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*Questions or concerns regarding this newsletter, please contact us <u>here</u>* 



Make a difference for yourself, your community and our nation. Do one of the following:



Learn your risks and responses



Make a family communications plan



Build an emergency supply kit



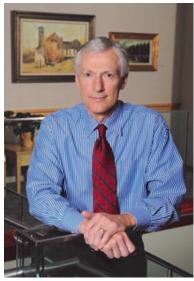
Get involved in preparedness in your community

### Register at: www.ready.gov/pledge









# Message from Lt. Governor Bell

What a summer! Utah's wildfires are a forceful reminder of the importance of being prepared. The Rockport Fire in Summit County destroyed some homes and threatened several more. Some residents had prepared their homes against wildfires by creating a defensible space on their properties. This made the difference, in some cases, between keeping or losing a home.

Preparedness works and preparedness saves lives and property. That's why the State of Utah has the **BE READY UTAH** program. **BE READY UTAH** supports families, schools, businesses and communities prepare for the worst. Learn how you can prepare by visiting BeReadyUtah.gov or by following BE READY UTAH on most social media channels.

# Here are just a few tips from **<u>BE READY UTAH</u>**

- Decide where your family will meet in case of an emergency.
- Who will get the kids from school or daycare?
- Where will the kids go if you can't get to them?
- Have someone out of state that your family can call if you can't get through to each other.
- Remember cell lines may be overtaxed in an emergency.
- Have vital supplies, especially water and equipment close.
- Secure furniture and objects that could hurt you and your loved ones and business associates. TVs, shelves and unsecured cabinets can become projectiles in an earthquake.

Become familiar with how you can protect yourself, your family and property. Then think about what you can do to help others. Be smart, be prepared, **BE READY UTAH**.



#### National Preparedness Month

**Preparedness is a year-round activity.** However, September is the month for recognizing national preparedness. The overall goal is to engage the public to make preparedness a part of their daily lives and just not for one single month. National Preparedness Month (NPM) is geared towards building awareness and encouraging Americans to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, schools, organizations, businesses, and places of worship. NPM is managed and sponsored by FEMA's Ready Campaign.

### This year's theme is "You Can Be The Hero"

Police, fire and rescue may not always be able to reach you quickly in an emergency or disaster. The most important step you can take in helping your local responders is being able to take care of yourself and those in your care; the more people who are prepared, the quicker the community will recover. This September, please prepare and plan in the event you must go for three days without electricity, water service, access to a supermarket, or local services for several days. You can be the hero.

**Use your website and social media** – Post NPM web banners on your website or post links to the *Ready* campaign's public service announcements (PSAs). Use Facebook, Twitter, YouTube or a blog to reach out to your community about NPM. This year's hashtag to include in your tweets and posts is <u>#NatlPrep</u>.

Download the National Preparedness Month Toolkit at <u>Ready.gov</u>. The toolkit is chock full of resources for you. Be Ready Utah and the Division of Emergency Management can help you promote your events and messaging using our social media channels. Just send an email to <u>BeReadyUtah@utah.gov</u> to help boost your messages.

#### Join Today

By registering to become a member of the National Preparedness Community you will help us build a more secure and resilient nation. Signing up is simple, quick, and free. Visit <u>Ready.gov/pledge</u> and join over 26,000 National Preparedness Community members making a difference.

Follow FEMA's Ready campaign on Twitter: @Readygov

# American Red Cross Utah Region

By Logan Sisam

American Red Cross Utah Region, Emergency Services Director

It's National Preparedness Month and the American Red Cross Utah Region is urging families across the state to come up with a game plan to make sure their household is ready for the next emergency or disaster. Throughout the month of September the American Red Cross is participating in a variety of events to promote the message of preparedness as well as give information, tools and resources to help individuals and their families become better prepared.

The American Red Cross will be participating in the Utah State Fair Sept. 5-9. The booth is located in the "Pledge and Prepare" exhibit sponsored by the Utah Department of Public Safety and Division of Emergency Management. We will be passing out information as well as talking to fair patrons about preparedness.

The Utah Region of the American Red Cross has partnered with the Natural History Museum of Utah in helping to promote the new exhibit Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters. This exhibit explores the fascinating science behind these powerful natural events and features real objects that tell powerful stories – about natural disasters, and about the resilience and creativity of the people who survive and study them. This exhibit runs through Dec. 8, 2013. Additionally the Red Cross will also hold a preparedness fair at Natural History Museum on Sept. 27-28.

