

# *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

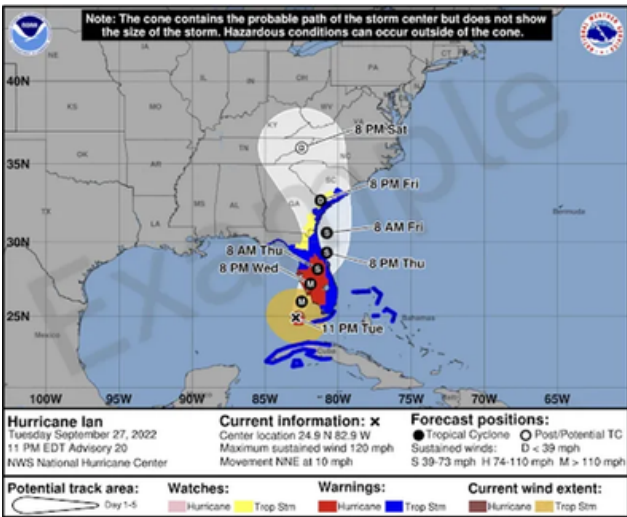
## *National Weather Service to Introduce New Forecast Cone*

New and improved forecast product will debut in August, 2024.

A long time staple of Hurricane Season, the National Hurricane Center's (NHC) forecast "cone of uncertainty" is relied upon by millions of Americans throughout the region. This oft misunderstood graphic relays information regarding the potential tracks of the storm, as well as the areas under tropical watches and warnings. At least, it shows most of the areas under watches and warnings.

As it currently stands, the forecast cone only shows coastal areas under these warnings. This can cause people to misunderstand and underestimate the extent of the areas expected to be impacted by the storm. To address this, the NHC will begin depicting all areas under tropical watches and warnings on the forecast cone product. Expected to be in use this August, it is anticipated to provide greater situational awareness to those in the path of the storm.

For more information regarding this upgraded product, please review the NHC announcement at [https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pdf/NHC\\_Cone\\_Graphic\\_Change\\_Announcement.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1gsXz5FZdjZl5Ieh1uqqrZV21zKizh0wmEmSKITURuY0AeWdBdK38V-A0](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pdf/NHC_Cone_Graphic_Change_Announcement.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1gsXz5FZdjZl5Ieh1uqqrZV21zKizh0wmEmSKITURuY0AeWdBdK38V-A0)



An example of the improved product.

## *Emergency Management Staff & Volunteers*

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



Born and raised in Franklin County, Jennifer Daniels serves as the Director of the EOC having assumed this role in January of 2023. Currently having nine years of service at FCEM under her belt, she has previously worked at the Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, and the Florida State Legislature. Furthermore, Jennifer is the first person in Franklin County to receive Florida Professional Emergency Manager certification from the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association.

Having raised two sons, she now lives in Carrabelle with her husband and three dogs.

## *Monitoring River Conditions*

Maintaining situational awareness to ensure continued safety.

It should come as no surprise that rivers are prone to flooding during times of heavy rain. With several rivers winding through the county it would behoove us all to be aware of how high the waters are.

Fortunately, the National Weather Service has a network of sensors across the country to do exactly that. This real time data shows the current and past water levels for a given location. It even shows the various flood stages unique to that site.



## *Volunteerism After a Disaster*

Knowing how to help without being a burden.



Many people feel the urge to help their fellow man after a disaster, but not all know how to do so in a manner that actually contributes. There are some important things to remember when looking to volunteer:

- **Cash:** Financial support to established relief organizations is always the most immediate, useful, and versatile way to give. Financial assistance allows relief organizations to meet urgent needs quickly.
- **Confirm:** Confirm there is a need before collecting or sending donated items. Volunteer Florida encourages cash donations to disaster relief organizations.
- **Connect:** Volunteers are a critical part of a well-coordinated and well-resourced humanitarian response, but potential volunteers should confirm that they are needed before traveling to impacted areas – do not self-deploy.

## *Special Message from Emergency Management*

FCEM bids farewell to EMS Director Richard Lewis.








Franklin County Emergency Medical Service Director Richard Lewis will be leaving this Friday. Having served Franklin County since 2010, he has served previously as a firefighter, an Emergency Medical Technician, and a paramedic. Under his direction, FCEM has enjoyed a phenomenal working relationship with EMS. Richard will be moving to Wakulla County to serve as the Assistant Chief of Fire & Rescue.

FCEM is also pleased to congratulate Randal Waltman on his promotion to EMS Director. Randal has been a part of Franklin County EMS since 2015, and has served as a Captain since 2019.

## *Upcoming Events*

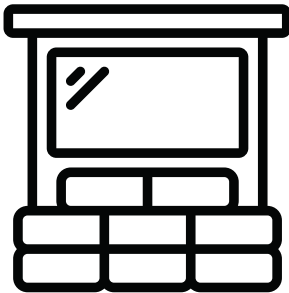
Event	Description	Date	Time	Location
CPR & Choking Response Class	Training residents how to administer CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver on adults and children	21Feb	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Holy Family Senior Center 203 7th St, Apalachicola
CERT Class	A free course covering basic skills required for CERT members	27Feb - 29 Feb 05Mar - 07Mar	6:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Eastpoint Fire Station 24 6th Street, Eastpoint
Amateur Radio - Technician Level Class	Free class teaching basic radio proficiency	Every Tuesday & Thursday 15Feb - 12Mar	Contact w4zng@g mail.com	Franklin County EOC 28 Airport Road, Apalachicola

Weather Outlook

	<u>Tue, 20 Feb</u>	<u>Wed, 21 Feb</u>	<u>Thu, 22 Feb</u>	<u>Fri, 23 Feb</u>	<u>Sat, 24 Feb</u>
<b>Weather</b>					
	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Sunny
<b>High Temp. (F)</b>	65	66	68	73	66
<b>Low Temp. (F)</b>	34	41	44	59	46

EOC Tip of the Week

Let Us Know What You Think



*Sandbag Usage*

Ensure that you use these assets correctly, and understand their limitations

- Fill the sandbag one half full
- If the sandbags are unsupported, limit them to three layers high
- Tamp each sandbag down to help it fill any gaps
- Remember the following limitations:
  - Sandbags will not seal out water
  - They can deteriorate quickly if exposed to repeated wetting and drying
  - Wet sandbags are very heavy and should be handled with caution to avoid injury
  - Sandbags are meant only for protection from small water flow and are not suitable for major flooding events

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