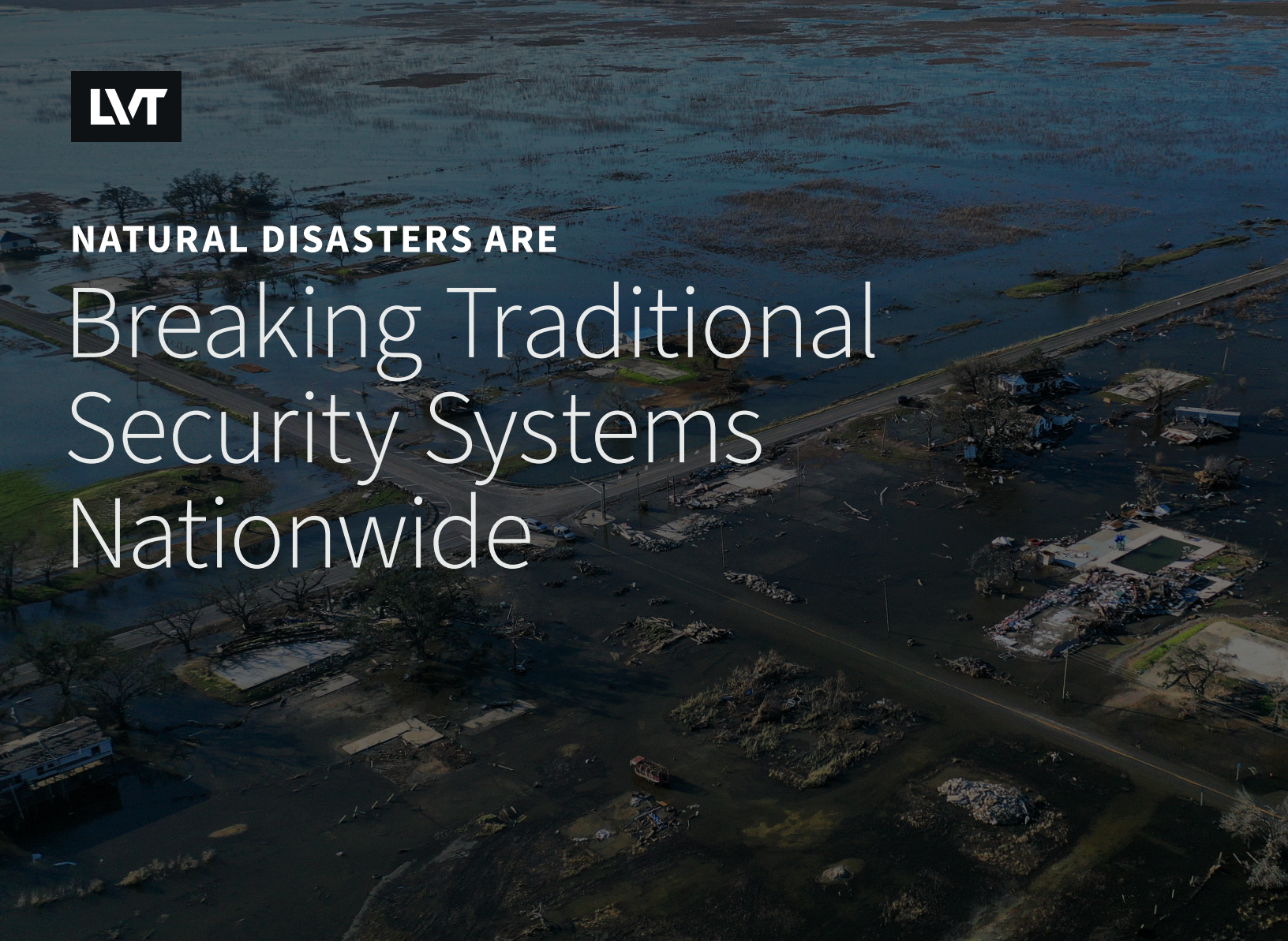


NATURAL DISASTERS ARE

Breaking Traditional Security Systems Nationwide

The forecast has changed.

While meteorologists track unpredictable storm patterns, security professionals can't afford the same uncertainty: when disaster strikes, traditional security systems consistently fail. With $27 billion weather events[1] that caused $182.7 billion in damages in 2024 alone—part of America's staggering $2.915 trillion disaster tab[2] since 1980—communities need security solutions as resilient as their spirit.

