Complete list of hurricane resources
Version April 13, 2011


This web site includes several Florida disaster-related documents: a statewide disaster manual with case studies, disaster planning guide for Florida historic structures, and disaster mitigation guide for historic structures. There are overviews of disaster planning and mitigation efforts in Nassau, Palm Beach, Apalachicola, and Sarasota counties.


This blog entry highlights an article in *Texas Library Journal* concerning the decision of the Harris County Public Library West University branch to open without power during the days after Hurricane Ike.


This is the official portal to the Alabama Emergency Management Agency. The site is comprised of links connecting users to state agencies, including Citizen Corps, Office of Public Assistance, local AEMA offices, Alabama Department of Safety, Alabama National Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and others.


The Alabama Hurricane Center web site provides a comprehensive list of hurricane related sources, including storm tracking maps, hurricane preparation survival guides, local, state, national, and international information on locating the missing, and local and state level news resources. There are links to information on weather radios, the ASPCA, the Humane Society, Alabama Department of Insurance, National Hurricane Center, and traffic webcams.
The disaster preparedness web site is comprised of a list of resources for developing library disaster plans, including sample library disaster plans, sample policies for public libraries to implement to assist disaster victims, and a list of various links concerning programs, services, and activities for disaster victims.


This article highlights the roles of librarians in Louisiana and neighboring states in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Library roles mentioned include offering temporary cards to refugees, providing gift books for children and adults at shelters, providing contact information for local service organizations, and setting up a housing information exchange.


This handbook serves as a comprehensive guide for libraries dealing with disasters. The handbook discusses the topics of disaster management, disaster recovery, gifts and donations, collection restoration, and resource sharing in disaster recovery.


This section of the ALA web site provides libraries and museums with disaster planning resources, links to emergency management training through FEMA, resources on working with first responders, and an online guide to navigating the FEMA web site for cultural institution aid. Other resources include the Online Disaster Planning-Tool (dPlan), guides to acquiring federal aid from sources other than FEMA, and resources on how to preserve materials in case of disaster.

This fact sheet includes a list of disaster preparedness web sites, links to FEMA and SOLINET trainings, and a selected bibliography of disaster planning and response resources.


This is the official web site for the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The ARRL promotes the interests of amateur radio operators and provides technical support to amateur radio enthusiasts around the country.


This guide is aimed at disaster safety information providers. It provides language these providers can use when providing messages and technical information to the public. The guide is available as a PDF download or in HTML format divided by hazards, special populations, pre-disaster preparedness, and just-in-time and post-disaster preparedness.


This hurricane preparedness guide includes sections about protecting personal property, evacuation routes, and how to protect your small business.


This web site provides links and resources to help businesses prepare for disasters, build disaster recovery plans, and learn about disaster mitigation. The resources are organized into 5 categories: organizations, articles, brochures and guides, checklists, and publications.

This American Red Cross page for the city of Tallahassee contains an array of disaster scenario exercises in html or pdf printable formats. The exercises are designed for a number of scenarios that include biological disasters, natural disasters, and outbreak anarchy.


This planning template assists libraries and archives to prepare for emergency situations by gathering vital information necessary in the event of an emergency. It includes sections for the in-house emergency team, locations of emergency systems in facilities, local emergency services, and collection salvage and general supplies.


The Amigos IPS is a service providing preservation information, support, and training to librarians and archivists based in the southwestern U.S. The web site includes steps for preservation, arranged by type of material, a disaster plan template, information on workshops, and Amigos contact information.


This is a brief press release stating that the Austin Public Library will waive non-resident fees for hurricane Ike evacuees and provide a free library card. It is an example of a public library providing on-demand evacuee services.

The guide is comprised of links to services concerning addiction, emergency and law enforcement, food, general health, mental health, emergency assistance, etc. Emergency assistance includes links to the Red Cross Gulf Coast division, FEMA web site, as well as Alabama and Baldwin County emergency assistance providers.


David Baldwin’s *Disaster Mental Health* web page contains information on helping families and children cope with the emotional and mental affects of disasters. The web page also contains a section of mental health treatment guides that may be useful for emergency workers and individuals in disaster situations.


The BALC site provides users with a range of disaster preparedness resources, including links to sample disaster preparedness plans of academic institutions around the nation including the U.S. Navy Libraries and Archives Disaster Preparedness Workbook. Other resources include links to preservation organizations and a database that can be searched for experts in the field of conservation and preservation, services, and supplies.

This document is the hurricane preparedness plan for the Orange Beach Public Library, a Gulf Coast public library. The plan details the actions that the library is to take before the storm and after the storm and provides an example of a library’s hurricane preparedness plan.


This web site lists procedures that comprise the hurricane disaster protocol for the coastal South Carolina public libraries. This is a good example of a library hurricane preparedness and recovery plan.


This brief article reports that the FCC’s Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (PSHSB) announced a Disaster Information reporting Systems (DIRS). DIRS is for communications providers to report the status of communications infrastructure, i.e. wireless, broadcast, and cable.


This brief article reports the effects that Hurricanes Katrina and Gustav had on communications in Louisiana, with a focus on Gustav's effects. The storms shut down technology firms in Louisiana and caused the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to propose a mandatory back up battery requirement for wireless carriers.

This article discusses Louisiana Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu’s view of the importance of libraries in a range of activities but especially their role in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina as places to access the Internet and gather information.


This article focuses on the library’s role in providing E-government services, including the importance of public access computing and Internet access. It includes a discussion of the roles libraries play in response to emergencies, like hurricanes, when people come to libraries to access the Internet to request aid, locate missing family and friends, file FEMA and insurance claims, etc.


This article mentions the work of NetHope (http://nethope.org/) to develop a Network Relief Kit. This is a 4 pound, solar powered device that can connect laptops or satellite phones to the Internet via a global satellite network and is designed to facilitate disaster relief and humanitarian aid efforts.


This article documents early use of Web 2.0 applications for emergency management. It discusses the practicality of asking people to join new web-based emergency social networks versus using existing social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook.

This article details ways librarians stepped up to provide disaster response services in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita by handing out water, clothing, and books, offering space for relief workers, and staffing phone banks and shelters. The article also discusses damage to libraries and restoration of libraries and library collections.


This interview with Dr. Charles McClure discusses research being done by the Information Use Management and Policy Institute, as a result of a $218,000 grant from the Florida Catastrophic Storm Risk Management Center. The research seeks to uncover best practices and develop systematic guidelines that will assist public libraries during times of severe tropical weather that result in a public need for their community libraries.


Laurie Bolger outlines guidelines for the disaster planning process to help mitigate the effects that disasters have on libraries.


This paper describes what a disaster is and highlights five disasters that impacted libraries: a tornado, flash flood, earthquake, the Oklahoma City bombing, and 9/11. There are also guidelines for the disaster planning process which encourage collaboration with local authorities in the planning process.
This web site highlights the importance of disaster planning for computers and networks since they are essential for patron service and staff productivity. Steps in the disaster planning process include a risk assessment, risk reduction, identification of needed resources, a disaster plan, and recovery procedures.


This article discusses the destruction caused by Hurricane Ike on the Gulf coast and inland. Specifically, the article focuses on the academic and public school libraries that were affected by the storm, the types of damage these libraries incurred, i.e. materials and building, and the effects Ike had on mid-west libraries as it moved inland.


