Saturday, April 9 at 10 a.m.

The net will be done on a roll call format, based upon the IDHS districts and their counties.

**Registration is required.** If your county would like to participate, the frequency is 3.920 +/-5 on LSB.

**Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC) “Third Thursday”**

The Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC) Executive Director, Kelly Dignin, hosts an open-door meeting on the third Thursday of every month. Primarily, this is attended by county EMA directors and other local response organizations. However, they also have some people from the private sector, like AT&T. These meetings are valuable to hear what advancements are being made. If you have time IDHS encourages you to attend.

- **Microsoft Teams** meeting link available.
- **Join with a video conferencing device:** indiana@m.webex.com Video Conference ID: 116 219 784 2
- **Call in (audio only)** +1 317-552-1674,,187038914# United States, Indianapolis. Phone Conference ID: 187 038 914#

**Exercise Updates**

- Register [here](#) for the virtual **2022 Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop** (IPPW) being held on May 13, 2022
- If you were unable to attend the live event **Operation Force Multiplier Seminar**, but would still like HSEEP credit, you can watch the recording of the event and submit knowledge check answers to IDHS Exercise by March 31, 2022 for your name to be added to the sign-in.

Best Regards,

Mary Moran
IDHS Director of Emergency Management

**FEMA Updates**

FEMA is offering exercise assistance through the National Exercise Program.

If you are interested in learning more, there will be one-hour webinars hosted by FEMA’s National Exercise Division. The webinars will cover the following topics:

- Process for requesting exercise support;
- Benefits of submitting an exercise to the NEP; and
- Approved 2022-2023 Principals’ Strategic Priorities (PSP).
To register for the webinars, visit the NEP webinar page.

Deadline to Request FEMA Exercise Support is **April 1**, and decisions will be sent by **May 6, 2022**. To submit a support request, please email the completed support request form and required supporting documentation to the National Exercise Division by the deadline. The support request form and detailed instructions on how to submit your support request package are available on the NEP website.

For jurisdictions not ready to submit a request at this time, the NEP will hold additional exercise support rounds in fall 2022 and spring 2023. If you have any questions, please contact the National Exercise Division.

On **July 1, 2022** two things will go into effect:

- **RPA deadline.** Any RPAs (Request for Public Assistance) forms will not be accepted. This form is only for those who have yet to be declared an eligible applicant by FEMA and are not actively submitting projects into the Grant Portal.

- **The 100% Federal Cost Share** will end on July 1, 2022. The cost share will then switch to a 90/10. FEMA will reimburse 90% of all PA eligible project costs and the applicant will be responsible for the 10% of those costs.

The Exercise Section has updated the IDHS Exercise Guide to account for the new HSEP-compliant/consistent language. In the resources section, you will find the addition of two documents labeled “Indiana HSEP Compliance 2020-2022” and “HSEP Compliance for Federal Grant-Funded Exercises Policy.” The 2020-2022 document explains the differences of exercise requirements for LEPC and non-LEPC exercises for years 2020-2022.

Contact [exercise@dhs.in.gov](mailto:exercise@dhs.in.gov) for more information. EMPG-funded personnel who attended the live event on March 2, 2022 have already been signed in.

- The **Cybersecurity Workshop** was held March 15, 2022. If you would like access to the workshop recording and/or PowerPoint Presentation slides, reach out to IDHS Exercise at [exercise@dhs.in.gov](mailto:exercise@dhs.in.gov). The exercise sign-in sheet will be made available to all participants on April 12, 2022. EMPG-funded personnel who attended the live event have already been signed in. If you want to watch the workshop recording to receive EMPG credit for this HSEP-compliant workshop, reach out to Exercise directly for further information.

- Please note that the last EMA Roundup had incorrect information. To clarify, the **Operation Lights Out Full-Scale Exercise** with IDHS central districts will be held June 7-9, 2022 in Anderson, Indiana. There have been lead up Seminar/Workshops in Districts 6 and 7 this year. The next seminar/workshop will be in District 5 on April 27, 2022 in Noblesville, IN. Registration closes today, March 25, 2022 for the full scale exercise.

