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# *Emergency Management*

## WEEK IN REVIEW

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### Welcome

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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

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### *Spectacular Attendance at CPR Class*

About two dozen people arrived to learn about CPR

Last week on Wednesday, February 21st, there was held a free class on how to administer Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and choking treatment. Sponsored by FCEM, Department of Health, and Franklin County EMS, about 24 people came to this event.

Former EMS Director Richard Lewis taught the main portion with FCEM staff members overseeing groups of students when the class transitioned to hands on training.

The class itself covered proper CPR, AED usage, and choking treatments for adults, children, and infants. This is a critical skillset for community members to have and is instrumental in saving lives. According to the American Heart Association, prompt CPR administration can double or even triple a patients chances of survival.

Given the high turnout for the class and the importance of its content, there will almost certainly be additional classes offered in the future. We hope to see you there.



## **Emergency Management Staff & Volunteers**

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



Tim Keith-Lucas is a retired college professor with a Ph.D. from Duke University. He taught experimental psychology with research in lemur behavior at Suwanee: the University of the South and directed the Island Ecology Program on St. Catherine's Island, Georgia.

Before retiring with his wife, Lisa, to Carrabelle he built their 44foot steel hull trawler. He has been a volunteer at Franklin County Emergency Management since 2012, and has served as Operations Chief since 2014. Among other tasks, he is designing the future Emergency Operations Center building.

## **What Exactly is an Activation?**

Activation is another commonly used term in the EM field. What does it mean?

Activation level refers to the current operational stance of an EOC. There are three activation levels used by FCEM:

- **Level 1** – Full Scale Activation – In a full-scale activation, all primary and support agencies under FCEM are notified. The EOC will be staffed by FCEM personnel and all Emergency Support Functions.
- **Level 2** – Partial Activation – This is an activation that may not require activation of every section, branch or Emergency Support Functions. All primary, or lead, Emergency Support Functions are notified. The EOC will be staffed by FCEM personnel and necessary Emergency Support Functions.
- **Level 3** – Monitoring Activation – Level 3 is typically a “monitoring” phase. Notification will be made to those Emergency Support Functions who would need to take action as part of their everyday responsibilities. The EOC will be staffed with FCEM staff.

## **FCEM Public Notices**

Ever notice this part of the Emergency Management website?

The Public Notices tab on the FCEM website contains documentation of past Local States of Emergencies, public information regarding various recovery projects, and Requests for Proposals and Qualifications. The latter item details the process for securing contractors for everything from securing public assistance funds from FEMA to debris removal and monitoring.

While that may not sound like the most thrilling of topics, it is an important way to ensure transparency and provides a method for you to see some of the behind the scenes work we do to serve Franklin County.

## *Emergency Preparedness for People with Mobility Problems*

Planning for the special challenges faced by those with mobility problems



Scan the code above for more information about the Transportation Disadvantaged program.

Disasters and emergencies are difficult times for everyone, but more so for those who have difficulty moving. Whether bound by wheelchair or dependent upon walking assistance devices such as canes, there are special considerations that must be met.

Within your home, make sure you have multiple exits available that meet your mobility restraints. This way you always have an exit path in case the primary route is blocked. Additionally, it is a good idea to have a backup wheelchair, walker, or cane at a location other than your home in case your main one is damaged or destroyed.






If you need to evacuate, make sure you have a family member or friend who can assist you. If you have no other means of evacuating the county if required, then sign up for the Transportation Disadvantaged program. This provides free transportation out of the county during emergencies, as well as day to day transport for all manner of reasons.

Other supplies to have ready if needed include extra glasses, hearing aid batteries, medication, oxygen, and catheters. If you have a service animal, then make sure they have extra food and water ready as well.

## *Upcoming Events*

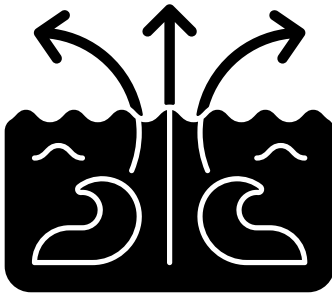
Event	Description	Date	Time	Location
CERT Class	A free course covering basic skills required for CERT members	27Feb - 29 Feb 05Mar - 07Mar	6:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Eastpoint Fire Station 24 6th Street, Eastpoint
Amateur Radio - Technician Level Class	Free class teaching basic radio proficiency	Every Tuesday & Thursday 15Feb - 12Mar	Contact w4zng@g mail.com	Franklin County EOC 28 Airport Road, Apalachicola

Weather Outlook

	<u>Wed, 28 Feb</u>	<u>Thu, 29 Feb</u>	<u>Fri, 01 Mar</u>	<u>Sat, 02 Mar</u>	<u>Sun, 03 Mar</u>
<b>Weather</b>					
	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy with Thunderstorms	Cloudy with Thunderstorms	Cloudy with Rain Showers
<b>High Temp. (F)</b>	74	69	70	71	70
<b>Low Temp. (F)</b>	59	53	54	59	57

EOC Tip of the Week

Let Us Know What You Think



*Rip Current Safety*

As folks start to return to the beaches, remain vigilant for these silent killers

- Remain calm
  - Rip currents will only pull you out, not under
- Do not attempt to fight the current
  - This will tire you out and not help the situation
- Swim parallel to the shore
  - Once out of the current, swim at an angle back to the beach
- If you see someone in trouble:
  - Call a lifeguard or 911 if a lifeguard is unavailable
  - Direct the victim to swim along the shoreline
  - Throw them something that floats
- Monitor beach flag conditions

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