This manual provides an overview of the importance of risk management in preventing loss due to disasters, either natural or manmade. The book includes sample policies and checklists for all types of libraries.


This article recounts a systems crash at Drake Memorial Library, SUNY Brockport that rendered the OPAC inaccessible and deleted MARC records. The library’s backup procedures are included as an example of protocol to plan for and mitigate disaster.


This web site provides hurricane preparedness information and tips for individuals, pets, and businesses. It includes suggested preparedness activities for people who will remain in their homes and for people who must evacuate.

This document is an example of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The form is a mutual aid agreement and description of a voluntary program for emergency preparedness and support between cooperating libraries.


The author discusses the value of disaster planning by explaining that, after Hurricane Katrina, some companies were up and running quicker than others because they had business continuity and disaster recovery plans. Suggestions are offered for planning steps to prepare for disasters, including elements of a good recovery plan.


The guidelines that are sketched out in this resource provide a framework for developing a library disaster plan. Topics covered in the manual include prevention, protection, response and recovery.


This is an interview with Lt. Gen. Russel Honore who led the military response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. During the interview Lt. Gen. Honore discusses some of the lessons that were during hurricanes Katrina and Rita regarding evacuations, post-hurricane recovery, and what cities and citizens can do to be prepared for hurricanes.
This online workbook provides a framework for institutions to write individualized disaster plans.


This article focuses on disaster mitigation planning concerning digital resources and the results of a disaster planning survey of libraries worldwide that was distributed by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).


The CDC’s web site is a comprehensive source for credible health information, including emergency preparation and response information related to bioterrorism, chemical, radiation and disease outbreaks, and severe weather.


This web site contains a wealth of information on preparing for tropical weather systems, such as resources on how to prevent injury and illness, remaining healthy in hot weather, how to make a building safe after the disaster, and learning how to prepare for a hurricane. The site also allows users to download RSS feeds for “Public Service Announcements for Hurricanes” and “CDC Emergency Preparedness & Response.”

This section of the CDC web site contains a wealth of information on preparing for tropical weather systems. There are resources on how to prevent injury and illness, remaining healthy in hot weather, how to make a home safe after the disaster, and learning how to prepare for a hurricane. Each resource section provides pdf downloads of the information available in each section and some of the sections provide users with audio and visual files.


This web site contains resources for locating Citizen Corps councils around the U.S., as well as information on national security updates, Citizen Corps programs and partners.


This web site includes a list of sites for current weather, disaster preparedness, emergency planning, and children’s resources.


This web site is a hurricane preparedness page with information for local residents, including a printable version of the city’s newsletter, which is actually a hurricane preparedness checklist. Also, there is a local area map indicating the locations of Publix Markets and gas stations with generators.


This article details risks to digital media in a variety of formats, discusses collection level, organizational, and external factors to consider, and offers methods to reduce risk, particularly suggesting a risk management approach.

This is a widely admired, King County, WA approach to solidifying disaster response partnerships using memoranda of understanding (MOU). It explains what a MOU and its key elements are.


This report summarizes the key points made during a workshop on use of information technology in disaster management. The workshop topics covered information management challenges in disaster response; research opportunities for utilizing information technology in disaster management; and collaboration, coordination, and interoperability.


This web site is for citizens who want to prepare for disasters in their community. The web site contains information on how to develop CERT programs in local communities, a CERT state directory with contact information for CERT programs around the nation, a search engine for locating programs in local areas, and a variety of other resources pertaining to citizen disaster preparedness.


This section of the Connecticut State Library’s library management web site provides suggestions for libraries to create their own disaster response plans. Information is categorized as disaster prevention, disaster planning and response, and disaster recovery.

This is the web site for a European agency concerned with the preservation of library materials. The web site has a number of practical preservation tip sheets and a bibliography related to salvage and recovery.


This book list was developed for children affected by Hurricane Katrina. The books may be used by parents or other caregivers to present difficult issues in the context of stories; issues include adapting to change, comfort and reassurance, courage, grief and loss, resilience and hope, and death.


This manual informs the responses and recovery actions of the Cullman County Public Library System. The manual serves as an example of a library’s emergency plan, its approach to organizing for an emergency, and its policies and procedures for emergency response and recovery.


CPR is a small business that provides conservation and museum services, including freeze-drying and wet-tissue stabilization. The web site provides an overview of CPR’s services, treatment photos, and contact information.

The disaster assistance guide is a quick reference guide designed to help evacuee victims locate aid in the Dallas metropolitan area. The guide includes phone numbers, locations, and email addresses to health care services, FEMA, Red Cross, city hall, the school district office, and other local services.

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This article provides insights and lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina that help clarify and strengthen the role of RIMs (records and information management professionals). The article includes nine lessons, such as the need to consider worst case scenarios in disaster preparedness, rapid creation of new and flexible information forums, limited situational awareness, need for fast and reliable information for command control, and requirement to make decisions in crisis even without reliable or sufficient information.

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This report details a program designed to alert Florida’s academic and public librarians to the nature of fire and water disasters, train them to prepare for and respond to emergency situations, and establish a statewide library disaster recovery network.

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This article documents the pre-hurricane and post-hurricane conditions affecting three Louisiana academic libraries and their parent institutions. The article reports on interviews with administrators and staff who provide unique perspectives on the challenges their libraries encountered as a result of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

This blog entry provides a list of books to help children cope with natural disasters. It includes a list of helpful web sites.


This bibliography provides resources in the following categories: preservation and access, paper-based collections/records, film-based collections/records, optical and magnetic collection/records, environmental control, exhibition, health and safety, security, and emergency planning and response. The emergency planning and response section covers general disasters, fires, other disasters (i.e. earthquakes, hurricanes, and floods), and salvage information.


This book discusses a number of approaches to preservation awareness and education in school, public, and academic libraries. Additionally, the book discusses the importance of training and awareness in achieving preservation goals and contains an annotated bibliography of book and journal resources on preservation education.


This article details the impact of Hurricane Katrina on gulf coast libraries, such as damage to libraries and collections, recovery efforts, and impacts on staffing. Post-disaster services to evacuees and others are discussed, including help filling out FEMA forms, contacting loved ones, general Internet access, borrowing privileges, and bringing library materials to shelters.

This disaster recovery directory is available for purchase through this web site.


This article presents a case study on the impact of Hurricane Katrina on a public library systems department. The article addresses the following issues: collections reassessment, relocation, alternative resources, communication, technology, programming, continuing education, and grant funding.


This web site provides information on EMI course, programs, and activities, as well as general information on application procedures, use FEMA preparedness grant funds for the courses, and integrated emergency management. EMI courses focus on disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.


This web site provides access to Incident Command System (ICS) online courses that are offered by FEMA. The Incident Command System (ICS) is a management concept that gives emergency response personnel a model on which to build an integrated organizational structure that matches the response needs of a particular disaster.


This web site offers state emergency management agencies and offices a variety of online courses in emergency management. The courses that are offered are designed to prepare states agencies for man-made and natural disasters.

This article details the impact of the 9/11 attack of an academic library in Manhattan. The focus is on keeping the web site up-to-date and the importance of disaster planning.


