Prepared Dawgs is a quarterly informational newsletter that is distributed by the Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) in order to update UGA Students, Faculty, and Staff on Emergency Preparedness along with providing information to Building Safety & Security Representatives (BSSRs) and keeping members of the UGA Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) informed on upcoming events and training.

Preparing Dawgs

www.prepare.uga.edu

Being Prepared is Everyone’s Responsibility

Did you know what to do when the Zell Miller Student Learning Center, commonly referred to as MLC, was evacuated? Where did you go when the tornado warning was issued on October 14th? As an adult, you cannot take it for granted that someone else will tell you what to do or where to go. Each individual UGA student, faculty, and staff member should know how to react in an emergency situation. Preparedness is everyone’s responsibility.

Let’s go over the basics. During a tornado warning, you should seek shelter on the lowest floor possible away from windows and doorways. In most homes and apartments, this will most likely be a bathroom or closet in the middle of the residence. In a building on the UGA Campus, this will be a basement floor level, a first or even second floor interior hallway, bathroom, or office. Plan ahead of time on where you will go.

In the event of a building evacuation, meet up with your class or coworkers in a per-designated place. Remember in the event of a fire, you need to be able to account for everyone. Offer assistance to those who may need help evacuating. If a Police Officer or Firefighter directs you further away from the building, follow their directions.

And remember to talk with your professor or supervisor about what you should do in an emergency in regards to attending class or how to complete your job responsibilities. Have a plan before the emergency occurs.

While the Office of Emergency Preparedness works across campus to help building personnel identify shelter sites, evacuation routes, and other emergency procedures, the appropriate response will be a decision made by you. Emergency Preparedness is not difficult. Stay informed of the situation around you and have a means to receive emergency information. When you receive that emergency information, know what to do. Rehearse your emergency plans by discussing them with coworkers in staff meetings, with students in a class, and in other group meetings. Make it a habit to point out shelter and evacuation procedures at the beginning of meetings. Participate in emergency drills in your building to reinforce a fast, safe response.

How to be Informed of Emergencies

Are you a UGA student, faculty or staff member? Did you receive your UGA Alert message on September 19th or October 14th? If not, check your information in the UGA Alert system at www.ugaalert.uga.edu to ensure that you receive emergency messages according to your preferences. UGA Alert allows you to receive emergency messages on multiple devices. You may identify as many as three phone numbers and two email addresses for receiving emergency notifications, including one phone number for text messaging. You must have a valid UGA MyID to access the UGA Alert site.

The phone number reflected on your caller ID for voice phone calls will be 706-542-0111. You should program this number into your phone so it will immediately be recognized as an urgent call from UGA Alert.

The phone number 23177 or 63079 will show up in your caller ID for sms text messages from UGA Alert.

Download

UGA Alert Desktop is available from http://sitesoft.uga.edu.

UGA Alert Desktop is an application that will display emergency messages from UGA Alert on your computer. Emergency messages will crawl across the bottom of your computer screen when a message from UGA Alert is issued. In most UGA Alert activations, UGA Alert Desktop has proven to be one of the fastest methods to receive an alert.

Fast Follow

Not a UGA student, faculty, or staff member? You can still receive text messages from UGA Alert. And best of all, you do not have to join Twitter to do so. All you need to do is to send a text message from your

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mobile phone. Text the words “Follow @UGAAlert” to the number 40404. This will allow you to receive UGAAlerts from the official UGAAlert Twitter account, @UGAAlert. You will receive a confirmation text that confirms that you are following @UGAAlert. You can text “Off @UGAAlert” to stop receiving the messages at any time.

**Social Media**

Are you big into social media? Did you know that UGAAlert messages are posted to four Twitter accounts and the Office of Emergency Preparedness’s Facebook page? The Twitter accounts are the University of Georgia’s official account, @universityofuga, the UGA’s Event Calendar account, @UGAEVENTS, the UGAAlert’s official account, @UGAAlert, and the Office of Emergency Preparedness’s account, @UGAOEP. You can also like the Office of Emergency Preparedness Facebook page, www.facebook.com/osep.

