



# KCER Watch

**Safety and Health Topics: Emergency Preparedness Bulletin**

**May 2018**

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## Hot Topics

### Time Now to Brace for Hurricane Season



The 2018 Hurricane Season starts June 1, and experts predict there will be 18 named storms, with up to five of them becoming major hurricanes. New research by the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) found that rising ocean temperatures are causing storms to form more quickly and have stronger winds. Before the hurricane season gets underway, prepare for a potential storm.

**Read More:** <https://bit.ly/23IHCvs>

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### Reduce Your Risk – Prepare Now for a Wildfire

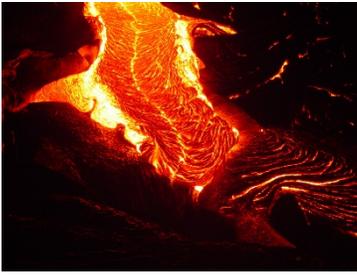
The wildfire season in the southwest United States is reaching its peak. Wildfires can be triggered by lightning or by accident. They can spread quickly, igniting brush, trees, and homes. Use the Safety Tips section of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) website to stay informed, to plan, and, most importantly, to remain safe in a wildfire emergency.



**Read More:** <https://bit.ly/2vsdRIv>

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## Hawaii Volcano Eruption Forces Hundreds to Seek Safety



People in Pahoia, Hawaii, are sad and in disbelief. A volcano eruption has forced approximately 1,700 people from their homes. Lava has destroyed nearly 40 structures, including at least 26 homes, and plumes of poisonous gas are killing trees and grass. Emergency officials are urging people in the area to listen to local television and radio stations for updates, as more eruptions and evacuations are possible. Click the link below for advice on how you can stay safe during a volcanic eruption.

**Read More:** <https://rdcrss.org/2x5EJi9>

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## Education/Communication

### Strategies for Dealing with an Active Shooter Incident in a Healthcare Setting



An active shooter event in a healthcare facility presents unique challenges, especially in a dialysis unit where people are vulnerable because they are immobilized and receiving treatment while connected to a dialysis machine. There is no single way to respond to an active shooter incident but being prepared can minimize the damage and save lives. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has tools and resources to help patients and providers prepare for and respond to this type of an emergency.

**Read More:** <https://bit.ly/2EV8Ziv>

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### Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief for Individuals and Businesses

Individuals and business owners who have suffered a loss because of a disaster may be able to take advantage of a special tax law provision; depending on the circumstances, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) may grant additional time to file returns and pay taxes without penalty. The IRS will grant filing and payment relief when the President of the United States declares a federal disaster and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) identifies areas for its Individual Assistance Program.

**Read More:** <https://bit.ly/2I2rrs5>

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## Plan for an Emergency: Information for Older Americans



Older adults are among the most vulnerable when disaster strikes. That's why it's critical that older people and those who care for them have an emergency plan in place. Now's the time to evaluate your personal needs and make an emergency plan that fits those needs. Click the link below to read about measures older Americans can take to start preparing for emergencies before they happen.

**Read More:** <https://bit.ly/2cSY8sb>

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You can find this month's KCER Watch, along with past editions, on our website:

[www.kcercoalition.com/kcerwatch](http://www.kcercoalition.com/kcerwatch)

### What do you think about this edition of KCER Watch?

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<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KCER052018>



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