Hurricane Helene[3] demonstrated this reality with brutal clarity. As floodwaters rose across western North Carolina in September 2024, more than 460,000 residents lost power. Security systems went dark. Communication networks failed. Over 400 roads[4] were closed, and 1,400 landslides[5] isolated entire communities. Law enforcement couldn't reach the hardest-hit areas for days, sometimes weeks. In this security vacuum, opportunistic crime emerged alongside genuine human tragedy.

This pattern repeats across wildfires, tornadoes, floods, and winter storms—creating a predictable cycle of vulnerability that threatens lives, property, and recovery efforts nationwide.

Threats Multiply When Disasters Strike

When natural disasters[6] hit, they create cascading security challenges that overwhelm traditional systems. These events displace millions of Americans annually—in 2023, an estimated 2.5 million people[7] were forced from their homes, leaving evacuated areas vulnerable and returning residents at risk.

Insurance companies have noticed. Between 2020 and 2023, national premiums[8] rose 33%, with high-risk areas seeing even steeper increases. In Florida, premiums jumped 42% in a single year as insurers priced in the growing security and property risks associated with more frequent disasters.

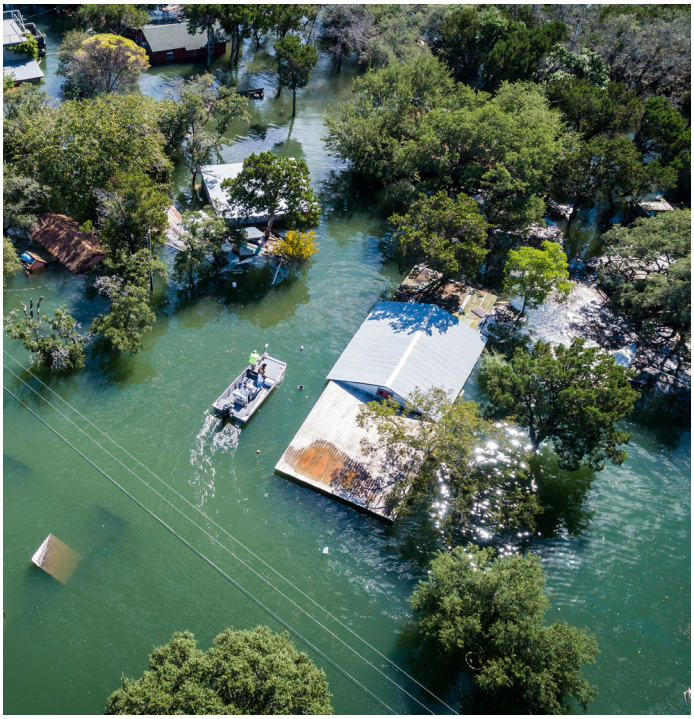
Law Enforcement Faces Impossible Choices

Law enforcement faces impossible challenges[9] that create critical security[10] gaps. According to Department of Justice data, 911 calls surge[11] 35% to 50% during disasters while response times triple.

Up to 20% of police forces[12] become unavailable during major events due to evacuations, personal emergencies, or inability to report for duty. During Hurricane Katrina, nearly 15%[13] of the New Orleans police force[14] became unaccounted for in the immediate aftermath, further straining already limited resources.

The toll on officers creates additional security challenges. Research studying the aftereffects of Hurricane Katrina shows 26% of officers reported[15] depression following this major disaster, and 19% developed PTSD—rates several times higher than the general public.

Physical infrastructure losses[16] compound these problems. Police headquarters, 911 call centers, and evidence storage facilities often sustain damage or lose power during disasters. Essential records and communication systems



fail when most needed, creating security vulnerabilities that can last weeks or months. And a landmark federal analysis[17] of 230 large-scale evacuations found emergency communications failed in 28% of cases, while 24% reported significant looting or vandalism.

After Hurricane Harvey, heavily impacted Houston **neighborhoods saw burglaries increase by 287%** according to a peer-reviewed analysis,[18] **with 63 people[19] charged with storm-related theft[20] in the first week alone.**

DIFFERENT DISASTERS CREATE UNIQUE SECURITY CHALLENGES

Floods Wash Away Security Infrastructure

Security impacts during flooding events are measurable and severe. After Hurricane Harvey, heavily impacted Houston neighborhoods saw burglaries increase by 287% according to a peer-reviewed analysis,[18] with 63 people[19] charged with storm-related theft[20] in the first week alone.