**Other Emergency Alerts**

The best way to survive an emergency is to know when it’s coming so you can take appropriate action. A National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio is the optimal way to hear watches and warnings from the National Weather Service (NWS) even if they are issued in the middle of the night. NOAA Weather Radios are recommended as standard equipment in every home and public gathering place.

Turn your smart-phone into a NOAA emergency weather radio. Get storm-based alerts for tornado, hurricane, flood, thunderstorm, winter storm seasons and other life-threatening weather events via voice and push notification. Receive critical alerts via voice and push notification to keep your family safe. Several apps are available for your iOS or Android phone.

As you travel around campus, have you wondered where the nearest tornado shelter area would be in the building in which you work or visit? How about where to go in case of a fire? Soon, this information will be located in many buildings on campus in the form of an emergency poster or a podium card. These new resources developed by the Office of Emergency Preparedness can provide quick instructions on what to do in a variety of emergencies such as severe weather, fire, a chemical spill, active shooters or medical emergencies. Each poster and podium card have building specific information in the lower right corner which will tell occupants where to shelter in case of severe weather or where the fire evacuation location is for that particular building.

If you would like more information about these FREE resources, or if you would like to have them installed in your building, contact Noelle Broadnax (broadnax@uga.edu) or 706-542-1289.)

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2014 Kassinger Scholarship Award

The Edward T. and Sarah Laurent Kassinger Scholarship board has awarded the 2014 Kassinger Scholarship to Lieutenant Adam Fouche with the University of Georgia (UGA) Police Department in recognition of his academic and work pursuits. Karen Kassinger presented the award to Lieutenant Fouche on behalf of the Kassinger Scholarship board in August.

The scholarship is provided to graduate and undergraduate students who complete academic degrees while employed full-time as a UGA police officer or a working student in the Criminal Justice studies program at UGA. The award is named for Edward Kassinger, Director of the UGA Public Safety Division from 1969-1983, and his late wife, Sarah. The award was established in 1984 by former employees and friends of the Kassingers who believe that students who work to help pay educational expenses should be recognized.

Lt. Adam Fouche has been employed by the University’s Police Department since 2004. He is currently the shift supervisor, a Special Response Team leader and instructor for search and seizure law and policy. In May 2014, Lieutenant Fouche received a Masters of Public Safety Administration from Columbus State University.

The Kassinger Scholarship is awarded to candidates on an annual basis and is administered by the UGA Office of Emergency Preparedness.

UGA to Receive “StormReady University” Designation

On November 6, 2014, officials from the National Weather Service will be on campus to award the University of Georgia with a Storm Ready designation. In order to meet the National Weather Service criteria for the designation, the UGA Office of Emergency Preparedness had to prove that UGA had the same or greater capabilities for severe weather monitoring, notification and response than would be expected of a city or county with a similar population size. Less than 1% of all the colleges and universities in the nation have been designated as a “StormReady University.”

The UGA Office of Emergency preparedness will host an award reception in Room 480 at the Tate Center on November 6th.

Upcoming Training

Training & Development: Training for UGA Faculty and Staff. Visit www.hr.uga.edu/training to register and for complete class descriptions.

Taking Care of Business: How Departments Can Continue Operations After An Emergency: Thursday, October 30th from 10-11 AM. This course will include examples of how business continuity plans can benefit your department and improve your readiness for a variety of possible disasters.

Planning for Emergencies in the Classroom: Friday, November 7th from 9-11 AM. The class will address what an instructor should know in an emergency, what they should do with their class, and where they can go for additional information.

Plan, Prepare, React: Active Shooter Response Options: Thursday, December 4th from 9-11 AM. The goal of this program is to provide faculty, staff and students with emergency response options should they become involved in an active shooter situation on campus or in the community.

JOIN OEP ON FACEBOOK!

If you have a Facebook account, consider becoming a fan of the “Office of Emergency Preparedness” Facebook page located at https://www.facebook.com/osepuga.

FOLLOW OEP ON TWITTER!

If you have a Twitter account, consider following the “Office of Emergency Preparedness” @UGAOEP.