

The Virgin Islands Consortium

VITEMA Urging Virgin Islanders to Participate in CARIBE WAVE Exercise Thursday; OMB's Spring Conference Set for Tuesday

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Staff Consortium **March 13, 2023**



VITEMA Director Daryl Jaschen said Monday that Virgin Islanders should participate in the annual CARIBE WAVE exercise — a regional effort to promote tsunami awareness and readiness through drills and tests of the 44 tsunami sirens across the territory.

The drills and siren-testing will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 16, with Mr. Jaschen reminding residents during Gov't House's press briefing that it is only a drill.

Puerto Rico and the British Virgin Islands are both scheduled to conduct their own CARIBE WAVE 2023 Drills the following week on Thursday, March 23.

In addition to testing the tsunami sirens located on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John and Water Island, VITEMA also will use its VI Alert system, which will send out test messages by text and email in English and Spanish to anyone signed up to use the alert system, the director said. The alerts will clearly designate that a test is underway, and at the conclusion of VITEMA's CARIBE WAVE drills, a VI Alert message will be sent out notifying residents that the test is over.

Residents can sign up for Alert VI on the VITEMA website at website at www.vitema.vi.gov by using the link to Alert VI. Residents who have difficulty accessing the website can call VITEMA from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays-Fridays at 340-774-2244 for St. Thomas; 340-776-2244 for St. John; and 340 773-2244 for St. Croix.

Under the "Tsunami" section of the VITEMA website residents can download section, maps of St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John that show the tsunami evacuation zone in yellow and safe elevations areas in green, which is the "safe zone."

Residents are encouraged to sign-up for CARIBE WAVE as an individual, family or business show their participation at www.TsunamiZone.org. Currently, the U.S. Virgin Islands has 10,447 participants signed-up for Caribe Wave 2023.

Spring Revenue Estimating Conference

The Office of Management and Budget is hosting the annual Spring Revenue Estimating Conference from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on March 14.

The revenue estimating conference is mandated by law to be held twice a year for the Government of the Virgin Islands' revenue-generating agencies to report their financial forecasts.

The Bryan administration has held both annual conferences since taking office to ensure these conferences take place and are made available to the public.

The Spring Revenue Estimating Conference can be seen live on the Government House Facebook page at facebook.com/GovernmentHouseUSVI or on the government access channel, which is channels 27 and 527 for VIYA customers.

Covid-19 cases as of March 13