

**Cynthia H. Rivas** is a doctoral candidate in Disaster Science & Management at the University of Delaware.

Her current research looks at long term care facilities in Baltimore, MD—specifically looking at nursing and assisted living—their vulnerability to hazards and how that influences their disaster plans. She holds a Master's of Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning and a Bachelor of Science in Conservation & Resource Studies, and Society & Environment (and a minor in Forestry) from University of California, Berkeley. Her previous work has focused on spatial analysis (GIS) in regards to environmental planning and fire spread models. Specifically using remotely sensed data such as Near Infrared and Lidar to identify high risk fire communities and classification of vegetation. Current interest are many but can be somewhat narrowed down to disaster planning, plan assessments, risk assessment, GIS, risk analysis and community planning.