The American Red Cross has a variety of resources to help you and your family become better prepared. Visit the website, www.redcross.org or download one of the free apps from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store for Android by searching American Red Cross.

For questions on any preparedness events or information please contact Page Neal at <u>page.neal@redcross.org</u>



# Salt Lake City's S.A.F.E Neighborhoods Grab your kit, walk to school

By Kim Hammer

Information courtesy of Cory Lyman & John Flynt, Salt Lake City Emergency Management

It is estimated that after an earthquake of a 7.0 magnitude, 30,000 to 60,000 people will be displaced in Salt Lake City alone. With that, 80 percent to 85 percent of homes will have moderate to severe damage. And basic services, including water, gas, electricity or phone will be interrupted for weeks. If you live in Salt Lake, do you have a plan for this scenario?



Salt Lake City Emergency Management, in conjunction with the American Red Cross Utah Region, and Salt Lake City Schools have implemented the Salt Lake City "S.A.F.E." Communities Project to better prepare residents within the valley during a catastrophic event.

### What Exactly is the S.A.F.E. Communities Project?

In a disaster, Salt Lake City wants their residents to be well prepared. Not just with a 96-hour emergency kit, but to know that after the event, they should walk to their nearest elementary school. Here they will find temporary shelter, reunification of family members, receive basic human needs, including water, food and sanitation items. This will also be the source of public information for residents to learn about what has occurred and what is to come.

### What's Next for Salt Lake City?

Success of this project is contingent upon recruiting individuals from each school neighborhood area to volunteer to take the shelter operations training. This will enable each community area to be self reliant in opening and operating their own shelters with support from Salt Lake City and the American Red Cross Utah Region. Additionally it is imperative to gain buy-in from the community at large to include the local business community in contributing to the project. The steps forward are as follows:

- 1) Recruitment of volunteers
- 2) Train neighborhood residents
- 3) Develop neighborhood plan
- 4) Exercise



### Did you know?

That Utah has about 800 earthquakes each year. And only 2% of them are felt. 500 of these are located in the Wasatch Front Region.

If you would like more information, please contact Sale Lake City Emergency Management at 801.799.3604 or John Flynt at john.flynt@slcgov.com.

# Emergency Managers: Share Wildfire Prevention tips with your community.

Some homes survive wildfires and some don't. The odds can be strictly related to chance. But, fire officials and preparedness experts agree the use of defensible space can stack the deck in your favor.

Here is some wildfire prevention information that is worthy of sharing, courtesy of <u>www.ready.gov</u>

# Preparing Your Home for a Wildfire

It is recommended that you create a 30-to-100-foot safety zone around your home. Within this area, you can take steps to reduce potential exposure to flames and radiant heat. Homes built in pine forests should have a minimum safety zone of 100 feet. If your home sits on a steep slope, standard protective measures may not suffice. Contact your local fire department or forestry office for additional information.

- Rake leaves, dead limbs and twigs. Clear all flammable vegetation.
- Remove leaves and rubbish from under structures.
- Thin a 15-foot space between tree crowns, and remove limbs within 15 feet of the ground.
- Remove dead branches that extend over the roof.
- Prune tree branches and shrubs within 15 feet of a stovepipe or chimney outlet.
- Ask the power company to clear branches from power lines.
- Remove vines from the walls of the home.
- Mow grass regularly.
- Clear a 10-foot area around propane tanks and the barbecue. Place a screen over the grill - use nonflammable material with mesh no coarser than one-quarter inch.



Rockport Fire: Courtesy of Ravell Call, Deseret News

- Regularly dispose of newspapers and rubbish at an approved site. Follow local burning regulations.
- Place stove, fireplace and grill ashes in a metal bucket, soak in water for two days. Then, bury the cold ashes in mineral soil.
- Store gasoline, oily rags and other flammable materials in approved safety cans. Place cans in a safe location away from the base of buildings.
- Stack firewood at least 100 feet away and uphill from your home. Clear combustible material within 20 feet. Use only wood-burning devices evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- Review your homeowner's insurance policy and also prepare/update a list of your home's contents.



This video link shares good tips for fire prevention and defensible space around homes.

