

JSU-IAEM



Welcome To Holiday Season!

By *Antoine B. Richards*

November officially kicks off the holiday season for many of us, although the holidays will likely look and feel a lot different this year this compared to previous years. November started with a very tense presidential election along with midterm papers and exams. Add in the many hurricanes that have come through the region with what seems like a never-ending hurricane season, it is easy to understand how many of us may feel on our heels this year. In such, many people across the nation have begun putting up the Christmas decorations to bring some joy to the impending end of a tumultuous year. As we approach Thanksgiving, remember that despite the many negatives surrounding us, there is a lot to be thankful for and I encourage you to enjoy the holiday break, take time for your own mental health (especially with finals around the corner), and if the opportunity presents itself, enjoy your family and friends (with proper social distancing of course)!

Our newsletter this month will focus on holiday safety! As we enjoy the many decorations and spirit of Thanksgiving and Christmas, we want to make sure that your holiday season is safe and enjoyable. We will be discussing some holiday tips and, in the era of COVID-19, so of the many ways that you can stay safe as well as promote safety among your family and friends and the many communities and citizens you serve!

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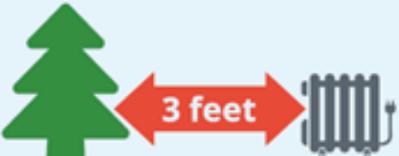


Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Holiday Fires

Did you know? As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

 A heat source too close to the Christmas tree causes **1 in every 4** winter fires.

 Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.

 Make sure your tree is **at least 3 feet** away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators and space heaters.

 U.S. Fire Administration |  NFPA

Holiday Safety: Staying Safe During the Holiday Season

By: Deanne Winslett

The holiday season is here, and many individuals and families are setting up their Christmas trees and planning out their holiday meals. Unfortunately, this time of year also sees an uptick in house fires. Christmas trees, holiday decorations, candles, holiday cooking, and fireworks are the common culprits for this seasonal increase in fire events, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

To help you promote fire awareness within your community, the U.S. Fire Administration has compiled free handouts and posters, as well as a social media toolkit with messages, graphics, stock photos, and videos focused on holiday fire safety. You can access those materials [here](#). The NFPA also offers insightful holiday safety materials, including safety tip sheets and educational coloring pages and activity sheets for children. Those materials can be accessed [here](#).

The U.S. Fire Administration offers several holiday safety tips. Protect your own family by only using flame-retardant or nonflammable decorations. Check your family's holiday lights for frayed wires or signs of excessive wear, and don't link more than three strands of holiday lights together. Don't leave burning candles unattended and consider opting for battery-operated flameless candles instead. Live Christmas trees should be kept away from heat sources and room exits. Check on your live tree daily to keep it from become dry.





IAEM "REIMAGINED" ANNUAL CONFERENCE

by Antoine B. Richards

The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) 68th Annual Conference and EMEX kicks off today in its first-ever virtual format. The event, held November 16-18, 2020, includes all of the factors that make the in-person event special and is highlighted by the ability to take advantage of the virtual format offering access to more content than usual and recordings of each session that will allow you to view all sessions within your time schedule.

This year's conference theme is "Visioning the Future of Emergency Management" which takes a deep dive into future directions and considerations of the field from emergency management's leading academicians and practitioners. It is not too late to register for the annual conference. If you are still interested in attending, or see a session worthwhile, please click [here](#) to register. Registration ends November 18, 2020.

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

- Nathan Hupp
- Robert Johnson
- Josha Crabtree
- Robert "Colton" Ritchie
- Charles E. Horne