This web site includes links to resources (arranged by state), extension vs. non-extension web sites, and by issues such as snow and ice, floods and flooding, storm readiness, bird flu, and children and disasters.


The FLASH web site provides information on how to prepare families and homes for earthquakes, floods, extreme temperatures, hail, hurricanes, terrorism, lightning, rip currents, power outages, tornadoes, wildfire, thunderstorms, and tsunamis.


This guidebook provides general tips on developing emergency operations plans. It describes the planning process and defines fundamentals of planning and provides templates for developing an emergency operations plan.


This portion of the FEMA web site defines what a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) is, lists some services a DRC might provide, and includes a DRC locator service.

This web page provides an overview of the *Are You Ready?* Guide. The guide is available as a downloadable PDF or as HTML pages.


This web site provides organizations with resources that can be used to evaluate and develop Continuity of Operations Plans.


The FEMA Get Disaster Information web site contains a variety of resources concerning natural disasters and hazards. The site has an interactive map feature that allows users to identify what types of disasters their communities might be at risk of, print hurricane and flood maps, and disaster declaration maps.


This web page offers practical tips for the first 48 hours of disaster response, including: safety issues, getting started off site, stabilizing the building, documentation, retrieval and protection, damage assessment, salvage priorities, and tips for historic buildings.


This web page provides textual explanation of the salvage wheel along with a salvage glossary that explains the terms air-drying, interleaving, freezing, on-site dehumidification, rinsing, vacuum drying, and vacuum freeze-drying.

This web page provides a comprehensive list of online hurricane resources, including the National Hurricane Center (NHC), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and National Resources Conservation Service disaster response maps.


This guide focuses on two major topics related to disaster assistance: the major declaration process and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The guide includes a directory of Federal and state disaster resources.


This editorial succinctly recounts FEMA’s failure to recognize the Cedar Rapids Public Library as an essential service in the city’s 2008 flood. The library’s lack of status hampers federal, state and county relations with FEMA and other federal, state and local government agencies.


This article lauds the efforts of public libraries in the wake of Hurricane Katrina concerning their service to FEMA. The article discusses ways libraries relaxed rules, brought services to people in shelters, hosted reception centers in the library, tracked colleagues and other on library blogs and web sites, etc.

This paper reports on one library’s experience with the North Ridge earthquake of 1994. The author discusses ways of mitigating damage to library materials during a natural disaster and approaches to making the library as safe as possible in the event of natural disasters.


As a partner to Citizen Corps, Fire Corps programs share the common goal of helping communities prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies of all kinds. The web site includes resources, contact information, news, and ways to support Fire Corps.


This web site encourages families to be prepared with electronic personal health records (PHRs) as part of hurricane preparedness and for general medical purposes. It defines what a PHR is and explains why an ePHR is preferable to paper-based PHRs.


This is the document that guides FAU library staff through the hurricane planning process, and it provides an example for other libraries to follow. The document includes procedures to follow during a hurricane watch, evacuation procedures for the main campus library, procedures for protecting equipment, and steps to be followed after a hurricane has passed.


This web site for Florida’s Automated Community Connection to Economic Self-Sufficiency (ACCESS) provides links to get prescreened and register for DCF (Department of Children and Families) benefits, log into an individual account to check status and make updates, and to find an ACCESS office.

The web site includes an overview of a Florida Department of Community Affairs project to develop a guidebook to help local governments prepare a Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan for their communities. The web site also includes related Florida statutes and rules, definitions of key terms, and contact information.


This document defines what a disaster recovery center is and details the job duties of a disaster recovery center coordinator. The document also includes a checklist for pre- and post-event operations.


This is an interactive map of Florida that displays contact information and location of each county’s emergency management department. The contact information includes the department’s physical address, phone number, fax number, director’s name and email address, and the department’s web site.


The DEM Internet Library includes general information and publications related to Florida emergency management, such as the Florida Incident Field Operations Guide, COOP information, forms, maps, plans and operational procedures, preparedness information, public service announcements, reports, response information, SERT logos, and studies on hurricane response.
This web site provides current weather conditions in Florida, including severe weather watches and warnings. The web site also has information on disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.

This web site contains storm surge zone maps for coastal counties and evacuation routes for all counties in Florida. Additionally, the site provides users with links to information on storm shelters and the status of roads. See the section on “Hurricane Emergency Info” for planning resources and information for before a storm, during a storm, and after a storm.

This portion of the Florida DEM web site helps businesses create individualized disaster plans.

This portion of the Florida DEM web site helps families create individualized disaster plans.

This portion of the Florida DEM web site provides information on DIY tips, hurricane retrofitting, My Safe Florida Home program, and more.

FloridaDisaster.org is the official website of the Florida Department of Emergency Management. The site provides the public and businesses with links to information on hazards specific to Florida, wildfires, tornadoes, hurricanes, heat wave, drought, etc. Additionally, the site provides the public with current weather and environmental situations, as well as links to federal and national emergency resources.


This website provides information related to FEPA: meetings schedule, administrative policies and documents, programs, a newsletter, contact information, etc.


The BCIN provides effective and timely disaster recovery information to help businesses quickly recover from a major hurricane. The goal is to mitigate the economic impact of major hurricanes.


This website explains Florida’s Business Continuity and Risk Management (BCRM) Program. It includes contact and general information, business consulting, news and success stories, programs and resources, and information on economic impact.


This paper reports research that assessed the readability of disaster and emergency preparedness web pages intended for the general public. The authors recommend collaborations among public health educators, risk communication specialists, and web page creators and writers to ensure readable disaster and emergency resources.

This web site is the official portal to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency. It provides a range of information, including hurricane and severe weather preparedness such as how to create a disaster supplies kit, develop an emergency plan, and secure the safety of pets during a disaster. The site also includes links to the Georgia Citizen Corps, information on shelters, information on county emergency management agencies, and the Georgia Operations Center.


This report presents the findings of an evaluation of state emergency management agency (EMA) web sites. The study concluded that state EMAs have been slow adopters of Internet-based resources in communication with the public during emergencies and that state EMA web sites focus more on first responders than state citizens.


This manual guides librarians and information professionals through the disaster planning process, including creating a disaster preparation strategy, understanding natural disasters and how they affect libraries, World Wide Web resources. Additionally, the manual includes a disaster plan template, directory of agencies and consultants specializing in disaster planning and recovery, and disaster prevention and protection checklist.


This article is about how Louisiana’s public libraries and its state library worked together to respond to and prepare for natural disasters, specifically hurricanes. In the process, we demonstrate the essential nature of libraries. Libraries play an essential role in immediate recovery after a disaster as well as in long-term recovery. This article focuses on public library response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita and the organizational follow-up within the State Library of Louisiana.

The Hurricane Links portion of the library web site provides links to information on hurricane preparedness, general information and historic sites, local links, and hurricane information for children.


This web page is comprised of a variety of local, state, and national resources that may be useful to victims of disasters. The page has links to the Red Cross and other volunteer organizations, as well as a resource section for federal assistance, banking and insurance information, contact information and links to Harford County agencies, general hurricane information, and a link to finding friends and family.


The September 16, 2008 blog contains informative posts pertaining to hurricane disasters, including contains resources on state and local emergency management and preparedness in Texas, to help children and the mentally ill cope with natural disasters, for animal rescue, and about federal and state assistance programs.


