

CRISIS COORDINATOR COMMUNIQUE

MARCH 2020

Featuring...

- Driving safely in the rain
- COVID-19 update
- Power safety

...and more!



**KENNESAW STATE
UNIVERSITY**

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



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DRIVING IN THE RAIN

by Mike Guerrero

Driving in Atlanta is enough of a nightmare when the weather is clear, but something about rainfall seems to bring out the worst behind the wheel. As heavy storms hit the metro area, keep you and your fellow drivers safe by following a few simple tips.

SLOW DOWN

Sometimes, the most obvious advice is the most lifesaving. According to AAA, one of the best ways to reduce your risk of hydroplaning is to reduce your speed. Oils on the road can make for slick conditions when mixed with precipitation, and even with half an inch of water on the roads, tires have to displace a gallon of water per second to keep the wheels moving.

TAKE YOUR SPACE

Leaving an extra few feet between your car and the vehicles in front of you can be the difference that makes a safe drive home. According to The Telegraph, it can take twice as long to come to a stop when conditions are wet, so give yourself the room you need to drive defensively.

WHEN IT COMES TO FLOOD WATER, JUST TURN AROUND

According to the National Weather Service, it only takes 12 inches of moving water to carry away a small car. It can be hard to tell just how deep standing water is, so avoid large puddles and deep standing water.

According to Progressive, deep waters can stall your engine as well, leaving motorists stranded and in a bad situation if weather worsens. It takes a mere 12 inches of water to carry away a small car.

KEEP A CLEAN CAR AND GET REGULAR CHECKUPS

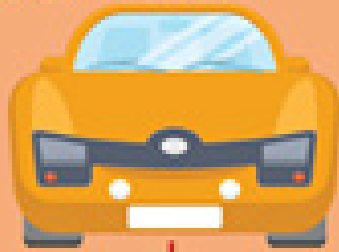
Squinting your way through heavy rain and wind isn't the time you want to realize that your windshield needs a heavy scrub.

Geico warns drivers to make sure to clean their cars thoroughly once a month and get regular checkups to ensure that their car engine, defrost and other functions are working correctly. It's better to be too cautious than to end up without a crucial function in a crisis.

PONDING



Don't underestimate the power of water!



6 inches of fast-moving water can knock over and carry away an adult.

12 inches of fast-moving water can carry away a small car.

18-24 inches of fast-moving water can carry away most large SUVs, vans and trucks.



TRAINING

OEM training has been canceled for the next few weeks. The final two weeks of CERT will be rescheduled.

Expect more information in the April newsletter.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information + Resources

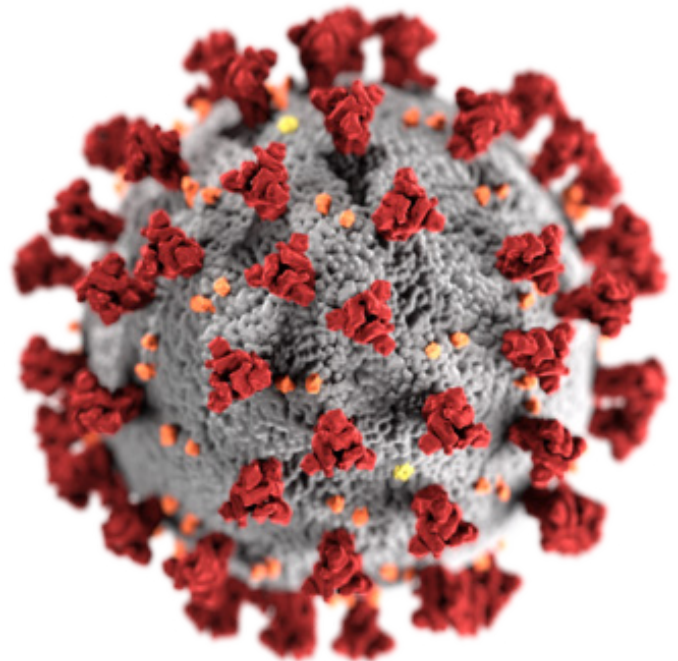
by Andrew Altizer

KSU is closely following and implementing coronavirus (COVID-19) guidelines as prescribed by:

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

and the

[Georgia Department of Public Health](#).



