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**Upcoming User Group calls:**

March 11  
April 8  
May 13  
June 10  
July 8

Sign up for [GovDelivery](#) emails to learn more about Hazus User Groups

**In the news...**

[Valley Susceptible to Quakes, Volcano](#),  
*NISQUALLY Valley News, Feb. 10, 2014*

[UC Berkeley Finds 10 Buildings at Risk](#). *LA Canyon News, Feb. 26, 2014*

## Cynthia McCoy, Hazus Excellence Award Winner

“It is really about getting people to understand the possibilities behind the model,” says Cynthia McCoy, Risk Analyst and Hazus POC for FEMA Region III.

The Hazus Program has nominated McCoy as this month’s Hazus Excellence Award Winner due to her exemplary revival of the National Capitol Region Hazus User Group (NCRHUG) and completion of several Hazus projects in her region, including the recent development of the Hazus Toolkit.

McCoy was first exposed to Hazus during a graduate class on land use and environmental modeling while studying City and Regional Planning at the University of Pennsylvania. She joined FEMA in 2012 shortly after graduating and immediately began taking courses at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) getting both her practitioner and professional certificates in Hazus-MH.

Since completing her coursework at EMI, McCoy worked with Jon Janowiz and took over the NCRHUG in February 2013. The NCRHUG has since grown in size and has become one of the most active Hazus User Groups in the nation.

“During each call, we have presentations about current HAZUS projects, and others which illustrate best practices, and lessons learned,” says McCoy. “We have developed a network, allowing individuals to share their expertise, connect users and resolve technical issues.”



Cynthia McCoy, FEMA Region III, is this month’s Hazus Excellence Award Winner

The NCRHUG has grown due to the commitment from its members, and they are the reason that it has been so successful, says McCoy.

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## Hazus Conference 2014 Announced

Mark your calendars for this year’s 7th Annual Hazus Conference, to be held August 4-6, 2014 in Indianapolis, IN! This year’s theme is “Translating Risk Assessment into Resilience and



Policy,” and registration is free for all attendees in mid-March. Check your emails for registration details soon!

The FEMA sponsored event brings Hazus users together and provides an information sharing platform, success stories, best practices and lessons learned, recent research, and workshops and discussions on Hazus topics of interest. Conference attendees will include Hazus User Groups (HUGS), students and academic researchers, professional Associations with interests in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and hazard modeling and mitigation, FEMA, Risk MAP stakeholders, government officials among others.

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March 10, 2014



## Upcoming Training

E0190: ArcGIS for Emergency Managers  
March 24-27, 2014

E0313: Basic Hazus-MH  
March 31-April 3, 2014

E0172: Hazus-MH for Flood  
April 21-24, 2014

E0296: Application of Hazus-MH for Risk Assessment  
July 7-10, 2014

To download the course schedule and enroll, visit <http://training.fema.gov/EMICourses/>. For updated training information visit <http://www.fema.gov/hazus-training>

## Contact Us

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## Hazus Conference and Call for Abstracts

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By attending this Conference, not only will you be able to network with key Hazus users and subject matter experts, but you will also enjoy the opportunity to attend an awards ceremony for Hazus Excellence Users and a comprehensive agenda of workshops and panel discussions.

Last year's highlights included:

- Over 180 attendees
- A diverse agenda covering a broad range of Hazus topics, including 23 presenters
- National and International representation
- High new user attendance
- Strong attendee engagement

[View last year's presentations.](#)

**Call for Abstracts.** Participants are encouraged to submit presentation abstracts on innovative Hazus-related applications such as, but not limited to, the use of Hazus in flood, earthquake, or hurricane studies; international applications of Hazus; academic uses; or enhancements of Hazus hazard and exposure inputs

Abstracts should be between 75 and 150 words in length and submissions should also include the presenter's complete contact information and a brief biography

All abstract submissions should be emailed to Dave Coats at [decoats@iupui.edu](mailto:decoats@iupui.edu) and must be received no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

For more information, please send us an email at [hazus@arcaspicio.com](mailto:hazus@arcaspicio.com). We look forward to seeing you in August!

**“ I found the information provided and the discussions to be very informative, relevant and educational. ”**

*-Hazus Conference 2013 Attendee*

## McCoy, Hazus Toolkit and Future

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The Hazus Toolkit can be found on the Hazus SharePoint site, or by emailing [hazus@arcaspicio.com](mailto:hazus@arcaspicio.com) to request a copy.

Some of its most recent accomplishments include a Region wide training and the development of the Hazus Toolkit.

The Toolkit, which is available to all Hazus User Groups and Leaders, came from a need to codify a consistent HAZUS message in order to speak more credibly about HAZUS projects within Region III.

“It really helps someone who is brand new to identify what they can do with the time and money they have available and within the timeframe available,” says McCoy.

McCoy holds Bachelor's degree in Urban Planning from University of Cincinnati and a Master's degree in City and Regional Planning from UPENN. She lives in Philadelphia.

If you have any questions for Cynthia McCoy, please reach out to [cynthia.mccoy@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:cynthia.mccoy@fema.dhs.gov).