



The

Journal

Utah Emergency Management

BE SMART.
TAKE PART.

PREPARE.

Join the movement at www.ready.gov/prepare

America's PrepareAthon! is a community-based campaign that is bringing together millions of people to practice the simple steps that will help them get and stay prepared for disasters. Follow America's PrepareAthon! on Twitter @PrepareAthon using #PrepareAthon.

AMERICA'S
PrepareAthon!SM

Shake
OutTM

Every September, we have a chance to make a major push in our communities and with our stakeholders to urge them to take steps to prepare for everyday emergencies and the catastrophic events that can disrupt our entire state.

This year, the National Preparedness Month theme is:

Be Disaster Aware. Take Action to Prepare.

To help you in your efforts, Utah Division of Emergency Management has posted the National Preparedness Month toolkit on our website: <http://dem.utah.gov>

The toolkit includes images, sample tweets, Facebook posts, links to videos and more that can help you in your messaging to the community. Remember that Be Ready Utah, through its social media channels, will also be sharing preparedness messages throughout the month.

This summer, we saw how emergencies can become all too real as flooding descended upon the communities of Carbon County.

The storm on Aug. 4 caused flooding throughout Carbon County and prompted the county and the Utah Division of Emergency Management to request a damage assessment from FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

FEMA, DEM and Carbon County, including Helper and Price cities, conducted a joint assessment of the damage

on Aug. 13-15 to see if any damage to public or private property was eligible for reimbursement under FEMA's Public Assistance or Individual Assistance programs.

The assessments revealed that actual damages to public infrastructure were far below a level where the state would request FEMA assistance, but we received word this week that SBA assistance is available to affected residents and businesses in the form of low-interest loans.

The SBA acts under its own authority to make disaster declarations. In this case, the declaration makes SBA assistance available in Carbon County and the neighboring counties of Duchesne, Emery, Sanpete, Uintah and Utah.

The news release from the SBA is posted at EmergencyInfoUtah.com.

Even more recently, Daggett and Uintah counties have experienced flooding following torrential rains. Their emergency managers are in the process of assessing damage in their counties.

As always, our agency stands ready to support your communities whenever needed.

Thank you for your service,

Kris J. Hamlet

Director

Utah Division of Emergency Management

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Increase Your Reach in National Preparedness Month



In emergency management, we are making great strides in the area of preparedness. Nonetheless, everyone agrees there is so much more to do. As we kick off National Preparedness Month in September, there are many opportunities to increase preparedness outreach efforts and provide your citizens with critical, potentially lifesaving information. Here are a few ways to help people become better prepared. Congratulations to you who are using some of these already.

First, come to the Utah Prepare Conference and Expo. Be Ready Utah and Utah State University Extension partner to conduct the second annual event. The Expo will be held Saturday, September 27, 2014, at the South Towne Expo Center. The event will feature great speakers, informative classes, and display and vendor booths.



Please help spread the word to your residents to attend this great preparedness expo. More information can be found at www.UtahPrepare.com.

Second is the old, reliable: a preparedness, health or safety fair. Organize a fair in your community where people can come to visit with response agencies, preparedness experts and vendors. The Division of Emergency Management (DEM) supports many requests to staff Be Ready Utah booths at fairs all along the Wasatch Front. As a reminder, Be Ready Utah provided county emergency managers with a box containing all you might need to set up a booth. We encourage you to use your staff, Citizen Corps members, or other local volunteers to staff a Be Ready Utah booth in your community. If you do, please contact DEM and we can report your success.

Third, the fastest growing outreach method is social media. If you haven't already, create accounts on Facebook, Twitter and other outlets, then start posting preparedness messages and inviting friends, likes, or followers. It takes time to build an audience, but if you consistently provide valuable information, they will come. Our DEM Public Information Officer, Joe Dougherty, is a great social media resource and can help you begin. Follow [@BeReadyUtah](https://twitter.com/BeReadyUtah) on Twitter and like our [Facebook](#) page.