We will continue to monitor and follow the guidance provided by the University System of Georgia, CDC and GA Department of Public Health.

The following website is updated regularly:

<https://coronavirus.kennesaw.edu/>

POWER!

by Andy Altizer

Do you have a plan for a power outage? [EMC Coweta-Fayette list a few causes for power outages](#). With the benefits of Spring, we can also expect severe weather, which coupled with the rainfall in our area, can cause trees to fall. Luckily, most of KSU power lines are below ground. We've all been through power outages and know the importance of having charged flashlights nearby. But, what about specific recommendations for a university environment?

Consider the following before a power outage:

- Keep egress areas clear – boxes, furniture, etc. Not only is it a likely a fire safety concern, but the last things you need during a power outage are additional obstacles in the way!
- Have hard copies of key documents and contact lists that you would normally get from your computer.
- Use surge protectors on computer systems and other surge-sensitive equipment.
- Back up data frequently and save work in progress. Back up “everything” on your computer. Nothing worse than working on a project, and then losing it during a power outage or surge.
- Establish procedures to continue critical functions if power is lost. Do you have a plan to mitigate losses and/or continue critical functions, if power is out for an hour? For a day?



Remember, if the power outage was caused by a storm, be extra cautious outside. Downed or hanging electrical wires can be hidden by snowdrifts, trees or debris, and could be live. Never attempt to touch or move downed lines. Keep children and pets away from them.

Again, and perhaps most importantly. Do not touch anything power lines are touching, such as tree branches or fences. Always assume a downed line is a live line.

YOU DON'T NEED THAT!

by Wayne Randle

Earlier this year someone asked...

*“Why would you purchase that?
We will never need that.”*

OEM's Andy Altizer explained the importance of preparing for the “what ifs” and even the unknowns. He gave a specific example:

“In the late 90s at another institution, I included a wide variety of possible threats, including two that were questioned as something that didn't seem realistic: 1) Anthrax Exposure, 2) Aircraft Down on Campus.”

Bottom line – preparedness is more than just the likely events that might happen.

KSU Office of Emergency has plans and assets for many emergency situations. OEM can provide lighting, medical supplies, and other items no one needs, until they need them. OEM also plans and conducts training to assure KSU is ready to respond to emergencies and disasters.

So the next time someone asks why OEM stockpiles equipment and supplies remind them of this: The Twin Towers could never come down...” – but, they did.

STAY CONNECTED

FOR MORE INFO

To learn more about the Office of Emergency Management, please visit <https://oem.kennesaw.edu/>.

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“Exercise benefits just about everything, including the **immune system**.”

- Dr. Caroline Sokol

Immunology researcher at Massachusetts General Hospital

CONTACT US

ANDY ALTIZER

Director of Emergency Management
andy_altizer@kennesaw.edu

JAMES WESTBROOK

Assistant Director of
Emergency Management
jwestbr9@kennesaw.edu

CHRISTY HENDRICKS

Emergency Manager,
Kennesaw Campus
dhendr16@kennesaw.edu

MIKE GUERRERO

Emergency Manager,
Marietta Campus
mguerre8@kennesaw.edu

WAYNE RANDLE

Emergency Management Specialist (PT)
rrandle@kennesaw.edu

KENNETH JONES

Student Assistant
kjone437@students.kennesaw.edu

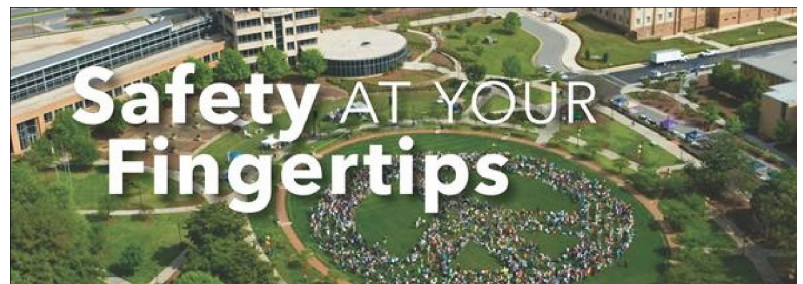
MARY-KATE BILLINGS

Communications Intern
mbill111@students.kennesaw.edu

Email us at: oem@kennesaw.edu

Call: 470-578-6985

WASH
YOUR HANDS



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