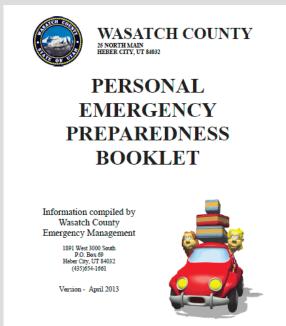
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKwCN-M8VLA

# Wasatch County Emergency Management Personal Emergency Preparedness Booklet

#### By Kim Hammer Information courtesy of Valorie Cummings, Wasatch County Emergency Management

Sometimes all we need are the basics, something easy to grab and read when we're faced with a disaster. Well, Wasatch County grasped that concept and ran with it years ago, creating a now nationwide hit of a personal emergency preparedness booklet. The booklet includes personal emergency planning, such as creating a plan, building a kit, helping children cope and what to do for the disabled or special needs population in your community. It also lists specific disasters that may occur, from earthquakes to poison control, and how to protect yourself before, during and after the event. It is 32 pages of jam-packed information to help any resident navigate through preparedness.

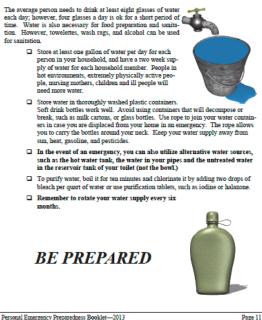
The original booklet was produced in 1994 and has been updated every two years. Valorie Cummings with Wasatch County Emergency Management has sent her document to agencies in Alaska, California, Colorado and throughout Utah, just to name a few, to use as a template. But, they also mail a copy to the residents of Wasatch County every time it's updated to help in their communitywide preparedness efforts. They average 10,000 copies mailed every two years. It's a great tool for



any local jurisdiction that may be interested in starting their own preparedness document.

Wasatch County received the following email from Cleveland, Ohio, commending their preparedness manual. Recognition is always a plus!

#### WATER STORAGE



# Are you looking to start a community booklet?

Bereadyutah.gov is great place to start for basic plan information.

"In my work with the Cleveland Red Cross I have been reading a lot of emergency preparedness manuals this past year. I wanted to take a minute to commend you on the absolutely marvelous manual your county had produced! Not only was the content detailed and accurate, but the highly "user friendly" look of it will make citizens comfortable reading it and more likely to put it to good use. Please pass my regards and admiration to whom ever on your team took lead on this project – I am very impressed with your manual. Hopefully no one ever needs it, but they will be the better off after the life-altering event for it!"

-Robert Schmidt, Cleveland Chapter Red Cross

Here you will find basics on how to create a plan, make a kit, and resources to make your document a success! Or you can contact Valorie at <u>vcummings@co.wasatch.ut.us</u> to request a copy of their document to help you begin your own community booklet.

DANGER

END OF



See You There!



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Utah Floodplain and Stormwater Management Association Annual Conference

September 18-20, 2013 The Riverwoods Conference Center, Logan, Utah



To register or for more conference information Please visit <u>http://www.ufsma.org</u>

For questions please contact: Amisha Lester at 801-538-3752 or alester@utah.gov



# • A Place for Preppers?



"Why Emergency Managers Shouldn't Alienate Preppers," by Capt. William E. Simpson was published in <u>Emergency Management</u> magazine, July 17, 2013. The title caught my eye. Why would emergency managers want to alienate anyone, much less preppers? <u>http://www.emergencymgmt.com/</u> <u>disaster/Emergency-Managers-Shouldnt-Alienate-Preppers-Opinion.html</u>

Simpson begins his opinion piece with a profound statement, "There is a serious downside to the recent demonizing of prep-

Credit: chanl.nationalgeographic.com pers in the media, and that downside has a direct effect upon emergency management personnel." I was not previously aware about an intense level of negativity toward the prepping culture, but after brief informal research on Google, must agree with Simpson. Nastiness toward preppers abounds, including some pretty serious shots taken by professional journalists and notable bloggers. For example:

- Neil Genzlinger in "Doomsday Has Its Day in the Sun," <u>The New York Times</u>, March 11, 2012, deftly dissed the TV shows "Doomsday Preppers" and "Doomsday Bunkers" noting, "...Unless you're a prepper yourself, you might be moderately amused at the absurd excess on display and at what an easy target the prepper worldview is for ridicule. Watch a bit longer, though, and amusement may give way to annoyance at how offensively anti-life these shows are, full of contempt for humankind. <u>http://www.nytimes.com/2012/03/12/arts/television/doomsday-preppers</u> <u>-and-doomsday-bunkers-tv-reality-shows.html? r=0</u>
- Michael Snider in *The American Dream*, Dec. 10, 2012, asked in a lengthy tome, "Why Are Preppers Hated So Much? <u>http://endoftheamericandream.com/archives/why-are-preppers-hated-so-much</u> He answers his own question, "It is because they are a direct challenge to the status quo. Just by prepping, preppers are proclaiming that they do not have faith in the system....The truth is that it isn't the preppers that are crazy. Rather, it is the people that believe that everything will always be fine and that the government will always take care of them that are crazy," he concludes.
- Valerie Lucus-McEwen in <u>Emergency Management</u>, Nov. 29, 2012, opined, "You might wonder why someone like me, who has been in the business of encouraging disaster preparedness for a *very* long time, is so critical of people who are doing just that. It's because they are being socially selfish preparing themselves and the hell with everyone else. Instead of spending time and energy making changes that would benefit the larger community, in their very narrow focus of loyalty they are more concerned about themselves." <u>http://www.emergencymgmt.com/emergency-blogs/campus/Doomsday-Preppers-Emergency-Management-112912.html</u>

Numerous rebuttal comments to Lucus-McEwen's article were extremely pointed, and in some cases very eloquent. "John" stated, "As someone in the emergency field I have no problem with preppers, they actually make my job easier. In disasters they take care of themselves and a lot of times a lot of their neighbors, too. The more people we can get to prepare the easier it makes our job and it makes it better on our citizens. The government and media need to stop insulting these people and start encouraging so get more to prep." Incidentally, in the face of strong criticism Lucus-McEwen has since apologized to her readers (<u>well, sort of</u>...), and tempered her approach to the prepper world.



# A Place for Preppers? - cont.

**EN101** Back to Capt. Simpson, he, too, finds much to commend preppers and has a solid list of positive attributes to consider as to why "prepping" is good for emergency management. In Simpson's view, preppers are clearly assets to emergency managers, especially in large-scale disasters. "Given that many prep-

pers have backgrounds and training that allow direct integration into on-scene emergency operations (former police,

fire, EMS, etc.), or who have enough basic training to be effective volunteers, it's a mistake to alienate this large group of people."

All of the above articles and many others have important informational value to emergency managers seeking to understand and deal effectively with preppers, of whom there are a great many in Utah. Prepping clearly is a phenomenon that has transcended quirky TV shows and how-to books and may hold great value in our work. It is an attitude, a passion for some, and a necessity for many in today's uncertain world. Preppers deserve our study, consideration and respect.



Credit: channel.nationalgeographic.com

# **Preparing Kids for Back to School**

### **Back to School Preparedness**

By Kim Hammer

It's that time of year again! School is back in session. But, are your kids prepared for the unexpected while they're in the classroom? How many parents have a preparedness kit in their kids' backpacks? And how many parents know their child's school emergency plan?





As we send our kids on the bus, or drop them off at school, it's always good to have them prepared for an emergency. Even if you put a small basic kit in their backpack, it gives you a little

peace of mind knowing they have something. You can find a school kit at your local preparedness store, or you can create your own. Recommended are items such as:

- Water
- Food ration
- Flashlight
- Whistle
- Rain poncho
- Emergency blanket

If your child's principal is on top of his/her game, they will inform teachers and parents of the emergency plan for their school. This will include evacuation locations, reunification processes, and how parents will be informed if there was an event. If you have not received this information from your school, contact them and inquire about it. Each school has a plan, but some do not share as well as others. Basic elementary rule, right? Contact your school today and get your kids prepared!

