National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month. This is a great time to review emergency plans with your family, friends, and coworkers. Take some time to check your emergency kits and ensure that all necessary supplies are inside and have not expired. Check out ready.gov for more tips and lists of what should be in an emergency kit.

Take a look at the Human Resources Training page at courses listed under EP. These courses provide valuable information for many different situations. Numerous elective courses are offered every year, in subjects such as See Something, Say Something, Weather Hazards, and Active Shooter Response.

Double check your information on GTENS to make sure it’s up to date. Did you get Thursday’s test message? If you were in one of the buildings on campus, did you see the message on the plasma screens?

Go to www.emergencypreparedness.gatech.edu for more National Preparedness Month information. It will be updated throughout September! Like us on Facebook for more updates too!

GT-CERT Students: If you are interested in being part of a GT-CERT student organization, please email jkraft3@gatech.edu

Contribute to the GT-CERT Newsletter!

Is there information or an article that you would like to see in the GT-CERT Newsletter?

Please send any ideas or articles to jkraft3@gatech.edu and we will be sure to include them in the next month’s newsletter. If you have questions for us, we’ll get answers and post them in the newsletter as well!
Hazardous Materials—Liquids

Hazardous liquids are present throughout campus, both in laboratory use and in use as cleaning supplies. Liquids, although generally easier to control than gases, can still cause severe problems due to exposures or spills.

Hazardous liquids fall into several groups, although liquids can have properties of more than one group. The first is flammable liquids. They have the potential to ignite if exposed to an ignition source, or even a highly elevated temperature. Water will often not put out these fires, instead spreading them around. If a liquid is very volatile, it may evaporate and fill a room shortly after being spilled. Corrosive liquids present another kind of hazard. These liquids can damage materials they come into contact with. Corrosives include acids, bases, and other miscellaneous materials. They cause skin irritation and often can lead to chemical burns. Extreme care should be taken around these materials, including the use of personal protection equipment such as gloves and safety glasses.

A final hazard associated with liquids is toxicity. Exposures to toxic liquids, whether through ingestion, the eyes, or injection have negative affects on the body’s functions. As with any hazardous material, the most important steps that you can take are to know and understand the materials you are working with and their effects. Make sure that you take necessary precautions specific to the material you are dealing with. If you have further questions about hazardous materials, send an email to jkraft3@gatech.edu or post on our GT-CERT Facebook page at www.facebook.com/GaTechCERT.

Image from NOAA.gov
National Preparedness Month

The following events are just a few that will be taking place for National Preparedness Month. Keep an eye on your email for more information and events each week!

**Sept. 8:** An information booth will be set up at the Student Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Get tools and resources for emergency planning and meet the emergency preparedness team.

**Sept. 9:** See Something, Say Something" class will be held at 9am, Training ordinary people to be on the look-out for suspicious activity can enhance security. Participants will review pre-incident indicators, potential targets, threat tactics and prevention strategies. Learn how to identify suspicious situations and who to report them to. Visit [www.training.gatech.edu/courses/](http://www.training.gatech.edu/courses/) to register.

**Sept. 20:** A class titled “Identifying Safe Shelter Areas in your Building” will be held at 2 p.m. Visit [www.training.gatech.edu/courses/](http://www.training.gatech.edu/courses/) to register.

**Sept. 20:** An information booth will be set up at the Student Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Sept. 21:** A class titled “Weather Hazards and Precautions Class” will be held at 9 a.m. Visit [www.training.gatech.edu/courses/](http://www.training.gatech.edu/courses/) to register.

If you have any suggestions or would like to submit anything for the newsletter, please send them to jkraft3@gatech.edu.
CERT Training Reminder

When setting up a treatment area, make it uphill and upwind from the event whenever possible. This prevents hazards such as smoke, dust, or vapors from moving toward the area.

Also, do your best to make the treatment area easily accessible to emergency transportation. This will allow treatment to occur much faster and will minimize the resources you need to get emergency responders to the scene.

CERT News

National News
New York’s Upper West Side CERT team assisted in the staffing of three shelters for Hurricane Irene over last weekend. Staffing of shelters is an important part of disaster recovery. Large amounts of supplies and data have to be managed to support the shelter and recovery of victims of storms and other natural disasters. Consider what you would do to prepare yourself and your family for a storm such as Irene. There’s still a lot of hurricane season left!

Do you have ideas for future GT-CERT events or training? We would love to hear from you! We are looking forward to getting CERT members involved in the planning of your CERT program. If you are interested in being part of the GT-CERT Council for planning and logistics, please contact Jason Kraft at jkraft3@gatech.edu or send us a message on the Georgia Tech CERT Facebook page!

Let us know what you’re doing! GT-CERT is always interested in community service opportunities!

E-mail jkraft3@gatech.edu