Forming Community Partnerships

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FEMA/Smithsonian Institution

Cultural Heritage at Risk
University at Albany
27 October 2017 | Albany, NY
Tropical Storm Harvey
Hurricane Irma
Hurricane Maria
Cultural heritage can be found in:

- Arboreta
- Archives
- Historical and archaeological sites/properties
- Historical societies
- Libraries
- Municipal offices
- Museums
- Zoos
- And more!
IMLS definition of “museums” and “libraries”

**Museums include:**
- aquariums
- arboretums
- art museums
- botanical gardens
- children’s/youth museums
- historic houses/sites
- history museums
- natural history/anthropology museums
- nature centers
- planetariums
- science/technology centers
- specialized museums
- zoological parks

**Libraries include:**
- public elementary and secondary school libraries
- public libraries
- college and university libraries
- research libraries and archives
- state library agencies
- library consortia
- library associations that exist on a permanent basis
Role of cultural heritage organizations in whole-community recovery

- Community identity
- Essential records for continuity of government
- Educational value
- Economic health of community
- Gathering places
Goals of cultural heritage emergency networks

- To share resources and information
- To build relationships
- To educate cultural heritage and emergency management professionals
- To develop strong, ongoing networks to facilitate effective local response
Local network – Alliance for Response NYC
Local network – AFR New York Capital Region

New York Capital Region

The severe flooding of 2006 and Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee in 2011 challenged the New York Capital Region and strengthened the resolve to build a broad, multi-county network and partnerships to better serve constituents when they’re in need. The New York Capital Region AFR is designed to forge interlocal networks encompassing the counties of Albany, Rensselaer, Schenectady, and Saratoga.

The NY Capital Region Alliance for Response will hold a 3-part disaster planning workshop this fall, beginning October 12, 2016. Focusing on museums, archives, libraries, and historical societies (as well as local government record holders), in Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer, and Saratoga counties, this multi-part event will help institutions develop unique disaster plans, encourage partnerships with local emergency managers, and introduce...
Local networks assisting local institutions

HERITAGE EMERGENCY RESPONSE ALLIANCE

JANUARY 10, 2017 | HERAATLANTA | COMMUNICATIONS, DISASTER RECOVERY, DISASTER RESPONSE, FUNDING, NATIONAL HERITAGE RESPONDERS, STATEWIDE PLANNING, UNCATEGORIZED

Albany Museum of Art Hit Hard by Storm on January 2, 2017

Statewide network – Massachusetts
mblc.state.ma.us/costepma

COSTEP MA
Coordinated Statewide Emergency Preparedness

Your emergency management partner for cultural resources

Cultural resources are individual objects, collections, and even activities with artistic, educational, historic, scientific, social, or economic importance to a community. They are housed in libraries, museums, archives, historic properties, historical societies, city and town halls, and public records repositories. They include works of art, books, documents, archaeological specimens, furniture, textiles, recordings, significant landscapes, and much more.


Many partners are needed to protect and preserve the cultural collections and historic structures and sites that represent the heritage of Massachusetts. Collaborative planning and coordinated response can lessen the damaging effects of disasters and help speed recovery for the institutions that house these collections and the communities themselves. However, the partnerships essential to protecting our cultural heritage need to be in place before disaster strikes, and that is why COSTEP MA exists.

COSTEP MA (Coordinated Statewide Emergency Preparedness in Massachusetts) is a collaborative of representatives of cultural and historical institutions and agencies as well as first responders and emergency management professionals from federal, state, and municipal governments. The purpose of COSTEP MA is to build and foster a statewide emergency planning process that serves the cultural and emergency management communities and addresses disaster prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. The process will ensure an ongoing dialogue.
Mitigation for Memory
A Disaster Mitigation Framework for Cultural Resources
December 2014

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

All emergency responders recognize that effective, comprehensive mitigation activities must begin far in advance of the hazard. In many local communities, emergency managers whose first responsibility is response are also the ones tasked with risk mitigation, either formally or in a de facto capacity.

It is crucial, therefore, that communities maintain robust and maintain ongoing relationships among emergency managers, municipal planners and officials, and cultural institutions. To that end, a key part of any Mitigation for Memory project is a series of community meetings to initiate a dialogue about mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts for the community’s cultural resources.