#### **Best Practices**

### **Iron County Preparedness Expo**

By Kim Hammer Information courtesy of Marie Brooks, Iron County Emergency Management Coordinator



At this year's Iron County Preparedness Expo, Marie Brooks and her team created a 15-page preparedness newspaper booklet to hand out to participants. Their intention was to encourage people to think outside the box and realize there are many facets to preparedness, not just food and water storage. The theme of the expo was centered around surviving long-term power outages. Something Utahns are very familiar with, especially in the last year. Their plan for the newspaper included as many things that may be affected by a long-term power outage. Some of the highlights from the expo included:

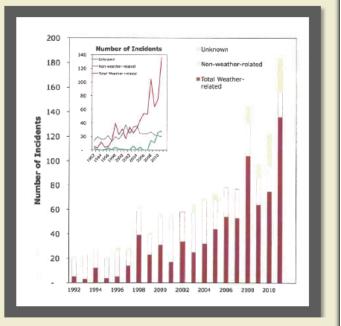
- Cooking without electricity
- Communication during a disaster
- Shelter in place
- Radon poisoning
- Cold dangers
- Grid-Down sanitation



According to Marie, the booklet took quite some time to pull together, but a lot of information is readily available online to assist in your research. In addition to the preparedness information, the booklet includes sponsors that had booths at the expo. If you are looking to prepare your own upcoming fair or expo, utilizing your sponsors to help pay for the booklet is a wise idea. The booklet was given to each family that entered the expo. Great outreach efforts in Iron County!

If you would like a copy of Iron County's Preparedness Expo Newspaper booklet, please contact Marie Brooks at <u>mbrooks@ironcounty.net</u>.

# More Frequent, Longer Lasting



Electrical power, in the short span of two centuries, has become an indispensable part of modern day life. Our work, leisure, healthcare, economy, and livelihood depend on a constant supply of electrical power. Even a temporary stoppage of power can lead to relative chaos, monetary setbacks, and possible loss of life. Our cities live on electricity and without the customary supply from the power grid, pandemonium would break loose. Power outages can be especially disastrous when it comes to life-support systems in places like hospitals and nursing homes, or in co-ordination facilities such as in airports, train stations, and traffic control.

# In the Dark? Are You Prepared?

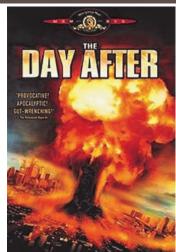
# This Show's A Disaster! "The Day After" (1983)

By Don Cobb

Rating: 4 MREs



Distributed by ABC Circle Films Directed by Nicholas Meyer - Written by Edward Hume Starring: Jason Robards, JoBeth Williams, Steve Guttenberg, John Cullum, John Lithgow, Amy Madigan



Credit: IMDb

An Emmy Award-winning, made-for-TV movie, "The Day After" first aired on the ABC TV network Nov. 20, 1983, when it was viewed by more than 100 million people. The flick, while fictional, is presented very realistically, and details escalating political tensions between the East and West during the Cold War era that ultimately end in an exchange of nuclear missiles between the United States and Soviet Union. Who launches first is specifically not addressed. Does it really matter anyway?

The resulting carnage that occurs in and near Lawrence, Kansas, and Kansas City, Missouri, microcosm Middle America communities that provide the backdrop for the film's action, is expansively depicted, very disturbing and quite depressing. This is not mainstream entertainment, but could be considered a bold artistic statement, especially if art is indeed "a lie that tells the truth." You likely will not walk away from "The Day After" feeling good because, let's face it, nuclear holocaust has absolutely nothing to commend it. Nothing at all.

Few, if any, disaster-related or post-apocalyptic movies have had as much impact on viewers as "The Day After." Provided with an advance screening, then-President Ronald Reagan stated in his diary that the film was "very effective and left me greatly depressed," also noting that it changed his mind on current national policy related to nuclear war. The Joint Chiefs of Staff saw it, and according to first-hand reports, "sat there like they were turned to stone." The initial ABC broadcast was followed by an on-air debate hosted by Ted Koppel that included '80s luminaries Carl Sagan, Henry Kissinger, Elie Weisel, Robert McNamara, Gen, Brent Skowcroft, and William F. Buckley, Jr. Multiple issues related to stockpiling nuclear arms as deterrents to conflict were hotly contested by these experts in front of the nation.

Although heavily censored and reduced from its original four-hour full length to a mere two and one-half hours (with no commercials after the nuclear attack), the movie's content remained profound enough to attract the professional interest of educators, political figures, psychologists, and pundits from various persuasions. Even Fred Rogers, of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" fame felt compelled to devote five shows to console young viewers who had seen the flick.

