



September Disaster Preparedness Month Activities



Partners: Kern County Public Health Services, Kern County Fire

Topic	Description	Point of Contact	Notes
1952 Earthquake event	The 1952 Tehachapi-Arvin earthquake and subsequent after-shocks that impacted Bakersfield may have faded from memory for most residents. But this earthquake event ranks among the top-5 strongest earthquake events in California. This earthquake caused death, injury and destruction within the community and the impact remains relevant today.	Lori Wear – Curator Kern Historical Museum 661-437-3330 LWear@kerncountymuseum.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plentiful photos for good visuals • Excellent speaker with in-depth knowledge of the event
Earthquake Hazards – a geological perspective	Multiple earthquake faults and earthquake zones exist throughout Kern County. Our county is susceptible to moderate to strong earthquake events at any time. Strong earthquake events deemed credible for Southern California could also impact Kern, which could cause catastrophic region-wide impact.	Dr. Chris Krugh PRIMARY Contact wkrugh@csub.edu Dr. Anthony Rathburn – Chair, Geological Sciences, CSUB arathburn@csub.edu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSUB has developed a new earthquake science and safety display for unveiling at the campus.
1977 Dust Storm Event & Weather Hazards	From drought to overly-abundant rainfall, dangerously hot temperatures, dense fog, icy driving conditions and dust storms – Kern County is susceptible to dangerous and severe weather events.	Kevin Durfee – Hydrologist National Weather Service 559-584-9505 Kevin.durfee@noaa.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photos and records of severe weather conditions, including the 1977 Dust Storm event
Flood hazards	When fires burn, followed by heavy rainfall, where does the water flow? Who is at risk for flood events? Who is monitoring conditions to trigger emergency response?	Greg Fenton, Director Public Works Dept – Engineering, Survey & Permitting Services 661-862-5061 gregf@kerncounty.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood plain maps • Country flood fight infrastructure maps • In-depth knowledge of flood risks and water flow potentials and pathway

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Fire Risk – Wildfire	Every year, the urban interface communities in Kern face the threat of wildfire. Our hot and windy weather conditions and abundant fuel result in mountain communities assessed Fire Severity Risk from Moderate to High to Very High.	Kern County Fire Department Contact 661-330-0133 to request point of contact for interviews	
Fire Risk – Home Safety	Per NFPA statistics, 388,000 homes fires were reported in 2015, with 2,605 civilian deaths and 11,575 injuries and \$7.2 billion in property damage. What should homeowners know to protect their homes? What protective measures should people take during a home fire?	Kern County Fire Department Contact 661-330-0133 to request point of contact for interviews	