“It’s pitch black out here," Linda Anselmo told ABC-13[21] shortly after Hurricane Beryl barreled through Houston in 2024. "They know the alarms aren’t working. And most of the people are gone because the houses are 85 degrees."

Wildfires Blind Traditional Cameras

Wildfires create unique security challenges through their rapid onset and unpredictable spread. Between 2020 and

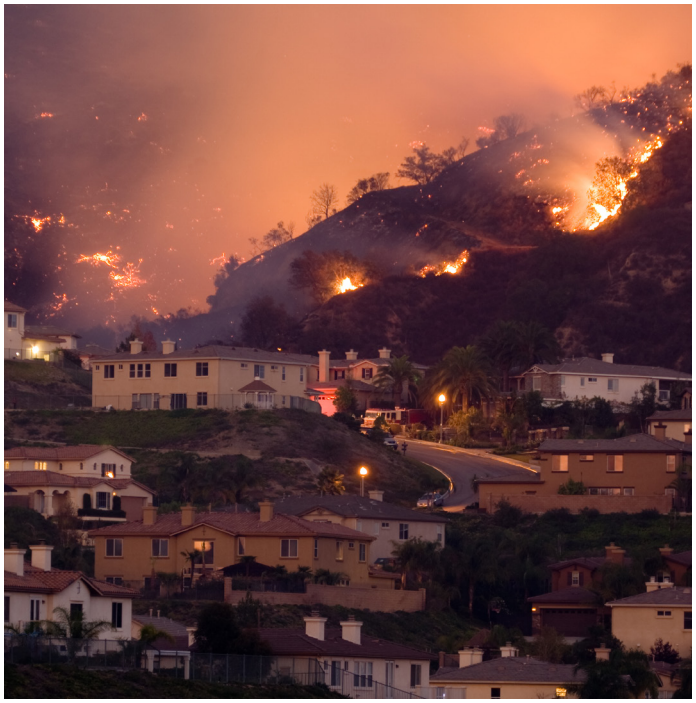
2024,[22] the United States experienced over 36 million acres burned by wildfires, with 2020 setting a record of 10.1 million acres consumed.

The 2023 Maui wildfire claimed 100 lives[23]—the deadliest American wildfire in a century—while destroying 2,207 buildings and displacing thousands of residents.

During rapid evacuations, properties become instantly vulnerable, as shown in the aftermath of wildfires in California. District attorneys[24] have charged at least nine individuals with looting in wildfire evacuation zones after the Eaton and Palisades fires in 2025.

Firefighters themselves face security threats during active blazes. In Grants Pass,[25] Oregon, thieves broke into U.S. Forest Service trucks while firefighters were sleeping for the first time in days. According to police reports, they stole equipment crucial to battle the raging wildfire, including Hotshot backpacks, emergency fire shelters, headlamps, compasses, firing sticks, signal mirrors, first aid kits, water bottles, and chainsaws.

Smoke and ash render traditional cameras ineffective, while shifting evacuation perimeters make security planning nearly impossible. The chaotic nature of wildfires creates perfect conditions for opportunistic crime in evacuated areas.



Security experts identify the first 72 hours[32] following disaster impact **as the most vulnerable period for security breaches.**

Tornadoes Destroy Security Systems Instantly

Tornadoes create sudden, devastating security gaps with minimal warning. The United States experiences approximately 1,300 tornadoes annually,[26] with the December 2021 Kentucky outbreak[27] causing 74 deaths and $3.9 billion in damages across a 165-mile destruction path.

With winds reaching 190 mph, tornadoes destroy security infrastructure in seconds. Mass evacuations strain law enforcement resources while widespread power outages disable alarm systems and surveillance cameras. The combination of physical destruction and rapid onset makes tornadoes particularly challenging from a security perspective.