Fourth, keep your websites updated and your web addresses publicized. Also, make sure that you are linked to www.BeReadyUtah.gov. This website is a resource for general emergency preparedness information. Please take a moment to look it over and notice the preparedness materials available for download. The site has information for Be Ready Families, Be Ready Schools, Be Ready Business and Be Ready Communities.



Finally, plan one activity for your community that you can register with America's PrepareAthon!, FEMA's National Day of Action. The semi-annual event (April and September) is intended to

increase emergency preparedness and resilience through hazard-specific drills, group discussions and exercises conducted all across the country. You can find out more and register your event at ready.gov/prepare.

Good luck in all of your preparedness outreach efforts.



Be Informed - Be Prepared

Know Important Information to Stay Safe

Learn the types of disasters or emergencies that may likely occur in your area. These events can range from those affecting only you and your family, like a home fire or medical emergency, to those affecting your entire community, like an earthquake or flood. Identify how local authorities will notify you during a disaster and how you will get information, whether through local radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio stations or channels.

Know the difference between different weather alerts such as watches and warnings and what actions to take in each.

Know what actions to take to protect yourself during disasters that may occur in areas where you travel or have moved recently. For example, if you travel to a place where earthquakes are common and you are not familiar with them, make sure you know what to do to protect yourself should one occur.

When a major disaster occurs, your community can change in an instant. Loved ones may be hurt and emergency response is likely to be delayed. Make sure that at least one member of your household is trained in first aid and CPR and knows how to use an automated external defibrillator (AED). This training is useful in many emergency situations.

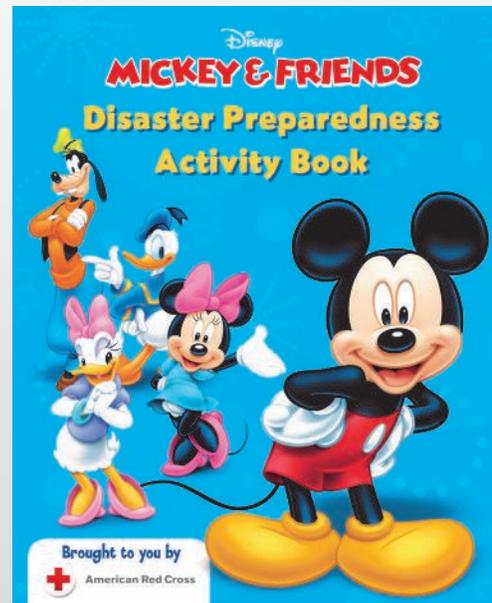
Share what you have learned with your family and neighbors and encourage them to be informed.



Have an Emergency Contact Cards for All Household Members

- Print one card for each family member.
- Write the contact information for each household member including work, school and cell phone numbers.
- Fold the card so it fits in your pocket, wallet or purse.
- Carry the card with you so it is available in the event of a disaster or other emergency.

You can download an emergency contact card template [here](#).



The American Red Cross and Disney Help Kids Prepare with Mickey & Friends

The American Red Cross has teamed up with Disney to create an online Disaster Preparedness Activity Book for kids. Kids can go through the book online or parents can print the booklet to use at home. This is a great tool to get kids involved and to help them become better prepared. If you are interested in the booklet, please visit the [Disney Disaster Preparedness Activity Book](#).

What's in Your Weather? Are you StormReady?

By Kevin Barjenbruch, NOAA



Over the past couple of years, I have had the opportunity to present to multiple communities about the importance of the StormReady program. Today, we have sixteen StormReady communities in Utah. To find out who is StormReady in Utah, go to [this link](#).

NOAA's Weather-Ready Nation is about building community resilience in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather and water events. Some 90% of all presidentially declared disasters are weather related, leading to around 500 deaths per year and nearly \$14 billion in damage. As we've seen in the past year, it's not a question of *if* we'll be dealing with hazardous weather, but when! Within the past month in Utah, we have seen wildfires threaten structures, damaging thunderstorm wind events, flash floods in numerous communities, national parks and monuments, and devastating debris flows off of burn scars. Our admirable goal is a Weather-Ready Nation where society is prepared for and responds appropriately to weather-dependent events. A key component of this is ensuring that community leaders make informed decisions, and that is where the StormReady program comes into play.

