What’s New in Preparedness?

Heavy rainfall always brings a danger of flash flooding, but sometimes even light/moderate rainfall can trigger dangerous floods. Governor Matt Bevin issued the executive order on February 25, 2019, to declare a state of emergency. The Kentucky Division of Emergency Management has received state of emergency declarations from 36 counties and eleven cities. Thank you to the Preparedness Branch staff who monitored and assisted with their regions flooding emergencies. Severe Weather Awareness Week is March 4-8, 2019. Check out the National Weather Service Spring Safety website for important preparedness information! #TurnAroundDontDrown #FloodSafety #SpringSafety

UPDATE: Hepatitis A Outbreak

The Hepatitis A outbreak continues to grow in central and eastern Kentucky. Statewide, at least 4,288 people have contracted Hepatitis A, and there have been 2065 hospitalizations and 44 deaths as of March 2, 2019.

Upcoming Events:

2019 Preparedness Summit—March 26-29, St. Louis, MO

Why Participating in the 2019 Preparedness Summit is an Investment; Why You Should Exhibit at the Summit

2019 Kentucky’s Harm Reduction Summit, Tuesday, April 9, 2019, Northern Kentucky Convention Center - 1 W Rivercenter Blvd - Covington, KY 41011
Preparing at a glance

Operational Readiness Review Local Jurisdiction Site Visit
On January 22, 2019, Rick Johnson (SNS Coordinator), Heather Walls (CRI Coordinator), Joey Riddle (Regional Preparedness Coordinator) and Don Renn (Bullitt County CRI and Preparedness Coordinator) conducted the site visit for Bullitt County Health Department, which is part of the Louisville Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) program.

Looking for Practicum Students and Opportunities?
Kentucky has four schools of public health (University of KY, University of Louisville, Eastern KY University and Western KY University) as well as several other universities that use the Department for Public Health (DPH) regularly to help students gain practical experience in public health before graduating. To facilitate matching students to placement opportunities at DPH, we have a “Practicum/Internship Opportunity Description Sheet” (attached with email) that allows programs to give information to schools and prospective students about opportunities that you would like to fill with student help. If you are interested in getting a project done or moved along, and you think a student could contribute and learn from the experience, please contact Doug Thoroughman, PhD, MS, CDC Career Epidemiologist Field Officer. If you have any questions or need assistance in completing the practicum/internship opportunity description sheet, please contact Dr. Thoroughman by email at douglas.thoroughman@ky.gov and by phone at (502)564-3418 x4315.

CDC Releases 2019 National Preparedness Report PHEP Program Fact Sheets
CDC’s Center for Preparedness and Response has released the 2019 Public Health Preparedness and Response National Snapshot fact sheets for the 62 PHEP jurisdictions.

The fact sheets provide information on PHEP funding from 2016 to 2018 and trends and progress related to CDC’s 15 public health preparedness and response capabilities. The fact sheets also feature short stories demonstrating the impact of the PHEP program and present data on PHEP-funded staff, medical countermeasure strengths and challenges, and state and local emergency operations center (EOC) activations. Visit www.cdc.gov/cpr/map.htm to access the fact sheets, as well as other programmatic and jurisdiction-specific data.

Zika Resources for LHD’s
DPH has several different preparedness materials that we would like to distribute to local health departments free of charge. The materials are:
- Be Safe, Be Prepared, Activity Book - general preparedness
- Fight the Bite Activity Book - mosquito prevention
- Preparedness Refrigerator Magnet English and Spanish (not listed online)

If interested, please contact Barbara Fox (BarbaraJ.Fox@ky.gov) with your mailing address (no P.O. boxes please), material(s) requested and # requested.

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