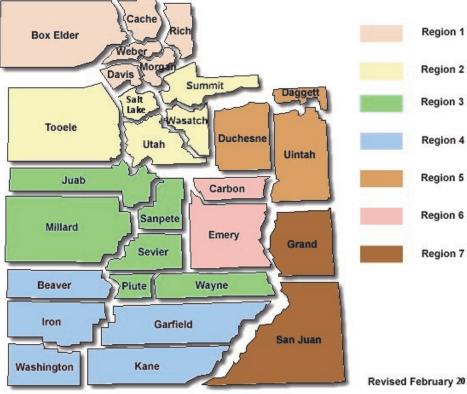
Ultimately, "The Day After" was nominated for 12 Emmy awards and won two. The story is powerful. The acting is very good to excellent. The special effects, perhaps a bit primitive by today's CGI standards, are still effective and very realistic. Many were drawn from real nuke footage of the era. Eventually, "The Day After" was shown globally, including to the Russian public during Gorbachev's reform era, and at the urging of the U.S. Congress. We can only speculate on the film's overall effect abroad, but it seems logical to assume it was not dissimilar from here in the States.

If you and yours can handle it, you'll find "The Day After" on YouTube, and through various DVD vendors. Stay prepared, be strong and prevail!

<b>Fraining</b>			Location	Course ID
APS): Required (	+) Elective	e (*)		
September				
10-12	G-300	ICS-300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents	Vernal	1011051
0,12,21,24,26	G-428	Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) TTT	Provo	1033034
1-12	G-288*	Local Volunteer and Donations Management	Salt Lake	1026948
13,14,27,28	G-425	Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) TTT	Fairview	1033034
6-17	G-300	ICS-300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents	Ogden	1011051
18-19	G-575	Communications Interoperability Course	Salt Lake	1020173
October				
3-9	L-967	All-Hazards Logistics Section Chief (LSC) Part 1	Brigham City	1021315
3-9	G-300	ICS-300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents	Provo	1011051
15-16	L-967	All-Hazards Logistics Section Chief (LSC) Part 2	Logan	1021315
16	G-557+	Rapid Needs Assessment	Salt Lake	1042722
22-24	MGT-346	EOC Operations and Planning for All-Hazards	Salt Lake	1031265
29-30	MGT-315	Enhanced Threat and Risk Assessment	Salt Lake	1029991
29-30	G-400	Advanced ICS - Command & General Staff	Draper	1011057
November				
5-6	G-290*	Basic Public Information Officer	Salt Lake	1011053
7	G-291	JIS/JIC Planning Course	Salt Lake	1020466
3-7	G-400	Advanced ICS - Command & General Staff	Ogden	1011057
12-14	G-400	Advanced ICS - Command & General Staff (evening class)	Vernal	1011057
13-14	G-300	ICS-300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents	Salt Lake	1011051
Conferences,	Exercise	s and Workshops	Location	Contact
September				
8	Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) Workshop		Salt Lake	1044055
24-25	Public Ir	nformation Officer (PIO) Conference	St. George	Info here
October				
2	Conference on Service & Volunteerism - Eastern Region		Price	TBA
3	City and	County Directors Conference	Midway	1021336
November				
2		ACES Conference	Davis Conference Center	1011069

Register using the course ID on U-TRAIN at: <u>https://www.utah.train.org</u> For more training information, please visit our website at: <u>http://emergencymanagement.utah.gov</u> or contact Ted Woolley at <u>tedwoolley@utah.gov</u>





Region 1 - Kimberly Giles kgiles@utah.gov

Region 2 - Jesse Valenzuela jessev@utah.gov

Region 3 - Jeff Gallacher jgallacher@utah.gov

Region 4 - Scott Alvord salvord@utah.gov

Region 5 - Mechelle Miller mmiller@utah.gov

Region 6 & 7 - Martin Wilson martinwilson@utah.gov

**Revised February 2012** 

Liaison Manager - Kim Hammer khammer@utah.gov



Interested in photos and stories of Utah's disasters over the years? Visit our Flickr site and Natural Hazards & Mitigation Blog http://www.flickr.com/photos/utahnaturalhazards/ http://uthazardmitigation.wordpress.com/



**Division of Emergency Management** 1110 State Office Building Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-1710

Phone: 801.538.3400 Fax: 801.538.3770 http://emergencymanagement.utah.gov Ready?



Important links to remember

**Division of Emergency Management:** 

http://dem.utah.gov

Be Ready Utah: http://bereadyutah.gov

State Citizen Corps Council: http://citizencorps.utah.gov

#### WebEOC NEW WEB ADDRESS:

https://veocutah.webeocasp.com