StormReady encourages communities to take a proactive approach to improving local hazardous weather operations and public awareness. Of course, the desired result would be the protection of lives and livelihoods.

To be recognized as StormReady, a community must: 1) establish an effective communications system, complete with a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center; 2) have multiple ways to receive severe weather forecasts and warnings; 3) create a network for monitoring local weather and water events; 4) have multiple ways to dissemination weather and weather-related information; 5) engage in community preparedness efforts, including the promotion of public readiness and response through community seminars; and 6) develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.

To get started, visit the How to Become StormReady page at <http://www.stormready.noaa.gov/howto.htm>, or give me a call at 801-524-5113. I am thrilled that several communities, including Dugway Proving Ground, Iron County, Park City, and Summit County are currently working toward StormReady recognition. Let's add to the list.

FloodSmart

<http://www.floodsmart.gov>

Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service

<http://water.weather.gov>

Weather Forecast Office Salt Lake City YouTube channel

<http://www.youtube.com/NWSSaltLakeCity>

Weather Forecast Office Salt Lake City, Twitter handle

[@NWSSaltLakeCity](#)

Flash Flood Potential Rating

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/slc/river>

Weather Forecast Office Service Salt Lake City, UT

<http://weather.gov/saltlakecity>

Weather Forecast Office Grand Junction, CO

<http://weather.gov/git>

Contact

Brian McInerney - brian.mcinerney@noaa.gov

Senior Service Hydrologist, Weather Forecast Office

Salt Lake City, UT

(Send an e-mail to Brian if you would like to be added to the Weather Forecast Office YouTube weather and water briefing distribution list.)

Kevin Barjenbruch - kevin.barjenbruch@noaa.gov

Warning Coordination Meteorologist at NOAA's National Weather Service, Weather Forecast Office in Salt Lake City, UT.

Requests for weather support always welcome!



NFIP Community Rating System

By John Crofts, Utah Floodplain Manager

The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP's) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes communities for implementing floodplain management practices that exceed the Federal minimum requirements of the NFIP to provide protection from flooding. Many Utah NFIP communities already exceed Federal minimum requirements.

A community's proactive efforts to reduce flood risk will help meet the three goals of the CRS:

1. Reduce flood damage to insurable property
2. Strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP
3. Encourage a comprehensive approach to floodplain management

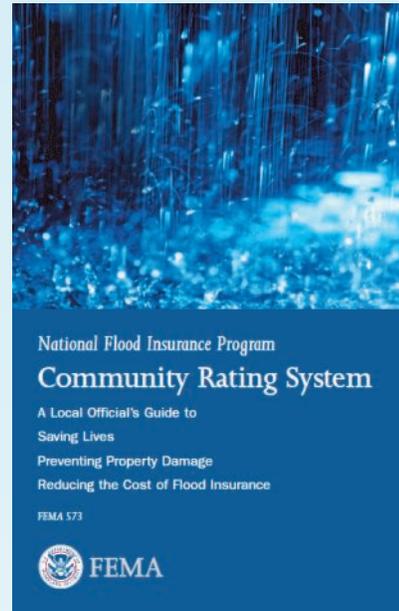
More than 1,200 communities from all 50 states participate in the CRS, 11 of those communities are in Utah. FEMA Region VIII and the State of Utah encourage more Utah communities to join the CRS because of the many benefits to communities, residents and business.

The CRS program provides communities with credits for 19 floodplain management activities categorized by public information, flood hazard mapping and regulations, flood damage reduction and flood warning and response efforts.

