

## **Fact Sheet**

## **HURRICANE SEASON PREPAREDNESS: Resources for Business Continuity Planning**

Through continuity planning, businesses can assess how the company functions, both internally and externally, to determine which staff, materials, procedures and equipment are absolutely necessary to keep the business operating. Taking small steps now could help ensure business continuity and employee preparedness.

Here are some links to help you plan:

**Hurricane Ready Business Toolkit**: The Ready Business Program for hurricanes allows users to take action to protect employees and customers, and help ensure business continuity for hurricanes and tropical storms. <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/152381">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/152381</a>

**Back to Business Self-Assessment**: Based on a presented planning scenario, complete 13 questions to highlight areas that your Business Continuity and Preparedness and Mitigation Plan should address. <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/152381">https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/152381</a> (Pages 9-10)

**Business Continuity Planning Suite:** Businesses can use this software to maintain normal operations and provide resilience during a disruption of service. https://www.ready.gov/business-continuity-planning-suite

**Business Continuity Training Videos:** An explanation of what business continuity planning means and what it entails to create a business continuity plan. https://www.ready.gov/business-continuity-planning-suite

**Business Impact Analysis:** A business impact analysis predicts the consequences of disruption of a business function and process, and gathers information needed to develop recovery strategies. <a href="https://www.ready.gov/business-impact-analysis">https://www.ready.gov/business-impact-analysis</a>

**Employee Assistance and Support:** After a disaster, employees may be injured or have sustained home damage or may be temporarily out of a job. A business preparedness program should include communicating with employees and their families and providing support as appropriate. <a href="https://www.ready.gov/business/implementation/employee">https://www.ready.gov/business/implementation/employee</a>

**Crisis Communications Plan:** If business operations are disrupted, customers will want to know how they will be impacted, and employees and their families will be concerned. They will want information. <a href="https://www.ready.gov/business/implementation/crisis">https://www.ready.gov/business/implementation/crisis</a>

**Risk Mitigation**: For those hazards that cannot be prevented, there are still many opportunities to reduce the potential impacts on life, property, business operations and the environment. <a href="https://www.ready.gov/risk-mitigation">https://www.ready.gov/risk-mitigation</a>

The private sector is a vital part of the emergency management team. We see the nation's vast network of business, industry, academia, trade associations, and other non-governmental organizations as equal - and equally responsible - partners in every phase from preparedness to response and recovery to mitigation. FEMA has worked steadily to increase the level of private sector collaboration at all levels. If you have additional questions, you can email us at <a href="fema-privatesector-4339-pr@fema.dhs.gov">fema.dhs.gov</a>.