

2023 Weather Planning for Mass Gatherings Workshop

Program Overview

Day	Time	Session	Description
Day One	9:00 - 9:15	Welcome and Introduction	
	9:15 - 10:15	So You Want to Be A Meteorologist?	Weather data is everywhere, but little to no training exists on how to use it to support timely and accurate decision making. Examples of radar misinterpretation, and app misuse in the presence of a dynamically changing atmosphere will be shown.
	10:15 - 10:30	Break	
	10:30 - 11:30	Is Your Weather Great? Just Wait 5 Minutes!	The basics of wind, rain, lightning, and other weather hazards, and our abilities to forecast them. What information to look for to be more situationally aware of impending weather threats and hazards. How do you know when it's time to stop? How do you know when it's time to safely resume?
	11:30 - 11:45	Break	
	11:45 - 12:15	Weather Resources: National Weather Service	An overview of National Weather Service capabilities, impact-based decision support and special event restrictions.
	12:15 - 12:45	Weather Resources: Private Sector	How to utilize private sector weather services & technologies for planning and monitoring.
	12:45 - 1:30	Lunch	
	1:30 - 2:15	The Power of Air/Alternate Activity	A short activity that uses household materials and simple construction to illustrate the power of air and importance of resilient design.
	2:15 - 3:15	If You Build It, Wind Will Come!	Overview of wind loading, understanding engineering documentation, what to look for when selecting/erecting structures, and when to call in an expert. Impacts on specific types of structures.
	3:15 - 3:30	Break	
	3:30 - 4:30	The "Wisdom" of Crowds	(1) Everyone has a legal duty to behave reasonably "under the circumstances;" (2) Crowds at events (and people generally) lack situational awareness; (3) Event organizers must plan for their reasonably foreseeable crowds, who may be ignorant of or insensitive to the risks to their safety posed by severe weather. This session will explore the problem and propose some solutions.
	4:30 - 5:00	Recap/Questions/Venue Tour	
Day Two	9:00 - 9:15	Welcome/Look Ahead/Questions	
	9:15 - 10:45	Establishing Actionable Weather Plans	What is a Weather Action Plan? How do you develop one? What should they contain? What development resources are available? How can ES1.7-2021 assist in this process?
	10:45 - 11:00	Break	
	11:00 - 12:00	Coordinating with Public Safety Officials	When it comes to executing severe weather plans, it really does take a village. We'll discuss the ins and outs of response coordination with a panel of public and private-sector stakeholders.
	12:00 - 12:45	Lunch	
	12:45 - 2:15	Preparing Your Own Decision Trigger Chart & Interaction with Experts	Small group development of a Weather Action Plans and Decision Trigger Charts allowing interactions with experts, as well as "did you think of this?" injects.
	2:15 - 2:45	Weather Jeopardy!	In an effort to get attendees to use what they've learned, this year's categories are PPE, Lawsuits, Meteorology, Crowds, and Steve's Move.
	2:45 - 3:00	Break	
	3:00 - 4:00	Weather Incident Tabletop Activity to test Decision Trigger Charts	Attendees will be grouped to participate in a table-top exercise, utilizing their previously developed WAPs. Built around a single weather incident, this activity will provoke different responses based on the developed plans. Event conditions (event type, location, facility, size, demographics, production) will be threatened by an actual weather event in order to test hypothetical weather, chain of command and communications plans.
	4:00 - 4:30	Case Study: Incident Walkthrough	
	4:30 - 5:00	Final Exam and Certificate Distribution	