

ACOOOP

Arkansas Continuity of Operations Program



APRIL 2012

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FEMA COOP TO REVIEW INTERNAL PLANS



The Arkansas Continuity of Operations Program (ACOOOP) works with FEMA's Continuity of Operations Division to conduct a review of internal plans and the ACOOP methodology. The purpose of the review is to assist non-federal entities in identifying both strengths and potential areas of weaknesses in continuity plans and programs. The FEMA COOP review team is tentatively scheduled to be onsite in May.

The National Continuity Programs (NCP) Continuity of Operations Division develops and provides continuity guidance to state, territorial, tribal, and local (STTL) government jurisdictions. To assist in continuity outreach efforts, NCP developed Continuity Assistance Review Teams (CART) as a mechanism to review continuity programs and plans against FEMA Continuity Guidance Circular 1 (CGC-1). The CART member's objectives include:

- Provide comprehensive continuity program review
- Create a framework for budget, staff, and resource justification
- Enable the development of plans to address deficiencies
- Provide actionable recommendations to address areas for improvement
- Identify grant assistance where possible and if applicable
- Utilize NCP training resources to assist non-federal entity in closing planning gaps

The review process is flexible enough to meet the needs of any non-federal government organization regardless of location, size or status of continuity programs or plans.

Source: www.fema.gov



The Great Central U.S. Shakeout, conducted on February 7, 2012 involved 2.4 million participants spread across nine states. The goal of the exercise was to teach the method of Drop, Cover, and Hold On and was designed to test the response capabilities of those potentially threatened by the New Madrid Seismic Zone. Source: <http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/>

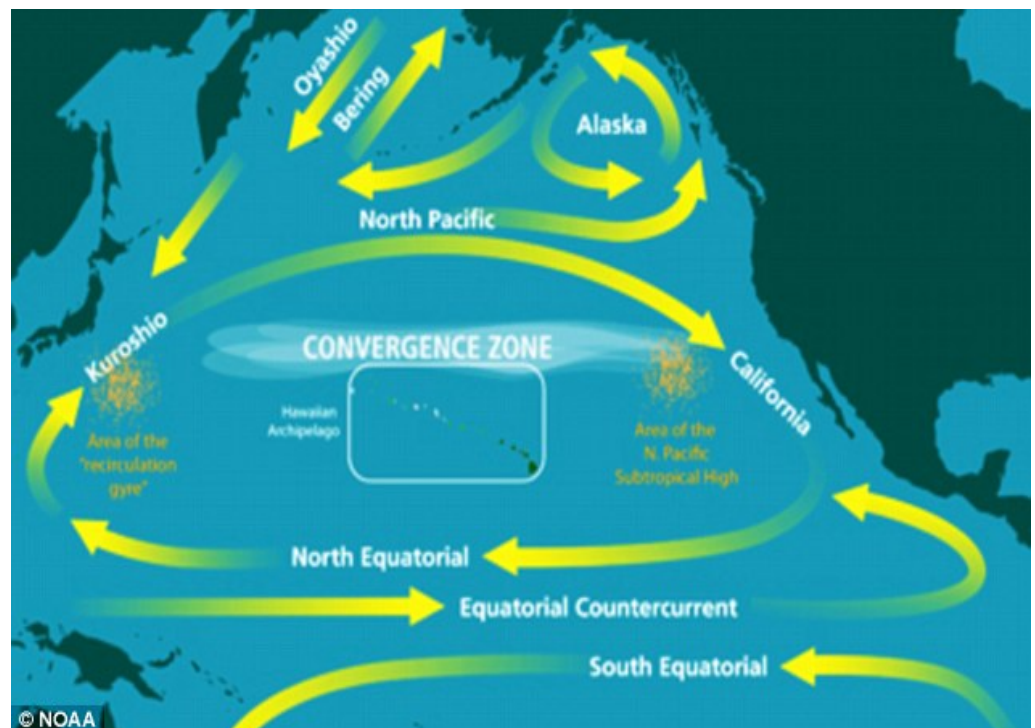
Floating Rubbish from Tsunami Creates Danger to Shipping Traffic

Nearly one year ago, the island of Japan suffered a crippling 9.0 earthquake. As a result, more than 200,000 buildings were washed out by the enormous waves. According to U.S. Oceanographer Curtis Ebbesmeyer, parts of houses, whole boats and feet in sneakers will wash up on the U.S. West Coast.

Members of the U.S. Navy's 7th fleet, who spotted the extraordinary floating rubbish, say they have never seen anything like it and are warning the debris now poses a threat to shipping traffic.

'It's very challenging to move through these to consider these boats run on propellers and that these fishing nets or other debris can be dangerous to the vessels that are actually trying to do the work,' Ensign Vernon Dennis told ABC News.