This page from the library web site provides a directory of local and state resources related to hurricane preparedness, including insurance, health, and travel assistance.

This article reports on the response of Ontario public libraries to inquiries for health information made during a SARS outbreak. The authors found that the quality of reference service raises questions about the appropriateness of public library consumer health information provision.

This web site from the Emergency Preparedness Information Exchange (EPIX) is a list of international emergency management web sites, organized by country – Australia, Belgium, Canada, Caribbean, Finland, Italy, Netherlands, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, UK, and U.S., plus international organizations like NATO, WHO, etc.


CoOL is a project of the Preservation Department of Stanford University Libraries and Academic Information Resources. The web site is a full text library of conservation information for related to library, archives, and museum materials.


This paper introduces disaster response planning for libraries to respond to various disasters, such as hurricanes and other severe weather, bomb threats and other terrorist incidents, and temperature and humidity fluctuations. There are links to resources at the end of the paper: documents, charts, and web sites.


This is a bibliography on disaster planning for libraries. Resources are divided by material type: books, conference proceedings, articles, government publications, charts, and internet resources.


This handbook explains the importance of partnerships in disaster planning, what organizations need to get started, whom to involve in the local planning community, and how to organize a forum that brings together emergency responders and cultural institutions in a community.

Atlanta’s Heritage Emergency Response Alliance (HERA) web site includes a link to disaster resources, an online discussion forum, and information about alliance activities and meetings.


The HERA brochure explains the background, mission, and activities of the organization, a list of participating organizations, and contact information for Atlanta-area preservation organizations.


The home page provides cultural institutions with resources for preparing and recovering from disasters, including an interactive video on dealing with water damage; tips on safety, utilizing simple equipment, and prioritizing the salvage of materials; information on disaster funding and preparedness training; and an online bookstore for the purchase of handbooks, manuals, and other materials on how to prepare heritage institutions for disaster and how to conduct recovery after disasters.


The emergency response and salvage wheel is a tool that helps cultural institutions understand the stages of disaster response and preserve books, documents, photographs, electronic records, paintings, etc.


The Heritage Preservation field guide provides instruction for cultural institutions on preparing the institution for disasters. The manual covers topics on an institutions initial response to the disaster, working with emergency responders, taking care of staff members needs, and preserving the collection.

This web site is a guide for applying for Federal Emergency Management Agency and Small Business Administration Aid for public institutions. The web site provides information on who is eligible for aid, where to apply for aid, and what aid is available.


The Heritage Preservation online bookstore has items for purchase on the following subjects: caring for collections, disaster preparedness, and sculpture and monument care. The site also provides users with free downloadable documents on the topics of preservation and conservation.


This web site provides disaster planning resources for homeowners and businesses. There is also information on flooding, hurricanes, tornadoes, and various other natural and man-made disasters.


This article reports on the CARALL Conference workshop on disaster planning which included such topics as the vulnerability of the Caribbean to natural disasters, effects of disasters on libraries with a large focus on water-related damage, recovery efforts, and lessons learned regarding disaster planning and preservation.


This editorial is a first person account of the impact of the 2008 Iowa City flood on the University of Iowa library, particularly on information technology.

This portion of the HPL web site includes a Google map of HPL branches with information on branch hours and directions as well as links to various resources such as animal shelters, food stamps, FEMA, gas resources, volunteer and donation information.


This bibliography is a list of links to often-requested E-government services, as well as county and city government agencies, State of Florida government agencies, and federal government services, compiled by the Pasco County Library Cooperative.


This news brief announces that the Harris County Public Libraries had reopened and mentions services offered by the library, such as computer and Internet access, electricity to charge cell phones, air conditioning, etc. There is also a note about which branches had and had not yet opened.


This article discusses the roles public libraries play in their local communities, as well as the high customer satisfaction and credibility ratings of public libraries. These roles include acting as a neutral, welcoming haven for all types of people; building communities through local partnerships; enhancing education, workforce and businesses through literacy programs; change agents; and communication hubs.
This report is based on findings from the 2007-2008 Public Library Funding and Technology Access survey. The report discusses the role that public library Internet connectivity and Internet access play in the communities they serve, based on the survey findings.


This paper serves as a guide on developing measures for evaluating near-term actions or response activities in a disaster. Additionally, the paper gives background on the national preparedness system and on appThe paper is available for download in PDF format.


This article details the roles played by U.S. Gulf Coast public libraries in the aftermath of the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons. It explores the place of libraries in society and details lessons learned and recommendations for public library disaster planning.


This document defines disaster recovery center (DRC) and details the job duties of a DRC coordinator. It includes a five part timeline: pre- and post- event preparation, DRC operations and closing, and the after-action report.
This webpage contains a comprehensive list of resources for those affected by hurricane Katrina. Though a number of the sources on this page specific to victims of Katrina, many resources such as “Salvage and Restoration of personal items and books,” crisis counseling, CDC hurricane recovery, and National Hurricane Center (NHC) are useful to victims of hurricanes in any state.

This document was created for Johnson County, Kansas; it is a good example of emergency planning at a county level. The plan addresses four phases, as outlined by the plan, of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The roles of a library during an emergency are outlined on page 24 of Local emergency operations plan: Organization and Assignment of Responsibility section.

This article discusses the how social networking tools have been utilized to provide services to disaster victims. The article focuses on the use of these tools during the 2004 Asian Tsunami and Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts.

This book is a resource for disaster planning, response, and recovery for public libraries. The revised second edition has up-to-date information on disaster prevention materials and preparation for technology recovery.

This book is a resource for planning for the loss of digital data during emergency situations. Topics covered in the book include preventing common causes of loss, considerations in disaster response planning – for hardware and physical storage media, protecting data for long-term retention, and planning for the future.

This article discusses a variety of natural disasters, earthquakes, fire, floods and droughts, hurricanes, landslides and avalanches, lightning, tornadoes, tsunamis, and volcanoes. It includes numerous resources with annotations under each disaster, as well as sections on prevention and recovery.


This article discusses issues about central/main public libraries as spots for possible terrorist attacks versus the need to remain centrally located to be vital to communities they serve. This article also discusses creating guidelines for security and emergency evacuation.


The blog entry provided by Leonard Kniffel discusses the roles played by the Houston Public Library (HPL) in the wake of Hurricane Ike. HPL provided online access and assistance with filing electronic FEMA assistance forms to citizens. Additionally, librarians helped those affected by Ike file for emergency food stamps and unemployment benefits. Furthermore, the HPL cared for 300 children of city employees so that their parents could return to work. Finally, the HPL performed computer access outreach.


This news article reports on the first of a series of public meetings that Hillsborough County, Florida is holding to discuss and receive feedback on the county’s draft Post-Disaster redevelopment Plan. Additional meeting times, dates and locations are included.

This disaster help web site provides users with resources on rebuilding, finding low-cost legal assistance, replacing lost documents, tax relief, and housing issues. The site also includes federal information sources (i.e. FEMA & government benefits.).


This web site uses Elluminate to create an online meeting space to discuss disaster relief and emergency preparedness.


