

VEMS26 Tentative Program
(subject to change)

Time	Date	Event	Session Title	Main Presenter
1000-1600	3/16/2026	Intitutes of Higher Education Caucus Annual Meeting		
1400-1600	3/16/2026	Pre-Conference Service Project- Norfolk Animal Shelter		
1500-1800	3/16/2026	Vendor Setup		
1830-2000	3/16/2026	Onsite Check-In		
1830-2030	3/16/2026	Vendor Grand Hall Opening & Reception		
0700-1600	3/17/2026	Onsite Check-In		
0615-0715	3/17/2026	Sunrise Yoga		
0700-1330	3/17/2026	Vendor Hall Open		
0700-0800	3/17/2026	Breakfast in the Vendor Hall		
0800-0830	3/17/2026	Welcome, CG, Invocation, & Opening Ceremony		
0830-0845	3/17/2026	State Coordinator Report		John Scrivani
0845-0945	3/17/2026	Keynote	Special Presentation and Q&A	John Scrivani
0945-1015	3/17/2026	Beverge Break		
1015-1100	3/17/2026	Breakout Session A-1	Bringing Post-Disaster Aerial Imagery and Data Analytics into Response and Recovery Operations	Elizabeth Lohman
1015-1100	3/17/2026	Breakout Session A-2	A tale of two teams: Response to the January 2025 water crisis	Rob Rowley
1015-1100	3/17/2026	Breakout Session A-3	REP in Motion: Navigating Public and Private Sector Coordination	Lindsay Elizabeth Mackey
1015-1100	3/17/2026	Breakout Session A-4	Navigating Mass Care Together: A Unique Public-Faith Partnership	Matt Good
1015-1100	3/17/2026	Breakout Session A-5	Out of the Shadows: Creating Your Own Identity as a Local Emergency Manager	Jack McGovern, Amie Fuller
1100-1115	3/17/2026	Stretch Break		
1115-1215	3/17/2026	Breakout Session B-1	Navigating the Unknown: Understanding the Psychology of a Crisis	Kathryn N Scourby

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1115-1215	3/17/2026	Breakout Session B-2	Uncharted Waters: Navigating a 5 Day Water Outage in a Large Academic Medical Center	Jen Early
1115-1215	3/17/2026	Breakout Session B-3	Trouble Telling Your Story? Take 'em to School	Jeff Fletcher
1115-1215	3/17/2026	Breakout Session B-4	Successful Agency Approaches to Response to Bridge Emergencies	Matt Lott
1115-1215	3/17/2026	Breakout Session B-5	A Telling of Two Tragedies: Examining the UVA and the Chesapeake Walmart FAC's and crisis response and recovery efforts	Julia Fuller-Wilson
1215-1330	3/17/2026	Lunch Buffet in Vendor Hall		
1245-1315	3/17/2026	Lunch Time Trivia W/Riley & Rebecca		
1330-1430	3/17/2026	Breakout Session C-1	A bird's eye view: supporting disaster response with NASA's open satellite data	Joshua Barnes
1330-1430	3/17/2026	Breakout Session C-2	Strengthening Resilience in a VUCA Environment	Bob Campbell
1330-1430	3/17/2026	Breakout Session C-3	Lessons Learned from AA5243 plane crash at DCA	Kate Murphy
1330-1430	3/17/2026	Breakout Session C-4	Legislative Panel	Brian Misner
1330-1430	3/17/2026	Breakout Session C-5	Commonwealth of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan	Daniel A Johnson
1430-1445	3/17/2026	Stretch Break		
1445-1545	3/17/2026	Breakout Session D-1	AI at Work: Unlocking Productivity with Artificial Intelligence	David Morales
1445-1545	3/17/2026	Breakout Session D-2	Lessons Learned from AA5243 plane crash at DCA	Kate Murphy

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1445-1545	3/17/2026	Breakout Session D-3	Cheat off your neighbor... How to get an A+ on your relationship with your Public Schools	Ethan Longenecker
1445-1545	3/17/2026	Breakout Session D-4	An in Depth Look at NWS Wakefield's Total Water Level Forecast Process, its Challenges, and How Improved Tide Forecast Accuracy Has Helped to Better Support Critical Decision Making by Localities and Emergency Management in Coastal Virginia.	Jonathan McGee
1445-1545	3/17/2026	Breakout Session D-5	Down on Main Street: When Economic Recovery Becomes an Essential Lifeline	Will Drewery
1545-1615	3/17/2026	Refreshment Break		
1615-1715	3/17/2026	Breakout Session E-1	Navigating the Road to Cost Recovery: Past, Present, and Future	Brittany M Rubin
1615-1715	3/17/2026	Breakout Session E-2	Cybersecurity in 15 Minutes: Mini Tabletop Exercises for Everyday Readiness	Zachary Langford
1615-1715	3/17/2026	Breakout Session E-3	Virginia Disaster Assistance Team: Supporting Citizens of Southwest Virginia Following Tropical Depression Helene	Stephanie Waite
1615-1715	3/17/2026	Breakout Session E-4	Getting Real About Disaster Housing	Megan Bond
1615-1715	3/17/2026	Breakout Session E-5	The Next Generation Emergency Manager: Leading Beyond the All-Hazards Mindset	Dan Eggleston

