



March 8, 2024 Weekly Situational Awareness Brief

Awareness Topics

Daylight saving time/Date (2024) Sun, Mar 10, 2024

"Daylight saving time will begin for 2024 on Sunday, March 10, at 2 a.m. local time, when our clocks will go ahead one hour, part of the twice-annual time change that affects millions, but not all, Americans."

Indiana Severe Weather and Flood Preparedness Week 2024

"The National Weather Service, in conjunction with the Indiana State Police, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, the Indiana Department of Education, the Indiana Broadcasters Association, the American Red Cross, and Amateur Radio Operators will conduct a statewide test of communication systems on Tuesday, March 12 at 10:15 AM EDT/9:15 AM CDT. Important - while the drill will be sent using live TOR EAS coding (Tornado Warning), it is only a test, and will be postponed to Wednesday, March 13 if weather conditions warrant. (NWS Wilmington, OH will send the test for their Indiana counties using the RWT coding, per an agreement with their Cincinnati broadcast market partners)"

Disaster Preparedness for Caregivers

“With an estimated 53 million people in the United States providing care for someone ill, disabled, or older, the need for proactive disaster preparedness within this community cannot be overstated.”

Constrained U.S. Td supply, 2024

“Production of one tetanus and diphtheria (Td) vaccine, TdVax™, has been discontinued. As a result, CDC anticipates that the supply of Td vaccine in the U.S. market will be constrained during 2024. CDC has developed guidance to help vaccination providers.”

CDC Updates and Simplifies Respiratory Virus Recommendations

“CDC released updated recommendations for how people can protect themselves and their communities from respiratory viruses, including COVID-19. The new guidance brings a unified approach to addressing risks from a range of common respiratory viral illnesses, such as COVID-19, flu, and RSV, which can cause significant health impacts and strain on hospitals and health care workers.”

CDC Recommends Another COVID Shot for Older Adults

“Today, CDC Director Mandy Cohen endorsed the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices’ (ACIP) recommendation for adults ages 65 years and older to receive an additional updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine dose. The recommendation acknowledges the increased risk of severe disease from COVID-19 in older adults, along with the currently available data on vaccine effectiveness.”

Healthcare sector faces 'elevated' risks amid US cultural strife

“The risks to healthcare facilities and their staff are on the rise and are expected to remain at heightened levels due to divisive cultural issues such as abortion, gender-related care and lingering tensions from discussions prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic, ABC News reported March 4.”

An anxiety drug has been linked to soaring overdoses. What’s going on?

“Its generic pharmaceutical name is Pregabalin. Although you may know it by one of its brand names: there’s Alzain, Axalid and Lyrica. It’s a drug that’s prescribed for three very different reasons. As an anticonvulsant used to treat people with epilepsy. It’s also used to alleviate pain. Mostly, however, it’s used to help with anxiety and depression. That’s quite an impressive CV for a single medication. But there’s a problem. In fact, there’s more than one. Firstly, it’s highly addictive.”

Events

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