This article discusses the activities of parish libraries in the wake of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. LeBoeuf discusses the stories of librarians helping hurricane victims locate missing relatives, file for FEMA forms, provide comfort to victims, assist organizations (i.e. Red Cross and FEMA) set up local areas of operation, volunteering their time to assist organizations in providing aid to victims. The article also discusses the rebuilding phase of destroyed libraries and the lessons learned from the two disasters.


This article discusses the situations faced by the librarians of public libraries in a number of parishes affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. From locating missing family members to providing conference rooms to set up disaster centers for the Red Cross and FEMA, the article details the difficulties faced by public librarians. The article concludes that public libraries play and essential role delivering online and other services in times of disaster.

This is an interactive, searchable database of resources to help libraries and cultural institutions plan for disasters. It includes sample plans and allows submission of new resources.


This web page contains interviews with ten of the museum professionals and conservation volunteers sent to the Gulf Coast region in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.


Press release/announcement about an LOC web site where the LOC has posted interviews with professional conservators talking about their work salvaging collections affected in August 2005.


This workbook provides basic information and instructions as well as a template that institutions can use to write their own disaster plans. The workbook focuses on the needs of records managers in public agencies, but is also designed to assist archivists, librarians, and others in documentary collections. It outlines strategies for managing a range of disasters, from routine leaks to major natural disasters.


This Congressional Research Service (CRS) issue brief discusses federal evacuation policy and programs, including lessons learned from the response to Hurricane Katrina. The brief focuses on evacuation and reentry; it does not address other aspects of emergency preparedness and response. It also does not specifically address libraries.

This web site provides a range of information resources such as the Alzheimer’s Association’s tips for taking care of the elderly, frail and disabled during disaster; the CDC’s “Emergency Preparedness and Response” page; family storm preparedness and evacuation guides; and Louisiana local to the state health resources.


Get a game plan is a public service from Louisiana that includes state sites for preparedness and post storm resources. Information includes evacuation, medical, pets and quick links. Some of the documents are also available in Spanish.


This web site provides online resources and how-to guides for Louisiana’s rebuilding efforts. It includes links to grants and other financial resources, directories of cultural institutions, and links to housing and job resources.


The American Red Cross and The Louisiana Association of United Ways (LAUW) distribute copies of the Louisiana Citizen Awareness & Disaster Evacuation Guide. Guides are intended for the Greater New Orleans, Lafayette & Lake Charles citizens who will use the maps and contra-flow routes to evacuate when disasters threaten the coastal areas.

This paper presents an overview of the elements of a disaster plan. Disaster planning is becoming an essential component of the overall management plan for a library or archive. The importance of an effective disaster plan is regularly demonstrated in institutions which are strongly committed to their plans. There is ample evidence to indicate that to be effective, a plan must be incorporated into the day-to-day management of an institution. A well thought out and presented plan is not useful if it exists solely as a document on a shelf.


This web site provides libraries, information organizations, and cultural institutions with information about preserving materials that have been damaged by water, fire, and mold. The site provides institutions with contact information for their Preservation Field Services, access to Lyrasis disaster wiki, information on requesting Lyrasis assistance for damage recovery.


This web site outlines steps that libraries can take to develop their own disaster plan. The outline contains instructions on how to develop a customized plan and provides links to outside resources where needed.


The Emergency Response Checklist webpage is a guideline that helps information and archival institutions prepare for disaster for emergencies and disasters.
This article discusses how the Massachusetts model of libraries as disaster recovery centers (DRCs) is being adopted by other states. Additionally, the article discusses how the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has created a GIS database of Massachusetts libraries so officials can locate them efficiently to rapidly deploy disaster recovery services.

This web site is a quick reference guide for what to do in a disaster. Ten response steps are listed along with contact information for providers of emergency assistance and recovery supplies.

This web site includes 14 links to disaster resources such as the Fire Safety Institute, Harvard Library disaster information, and various libraries’ disaster manuals, etc. Each resource is listed with a brief annotation and a link to the outside website.

This article discusses library response to disasters and advocates for collaborations that are put in place prior to an emergency, rather than in reaction to an emergency. The article includes a detailed review of the East Midlands Museums Service’s Regional Emergencies and Disaster Squad (REDS), suggesting REDS as a model for United Kingdom libraries to adopt.

This book on disaster management planning includes contributions from academics and practitioners. The chapters cover subjects such as disaster control plan development, risk assessment, and lessons learned from international experiences.

MBK Consulting (Miriam Kahn) offers courses for library directors, trustees, and management staff to learn about recovery of water damaged materials, insurance basics, recovery of damaged computers, protective planning for automated systems and information services, and staff issues before, during, and after a disaster. This web site includes sample course materials and links on response and recovery procedures, cleaning moldy or dirty books, bibliography of disaster response, and organizations and publications with information about disaster response.


This web page is comprised of a list of resources pertaining to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The resource list is divided into more than a dozen categories, such as newspapers, photographs, blogs, government agencies, family reunification, hurricane housing, etc. The information on this webpage is purposely not updated since it provides a record of response to the information needs of victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.


In this book, McClure and Jaeger identify and discuss social and service roles and expectations for public libraries with emphases on the relationship of internet access to those roles and e-government service provision. Other topics include planning for, selecting, and the future of Internet-enabled service roles.


The three ladies in this article title are Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma. McCoy reports on the response provided to evacuees by the academic library at Lamar State College – Orange. The library provided Internet connections, helped people fill out forms, look for jobs and housing. The article also reports McCoy’s personal experience as an evacuee during Hurricane Rita, including the helpfulness of Texas librarians.
This bibliographic database covering publications on earthquakes, earthquake engineering, natural hazard and disaster mitigation, and related topics including hurricanes.


This article cites four incidents of medical/health librarian’s response to Hurricane Katrina as a step toward determining best practices for post-disaster reference services.


This article discusses library responses to Hurricane Katrina in the context of a research project designing evidence-based disaster preparedness training for librarians. Part of the article discusses service roles libraries reported through the survey, including children’s services, meeting/office space, modified circulation rules, collecting donations, transporting evacuees, etc.


The document contains a list of sources that provide comprehensive information on the conservation and preservation of museum, library, and archival materials. The source list covers a range of topics in conservation and preservation that include general conservation and preservation, education and training, emergency planning and disaster preparedness, and preservation treatment and storage.

George Washington University librarian Shmuel Ben-Gad compiled these resources for the research guides of the GWU Melvin Gelman Library. The guides contain access to Federal, National and International Emergency Management resources, as well as information on accessing scholarly material on the subjects pertaining and related to emergency preparedness and disasters.


This article reports on the response of Texans to Hurricane Katrina with particular emphasis on the sense of community that emerged. Meraz describes libraries and librarians “at the heart” of service provision to hurricane victims. These services included computer access, help finding family, jobs, and housing, assistance with government forms, and children’s services, among others.


The COOP plan is created to ensure that mission-critical functions will continue if facilities are inoperable or personnel must be relocated due to a disaster. Procedures for response and recovery are included.

For further information: Leo Gomez <GLE@miamidade.gov>; <gomezl@mdpls.org>; Support Services Administrator Miami-Dade Public Library System <http://www.mdpls.org/> 101 West Flagler Street, Miami FL 33130-1523 Phone: (305) 375-5051 Cell: (305) 781-2339 Fax: (305) 375-2978


This section of the MDPLS emergency plan covers hurricanes. Topics include National Hurricane Center and county/library terminology, timeline of preparations prior to hurricane season, preparations when a storm is approaching, procedures for after a storm has passed, disaster supply list, calling tree, etc.