Winter Storms Freeze Security Operations

Winter Storm Uri[28] in 2021 demonstrated how extreme cold creates unique security vulnerabilities. The storm caused 246 deaths in Texas[29] and left 9.9 million[30] without power, resulting in economic losses exceeding $100 billion.[31]

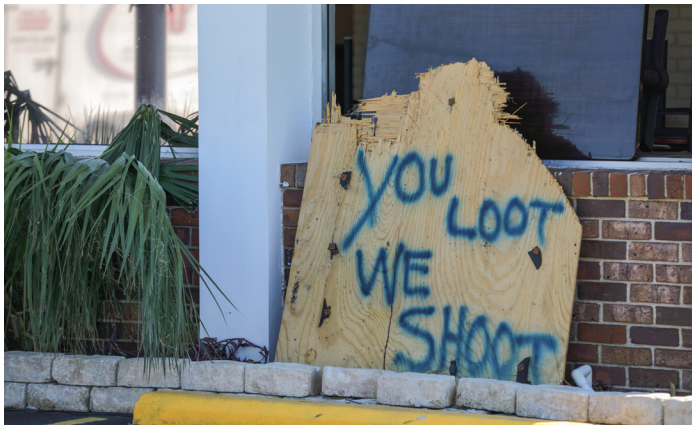
Extended power outages disabled security systems for days or weeks. Impassable roads prevented physical security patrols while communication system failures hampered coordination. The extreme cold damaged security equipment across affected regions, creating prolonged security gaps throughout the recovery process.

The First 72 Hours Determine Security Outcomes

Security experts identify the first 72 hours[32] following disaster impact as the most vulnerable period for security breaches. This critical window requires distinct security approaches[33] across different phases.

Teams Must Prepare Before Warnings Sound

When advance warning exists, pre-disaster preparation focuses on identifying vulnerable assets, assessing security risks, and developing response plans. This phase typically involves securing loose items, backing up critical data, and preparing for potential evacuation or shelter-in-place scenarios.



First Responders Face Critical Security Gaps

The immediate post-disaster period presents the highest security risk. Evacuation zones require protection from unauthorized access, critical infrastructure needs enhanced security, and supply staging areas become targets[34] for theft. During this period, traditional security systems often remain completely offline while law enforcement focuses on life-saving operations.

Recovery Efforts Attract Criminal Opportunists

As communities begin rebuilding, new security challenges emerge.[35] Construction sites become targets for materials theft, the return process requires monitoring to prevent unauthorized access, and infrastructure restoration must be protected from sabotage or vandalism.[36] This phase can last weeks or months, straining security resources long after media attention fades.

LVT Units Stand Watch When Other Systems Fail

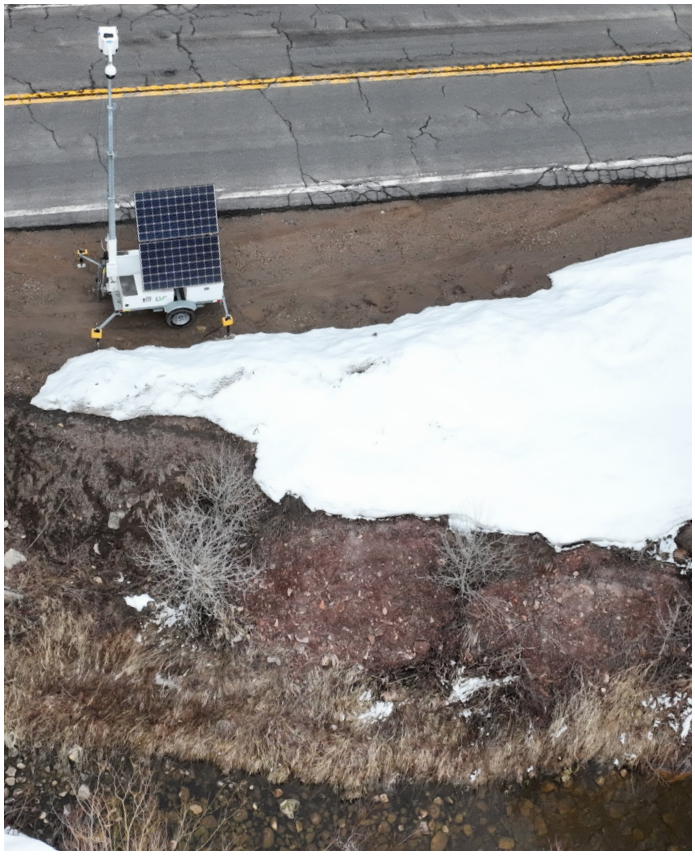
Traditional security measures often fail during natural disasters due to power outages, physical damage, and access limitations. LiveView Technologies' mobile surveillance units offer resilient alternatives specifically designed for disaster scenarios.