The community meetings should emphasize the need to develop mitigation strategies to minimize damage in the future and enhance the community’s ability to recover. They should highlight efforts that have already been undertaken to protect cultural resources in the larger state, region, or metropolitan area.

Community meetings can focus on a single community or they can be held in multiple communities simultaneously or, if part of a larger project, but one of the most important lessons learned from the COSTEP MA Mitigation for Memory project was that a single meeting in a community will not be sufficient to understand the project goals. Follow-up meetings are essential to pull in additional participants, current relationships, and develop mitigation activities.

The section above practical recommendations for organizing, hosting, and following up on community meetings.

Objectives for the Community Meetings

- Mitigate loss to cultural heritage collections by raising cultural institutions’ awareness of existing emergency preparedness and mitigation structures in their area so they can share more resilient communities.
- Facilitate communication about mitigation among emergency management directors (EADs), town officials, local risk management committees, regional planning organizations, and cultural heritage facilities.
- Integrate emergency management processes and cultural institutions about the importance of risk analysis and mitigation of these risks for cultural collections.

Scope of the Community Meetings

Your first task is to determine your basic approach to the community meetings. You may call your stakeholders or divide the meeting into smaller groups. Always consider your available resources, both staffing and budgetary, when making these decisions. If your resources are limited, don’t hesitate to begin with just one or two meetings and scale from there.

Some issues to consider when determining scope:

- Timeframe. Will your project take place in a short period of time, or will it take more time? This can depend on whether you have a certain timeline or whether you are rolling the project together from

mblc.state.ma.us/costepma/forms-and-documents.html
Disaster Planning – Essential

If you are just starting out with disaster planning and you have limited resources, this is the place to start. We have outlined simple, essential tasks that make sure you have thought about and recorded the most basic elements of a disaster plan. Don’t overwhelm yourself by thinking you must complete everything at once. Plan for a slow and steady completion of each step.
CERC: Maine

http://maine.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1511a3fb7cca4e39abd4da21855ba5ed
Statewide network – Hawaii
disasteralert.pdc.org/disasteralert
Organized in 1995, the Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF) is a partnership of 58 national service organizations and federal agencies co-sponsored by FEMA and the Smithsonian Institution.
Heritage Emergency National Task Force in the DHS Org Chart

- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- FEMA  USCIS  CBP  USCG  ICE  TSA  USSS
- Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA)
- Office of Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (OEHP)
  Risk Management Directorate  Mitigation Directorate
  Federal Insurance Directorate  Fund Management Directorate
- Readiness Branch  Policy Branch  Integration & Technology Branch
- Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF)
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The mission of HENTF is to protect cultural heritage in our nation’s states, tribes, territories, and local communities from the damaging effects of natural disasters and other emergencies.
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation • American Alliance of Museums • American Association for State and Local History • American Institute of Architects • American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works • American Library Association • Association of African American Museums • Association of Art Museum Directors • Association for Preservation Technology International • Association of Regional Conservation Centers • Chief Officers of State Library Agencies • Council on Library and Information Resources • Council of State Archivists • Department of the Army • Department of the Interior • Federal Emergency Management Agency • Federal Library and Information Network • General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service • The Getty Conservation Institute • Institute of Museum and Library Services • International Association of Emergency Managers • Library of Congress • National Archives and Records Administration • National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators • National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers • National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers • National Emergency Management Association • National Endowment for the Arts • National Endowment for the Humanities • National Historical Publications and Records Commission • National Park Service • National Science Foundation • National Trust for Historic Preservation • Regional Alliance for Preservation • Small Business Administration • Smithsonian Institution • Society of American Archivists • Society of Architectural Historians • Society for Historical Archaeology • Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections • US/International Council on Monuments and Sites • World Monuments Fund
Identify affected cultural institutions and historic sites

- HENTF members
- Federal agencies
- State cultural and emergency management agencies
- State archives/museum/library associations
- Regional archives and museum associations
- Regional conservation/preservation centers
- Local or state cultural heritage emergency networks
Alliance for Response NYC
afrnyc.org

Heritage Response Team

The Alliance for Response New York City - Heritage Response Team (AFR-HRT) will respond to the needs of cultural institutions, artists, and other collections during emergencies and disasters through coordinated efforts with first responders, state agencies, vendors and the public. Volunteers will provide advice and referrals by phone and email: info@afrnyc.org. Requests for onsite assistance will be forwarded by the volunteer to the AFR-HRT Coordinator for response.

