

## King County Office of Emergency Management Podcasts *Disasters: Are you ready?*

### Why Blog?

- One of the things that makes emergency managers different from many other professions is the degree to which we share information with one another.
- Yes, there are plenty of examples of individuals and organizations who are good at information sharing—but none as comprehensive and typical of a discipline as emergency managers.
- Where this comes from I don't know. There are perhaps several theories we could promote:
  - First is that we don't see one another as competitors.
    - Our competitor is the emergency and disaster itself. They are the enemy, not a neighboring jurisdiction
  - We typically have fairly small staffs for the work that we do and we must count on everyone to contribute their work efforts to the broader good—and so they need the information we have in order to enable them to do so.
- The internet has opened up a whole new world of information sharing.
- Previously it was relegated to only professional journals, now there is so much information available “on-line” it can be somewhat daunting to try and stay abreast of current trends and just what all is going on in our world of emergency management. LLIS.gov
- I discovered the internet in 1995/6 with advent of email and within a few short years I found out that it was a great way to quickly share information that I had found helpful in my own professional work.
- By building email address lists you could share information with specific disciplines or jurisdictions. So I got this “reputation for sending out information” when I received it in multiple emails.

- Documents can become extremely large which fills up everyone's email "in box" so, at the suggestion of one of my former staff, "Becky Gibbs" we created "Eric's Corner" as a place to put the information I've come across, or that people now send me since they know I'll share it with others.
- The multiple email lists that I kept active with hundreds of people on them are now history.
- You can sign-up to get weekly updates on Eric's Corner sent to you via a list serve. Since you found this Podcast, I'm assuming you also have found the Eric's Corner Blog at [metrokc.gov/prepare](http://metrokc.gov/prepare)
- You can be part of the information sharing world of emergency management if you have some tidbit that you've come across. It could be research, a lesson learned from an exercise, or a current event news article or professional journal item.
- Thanks for listening today and I hope that you will share the knowledge you have since it is one small way in which we live on in the lives of others—our little piece of immortality.