Beat the Heat

From FEMA:
Summer is finally here! What better ways to enjoy the sun and warm weather than with a dip in the pool, a baseball game, or neighborhood BBQ! And while summer is a great time to sit back and enjoy the weather, heat hazards can turn a picnic into panic. Heat can be harmful because it pushes the human body beyond its limits. In extreme heat and high humidity, evaporation is slowed and the body must work extra hard to maintain a normal temperature. It's important to always be prepared, so that the only heat you're feeling is off the grill!

According to Ready.gov, here are a few simple things you can do inside and outside of your home to beat the heat, www.ready.gov/heat:

- Build an emergency supply kit;
- Check air-conditioning ducts for proper insulation;
- Cover windows that receive morning or afternoon sun with drapes or awnings;
- Never leave children or pets, older adults or disabled persons alone in closed vehicles; even for a minute, because it could be deadly; and
- Drink plenty of water, even if you aren't feeling thirsty.

Local weather forecasts are a great way to stay aware of upcoming temperature changes. Learn how to get tuned into local alerts and warnings with America's PrepareAthon! Be Smart-Know Your Alerts and Warnings guide.

For more information on keeping it cool this summer, visit the National Weather Service's Beat the Heat website, http://nws.noaa.gov/os/heat/index.shtml.

When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!

From Ready.gov:
Summer is the peak season for one of the nation's deadliest weather phenomena--lightning. Though lightning strikes peak in summer, people are struck year round. In the United States, an average of 51 people are killed each year by lightning, and hundreds more are severely injured. While lightning fatalities have decreased over the past 30 years, lightning continues to be one of the top three storm-related killers in the United States. Often, these injuries and deaths are due to misinformation around the seriousness of thunderstorms and lightning.

Lightning Awareness Week exists to help bring these issues to light and to ultimately help save lives.

Lightning: What You Need to Know

- NO PLACE outside is safe when thunderstorms are in the area!!
- If you hear thunder, lightning is close enough to strike you.
- When you hear thunder, immediately move to safe shelter: a substantial building with electricity or plumbing or an enclosed, metal-topped vehicle with windows up.
- Stay in safe shelter at least 30 minutes after you hear the last sound of thunder.

Indoor Lightning Safety

- Stay off corded phones, computers and other electrical equipment that put you in direct contact with electricity.
- Avoid plumbing, including sinks, baths and faucets.
- Stay away from windows and doors, and stay off porches.
- Do not lie on concrete floors, and do not lean against concrete walls.

Last Resort Outdoor Risk Reduction Tips

If you are caught outside with no safe shelter anywhere nearby the following actions may reduce your risk:

- Immediately get off elevated areas such as hills, mountain ridges or peaks
- Never lie flat on the ground
- Never shelter under an isolated tree
- Never use a cliff or rocky overhang for shelter
- Immediately get out and away from ponds, lakes and other bodies of water
- Stay away from objects that conduct electricity (barbed wire fences, power lines, windmills, etc.)
Classroom Emergency Posters and Podium Cards

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

CERT COOKOUT

The Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) will be hosting a CERT training day and cook-out on July 11th at the UGA First Building. There will be a morning training session on moulage in which participants are encouraged to bring items from home that could be used in moulaging such as broken pieces of Plexiglas, bleached chicken bones, Close Up toothpaste or anything else that may be useful. Following the class there will be a low country boil in which all UGA CERT members are encouraged to attend. This is a great opportunity to meet members of CERT from all parts of campus. Please bring a side dish and contact Pete Golden, pgolden@uga.edu, to let him know what you are bringing. OEP will provide everything for the low country boil. Following lunch we will have a short graduation for the Spring 2014 class. Following the graduation we are going to have a show and tell of emergency kits so please bring your home kit/car kit/bug out bag or whatever you like to call yours. We hope to get some great ideas about what to put in a kit. Please let Pete know if you are planning on attending this class so there will be enough books.

Volunteer in the newly established UGA Medical Reserve Corps!

The University of Georgia has a brand new Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). The MRC is a national volunteer organization under the Citizen Corps and is a sister organization of Community Emergency Response Team under that umbrella. Major emergencies can overwhelm the capabilities of first responders and the healthcare community, particularly during the first 12 to 72 hours. Having pre-identified, credentialed medical volunteers can provide a community the vital capacity needed during this critical period. The Medical Reserve Corps allows for volunteers to pre-register, receive training and activate
How Could You Continue Serving UGA If…

On a daily basis, each of us lends support and services to the UGA community. Whether it is faculty, students, other staff members and departments, or even visitors to campus, people depend on you and your department each day.

So imagine a situation that would immediately stop your department from providing these services. Perhaps there is a widespread power outage, a water pipe bursts and floods the building, or key staff have an extended illness or leave the workplace suddenly. How can you continue to provide services and support when you do not have the resources you need?

The Office of Emergency Preparedness has a new tool that can help your department plan for these business interruptions. The Business Continuity Plan generator will take your department step-by-step through the planning process. You can request permission to view your department’s plan by going to https://emer.prepare.uga.edu/osepforms/bcp_dept_login.cfm and entering your MyID and password. The next screen allows you to select your department(s). After your request is received by OEP, you will receive additional instructions on how to access your department’s plan.

Do you want to learn more? Contact Noelle Broadnax (broadnax@uga.edu or 706-542-1289) to set up a time to meet or to get suggestions on how to get started. Also, look for OEP’s class on August 26, 2014 at Training and Development, “Taking Care of Business: How Your Department Can Continue Operations After An Emergency”, which explains the importance of continuity planning and how to use the UGA Business Continuity Online Planning System.