'So getting through some of these obstacles doesn't make much sense if you are going to actually cause more debris by having your own vessel become stuck in one of these waterways.'



Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1374520/Japan-earthquake-tsunami-debris-floating-US-West-Coast.html#ixzz1nmYR8d9t>

Safety Factors to Consider For Spring Cleaning

It is springtime, the time that most individuals begin cleaning the interior and exterior of their home. Wintertime is over and it is time to put away all those winter clothes, winter equipment such as snow shovels, playtime equipment such as sled, and of course it is time to clean away the leaves that have accumulated in the gutter, trim trees that have broken, and get the outside of our home looking brand new. All of these chores are normal; however, many people may not adhere to good safety practices while doing these spring-cleaning chores.

Interior safety tips

As you put away the winter things in the attic, you should pack boxes light and only carry what you can at a time up those tricky stairs. Heavy boxes and carry too many boxes can block your vision and even cause you to be unbalanced which can result in falls. If you plan to use chemicals to clean, ensure they are safe. Do not leave these cleaning agents where little hands can knock them over or possibly ingest the dangerous chemicals. Many chemicals used in cleaning our homes are not safe and you should use in well-ventilated areas.

Using a ladder to clean chandeliers, corners, and shelves should be done



properly. Standing on the top of the ladder is certainly not safe, even though many individuals see no harm in this maneuver. When you are on the top of the ladder, it can easily be tipped over. Even reaching far can tip over the ladder. When you cannot reach, do not stretch, get down, and move the ladder.

Exterior safety tips

Exterior cleaning is just as important as the interior. During spring-cleaning, while you are cleaning out the gutters look at roof for damage. Ice and snow can play havoc on the roof as well as other exterior surfaces of your home such as the window frames. All of these should be inspected. Once again, while using a ladder pay close attention to use the ladder properly.

While picking up leaves and debris that

has collected around your yard wear gloves. It is springtime and snakes, spiders, and other creatures could be living in these leaves. It is best to use a rake and shovel instead of picking up the debris with your hands to ensure you are bitten by something that believes this is their home.

As you spring clean, you will also be preparing for the summer with such equipment as your lawnmower, weed eater, and garden equipment. Do not store gasoline in your home. The fumes from gasoline are flammable and

can ignite with just a spark. Check all equipment to ensure it is in working order and ready for the tasks ahead.

Above all else, ensure that all items that can be dangerous for the children such as insecticides, tools, and other items are stored out of their reach. If you must keep these items in the garage, it is best to lock them in a cabinet or ensure they are completely out of the reach of climbing kids.

Spring-cleaning is a necessary and important aspect of ensuring our home is in perfect working order inside and out, but taking care to follow safety tips is the best way to ensure you can enjoy your home once all the tasks are done and you are ready to enjoy spring and summer.

Source: <http://www.globalhomeinc.com/news/home-safety-tips.asp>

WE ARE ON THE WEB!

www.dis.arkansas.gov/security/Pages/ContinuityofOperationsProgram.aspx

Arkansas Continuity of Operations Program Training Schedule

COOP Continuity Concepts

This training will discuss the methodology and state standards for Continuity of Operations and Disaster Recovery planning in Arkansas. The course will also train new users on the software tool that is used to create continuity plans. [All classes: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.](#)

DIS Training Room

June 7, 2012

June 26, 2012

July 12, 2012

July 24, 2012

Additional courses are offered throughout the state. Please check the ACOOP training calendar on the DIS website at <http://www.dis.arkansas.gov/newsroom/Pages/events.aspx>

Quarterly Planners Meeting

April 26
Arkansas State Library
1-2:30 p.m.

Get It Done, COOP Planning Workday

Please make sure your employees are uploaded to your plan prior to the class. Bring any portion of your plan and we will step through adding data to the system. To obtain an upload template, please contact the ACOOP team.

DIS Training Room

April 12, 2012 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

To register for this training please call 1-855-620-2812 or email sammy.hugen@arkansas.gov or kourtney.mcbride@arkansas.gov.

COOP Workshop

Need an afternoon to work on your COOP plan with some guidance? Workshops are held after every class session, from 1-4 p.m., in the DIS training room. To register or ask about the location of these classes contact the **ACOOP team at 1-855-620-2812.**

Unless noted otherwise, all training sessions are held in the MAC Building, #1 Capitol Mall, DIS 3rd floor training room. We are available by appointment to help you with your plans individually and we can customize training to fit the needs of your agency or district.

Cancellations: Due to the demand of courses please notify the ACOOP team 24 hours prior to the class if you are unable to attend for any reason.