NWRTC
Northwest Regional Technology Center
@PNNL

Pacific Northwest
NATIONAL LABORATORY

OPPORTUNITIES

Events current at time of publication. Have a virtual resource or event to share? Email us!

CONTACT

Want to know more? Visit us at pnnl.gov/projects/nwrtc.
Contact the NWRTC with

AROUND THE REGION IN HOMELAND SECURITY

The Northwest Regional Technology Center (NWRTC) is a virtual resource center, operated by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), that supports regional preparedness, resilience, response, and recovery. The center enables homeland security solutions for emergency responder communities and federal, state, and local stakeholders in the Northwest.

CONNECTING SCIENCE FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

Collaborating with national laboratories can be instrumental in strengthening science and technology for homeland security. In "The Science of Connecting: Partnering with National Laboratories for Homeland Security," PNNL's Ryan Eddy, Ann Lesperance, and Maren Disney outline an R&D- and practitioner-informed approach to assess the threat landscape, elicit and integrate end-user feedback into solutions, and ultimately share outcomes that enhance emergency response and public safety.

"National laboratories like PNNL often represent a lesser-known resource to connect emerging R&D and technology with emergency response and public safety needs in the field," said Eddy, national security project manager at PNNL.

"Through our NWRTC, regional partnerships, and years of outreach to the first responder community, we've been able to continuously deep-dive into current and emerging threats and challenges and figure out where science and technology can help," said Lesperance, NWRTC director.

The article highlights how researchers at PNNL bring a structured approach to explore emerging technology, particularly artificial intelligence, and the challenges and opportunities it poses to the future of emergency management. Check out *Pracademic Affairs 2025* to learn more.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUC-TURE SECURITY AND RESILIENCE MONTH

Each year, November is recognized as Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience (CISR) Month, focused on educating and engaging government, infrastructure owners and operators, and the American public about the vital role critical infrastructure plays in strengthening resilience and security. You can learn more about CISR, including CISR toolkits and other resources, at https://www.cisa.gov/topics/critical-infrastructure-security-and-resilience.

PNNL is home to several tools and facilities aiding the critical infrastructure mission. For example:

- The Grid Storage Launchpad, a new, national capability for energy storage research, is focused on creating batteries and energy storage technologies critical to support a reliable, affordable, secure, and resilient electrical grid.
- The Electricity Infrastructure Operations Center is home to two fully functional, configurable control rooms that mirror real-world grid operations with customizable network security and cyber operations. Each is equipped with industry-leading software, real utility data, and advanced computing capabilities.
- The Control Environment Laboratory Resource consists of researcher-built scale models of critical infrastructure, including a water treatment plant, a wastewater treatment plant, a freight rail yard, a hydroelectric dam, and the maritime shipping port.

JOURNAL HIGHLIGHTS CYBERSECURITY, TECH

From food and agriculture to autonomous vehicles and next-gen 9-1-1, a recent issue of the *Domestic Preparedness Journal* explores the evolving cyberthreat landscape and the challenge of safeguarding communications, power, and data. The journal highlights perspectives, scenarios, and capabilities at the nexus of cybersecurity and emergency management and underpins the importance of addressing cyber risks and threats in planning to maintain continuity of operations.

PNNL JOINS SPACE RESEARCH GROUP

Researchers at PNNL are bringing their knowledge of nuclear power, space governance, cybersecurity, and technology test beds to the space domain by joining an organization that facilitates collaboration across the global space industry. PNNL is the first DOE national laboratory to join the Space Information Sharing and Analysis Center, or Space ISAC. The organization serves as a source for data, facts, and analysis on space security and threats to space assets. Space ISAC facilitates collaboration across the global space industry, enhancing the ability to prepare for and respond to vulnerabilities, incidents, and threats. Members include U.S. agencies, universities, and industry partners as well as several international organizations.

Read the PNNL news release to learn more.

EMPOWERING PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES WITH AI

This Fall, PNNL hosted a free community event to introduce 100 curious community members to how the Lab is using AI tools and how they can effectively harness these tools in their own lives. Community members were introduced to practical methods to help improve their AI skills, with each participant taking home a personal AI prompt library. Resources from the event are available here.

For more information, contact Director Ann Lesperance (ann.lesperance@pnnl.gov | (206) 528-3223) or Deputy Director Rachel Bartholomew (rachel.bartholomew@pnnl.gov | (509) 371-6906) or visit pnnl.gov/projects/nwrtc.

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