
Emergency Management

WEEK IN REVIEW

Welcome

Franklin County Emergency Management (FCEM) is dedicated to the prevention, mitigation, preparation for, response to, and recovery from both man-made and natural disasters.

Our team of staff and volunteers work tirelessly to serve you: the people of Franklin County.



Latest News

EOC Works to Provide Improved Data Coverage in Franklin County

FCEM is coordinating with WeatherSTEM to install additional weather stations across the county.

Maintaining an accurate and up to date data flow is essential during emergencies to enable informed decision making and protecting the safety of all involved. As we are all aware, the weather is often a sources of hazards for Franklin County.

To that end, FCEM has been working with the company WeatherSTEM to install additional automated weather observing stations in Franklin County. These stations provide information regarding wind, humidity, temperature, rainfall amounts, lightning, visibility, sky condition, and even live video feeds from these sites. This data can be accessed at <https://franklin.weatherstem.com/> or through an app on mobile devices.

In years past, stations have been installed at the EOC, at the end of the fishing pier in Eastpoint, Franklin County School, the Ochlockonee Boast Ramp, and Island View Park. Work is underway to install additional stations in Alligator Point, St George Island, and Dog Island.



Examples of stations installed by WeatherSTEM.

Emergency Management Staff & Volunteers

Shining a spotlight on the people who make this agency function.



Patricia Bludworth was born and raised in Jacksonville, FL and graduated from Bishop Kenny High School before earning a degree in Social Work and a minor in Criminal Justice from FSU. During her 20 year career with the Social Security Administration, her favorite part of the job was helping people.

After spending seven years volunteering with the Catholic Student Union at FSU, she moved to Mora, NM to do missionary work for three years. Moving back to Florida to be closer to her grandson, she worked with various non-profit organizations before retiring in 2020.

She joined the CERT program in February of 2023 and has since served as the EOC's Inventory Specialist.

Documenting Your Damage

Steps you can take to hasten your storm damage reimbursement.

When disaster strikes, the government will step in to help rebuild people's homes and their lives. Part of this is reimbursing residents for damage to their homes. While it may seem daunting, there are some steps you can take to facilitate this process.

First and foremost, the Federal Emergency Management Agency will not reimburse damages to secondary homes. When claiming damages it is important to provide proof that the disaster in question caused the damage. A simple and effective way to accomplish this is to take photographs of your home before the disaster. Without this documentation, it is possible that reimbursement claims will be delayed, or even denied.

Additional information can be found at <https://www.fema.gov/assistance/individual/program>.

Planning and Preparation at Healthcare Facilities

Ensuring that medical facilities are ready to deal with disaster.








Scan the code above to view the CEMP requirements.

Communities rely upon medical facilities to safeguard the health and wellness of the community members. Most do not see the work going on behind the privacy curtains to ensure that facility's disaster preparedness. State and Federal authorities require all medical facilities to maintain a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. These plans must meet criteria set by government authorities.

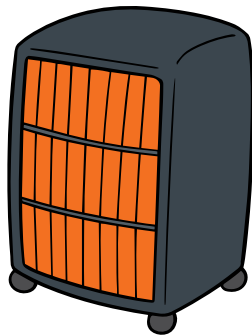
Updated criteria were recently published by the state, and FCEM is now working with Weems Memorial Hospital and Arrabella Health and Wellness to make sure their plans meet these stricter requirements. These include everything from maintaining staffing, securing food and water supplies, to planning and carrying out exercises to guarantee readiness. These plans must be reviewed and approved annually by FCEM to ensure they remain up to date and usable when disaster strikes.

Weather Outlook

	<u>Tue, 02 Jan</u>	<u>Wed, 03 Jan</u>	<u>Thu, 04 Jan</u>	<u>Fri, 05 Jan</u>	<u>Sat, 06 Jan</u>
Weather					
	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy with Rain Showers	Sunny	Sunny	Cloudy with Thunderstorms
High Temp. (F)	58	60	58	61	71
Low Temp. (F)	35	37	41	38	58

EOC Tip of the Week

Let Us Know What You Think



Heater Safety

Space heaters are almost as warm as the fires they can cause.

- NEVER leave a space heater unattended.
- Keep heaters at least three feet away from flammable materials.
- DO NOT plug a heater into an extension cord or power strip.
- Unplug the heater when it is not in use.
- If the heater or its electrical cord is damaged, then DO NOT use it.
- DO NOT use the heater to warm bedding or food.
- DO NOT touch the heating element.
- Place the heater on a flat, level surface.
- DO NOT plug other devices into the same outlet as the heater.

Address

28 Airport Road
Apalachicola, FL 32320

Phone

(850) 653-8977

Email

emfranklin@franklinemergencymanagement.com

Website

www.franklinemergencymanagement.com

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
0830 - 1630