The first Heritage Response Team training series will take place this fall and spring over the course of 7 weekend days at the Museum of Modern Art. The following topics will be covered: Incident Command System, Working with First Responders, Health and Safety, Confined Space Safety, Communications, Assessment and Triage, and Collections-Specific Salvage. Forty participants will be trained based on a curriculum combining aspects of
Statewide network – Colorado

chrtaskforce.com
Tropical Storm Harvey

[Map showing total rainfall in inches from August 23-29, 2017, across Texas and Louisiana, with a focus on the area affected by Tropical Storm Harvey.]
Statewide network – TX-CERA

National Heritage Responders (NHR) will be coordinating and connecting volunteers with those who need help. If you need help with damage from Harvey please inform NHR at 202.661.8068. If you are interested in volunteering your preservation or conservation expertise, sign up at 202.661.8069.
Salvaging Water-Damaged Family Valuables and Heirlooms

The losses that are the result of disasters are usually measured in dollars, but often the losses that matter the most are the cherished items and heirlooms that are closest to the hearts of individuals and families. Although these treasured items may be damaged in floods, hurricanes, or tornadoes, it is often possible to salvage them. With a little patience, prompt action, and professional tips, saving treasured photographs, letters, and other irreplaceable objects is possible, although it may involve a follow-up consultation with a conservator.

General Information
- If the object is still wet, gently rinse it with clear, clean water. If it is dry, clean off silt and debris with a soft brush or dab it lightly with a damp cloth.
- Air dry wet or damp objects indoors, if possible. Sunlight and heat may be too intense, causing splits, warping, and buckling. Increase airflow with fans, open

Covered in mud and silt, family photos and other family heirlooms lay on streets and lawns after the severe flash flooding in Des Plaines, Illinois, in April 2013. Photo by Bryan Adams/FEMA Corps

Framed Art
### National Preparedness Report

**Mission Areas and Core Capabilities**

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**Note:** The term "Natural and Cultural Resources" is highlighted, indicating its significance in the context of preparedness and recovery.
Changes in State and Territory Proficiency Levels, 2012-2016

Based on State Preparedness Report Results

- Public Information and Warning: 13%
- Environmental Response/Health and Safety: 8%
- Community Resilience: 7%
- Operational Coordination: 5%
- Threats and Hazards Identification: 5%
- Planning: 4%
- Infrastructure Systems: 4%
- Long-term Vulnerability Reduction: 3%
- On-scene Security, Protection, and Law Enforcement: 3%
- Access Control and Identity Verification: 3%
- Screening, Search, and Detection: 2%
- Physical Protective Measures: 2%
- Intelligence and Information Sharing: 2%
- Natural and Cultural Resources: 1%
- Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services: 1%
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management: 0%
- Risk and Disaster Resilience Assessment: 0%
- Mass Search and Rescue Operations: 0%
- Fatality Management Services: 0%
- Mass Care Services: 0%
- Situational Assessment: 0%
- Operational Communications: -2%
- Supply Chain Integrity and Security: -3%
- Cybersecurity: -3%
- Risk Management for Protection Programs and Activities: -5%
- Interdiction and Disruption: -5%
- Health and Social Services: -6%
- Critical Transportation: -7%
- Housing: -7%
- Forensics and Attribution: -8%
- Economic Recovery: -10%

Difference in Percentage of 4 or 5 Ratings Based on 5-point Scale (5 = Highest Rating) from 2012-2016
Challenges

- Leadership and engagement
- Funding and staffing
- Building and sustaining relationships
Benefits of public-private partnership

- Enhance situational awareness
- Improve decision making
- Access more resources
- Expand reach and access for communication efforts
- Improve coordination with other efforts by segments of the private sector
- Increase the effectiveness of emergency management efforts
- Maintain strong relationships, built on mutual understanding
- Create more resilient communities
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