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1800-2100	3/17/2026	Social @ Circuit Sponsored by Alliance		
0700-1530	3/18/2026	Onsite Check-In		
0615-0730	3/18/2026	Coffee w/State Coordinator and VIPs		
0700-0800	3/18/2026	Breakfast		
0715-1315	3/18/2026	Silent Auction Open		
0800-0900	3/18/2026	GS-2	The Virginia Way: Rethinking Emergency Management	Alex Tran
0900-0915	3/18/2026	Stretch Break		
0915-1015	3/18/2026	Breakout Session F-1	Private and Public Working Together to Navigate the Unknown	Robin Hillman
0915-1015	3/18/2026	Breakout Session F-2	From Crisis to Coordination: Lessons from Richmond's 2025 Winter Weather Event	Stephen Willoughby
0915-1015	3/18/2026	Breakout Session F-3	Strengthening Resilience: A Collaborative Approach to Infrastructure Protection in Washington, D.C.	Alexandra V Lampson
0915-1015	3/18/2026	Breakout Session F-4	Rising Tides, Eroding Support: Reimagining Social Support in Emergency Management	Sherilyn Burris
0915-1015	3/18/2026	Breakout Session F-5	Capability, Capacity, Collaboration, and Credentialing: Ingredients for Resilient Emergency Management Through Standards Compliance	Todd Livingston
1015-1045	3/18/2026	Beverage Break		
1045-1145	3/18/2026	Breakout Session G-1	AI and Transformations in the National Weather Service to Help Emergency Management Decisions	Eric S Seymour

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1045-1145	3/18/2026	Breakout Session G-2	Building Resilience from the Ground Up: Warrenton's New Standalone Emergency Management Agency	Johnny H Switzer
1045-1145	3/18/2026	Breakout Session G-3	Integrating ICS into Richmond Police Supervisor Training	Bill Lawson
1045-1145	3/18/2026	Breakout Session G-4	Navigating Generations: A Collaborative Endeavor	Riley McConnell
1045-1145	3/18/2026	Breakout Session G-5	The Virginia Flood Monitoring System: Real-Time Situational Awareness	Karen Lindquist
1145-1315	3/18/2026	Luncheon and Membership Meeting		
1315-1415	3/18/2026	Breakout Session H-1	Post-Disaster Loss Avoidance Studies in the Commonwealth of Virginia	Kaleen Lawsure
1315-1415	3/18/2026	Breakout Session H-1	Turning data into decisions for stronger disaster resilience	Colleen Marchesano
1315-1415	3/18/2026	Breakout Session H-1	Blue Book and You: Local Resources for Catastrophic Planning	Michelle T Oblinsky
1315-1415	3/18/2026	Breakout Session H-1	Journey from Butler County MO to Isle of Wight County VA: Takeaways from the 2025 Virginia Tornado & Straight-line Wind Summit	Joshua G Behr
1315-1415	3/18/2026	Breakout Session H-1	Anchored in Readiness: Strengthening School Safety Through the Incident Command System, the Standard Response Protocol, and Partnership with Local First Responders	Kristin Conville
1415-1430	3/18/2026	Stretch Break		

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1430-1530	3/18/2026	Breakout Session I-1	PDA vs. SDE: Navigating the Different Roles They Play in the Post-Disaster Setting	Brandy Buford
1430-1530	3/18/2026	Breakout Session I-2	AI in Action: How Virginia's Emergency Managers are Transforming Operations	Emily L Ruesch
1430-1530	3/18/2026	Breakout Session I-3	Your Other Local Partners: Emergency Management in Higher Education	Peter McCann
1430-1530	3/18/2026	Breakout Session I-4	Wildfire Mitigation Planning in the Face of Climate Change: The Template	Amie Fuller
1430-1530	3/18/2026	Breakout Session I-5	From Theory to Crisis: How Draft Continuity Plans Guided Our County Through a Live Cybersecurity Attack	Kristy Shifflett
1530-1600	3/18/2026	Silent Auction Bids Close		
1530-1600	3/18/2026	Refreshment Break		
1600-1700	3/18/2026	Breakout Session J-1	First Responder on Scene: A Pilot Partnership Between Dominion Energy and Virginia's Public Safety Community	Jeff Sopel
1600-1700	3/18/2026	Breakout Session J-2	"Long and Winding Road to Recovery" or "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road to Recovery" an overview of Long-Term Recovery to Music.	Curtis William Crawford
1600-1700	3/18/2026	Breakout Session J-3	From Uncertainty to Unified Action: How the Port of Virginia's Joint Port Recovery Executive Committee Exercise Strengthened Multi-Agency Readiness for the Unknown.	Peggy M Britton

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1600-1700	3/18/2026	Breakout Session J-4	Emergency Call Routing and the "Why" of Next Generation 9-1-1	Matt Gerike
1600-1700	3/18/2026	Breakout Session J-5	The Plan We Hope to Never Use: The Commonwealth of Virginia Mass Fatality Response Annex	Perla Santillán
1700-1715	3/18/2026	Silent Auction Payment & Basket Pickup		
1800-1830	3/18/2026	VEMA Group Photo & Reception		
1830-2130	3/18/2026	Award/Scholarship Presentations, Dinner & Entertainment (on site)		
0730-1030	3/19/2026	Onsite Check-In		
0730-0830	3/19/2026	Hot Breakfast Buffet		
0830-0930	3/19/2026	GS-3	9-1-1: Navigating Cybersecurity in the PSAP	Ryan Burkholder
0930-0945	3/19/2026	Beverge Break		
0945-1045	3/19/2026	GS-4	Navigating the Response: Lessons from Arlington County's Active Violence and Family Reunification Exercises	Natalie Graver
1045-1115	3/19/2026	Board Closing Remarks		