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This section of the MDPLS emergency plan covers a broad range of topics including evacuation procedures, fires, loss of air conditioning, injuries and illnesses of staff or patrons, power failures, and more.

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This web site is designed to assist MSU academic units develop disaster plans. It includes a planning template, seminar presentations, a video, and more.


This web site provides tools for families, individuals, and small businesses to plan for disasters. It includes a multimedia resource collection and education, training, and networking opportunities.


This web page includes resources for boating safety, emergency preparedness and management, special needs, Homeland Security, mental health, pandemics/public health, and weather/natural disasters.

Miller and Fisher’s article discusses the role of public libraries in community leadership. Specifically, the article discusses the importance of and approaches to relationship building with community leaders.


This book is aimed at library board trustees and includes topics such as risk management, local values, diverse funding sources, and getting on the community’s leadership team. Disaster planning is addressed in the first chapter, “Managing Risk.” Of particular interest is Shield #3: Catastrophe Plans, pp. 29-38, which includes advice from Mississippi State Librarian Sharman Smith based on her experiences during Hurricane Katrina.


This web site contains a list of online resources for salvaging wet items, general information on salvage, and documents pertaining to emergency planning.


The MEMA web site is a comprehensive disaster preparedness site. The hurricanes page of MEMA provides tips on hurricane preparedness and a link to FEMA information. Additionally, the site provides MEMA news releases, contact information for the emergency management agencies of Mississippi’s nine districts, disaster assistance information, information for emergency management training, contact information for disaster reservists, the state hazard mitigation plan, and information on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).


This web site contains a list of disaster prevention and services vendors.

This article reports on the disaster recovery efforts of the Boston Public Library in response to a flood in 1998. It concludes with recommendations for libraries to build disaster recovery plans.


NARA recommends a pro-active approach to disaster preparation. This section of the NARA website includes information and guidance on recovery a variety of types of materials.


NARA recommends a pro-active approach to disaster preparation. This web site provides tools that provide introductory information to private individuals and public institutions prepare for disasters.


This is an instructional guide on how to plan, prepare, and execute disaster mitigation and recovery. The guide outlines ways to develop a contingency plan, assess risk, recover after a disaster, and plan for disasters. Though the guide has been developed for Federal agencies, it may be adapted to the needs of libraries and archives.


NEMA is the professional association of and for emergency management directors from all 50 states, eight territories and the District of Columbia.
NIHRAC provides voluntary public service, safety, and emergency preparedness communications to NIH and local, regional, and international communities. This web site includes information on the Emergency Communications Center (ECC), membership, meetings and contact information, and affiliations.

This bibliography provided by the National Library of Medicine is a list of resources concerned with the roles played by libraries in times disaster and recovery. Additionally, the page also includes NLM resources related to disaster information and emergency preparedness plans for libraries.

The toolkit includes disaster plan templates, library disaster stories, model memoranda of understanding and mutual aid agreements, ready references related to emergency preparedness and response, forms to report damage at your library, and general information on the NN/LM.

This web site is comprised of a comprehensive list of resources on public health during times of emergency preparedness and disaster, emergency preparedness, disaster preparedness for children’s needs, library preparedness, resources on critical health and human services, disaster preparedness for the disabled, and terrorism prevention. Additionally, the page provides resources for locating missing persons and emergency preparedness for animals, as well as the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) resources on disaster preparedness and response.

This web site provides users with weather related information for the United States, Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Guam. The site also contains resources on weather safety, radio communications for emergency warnings and updates, and a search feature for locating weather conditions at the city level.


This web site is specifically aimed at librarians. It includes information on planning for a water disaster and salvaging materials from a clean water disaster.


The NJHA web site is arranged by user type. There is information on bioterrorism preparedness under Healthcare Professionals and Hospital and Health Sciences Librarians. The section for librarians also includes information on emergency preparedness. There is a link to a model memorandum of understanding.


Information includes web sites such as FEMA, NARA and NEDCC, and a few useful phone numbers.


This is a web portal for information on public health preparedness, i.e. pandemic influenza, mortality, emergency preparedness and response, severe weather, etc.

This web site includes a few helpful resources for emergency and disaster planning. Topics include: safety first, planning and preparation, salvage and recovery, and general links and resources.


This web site is comprised of a collection of databases containing information on health-related disaster preparedness. The databases are categorized by resource type e.g., e-journals and e-books, print, web sites, etc. Each database includes a basic description of its purpose and scope.


This wiki page explains the COSTEP project and includes links to the advisory committee, meetings, the COSTEP brochure, and contact information. The COSTEP wiki is a planning tool to aid between cultural resource institutions in coordinating with emergency management departments and first responders.


The COSTEP wiki is a planning tool to aid between cultural resource institutions in coordinating with emergency management departments and first responders. The wiki includes resources on subjects such as developing disaster preparedness plans; implementing disaster preparedness strategies; and building alliances with local, state, and federal agencies.
dPlan is a free Online Disaster-Planning Tool. This online disaster-planning template was prepared by the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC). dPlan can help create a plan for disaster prevention and response. The user enters data into the online template to create a customized disaster plan for the institution.

This form is an example form for collecting cultural resources disaster information.

COSTEP is an online planning tool to bring together cultural resource institutions, emergency managers, and first responders to plan for area-wide disasters.

This article discusses ways Florida libraries responded to the 2004 storms. It talks about damage to libraries and related closures, services libraries provided (including conversion to emergency operations centers and locally assigned services), and external support for libraries from publishers, vendors, and the library community.

This web site is designed to help individuals and families build personalized hurricane plans. The site also contains a library of online resources on topics that are related to hurricane preparedness and recovery.
This web site provides hurricane planning and recovery resources to small business owners. Business owners can utilize the hurricane planning information and online forms to create a disaster preparedness plan that is specifically tailored to their needs.


This article announces that Fort Bend libraries had computers and staff assistance available for filling out FEMA forms and includes contact information for the library branches.


This web page is part of the Pasco Economic Development Council (PEDC) web site. The PEDC serves as the liaison between Pasco County businesses and Federal, State, and local government agencies and programs. The web page provides links to the Florida Business Disaster Survival Kit and the Pasco County Office of emergency management, which can provide businesses with assistance in developing hurricane procedures and staff training programs.


This leaflet serves as a how-to guide to creating disaster plans. It covers identifying and decreasing risks, cooperative plans, identifying resources, setting priorities, writing and maintaining the plan, and suggested reading.

The “Critical Connectors” article discusses the role public libraries in as “first responders” in emergency situations, especially during times of hurricane disasters. According to the article, public librarians assist hurricane victims with filing FEMA forms and helping victims locate communicate with family and friends online. Additionally, the article discusses how public librarians have worked with Emergency Management Teams to provide assistance with answering emergency hotline phones and provide wireless mobile wireless connectivity. Finally, the article talks about the overall played by public libraries in delivering online government assistance to citizens in need of guidance when filling for a variety of government forms.


This article examines the response to Katrina, after the storm made landfall. Specifically, the article examines the storm from an Internet perspective that focuses on housing issues, missing persons, and post-storm fraudulence.