Joining the CRS is free; however, completing CRS activities and maintaining a CRS rating requires community commitment that includes dedicated staff. For example:

- The community must designate a CRS Coordinator to work with FEMA and the Insurance Services Office (ISO) during a verification visit.
- Each year, the community must recertify that it is continuing to implement its activities and provide copies of relevant materials (e.g., permit records).
- The community must maintain FEMA Elevation Certificates, permit records and all Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for the duration of its participation in the CRS.
- The community must maintain records of its activities to prepare for its CRS verification visit,

which, for most communities, occurs initially when joining and then once every five years.



How does the CRS benefit communities?

Participating in the CRS enables communities to:

- Lower flood insurance premiums so that more money stays in the community;
- Ensure residents are reminded every time they pay their reduced flood insurance premium that their community is working to protect them from flood losses;
- Enhance public safety;
- Reduce damage to property and public infrastructure;
- Avoid economic disruption and losses;
- Protect the environment;
- Create a better organized, more formal, institutionalized floodplain management system;
- Provide a method for evaluating the effectiveness of its efforts against a nationally recognized benchmark;
- Provide access to free technical assistance for designing and implementing some activities;
- Build a knowledgeable constituency interested in supporting and improving flood protection measures through public information activities; and
- Instill community pride.

To join the CRS please contact John Crofts, Division of Emergency Management at 801.538.3332.



Division of Emergency Management Tracking Emergency Action Plans for Dams in Utah

Friendly Reminder...

Dam Emergency Action Plans (EAP) need to be shared with the State of Utah, Division of Emergency Management (DEM).

This year planner Samantha Falde is organizing and archiving the hard copies of the plans at the DEM office as well as any electronic versions on Google Drive.

As locals update these plans, they can be shared with the DEM Planning Section by mailing them to DEM at 1110 State Office Building, Salt Lake City, UT 84114, attn: Planning Section. Electronic copies can be sent to ESF05planning@utah.gov.

In the past, some plans were shared with planning, some with liaisons, some with operations, etc.

Common update needed: The Division of Emergency Management has changed its name over the years. To make your plan look fresh and updated, ensure your latest dam plan lists the correct name of the division. The 24-hour phone number should remain the same: 801-538-3400.

Register your Public Information Officer for this conference.

[Click here](#)



Save the Date

Annual PIO Conference
September 30-October 1, 2014
Courtyard Marriott, St. George

Featuring PIO speakers from the nation's most challenging news stories of the year who share their lessons learned and best practices for working with the media during a crisis.

Treat your PIO like gold, it will come back to you ten-fold.



The Human Side of Mitigation Planning

by Roger Kehr, MEP, Salt Lake County Emergency Management All-Hazards Mitigation Specialist

If you have not had the chance to watch the cult flick “Big Trouble in Little China” with Kurt Russell and Kim Cattrall, it is certainly worth your while. Like Egg Chen says, “Everything starts with a little ... magic.” Working with Salt Lake County Emergency Management came about a little like Jack Burton’s (Kurt Russell) opportunity to save the world against purportedly insurmountable odds. A chance encounter at FEMA’s National Training Center in Maryland led to the opportunity to help the County complete the Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Having worked with the group on Shakeout 2014 had led to a mutual understanding that any job would be both challenging and enjoyable. So far it has been both.

Mitigation used to just be the first word in the memorized list of Mitigation, Preparation, Response and Recovery. It is a lot different when it means assisting almost two dozen agencies in Salt Lake County to complete the summarization report necessary to fulfill FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) requirements. Coming in on the tail of a two year effort by Kate Smith and the multiple agencies initially required reading scores of electronic files to determine where we came from, where we were, and finally where we needed to be by the November 20th deadline. Luckily, Kate left bread crumbs to follow the steps that remained. With strong support from the Utah Mitigation Section and the monthly meetings with the Emergency Managers of the aforementioned agencies we are just completing the final revi-

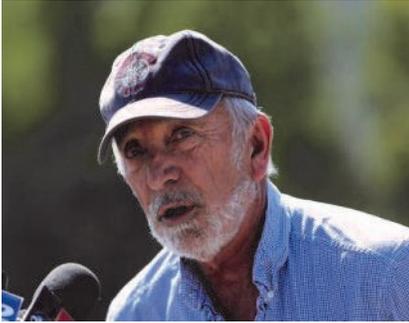
sions to the Draft Hazard Mitigation Plan. The easy part was reading the worksheets that all of the agencies completed. The hard part was following up on the status of projects mentioned in the “2009 Wasatch Front Natural Hazards Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan” and including the major evolutionary and revolutionary events that set the stage for the 2014 “County Only” report.

