ZAHP
FUSION CENTER

Preparedness
Response
Recovery

October 2019 Update

New World Scewworm Webinar, Cybersecurity Awareness, and More!

Informational Webinar on New World Screwworm

Please consider joining ZAHP on Thursday, November 7th, at 12 pm EST for an informational webinar on New World Screwworm (NWS).

Click here to register!

Dr. Joanna Davis, of USDA Veterinary Services will conduct the webinar and share her experiences with preparing for and responding to an outbreak of this pest. 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.

Dr. Davis will share her thoughts about the importance of NWS preparedness, surveillance and response for the exotic animal industry. For additional information and resources visit the NWS page on the USDA-APHIS website.

National Cybersecurity Awareness Month

October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NCSAM), a collaborative effort between government and industry focused on promoting personal accountability and encouraging behavior to enhance cybersecurity. This year's overarching message. "Own IT. Secure IT. Protect IT", stresses the importance of individuals taking proactive steps to enhance cybersecurity at home and in the workplace. Key messaging encourages the public to understand, secure, and protect their digital profiles with more in depth guidance on relevant topics provided via a series of documents on the NCSAM 2019 homepage.

Additional resources are available through the "Stop. Think. Connect" campaign, created to increase understanding of cybersecurity threats and empower the public to be safer and more secure online. If you are looking to improve cybersecurity at your facility, the Stop. Think Connect toolkit is an excellent resource with materials specifically designed for a variety of audiences including industry and small businesses.

Preparedness Focus: Power

October's preparedness focus is power. Preparing in advance is vital to ensuring you will be able to safely meet your facility's basic needs during an electrical outage. Consider the following :
- Does your facility have a generator(s) onsite to run vital life support systems, prevent food spoilage, provide necessary climate control, etc.?
  - Has this generator been tested under heavy load?
  - How long can the generator run with the fuel you have available on-site?
- Have you established how you will communicate with relevant staff and volunteers during an outage?
  - Do you have back up batteries and/or other means to recharge radios and other communications equipment readily available?

- Is important contact information easily accessible in a hard copy on site?
- Do you have a plan in place to assess facility safety during and immediately following an outage?
  - Are there any gates or other heavy equipment that may not be usable in an outage?
  - Do you have an established system to check for downed lines and other potential hazards on grounds?
  - Is back up lighting available for pathways and/or do you have enough flashlights and batteries available to allow staff, volunteers, and the public to move around safely?

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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