This web site includes an explanation of what a post-disaster redevelopment plan is, background information on Polk County, the plan, involved stakeholders, and a timeline for implementation. Additionally, the site serves as an example of a county-wide post-disaster redevelopment plan


The article explains what a hurricane is, the dangers that arise from storm surge and high winds, and the value of disaster planning.

This web site contains an example of Palm Beach County’s post-disaster redevelopment plan. The plan was written based on best practices lessons learned from catastrophic events.


The RAP web site provides information and resources on preservation and conservation. It is a national cooperative whose members include SOLINET, NEDCC, etc. RAP offers training on disaster planning and mitigation, conservation services, and a searchable bibliography to publications on collections maintenance, among other resources.


This article stresses the importance of disaster planning for records and information management (RIM) professionals and organizations, focusing on the dangers of losing data, physical assets and workspace, and the resulting cost in terms of money, time and effort. The article defines and describes disasters, explains the business impact assessment (BIA), and provides step-by-step processes for writing a disaster plan and recovery and salvage efforts.


This library web site lists preparedness tips for before, during, and after a hurricane. The site also provides defines terms pertaining to tropical weather systems and an emergency supply list.


This article details the numerous ways water can leak into and flood a library. Robertson explains the importance of planning to deal with water damage, including knowing the building and how to conserve the collection.

This article is a news brief that reports on Florida libraries and the 2004 hurricane season. In the article, State Librarian Judi Ring comments on the roles (e.g. serving as day care centers, providing Internet access, and serving as shelters. Insurance is also mentioned.


This article is a news brief stating that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is awarding $10.9 million in grant funding to state libraries to help sustain free, public access to computers and the Internet.


This resource list for Katrina evacuees can be used by any hurricane evacuees who have come to the Dallas metropolitan area and hurricane evacuees in general. The list has sections for federal aid, banking, locating family and friends, housing, insurance, jobs, legal assistance, locating pets, social services, transportation, unemployment assistance, postal services, local schools, unemployment, and hurricane Katrina specific resources.


The San Francisco Department of Emergency Management hosts this web site to help residents prepare themselves and their families for an emergency as well as to learn what to do in the event of a specific disaster. Preparation information includes how to make a plan, build a kit, and get involved. Emergency response information includes what to do in case of an earthquake, tsunami, flood, terrorism, contagious disease, transit safety emergency, etc.


This article focuses on the role that the Internet can play in disaster relief. The article lists national and international organizations that play a part in disaster relief around the world. Though the list is not exhaustive, each organization on the list is has a brief description of its work and an accompanying url.

This article discusses the importance of communication to the recovery of a business after an emergency. The article focuses on the use of communication technology (i.e. email) as an effective tool that allows businesses to remain in touch with employees before, during, and after an emergency. The article highlights specific examples of successfully deployed email messaging systems utilized during the 2004 hurricane season.


The South Carolina Emergency Management web site is a portal for resources pertaining to disaster/emergency preparedness and recovery. The site provides an up to date hurricane resource guide that can be utilized online or downloaded and printed in pdf format.


This web site contains a survival guide for small businesses. The guide is designed to assist small businesses in planning and preparing for the hurricane season. Additionally, the guide helps businesses plan and prepare for the recovery phase of a disaster in the event that the business is damaged during the storm. This resource is available in English, Spanish, and Creole (scroll to the bottom of the page for links to PDF versions of the documents).


The SEFLIN is comprised of a list of SEFLIN of institutions that are members of SEFLIN (i.e. universities and public library systems) with links to their emergency response plans and/or continuity of operations policy (COOP). Additionally, the site contains a list of library organizations, state and federal agencies, and various national resources all with links to hurricane and/or disaster emergency plans.
The SEFLIN regional disaster plan outlines the need for such a plan in an area that frequently experiences hurricanes but lacks official mutual aid agreements. It also discusses the purpose, scope, applicability, key concepts, activation, functionality and limitations of the plan, as well as potential planning and project participants.

This article argues that special librarians and knowledge managers are well suited for developing emergency preparedness practices and procedures because of their ability to identify information relevant to the needs of their organization. Additionally, the article outlines and describes how these information professionals can succeed in leading and organizing the emergency preparedness efforts of their organizations.

This article discusses how the Miami Dade Public Library System met the challenges of post-disaster recovery. After Hurricane Andrew devastated the south eastern communities of Florida, the Miami Dade Public Library System (MDPLS) assumed emergency response roles by turning libraries into relief centers and centers of communication. The article identifies the challenges the libraries faced by the libraries and how the libraries successfully faced those challenges.

This resource list is primarily focused on resources in the State of Missouri, specifically related to assistance programs (e.g., Red Cross and Salvation Army), the public school system and state colleges and universities, state employment, the Humane Society, transportation, and the State Emergency Management Agency of Missouri. Additionally, the list includes transportation resources for the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, as well as contact information for the FEMA counseling center.

This web site was developed by Rose Anne St. Romain, an Early Childhood Services Consultant at the State Library of Louisiana. The site lists activities that public librarians used in order to help young hurricane evacuees cope with the trauma and displacement that resulted from the devastating hurricanes on Louisiana.


The state climate of North Carolina web site provides information on North Carolina’s weather. Within the site is a section devoted to hurricane information. This section provides a chart defining each category of the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale, which is the scale used to measure hurricane severity. The site also provides statistics on hurricane landfalls occurring in North Carolina or occurring in a nearby state and then moving through North Carolina.


The State Library and Archives of Florida provides practical tips for the disposition of unrecoverable public records, handling mold and mildew, techniques for records and document recovery, disaster recovery vendors, etc.


The Emergency Assistance Links web site of the Louisiana State Library contains an alphabetized list of links to weather, state and government resources concerning environmental health, evacuations, tropical weather, public assistance, and the state recovery authority. Other resources on the site include general health care, insurance, housing, locating missing persons, and links to the Red Cross and FEMA.

This web site has before the storm family preparedness checklists, downloadable evacuation routes, and a site on what to do during and after a storm. Information that is provided on the “During the storm” site includes local shelter, Red Cross shelter, and state emergency management shelter information and a variety of state storm-related sites. The “After the storm” links provide users with resources on how families can cope with storm disaster. These resources include information on disaster recovery and helping children cope with disaster. Additionally, the site provides links to FEMA, storm tracking information through NOAA, the National Hurricane Center (NHC), and a link to the Department of Agriculture hurricane preparedness site.


The Office of Library and Information Services web page on disaster and preservation planning lists a number of resources that include the American Library Association (ALA) web page on disaster preparedness and recovery, the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA), the Department of Homeland Security, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Preservation page, North Eastern Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), and more.


This article was written in response to 9/11. It discusses disaster recovery planning for businesses and explains why small businesses are especially vulnerable. The focus of the article is on technology infrastructure, backing-up data, and multi-format storage solutions.


This web site explains what mutual aid agreements are and why they are valuable. It also provides a menu of suggested provisions for public health mutual aid agreements and an inventory of mutual aid agreements and related resources.

This interactive map allows users to track storms from their origin and throughout their track, until they are no longer considered tropical.


This web site is the home page of the Iowa Conservation and Preservation Consortium (ICPC). The ICPC is a membership organization whose mission it is to encourage and facilitate conservation and preservation efforts among all of Iowa’s repositories and institutions.


