



CIVIC COCKTAIL RESOURCE GUIDE

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Is Seattle Prepared for natural disasters?

SEATTLECITYCLUB.ORG





DESCRIPTION

In the wake of the recent earthquake that shook our region, the relentless onslaught of climate change, with its heat domes and relentless extreme weather events, and the ever-looming "wildfire season," the Pacific Northwest finds itself at the crossroads of nature's fury. But that's not all – in Washington, the land of breathtaking beauty, we also live under the looming shadows of volcanoes, the relentless power of tsunamis, and the watery fury of floods and landslides.

So, with all these formidable forces in play, it's high time we ask ourselves: What are the current risks we face, and just how prepared are we as a resilient community and region to confront them head-on?

ABOUT CIVIC COCKTAIL

Civic Cocktail connects elected and community leaders with the public for lively conversations about important issues facing our region.



ABOUT SEATTLE CITYCLUB

Seattle CityClub was founded in 1981 as a nonpartisan, civics-focused nonprofit providing a platform for insightful and educational conversations that include a diverse range of perspectives.

  @seattlecityclub

ABOUT THE COLLECTIVE

The Collective is a brand new urban basecamp for the mind, body and soul. A vibrant, members-only community in the heart of South Lake Union that merges dynamic space, active Members, neat programs and craveable food + beverage offerings.



SPEAKERS

Segment One panelists:

City and County Emergency Management Strategies

- Lucia Schmit, Emergency Management Director, *Snohomish County Dept. of Emergency Management*
- Curry Mayer, Director, *Seattle Office of Emergency Management*

Segment Two panelist:

Community and Individual Level Preparedness

- Jamie Hill, King County Disaster Program Manager, *American Red Cross NW Region*
- Ann Forrest, Coordinator, *North Seattle Hubs, Emergency Communication Hubs, Seattle*

Moderator for both segments:

- Alicia Crank, Executive Director, **Seattle CityClub**



Ann Forrest

Coordinator, North Seattle Hubs,
Emergency Communication Hubs, Seattle

U.S. Navy nurse - 20 years Homeschooling mom / Adventurer - 8 years Volunteer, Emergency Communication Hubs, 2016 to present Volunteer Educator, Seattle's Office of Emergency Management, 2017 to present Ann Forrest, BSN, MHA, is co-coordinator of the grass-roots Emergency Communication Hubs in Seattle and a volunteer educator in Seattle's Office of Emergency Management. Her passion is encouraging others to be prepared for a disaster by offering grounded information and sensible (manageable) to-do lists. At present, she is working to expand her outreach to non-English speakers, individuals with other access and functional needs, those who live with shared walls (downtown towers, apartments buildings, condos, etc.), helping families understand their school's reunification process, and more.



Curry Mayer

Director, Seattle Office of Emergency Management

Curry Mayer serves as the director of emergency management for the City of Seattle and has over 30 years of experience in emergency management and homeland security. She relocated to Washington state after 20 years in California where she served as the emergency management advisor to the undersecretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture and as the director of training and exercises for the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services. She has worked as a project contractor for the United Nations, the Department of the Army, the National Guard Bureau, and the White House Military Office. She holds certifications in the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) and Master Exercise Practitioner Program (MEPP) and is certified to teach in both programs. Mayer is a board member for the Washington 211 network and is on the advisory board for the Center of Excellence for Homeland Security and Emergency Management. She has previously taught courses in homeland security and emergency management at the master's degree level. Recently, she co-authored an emergency management textbook, *The Future of Emergency Management after 2020*.



Jamie Hill

King County Disaster Program Manager
American Red Cross NW Region

Jamie Hill joined the Red Cross in 2010 and is currently the Disaster Program Manager for the King County Chapter. Leading on all aspects of preparedness, response, and recovery, Jamie oversees the Home Fire Campaign, providing education on home fire safety and free smoke alarm installation to residents of King County. Jamie has served on multiple Red Cross disaster relief operations, including the Alabama tornadoes in 2011, Hurricane Sandy in New York, Cyclone Gita in American Samoa, as well as numerous wildfires in Washington. Most recently, Jamie served as the Deputy Assistant Director of Operations for the wildfire relief effort in Maui. When Jamie isn't working with the Red Cross, she enjoys spending time with her family and dogs, curating amazing playlists, and being outdoors.



Lucia Schmit

Emergency Management Director,
Snohomish County Dept. of Emergency Management

Lucia Schmit has spent her career developing disaster management strategies and programs at the local, state, federal and international levels. She currently serves as the Director of Emergency Management for Snohomish County. She leads a 22-person office as they coordinate across county departments and cities within the county to prepare for, respond to, and recover from all kinds of hazards.

Lucia was previously Planning Coordinator at the Seattle Office of Emergency Management. There she led the development of the City's catastrophic earthquake plan, featuring a decentralized model focused on empowering and supporting community-led response.

Before moving to Seattle, Lucia held roles of significant responsibility for the federal government, leading a revision of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) with FEMA and managing disaster management technical assistance programs overseas with the US Forest Service.

Recent Articles and Videos

- [As climate threats grow, poor countries still aren't getting enough money to prepare](#), KUOW, Nov 2023
- [Why didn't people get a phone alert for western Washington's earthquake Sunday night?](#) - KIRO7 News, Oct 2023
- [Prepping for 'The Big One': \\$15M going toward earthquake research](#), MyNW News, Sept 2023
- [Seattle city leaders prioritize community safety amid wildfire season and extreme heat concerns-](#) - KOMO, June 2023
- [Can Seattle take the heat? Officials say area is better prepared this summer](#), KUOW, June 2023
- [Saving lives from extreme heat: Lessons from the deadly 2021 Pacific Northwest heat wave](#), UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, June 2023
- [Rehearsing for 'The Big One' on a room-sized chess board](#), NW News Network, May 2022
- [Managing Western Wildfire Risk in a Changing Climate](#) (Summary of Conference) PDF – December 2018

Civic Engagement Opportunities

Our region's civic health depends on each one of us getting involved in civic life. Here are some ways you can get engaged.

Donate directly to non-profits working on disaster preparedness and relief, including:

- [Red Cross](#),
- [King County Search and Rescue](#)

Learn: check out local environmental reporting:

- [Crosscut](#)
- [KUOW](#)
- [KNKX](#)
- [NW News Network](#)
- [Seattle Times](#)

Connect

- Connect with your friends, neighbors, and neighborhood association to discuss disaster/emergency preparedness and create emergency kits
- [Create an Emergency Hub in your neighborhood](#)
- [Download emergency-disaster-related apps](#) on your phone (link includes Red Cross, OEM, and many others)

Volunteer

- [Become a Community Safety Ambassador](#) (Seattle OEM)
- [Volunteer with the Red Cross Disaster Action Team](#) (and other opportunities)

Training with select organizations:

- [Training and Certification](#) -Get CPR and First aid training (Red Cross)
- [Emergency Preparedness Training](#) (Seattle OEM)



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resources related to disaster
preparedness >