The entire process takes 3 years if I read the dates correctly on the earliest electronic files. There have been an incredible amount of different types of meetings. Meetings with different agencies, meetings with different subject matter experts, meetings with GIS teams, meetings with other agencies working on parallel but coordinated efforts for such items as Flood Control, meetings about meetings, and more meetings. But in the end it is all about finding ways to effectively prevent or diminish the effects of the inevitable disasters that will come our way.

The future points to a more detailed and timely review of mitigation efforts prioritized by cost-benefit analyses and other less tangible factors. Action plans by agency by goal with deadlines and responsible parties is on the horizon. Having completed the FEMA Local Mitigation Plan Review Guide we can work backward to choose key mitigation plans that have the most “bang for the buck.” They’ll be first on our list when we begin the next round of meetings where we will continue the mitigation process. A process that will be evaluated by the success we have in making our citizens safer and spending less money to recover from a disaster.



Utah's Emergency Managers



Kevin Callahan - Summit County Emergency Manager

Kevin Callahan has been a dedicated public servant serving in a variety of line and administration capacities since 1977. Kevin graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz with a bachelor's degree in Environmental Planning. He went on to get a master's degree in Public Policy and Administration (with honors) from the California State University, Long Beach.

For twenty years, Kevin served in a variety of positions in the planning field in California working in communities such as Tulare County, Redondo Beach and the City of Salinas. In 1999, Kevin and his family moved to Utah where he accepted a position as the Assistant Director of Community Development for the City of Provo.

In 2001, Kevin expanded his career path by taking the position of Public Works Director for Summit County, Utah. In that role he managed a variety of divisions including Animal Control, Engineering, Roads, Solid Waste, Transit and Transportation, Weeds and the County Fire Warden. His portfolio included managing 12 budgets with expenditures of \$12 million-\$14 million

In late 2012, the former County Emergency Manager retired and Kevin offered to take on those duties in addition to managing Public Works. Kevin formerly retired from Public Works in September 2013 but continues in his role as the County Emergency Manager.

In that role, he has coordinated the County's response during several major fires and also served as Incident Commander during flooding in 2010 and 2011.

Kevin's priorities during his tenure as Emergency Manager have been to completely update the County's Emergency Management Plan, relocate and upgrade the County's Emergency Operations Center, train county staff in the Incident Command System and EOC operations and build a regional community of emergency management personnel within Summit County.



