

November 2019 Update

Critical Infrastructure Security, New World Scewworm Webinar Recording, and More!



Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Month

November is [Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Month](#), led by the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). This nationwide effort is intended to raise awareness and reaffirm the commitment to keep our Nation's critical infrastructure, including commercial facilities like zoos and aquariums, secure and resilient.

Some key themes for this year include soft target security, managing risk to a converging cyber and physical world, and combating insider threats. Information and resources on these topics and more can be found in the [Infrastructure Security Month Toolkit](#), and we've highlighted some of the suggested activities that may be most useful for Exotic Animal Industry owners and operators below:

- Review and revise business continuity and emergency plans to align with updated Sector Specific Plans:
 - [Commercial Facilities Sector](#)
 - [Food and Agriculture](#)
- Visit the [Hometown Security homepage](#) for free tools and resources for small and medium-sized businesses, including resources on [Securing Soft Targets and Crowded Places](#).
- Meet with your local [Protective Security Advisor \(PSA\)](#) to better understand infrastructure in your area or to learn about available resources such as [Critical Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessments](#).
- Learn about the legal protections for information shared with CISA under the [Protected Critical Infrastructure Information \(PCII\) Program](#).

New World Screwworm Webinar Recording

Earlier this month Dr. Joanna Davis, of USDA Veterinary Services, conducted an informational webinar on New World Screwworm where she shared her thoughts about the importance of NWS preparedness, surveillance and response for the exotic animal industry as well as her experiences with preparing for and responding to an outbreak of this pest.

[Click here to view a recording of this webinar.](#)

NWS causes a devastating myiasis (maggot infestation) that severely impacted the vulnerable Key Deer population of south Florida in 2016. NWS has been detected in a variety of species, and in rare instances, can cause zoonotic disease.

For additional information and resources visit the [NWS page on the USDA-APHIS website](#).

Preparedness Focus: Emergency Supplies

November's preparedness focus is [emergency supplies](#). Your facility should be prepared to go at least 72 hours without outside support or utilities such as running water, electricity,

or telephone service following a disaster. Consider the following :

- Do you have enough food and potable water to sustain the people and animals that will be onsite during a disaster?
 - How much water would be necessary to sustain your response team for a minimum of 72 hours? For any additional people that may be sheltering on grounds?
 - Have you calculated the total amount of water your animals will need each day?
 - How will water be stored?
 - Do you have enough non-perishable food to meet the needs of both humans and animals?
- If your facility relies on generators, do you have enough gasoline on grounds to run them for a prolonged period?
 - Have you calculated the burn rate of fuel for generators under heavy load?
- Are emergency supplies such as radios, flashlights, and extra batteries stored in an easily accessible location?
- If your facility has a ride-out team, have those team members been told to include necessary personal supplies and information in their go bags? This may include :
 - Medication
 - Personal items such as toothbrushes, soap, extra glasses etc.
 - Emergency information
 - Contacts
 - Medical information (medications, dosage, and doctor information)
 - Insurance information
- Do you have any animals with special needs? If so:
 - Is important information stored in a manner that is easily accessible without power/computer access?
 - Do you have adequate medication and/or supplies to care for these animals in an emergency?

If you are just getting started with planning, consider looking to our [Contingency Planning Modules](#) for more industry specific information. Additional information on crisis communication plans for businesses is available on [ready.gov](#).

[Do 1 Thing](#), a non-profit organization that aims to build more disaster resilient communities, asks the community to do one "thing" to enhance preparedness each month.

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