LVT's mobile security systems are built to weather the toughest conditions. Municipal governments and private businesses deploy LVT® Units[37] to secure their properties before, during, and well after natural disasters because they:

- Maintain security when the power grid goes out by using solar power and backup smart generators
- Don't rely on Wi-Fi or hardwired power
- Can be rapidly mobilized and deployed, and repositioned strategically at a moment's notice
- Have an ingress protection (IP) rating of at least 54
- Can withstand winds up to 60 mph

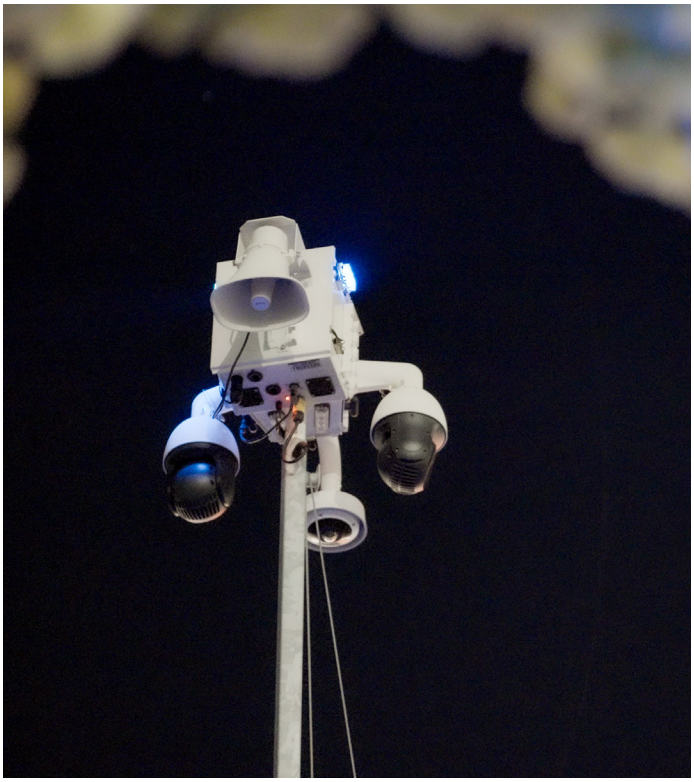
Every LVT Unit has an IP rating of at least 54, meaning:

- The first number "5" indicates the level of dust resistance (solid particles)
- The last number "4" indicates the level of water resistance (spraying, dripping, submersion)



This standard IP rating[38] means that LVT Units are protected from dust and against splashing water. The head units and the battery boxes are rated separately. Each is completely sealed from the top and will not fill up with water or other particles. In the rare event that water does make it past the seals, the head unit and battery box are constructed with drains in the bottom, allowing moisture to drain rather than pooling inside the housing.

LVT Units can take extreme weather. In fact, after a 150-mph tornado picked up a unit and tossed it on its side, it continued to record and never went offline.



Communities Report Dramatic Security Improvements

Organizations implementing LVT's mobile security solutions during disasters have verified significant outcomes:

- 54% decrease in burglaries
- 15% reduction in property crime

During natural disasters, LVT Units help protect businesses before, during, and after people evacuate to deter would-be criminals from ransacking premises, stealing essential equipment, and hindering recovery operations.

LVT Units operate reliably off the power grid to provide continuous monitoring even in extreme conditions. These systems maintain security and surveillance capabilities when traditional systems fail, helping emergency managers, law enforcement, and security teams respond effectively despite limited resources by:

- Protecting supply staging areas
- Securing construction zones
- Monitoring evacuation zones
- Helping emergency responders prioritize resources with real-time intelligence

Smart Leaders Prepare Now for Tomorrow's Disasters

As natural disasters continue increasing in frequency and severity, organizations must adapt their security strategies to address these distinct challenges. The security vacuum created during disasters requires solutions that operate independently of traditional infrastructure and provide comprehensive protection if conventional security measures fail.

Different disasters require understanding the specific security vulnerabilities. Implementing LVT's resilient and proactive security solutions before disasters strike will help significantly reduce vulnerability during critical events, potentially saving millions in avoided losses and accelerating community recovery.

The question isn't if traditional security measures will fail during the next major event—it's when. Prepare with LVT today and help ensure that the next natural disaster that hits remains a manageable security challenge.

To learn more about how LVT helps businesses prepare for natural disasters, **visit lvt.com.**

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