



Washington
Military
Department

**Emergency
Management
Division**

Camp Murray,
Washington

www.emd.wa.gov

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2011 Individual and Community Preparedness Awards Honors

Camp Murray, Wash. – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has announced that the Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division, has won a 2011 FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Award in the category of *Innovative Training and Education Programs*.

The Individual and Community Preparedness Awards recognize the innovative practices and achievements of organizations and individuals that work to make our communities safer, stronger and better prepared to manage any emergency situation.

This year's winners were selected from across 36 states, as well as Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The applications reflected the full breadth of the whole community, with submissions from faith-based, tribal, non-profit, private sector, and community-based organizations, as well as individuals.

The Award honors the Washington Emergency Management Division's diverse outreach programs which include:

Map Your Neighborhood – A program that prepares neighborhoods to survive emergencies and disaster situations by linking neighbors to neighbors. MYN is currently active in 38 states, and 2 countries. MYN also won FEMA's Challenge.gov Award this year. Other programs honored in the award include the **Washington State EMD Business portal**, **EMD Kidz website**, and the **Flood Preparedness Videos** series all found at www.emd.wa.gov.

"We are proud of these communities, organizations, and individuals and their remarkable accomplishments," said Paulette Aniskoff, FEMA's Director for Individual and Community Preparedness. "I'm honored to recognize those who are empowering the public to take action in making their communities safer and better prepared to respond to disaster. FEMA is just one part of the team, and we couldn't build our nation's preparedness without the innovation and creativity put forth by organizations and individuals, such as this year's winners."

Jim Mullen, Washington Emergency Management Director and Wendy Freitag, EMD External Affairs Manager joined other honored guests Tuesday in Washington, D.C. at a FEMA-hosted series of events to further recognize these achievements.

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The FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Division announced awards in thirteen categories:

Outstanding State Citizen Corps Council Initiatives

Arkansas State Citizen Corps (AR)

Outstanding Local Citizen Corps Council Initiatives

New York City Citizen Corps (NY)

Outstanding Community Emergency Response Team Initiatives

NBC Universal CERT (CA)

Outstanding Achievement in Youth Preparedness

American Red Cross of Greater Chicago (IL)

Preparing the Whole Community

San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians (CA)

Promising Partnerships

Be Ready Alliance Coordinating for Emergencies (BRACE) (FL)

Engagement with Faith-Based Communities

David L. Maack (WI)

Innovative Training and Education Programs

Washington State Emergency Management Division (WA)

Outstanding Drill, Exercise, or Event

The Great Central United States ShakeOut (TN)

Awareness to Action

Earthquake Country Alliance (CA)

Innovative Use of Technology

Citizen Corps of St. Clair County (MI)

Outstanding Achievement in Public Health

Cobb County Public Health Preparedness and Response (GA)

Community Preparedness Heroes

Brenda Gormley (TX), Tod Pritchard (WI), Carolyn Bluhm (CO)

First Annual Recipient of the John D. Solomon Preparedness Award

John D. Solomon, Creator of In Case of Emergency, Read Blog (NY)

Winning applications demonstrated remarkable innovation and creativity in preparing their communities. Others were exemplary in their ability to train and educate community member. Many of this year's winners also distinguished themselves by bringing together the whole community in emergency preparedness. A complete list of this year's winners, including descriptions and those applicants that received honorable mentions in each category, is available at:

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/councils/awards/2011/awardwinners2011.shtm>.

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