JOBS & INTERNSHIPS

by Antoine B. Richards

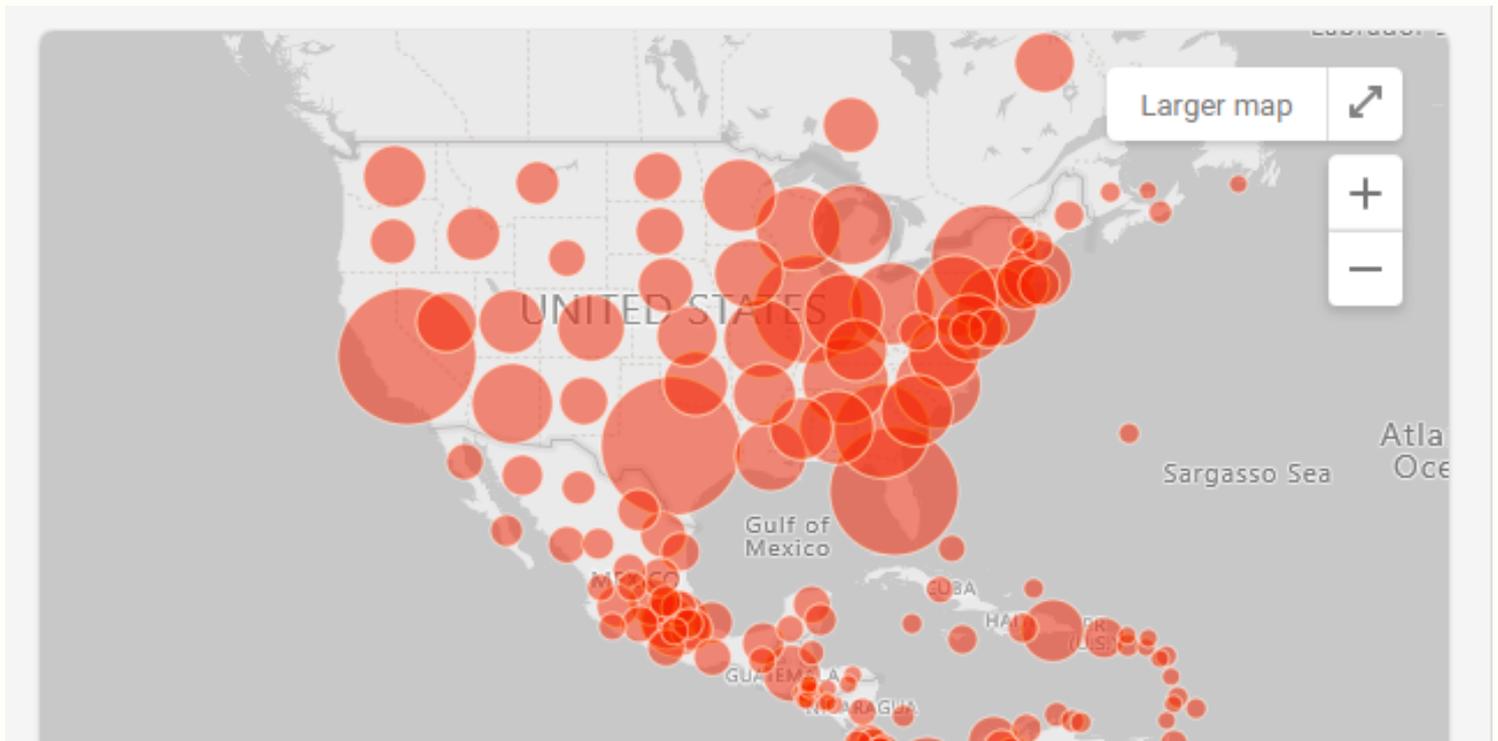
There have been a variety of new job opportunities that have surfaced on the IAEM website at all career levels. As IAEM members, you have premium access to these opportunities and should fully explore these if you are in the job market. To find these jobs follow the following steps:

1. Log in to your IAEM Account
2. Click 'Jobs' on top banner.
3. Explore and Apply

Featured Jobs & Opportunities

The Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management (OEM) has reached out to look for candidates for three new positions that have recently been listed. Philadelphia's OEM is dedicated to diversity and inclusion within EM as well as building a robust transitional pipeline of qualified, early career graduates and professionals. The following positions are currently available. If you are interested in applying, please contact Antoine Richards <arichards1@stu.jsu.edu> prior to applying as he maintains a close professional relationships with Chief Adam Thiel.

- Disaster Supply Chain Analyst
- Finance and Administration Project Coordinator
- Logistics Planning Coordinator



Holiday Celebrations During COVID-19

By Antoine Richards

The above map is a current snapshot of the current confirmed cases in the United States. If you are planning to travel, keep in mind the current state of COVID-19 in your final destination as well as the necessary steps to ensure a safe and enjoyable holiday season for yourself and your loved ones who may be increasingly susceptible to the virus. Below are just a few tips to get you through the holiday season.

Considerations for Hosting or Gathering

1. Check the COVID-19 infection rate in areas where you live or where gatherings will be hosted. Based on the data, consider if it is safe to hold or attend the proposed gathering.
2. Limit the number of attendees as much as possible to allow people from different households and areas of residence to maintain the appropriate 6-foot distance.
3. If possible, host outdoor rather than indoor gatherings. Even if outdoor, require guest to wear masks when not eating or drinking.
4. Avoid holiday gatherings in crowded, poorly ventilated areas.
5. Increase ventilation for indoor activities by open windows or allowing continuous heating / air circulation during the event.
6. Require guest to wear masks.
7. Encourage, or provide, guests with appropriate sanitation items (i.e. hand sanitizer) and encourage frequent handwashing.
8. Limit contact with commonly touched areas. Recommend having at least one person that serves food opposed to buffet style serving at family gatherings.
9. Clean and disinfect as often as possible and recommend using touchless garbage can lids.
10. Set guidelines for behavior before and during the event to ensure that everyone is on the same accord and enforce as applicable to ensure the safety of everyone.
11. If traveling, ensure that you utilize proper PPE, and consider flights that are less likely to be fully crowded (i.e. red-eye flights).

STUDENT MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Jim St. John

We want to extend a very special congratulations to Jim St. John on achieving his Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) credentials this past month. Jim is an active member of the IAEM chapter and a doctoral student in the Department of Emergency Management currently working with the Department of Emergency Management in Birmingham, Alabama. We are excited to have another CEM among our ranks and look forward to the continued work of Jim in both the academic and practitioner (Pracademic) space. Congrats Jim!!!

CEM Presentation: JSU-IAEM Monthly Speaker Session

Did you miss the CEM Presentation given by IAEM Lead Trainer, Daryl Lee Spiewak? We have you covered! Daryl's presentation was extremely thorough and walks through the process step-by-step with tips and strategies to ensure your success in the highly coveted CEM credentialing process. If you would like access to the presentation or the recording, please email jsuiaem@jsu.edu and we will ensure that you receive it!

IAEM's Certification Program Overview

We will review the certification program and pro-tips for submitting a successful application.

Daryl Lee Spiewak, CEM, TEM, MEP
CEM Commission Lead Trainer
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UPCOMING EVENTS

by Antoine Richards

November 16, 2020: November Newsletter Distribution.

November 16-18, 2020: IAEM Re-imagined Virtual Conference & EMEX

December 3, 2020: December Monthly Chapter Meeting: Final chapter meeting of the semester!!!!