Ellis Bruch - Davis County Emergency Manager

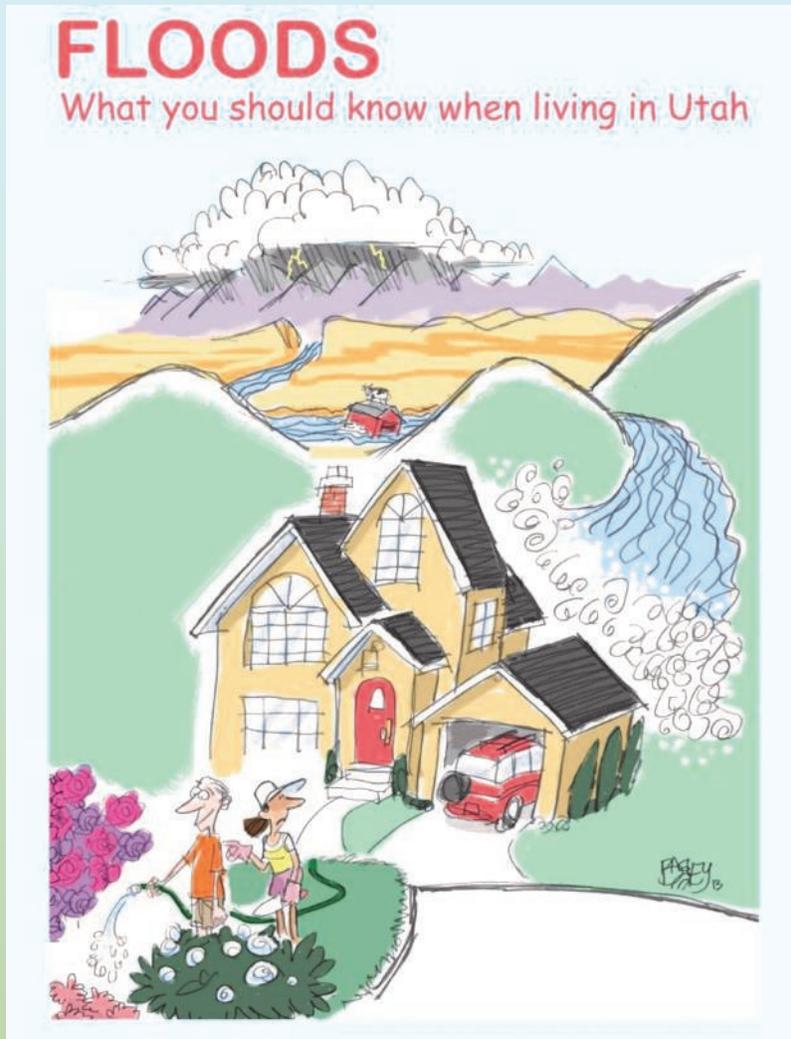
Sgt. Ellis Bruch has been employed with the Davis County Sheriff's office for just over 18 years. He has been assigned to every division at the Sheriff's Office, and currently holds the position of Davis County Emergency Services Coordinator. During his four-year tenure in this position, he has continued the efforts of his predecessors. In 2011 Sgt. Bruch experienced his first natural disaster and Davis County's only federal declared disaster. He refers to it as baptism by fire as he was only in his position for just under a year. He received a Medal of Valor for his efforts in the EOC, but gives all the credit to the partnerships that exist in Utah's emergency management system.

Ellis is married to his sweetheart of 21 years and has two children. He calls Layton home and has been a resident of Davis County his entire life. In the summer months he enjoys camping, kayaking, fishing and just being outdoors with his family. From October to the middle of January he can be found in the Utah marshes, when he isn't at work.

AidMatrix Training Online

The National Association of State Emergency Donations and Volunteer Coordinators (NASEDOVOC) now offers regular training on the AidMatrix website every other week through the end of the year. AidMatrix is an online tool that can help you to manage donations during large scale disasters if desired. Click [here](#) for the schedule and join these trainings online at [800-320-4330](tel:800-320-4330) pin 214214# and <https://share.dhs.gov/ndmtraining/>

aidmatrix[®]
Right Aid. Right People. Right Time.™



Floods, What You Should Know When Living in Utah provides helpful facts and tips designed to increase your flood awareness and make preparedness easy.

[Click here to read the entire document.](#)

This Show's A Disaster! "1428" by Du Haibin

By Don Cobb, DEM Exercise Training Officer



Rating: 4 MREs

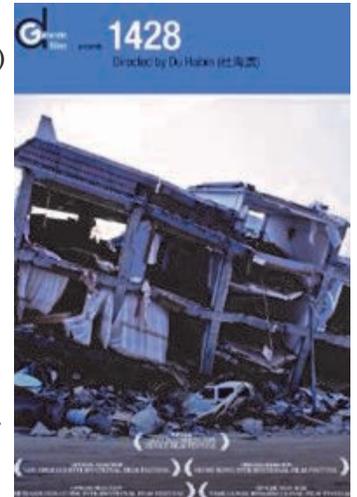
With yet another serious earthquake occurring in China recently, it serves us well to remember that the Sichuan Earthquake of May 12, 2008 at 2:48 p.m. (aka 1428) killed 70,000+ people, left 375,000 casualties, and effectively destroyed an entire province. Big disasters seem pretty commonplace in China, and perhaps their frequency and distance from the U.S. numbs us a bit as to human toll and implications for emergency management here. However, there are numerous learning opportunities, at the least, by examining this scale of disaster regardless of its location.

