

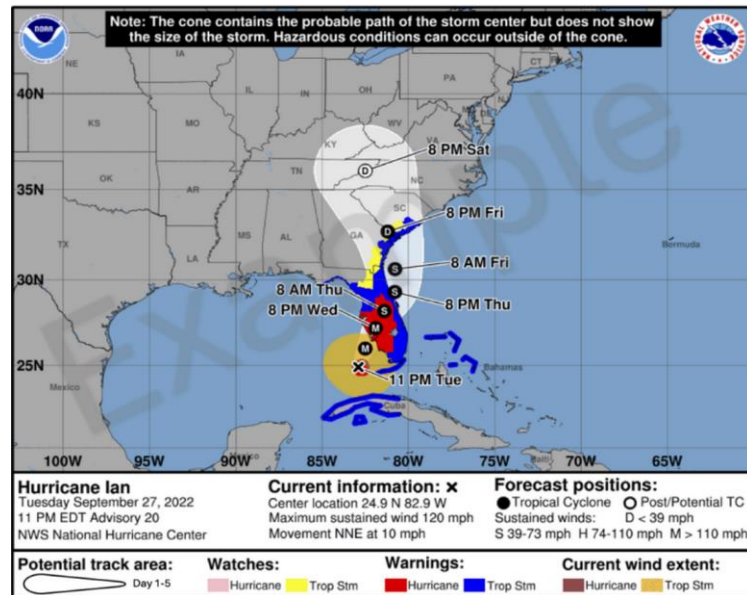


## Franklin County Emergency Management

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On or about August 15th, 2024, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) will begin publishing an improved version of the popular “Cone of Uncertainty” forecast product. For more than 20 years this graphic has been relied upon by those in Franklin County, and that need not change. The new product will present more detailed information to help convey the extent of the storm and its expected impacts.



Source: National Hurricane Center

First and foremost, the new product will expand the areas depicted as being under watches and warnings. As it currently stands, only coastal areas are colored according to their warning conditions. This has caused citizens in more inland areas to underestimate the impacts their areas are expected to receive. As a result, all areas will now be shaded according to what watches and warnings they are under.

The second change is a more detailed wind field. Currently this is depicted as a gold area surrounding the location of the storm. The improved graphic will depict tropical storm force winds as a gold field, with hurricane force winds marked as a brown area. The purpose of this change is to help demonstrate that dangerous wind conditions extend beyond the edge of the cone and will make citizens more aware of the dangers a storm poses.

Bear in mind that this additional information will take time to compile. The NHC currently anticipates that the forecast cone will be available about 30 minutes after the publication of an advisory, though this could vary depending on the amount of additional data being depicted. Furthermore, this product will be produced for both full and intermediate advisories. For more information, please review the announcement from the NHC available at

[https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pdf/NHC\\_Cone\\_Graphic\\_Change\\_Announcement.pdf](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pdf/NHC_Cone_Graphic_Change_Announcement.pdf).