



**July 7, 2023**  
**Weekly Situational Awareness Brief**

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**Awareness Topics**

**NIOSH Respiratory Protective Device Information**

“The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has honored a request by Honeywell International Inc. to voluntarily rescind the NIOSH respirator approval issued to Honeywell International Inc. As of June 29, 2023, any respirator marked with a NIOSH approval label with approval number TC-84A-9263 is no longer NIOSH approved. The NIOSH Certified Equipment List no longer includes this approval number. Due to the voluntary rescission of this NIOSH approval, respirators bearing this NIOSH approval number may no longer be used, manufactured, assembled, sold, or distributed.”

**Planet records unofficial new hottest day on record, climate scientists say**

“The entire planet sweltered to the unofficial hottest day in human recordkeeping July 3 and then blasted past that with an even hotter day on July 4, according to University of Maine scientists at the Climate Reanalyzer project”

**Federal Officials Hatch a Three-Pronged Defense Against Another ‘Tripledemic’**

“This fall, Americans will be urged to get shots against the flu, Covid and, if they’re older, R.S.V.”

**Rare X-Class Solar Flare Wipes Out Radio Signals in U.S.**

“An unusually powerful X-class solar flare erupted from the sun's surface on Sunday, causing radio blackouts across the western United States and the Pacific Ocean.”

## **The projected costs of this summer's extreme heat: 235,000 ER visits, 56,000 hospital admissions—and \$1 billion**

“Extreme heat—summertime temperatures and humidity that exceed the historical average—is being made more frequent and intense by climate change. In the first two weeks of June, a late-spring hot spell prompted schools in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Great Lakes areas to close or send students home early. A heat wave broke temperature records in Puerto Rico — the heat index, a measure of how temperatures feel to the human body, reached 125 degrees Fahrenheit on parts of the island. And extreme heat spurred deadly storms and power outages for hundreds of thousands of customers from Texas to Louisiana. All that heat is bad for human health and leads to a rise in hospitalizations for cardiovascular, kidney, and respiratory diseases, particularly among the urban poor, who often lack access to air conditioning and green spaces. Those hospitalizations will come with a hefty price tag.”

## **NEW RESEARCH SHOWS THAT A DEVASTATING NEW VIRUS IS ONE OF THE WORST OUTBREAKS IN HISTORY: '[THIS IS] UNCHARTED TERRITORY'**

“COVID-19 isn't the only virus that has significantly impacted the planet in the past few years. Avian flu (H5N1), which has devastated the poultry industry and caused a 70% increase in egg prices in the past year, has impacted more than just domesticated species. What's happening? New research indicates that the flu, which has killed off hundreds of thousands of wild birds, is one of the most devastating disease outbreaks in history. Vox reported that the disease has spread across five continents and hundreds of species, including endangered ones like the California condor, which classifies it as a “panzootic” — a pandemic among animals.”

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