

# NAVAJO COUNTY

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NEWS

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### White Mountains Women's Club "Gets Ready"

January 14, 2016 District IV Supervisor Steve Williams addressed the White Mountains Women's Club members to discuss emergency preparedness and introduce them to Ready Navajo County emergency notification system. Mary Springer and Catrina Jenkins from Emergency Management distributed information to the members and explained how to sign up for the free service through the County's website.



### Navajo County Public Health and Emergency Management teams stand up EOC's in Functional Exercise

A functional exercise designed to test coordination of public health and all hazard emergency operations teams was conducted on January 21, 2016. In the event of an epidemic in Navajo County the public health preparedness team would activate the emergency operation center and coordinate the ordering and delivering of medications to points of distribution (POD). The emergency management team would assist public health in providing resources to relieve the initial responders. The exercise tested emergency operations coordination and countermeasure dispensing.

### Dilkon Community Meeting Discusses Preparedness

Supervisor Jesse Thompson, District II hosted a preparedness meeting at the Dilkon road yard on January 6, 2016. Community members and officials learned about Ready Navajo County and were able to sign up for the County's emergency notification system. Doug Watchman from Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Management was on hand to discuss the importance of following the process when emergencies occur. Department of Emergency Management led by Harland Cleveland coordinates the requests for resources when emergencies become too large for the local Chapter's capabilities.

### Regional Emergency Managers Meet to Discuss Synergies

Emergency Managers from Navajo, Apache, Coconino Counties and Navajo Nation met to discuss projects and initiatives each agency is working on to see if there were opportunities for collaboration. Topics discussed ranged from emergency operations planning, emergency operations structure, mass notifications systems, winter preparedness and grant projects for the upcoming Emergency Management Performance grant cycle.

### Information on the go

Navajo County Emergency Management uses several communication tools to get vetted emergency and critical information out to the public. Northeastern Arizona Public Information System is just one of the tools used to communicate with the public. Citizens can either call 311 from their mobile phones/landlines or 928-333-3412 to hear recorded information from Forest Service/Fire, Public Health or Emergency Management. 311info.net is the website where information is posted.

**NORTHEASTERN ARIZONA  
PUBLIC INFORMATION SYSTEM**  
Official Source of Emergency Information

**311**

(928) 333-3412      www.311info.net  
Call One Customers dial 311      Verizon customers dial 311

## Emergency Management News

### Regional THIRA, A First for Counties

Navajo and Apache are the first counties in the state to conduct a regional Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA). Cheryl Kennedy and Susan Dzbanko from Arizona Department of Homeland Security provided hands on training on January 11 & 12 so that participants could collaborate and prepare the assessment based on threats and hazards that affect the Navajo and Apache County region. Agency representatives from Navajo and Apache Counties Sheriff's Office, Emergency Management, Public Health, Public Works, US Forest Service, cities & towns, local fire districts and law enforcement came together for the beginning of the process and will continue until the 31 core capabilities are addressed. The result of the completed THIRA will allow a better understanding of the capability gaps and how to address them with training, exercising and maximize funding opportunities.

### Hazard Mitigation Grant

Navajo County was awarded a Hazard Mitigation grant in the amount of \$30,000 to update the 2011 Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Hazard Mitigation Plan is a collaborative process that includes the cities, towns and unincorporated areas within Navajo County excluding the reservations. Each tribe conducts their own hazard mitigation assessment. The plan is required to be updated every five years in order to be current and allow participating entities to apply for hazard mitigation grant funding.

### Tis' The Season Grant Applications are Due

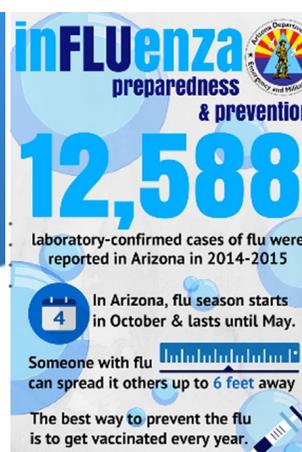
January through March is always a busy season in the Emergency Management world. Homeland Security (HSGP) and Emergency Preparedness Performance (EMPG) grants applications are due. The Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Grant Programs play an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System (NPS) by supporting the building, sustainment and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal (NPG) of a secure and resilient Nation.

### Zika Virus Facts

Zika is a flavivirus transmitted by mosquitoes that was first found in Brazil during May 2015. This virus can cause illness in people bitten by infected mosquitoes, and a link has also been identified between the virus and birth defects among infants of infected mothers. [Preventing mosquito bites](#), both at home and when traveling, is key to preventing disease spread. You can also make sure there is no standing water around your home where mosquitoes can breed, such as in buckets, toys, or plant holders. More information can be accessed at:

Centers for Disease Control - <http://www.cdc.gov/media/dpk/2016/dpk-zika-virus.html>

Arizona Department of Health Services - <http://www.azdhs.gov/index.php>



### Activities - February 2016

- ◆ Behavioral Health Coalition
- ◆ TEEX EOC Planning & Exercise
- ◆ Active Shooter Tabletop Exercise