Briefly, "1428" is a multi-award-winning film created by Chinese filmographer Du Haibin who put his boots on the still-shaking ground shortly after the quake and filmed some absolutely extraordinary disaster footage. The struggle of folks to survive in the worst imaginable conditions is horrifically displayed in graphic detail and needs no further Hollywood CGI touches or hoopla to challenge and impress the viewer. In "1428," you will see what no government on Earth wants the world to see about its inherent limitations in dealing with a big disaster. You will be likely stunned at how the media is manipulated (and manipulates); how graft and corruption develop; and how crimes like looting, corpse robbing and general profiteering among regular Joe Citizen-types quickly erupt as human misery abounds. Above all, you'll see how the intense grief of an entire population permeates and works against disaster recovery.

Du Haibin later returns to the kill zone seven months after the quake. He captures in detail how a pseudo-recovery is begun to impress a visiting high-level government dignitary. Winter is coming, and conditions in most areas remain poor despite political promises of relief. Critical infrastructure is still iffy, business and industry are crippled, and work is scarce. Meanwhile, the quake-devastated region oddly has become a vacation destination of sorts where souvenirs of the death and destruction are hot-selling items for twisted tourists and Looky-Lous from throughout China and beyond.

The fact that "1428" was made and released at all is remarkable. It is not entertaining, but could well be considered powerful film art, in the dramatic sense that Picasso's *Guernica* is powerful or Eddie Adams' photos of the Vietnam War still tug at the soul. As a documentary film, which is all it purports to be, it is an intelligent, eloquent experience for professional emergency managers and others who value substance and morality amid the desperate human condition. You can find "1428" on Netflix, Amazon, YouTube and other sources.

LATE NOTE: Another documentary about the Sichuan Earthquake, "Fallen City" by Qi Zhao, is currently airing on PBS' "POV" show. Reviewed in the *New York Times* July 27, 2014, it takes a different tack from "1428" in that it examines the personal lives of some broken families a few years after the quake. It is an interesting show and quite powerful unto itself. Look for it online at <http://www.pbs.org/pov/fallencity/> and [#FallenCity](#).





Mitigation Programs and Bioengineering Help Communities in Southern Utah Achieve Vision for Flood Control

For centuries, the problems of sandy, easily erodible soils have plagued the Utah communities of St. George and Santa Clara along the banks of the Virgin and Santa Clara Rivers. In 1862, settlers were forced to relocate homes and farms along the Santa Clara as a result of an extreme flood. Ever since, river flooding and lateral erosion along the riverbanks has caused significant damage to these areas.



Completed project on the Virgin River, along Riverside Drive. The project is a combination of bioengineering and rock repair, finished in early 2014.

A major flood in 2005 ravaged the communities, resulting in the loss of 27 homes and triggering a federally declared disaster. Rock riprap, the layering of rocks along the riverbank to counteract erosion, was the primary mitigation technique used following the 2005 flood to rapidly stabilize river banks and protect vital infrastructure and homes from additional damage. Although effective in preventing erosion, the City of St. George recognized the drawbacks to riprap such as increasing the speed of water flow along a

length of river causing potential downstream impacts; impeding the natural functions of a riverbank that interface between land and rivers or streams; and, the effect on wildlife, specifically fish. Riprap reduces areas for vegetation or riverbank diversity in which fish seek refuge during high water events and often results in their being washed out of the area during flooding. Riprap also can leave riverbanks with an unappealing man-made look.