This web site is designed for Florida's K-12 school library media specialists. The web site hosts national and federal resources concerning emergency planning/preparedness with relevancy to schools and libraries. Additionally, the site includes resources pertaining to hurricane/water damage and recovery. Additionally, the site has planning/preparedness resources that help children and young adults understand and be a part of emergency planning.


This article discusses the need for realistic expectations when recovery from a disaster. Specifically, the article focuses on how employees experience disaster and how their ability to cope with loss and be well enough to return to work cannot be planned.


The business disaster survival kit web site includes a disaster survival guide, disaster planning wizard, exercises and training, and a preparedness information center. See the link to “Play Pirate Bay,” an interactive game in which the player is the owner of a Florida theme park and has to prepare for and respond to various disasters including hurricanes, fires, food poisoning, etc.

This article discusses how libraries can prepare their digital systems and data for potential disasters. The article provides information on ways in which data loss can be prevented, how data can be backed up, and what to do after the disaster has occurred.


This web site is comprised of emergency preparedness resources for residents of the State of Texas. The resources on this site provide residents with information on disaster preparedness, evacuation procedures, accessing government resources, getting assistance for those with special needs individuals, and avoiding fraud related to disasters.


In preparation for the landfall of Hurricane Ike, this press release was issued by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. The document is comprised of a list of tools and resources that target the needs of librarians, archivists, curators, records managers, and other custodians of historical records when they are pre-planning or responding to a natural disaster situation.


This web page is comprised of resources preparing vital records for disaster. The list contains resources on protecting, storing, and managing vital records. Additionally, the list contains resources on disaster prevention and recovery after disasters.

This publication contains an overview of available resources on issues pertaining to preservation and conservation in tropical climates, focusing on books and writing materials, building and storage facilities, disaster preparedness and pest management.

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This publication is designed to prepare libraries for communicating in public relations situations, during times of crisis. The publication includes tools for everyday communication situations and in emergency situations, practice scenarios for appointed spokespeople, and dealing with the media.

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In this book, Todaro outlines the basic steps that libraries can take in order to prepare their organizations for emergency and disaster situations. Todaro then builds on the basic steps by outlining the methods needed to assess, educate, and budget the organization in preparation for emergencies and disasters. Finally, Todaro then discusses scenario based approaches that can be used to test the effectiveness of an organization’s planning.

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The purpose of this book is to instruct libraries, archives, and museums on how to weather a hurricane through proper planning. The readers of this book will find topics concerning building structures to resist hurricane damage, preparing existing structures to minimize damage, supplying your institution in preparation for the storm, recovery, salvage, and rebuilding techniques.

This document discusses the principles of hurricane mitigation and post-disaster redevelopment. Additionally, the document includes an analysis of Flagler County’s hurricane mitigation and post-disaster redevelopment plan.

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The USDA Emergency Preparedness and Response web site contains information on hurricane relief, disaster and drought assistance, and food assistance information. The Disaster Relief and Assistance information presented here is focused on farmers, ranchers and rural residents, and relates primarily to disasters arising from excessive rainfall, flooding, and tornadoes.

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This web site is a service of USA.gov geared toward Hurricane Katrina recovery includes information on how to: find friends and family, get help, locate shelter and housing, donate and volunteer. It also includes information related to health and safety, what the government is doing, and frequently asked questions.

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This document is an example of a public library’s emergency procedures and disaster plan. The plan outlines the actions to be taken by library staff during emergency situations.

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This is an example of using a Web 2.0 application (e.g., blog) to manage disaster information. The blog was developed using Blogspot. It includes information related to floods, as well as general University of Iowa information.

This publication discusses the ways in which public libraries support the economic development of their communities. The roles discussed in the paper include economic development, literacy and school readiness, building workforce participation, small business support, and libraries as a power of place.

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This web site from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services provides “one-stop access to U.S. Government avian and pandemic flu information.” This includes general information, specific information based on region, frequently asked questions, planning and response, monitoring outbreaks, health and safety, tests and vaccines, bird and animal issues, global activities, economic impacts, research activities, and more.

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The HDSL collections include a general collection, restricted collection, news digest collection, and I3P cyber infrastructure collection. The general collection includes “over 63,000 important U.S. policy documents, presidential directives, and national strategy documents as well as specialized resources from universities, organizations and local and state agencies,” the restricted collection includes “over 3,000 current U//FOUO intel releases, reports and summaries from federal, state and local sources,” the news digest collection includes “periodic digests with a focus on homeland security topics,” and the I3P cyber infrastructure collection includes information from “an I3P partnership focused on identification of information assets.”

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The natural hazards section of the USGS web site is intended to educate American citizens, emergency managers, and lawmakers on 7 natural hazards that could impact the U.S.: earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, landslides, tsunamis, volcanoes, and wildfires. There is also information about USGS science and how it can help mitigate disasters.

This web site includes overview information related to biodefense and bioterrorism, plus the latest news, treatment, prevention and screening, alternative therapy, coping, specific conditions, related issues, pictures, clinical trials, research, dictionaries, community and state directories, organizations, law and policy, and more.


This disaster preparation and recovery web page includes overview information related to emergency preparedness and planning, the latest news, specific conditions, related issues, videos, financial issues, journal articles, community and state directories, organizations, law and policy, and more.


The TOXNET database is hosted by the National Library of Medicine. The web site is comprised of searchable databases on toxicology, hazardous chemicals, environmental health, and toxic releases.


This web site is designed for first responders to hazardous material incidents. The web site includes information on how to identify hazardous substances what the physical characteristics are, human health information, and containment and suppression advice.


The U.S. Small Business Administration web site is the official government portal for small business financial assistance. The U.S. Small Business Administration provides low interest loans to individuals and businesses to repair or replace property, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets damaged or destroyed in a disaster.

This article reports the results of an IFLA survey of national libraries that asked if they have a disaster plan, if they have suffered a disaster and if so, what the effects were, the frequency with which disaster plans are updated, whether the disaster plan is tested, and any preventive measures being taken. The authors recommend cooperation among institutions and coordination in the face of disaster.


This collection of conference papers includes the following topics: cooperative approaches to emergency preparation and response; disaster prevention; emergency plans; disaster management; psychological stress and recovery; firsthand accounts; risk mitigation; and collections recovery techniques.

Will, Barbara H. (2001). The public library as community crisis center: The public library has the resources and expertise to address the need for prompt, reliable, and relevant information in any crisis situation. However, librarians cannot wait to be asked to become involved. *Library Journal, 126*(20), 75-77. Retrieved May 14, 2009, from http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA185136.html

This article discusses ways libraries in which libraries can help their communities cope with disasters. Service that libraries can offer during times of crisis include the provision of different types of information, getting involved with local government emergency planning, and preparing for recovery portion of emergency planning.


This article is an analysis of scholarly literature that investigates the efforts of libraries and librarians to address the major economic, political and social, and technological changes that have occurred since 2003. The analysis is of an international focus.

This resource list is comprised of references and resources on the topic of coping with disasters (e.g., hurricanes, war, and terrorism). The references and resources target children, teens, and young adults.


This portion of the YALSA web site provides a list of activities that libraries, shelters, and schools can put together to help hurricane affected youth cope with the post-disaster environment.