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Contact [exercise@dhs.in.gov](mailto:exercise@dhs.in.gov) for more information.
Check out all the current openings on the [IDHS Public Safety Jobs dashboard](https://www.in.gov/dhs/fire-and-building-safety/public-safety-job-postings/). If your agency is hiring and would like to promote the job, submit your information below the dashboard. It's free.

*Note: If the link above does not load, please copy and paste this address into the browser: https://www.in.gov/dhs/fire-and-building-safety/public-safety-job-postings/*

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**Indiana Business Emergency Operations Center (BEOC)**

The Indiana Business Emergency Operations Center dashboard is a snapshot of Indiana meant to provide the private sector with situational awareness to continue their operations and support the response and recovery efforts of the state. This dashboard works in coordination with the Emergency Support Function 14 “Cross-Sector Business and Infrastructure” annex. [https://share.dhs.gov/inbeoc](https://share.dhs.gov/inbeoc)

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**IDHS/IDEM collecting PFAS foam from Indiana fire agencies**

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has launched a program to collect Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) foam from Indiana fire agencies.

The State will remove and properly dispose of PFAS material from any agency that requests it. **This is a free service with no additional requirements for fire agencies.**

[Click here for additional information about PFAS and the program.](https://www.in.gov/dhs/indiana-public-safety-jobs-dashboard/

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IDHS is still in the process of hiring new LEPC Program Managers. In the meantime, LEPCs in need of assistance can reach out to Casey Kenworthy (ckenworthy@dhs.in.gov) or Mike White (mwhite@dhs.in.gov). Please note: due to limited staffing, responses to LEPC questions might be delayed.

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**Grants Updates**

**The FFY 2022 Nonprofit Security Grant Program** and **FFY 2022 State Homeland Security Program grant** will open soon. The latest information from FEMA indicates that the federal Notice of Funding Opportunity will be released **mid-May.** We are also anticipating that the window for applications will be very short as the State is expecting a limited timeframe to submit the State application.

You are encouraged [to sign up for grant updates](https://www.in.gov/dhs/colorado-public-safety-jobs-dashboard/) so that you will get notified when IDHS announces Indiana’s due date and puts all of the 2022 NSGP information up the website.

**Last year’s application** and information is still [on the IDHS website](https://www.in.gov/dhs/colorado-public-safety-jobs-dashboard/) and can provide guidance on the application process and forms that will be required.

All questions should be submitted through a [Grants Support Ticket](https://www.in.gov/dhs/colorado-public-safety-jobs-dashboard/).

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On April 4, the federal government will stop using the DUNS number to uniquely identify entities and instead will turn to the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) created in SAM.gov. This change allows the government to streamline the entity identification and validation process, making it easier for entities to do business with the federal government.

To receive federal funding, an entity must have an active UEI number. Any grants awarded from IDHS will now require an active UEI number. Please prepare accordingly to have an active UEI prior to applying for grants.

Current SAM.gov registrants already have been assigned their UEI and can view it in SAM.gov. This includes inactive registrations. The UEI can be found below the DUNS Number on your entity registration record. Remember, you must be signed in to your SAM.gov account to view entity records.

IDHS recommends that applicants review the [SAM.gov database](https://www.in.gov/dhs/colorado-public-safety-jobs-dashboard/) to ensure their UEI number is updated and active.
IDHS will be purging cancelled grant applications and in-process applications that were never submitted in IntelliGrants.

FEMA’s Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) is offering a series of virtual trainings on the federal procurement rules applicable to recipients and subrecipients when purchasing in support of a FEMA award or declaration. The one-hour training sessions will be offered most Wednesdays from February through June 2022.

The training will cover a variety of procurement under grant concepts, frequent compliance issues, as well as revisions to the federal procurement standards that were effective Nov. 12, 2020.