[Continue reading by clicking here](#)



U-TRAIN

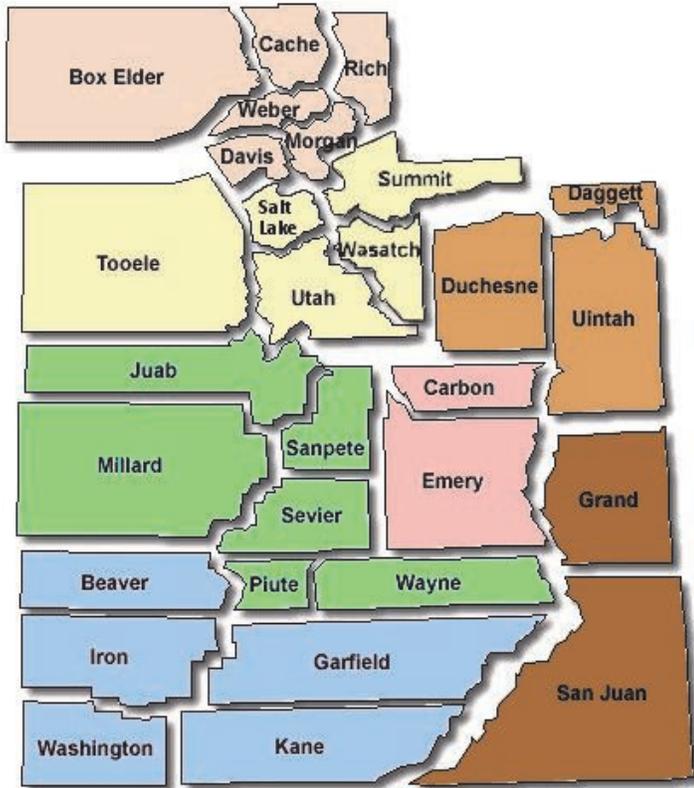
To take a course offered by the Division of Emergency Management, you must create an account on our training data system, U-TRAIN at www.utah.train.org. U-TRAIN will provide you with transcripts of courses you have completed, and you will be able to print your certificates upon course completion.

For our current calendar of training courses offered, please visit <http://publicsafety.utah.gov/emergencymanagement/trainingnew.html>. Here you will also find information regarding FEMA EMI training in Emmitsburg, MD, Professional Development Series (PDS), and Advanced Professional Series (APS).

For more training information, or for specific questions, please contact Ted Woolley at tedwoolley@utah.gov



Looking for help with WebEOC, training, exercises, grants, updating or writing your Emergency Operation Plan? Find your Regional Liaison on the map below.



- Region 1**
Region 1 - Kimberly Giles
kgiles@utah.gov
- Region 2**
Region 2 - TBD—please contact Region I or III LNO for assistance
- Region 3**
Region 3 - Jeff Gallacher
jgallacher@utah.gov
- Region 4**
Region 4 - Scott Alvord
salvord@utah.gov
- Region 5**
Region 5 - Mechelle Miller
mmiller@utah.gov
- Region 6**
Region 6 & 7 - Martin Wilson
martinwilson@utah.gov
- Region 7**
Liaison Manager - Kim Hammer
khammer@utah.gov

Revised February 2012

Important links to remember

Division of Emergency Management:
<http://dem.utah.gov>

Be Ready Utah:
<http://bereadyutah.gov>

State Citizen Corps Council:
<http://citizencorps.utah.gov>

WebEOC:
<https://veocutah.webeocasp.com>

Emergency Public Info:
<http://www.emergencyinfoutah.com>

UEMA:
www.uemaonline.com



Carbon County Flooding - 2014

Interested in photos and stories of Utah's disasters over the years?

Visit our Flickr site and Natural Hazards & Mitigation Blog

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/utahnaturalhazards/>

<http://uthazardmitigation.wordpress.com/>



Questions regarding this newsletter or previous editions, please contact us [here](#)

Are You Ready?

