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**#29-19**

**NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT'S LATEST 'PREP TALK' PODCAST  
HIGHLIGHTS FLOOD PREPAREDNESS WITH NYC DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

*#PrepTalkNYC* { Click to listen to [episode 29](#) }

**April 3, 2019** — Spring is back, and the possibility of April showers could bring more than May flowers. As the potential for rain increases, so does the risk of flooding hazards. In the latest episode of “Prep Talk,” special guests Natan Mandelbaum from NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Jessica Sanchez of NYC Emergency Management discuss how the agencies work together to mitigate flooding risks in the city. In this episode, you will learn about the importance of flood preparedness along with the steps you can take to be ready before the next major rainfall.

You can listen to the latest [episode](#) on [SoundCloud](#), [iTunes](#), and [Spreaker](#), and [subscribe now](#) to stay up-to-date on the latest episodes.

**Profiles:**

**Natan Mandelbaum** currently serves as the section chief for emergency management at the Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations. Mandelbaum is responsible for leading the emergency management program for resiliency of systems that include about 6,800 miles of water mains, 109,000 fire hydrants, over 200,000 valves, 7,500 miles of sewer mains, and 148,000 catch basins.

Prior to joining DEP, Mandelbaum served as deputy director of training and exercises at New York City Emergency Management where he led a team charged with designing, development and deployment of online and classroom emergency management, and homeland security training. In this position, he developed the first of its kind fully immersive emergency management simulator. Additionally, Mandelbaum has over 20 years of experience in the New York City Emergency Medical Services. He serves as a paramedic and has been credited with numerous successful pre-hospital cardiac arrest resuscitations.

**Jessica Sanchez** is the deputy director of New York City Emergency Management's Watch Command unit, where she helps lead a staff of 35 watch commanders, public warning specialists, and supervisors in charge of coordinating emergency activity, and issuing emergency alerts to the public. Sanchez joined NYC Emergency Management in 2015, where she previously served as a public warning specialist and watch commander. In her time the agency, Sanchez has supported the City's response to many large-scale incidents and planned events including the East Village building explosion, Ebola crisis, The New York Times building pipe bomb, and severe weather events.

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Prior to New York City Emergency Management, Sanchez was a member of the United States Coast Guard where she served in Hawaii and Washington State. She was cited for superior performance while serving as the assistant communications watch officer for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf. Sanchez holds a bachelor's in environmental studies from Pace University and is currently pursuing her master's in public administration from Marist College.

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