

Emergency Management

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

EOC News

MARCH 7TH, 2025

Emergency Preparedness Plans and Their Importance



Franklin County, as we prepare for the upcoming season, have you developed your disaster plan? It's crucial to recognize that there are several strategies you should implement. When crafting your plans, ensure that you customize the specifics and supplies according to your unique daily needs and responsibilities.

Begin by conducting a thorough assessment of potential risks in your area, such as floods, tornadoes, or power outages. This will help you tailor your plan effectively. Communication is key, so establish a clear plan for how your family will stay in touch during an emergency. Consider setting up a meeting point or using a group messaging app to ensure everyone is informed, while also keeping in mind should power or cell service go out.

Next, create an emergency kit with essentials such as water, non-perishable food, flashlights, batteries, and a first-aid kit. Don't forget to include important documents like insurance policies and identification in a waterproof and portable container. Sealable containers work great!

Practice your plan regularly with all household members to ensure everyone knows what to do. This practice will help highlight any areas that need adjustment, making your plan more resilient and effective.



As you compile all relevant factors, keep the following considerations in mind:

- The different ages of household members
- Responsibilities for assisting others
- The locations you frequently visit
- Everyone's dietary requirements
- Any medical necessities, including prescriptions and needed equipment
- Disabilities or access and functional needs, along with necessary devices and equipment
- Language proficiency
- Cultural and religious considerations
- Pets or service animals and their needs
- Whether there are school-aged children in your household.



By taking these proactive steps, you can enhance your preparedness and safeguard the well-being of your loved ones during unforeseen events. Remember, a well-prepared community is a resilient community. Stay safe, Franklin County!

Emergency Management Staff, Volunteers, & Stakeholders

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

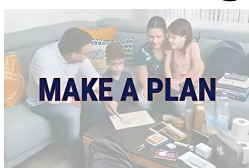
Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)



As a branch under Governor Ron DeSantis's leadership, the Florida Division of Emergency Management (the Division) prepares for and responds to various natural and man-made disasters, including floods, hurricanes, hazardous material incidents, and nuclear power events. The Division develops and enacts a statewide Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and regularly conducts extensive drills to evaluate emergency response capabilities at both state and county levels. FDEM has an abundance of information to share with us, especially when it comes to plans. The wealth of information they provide allows us to help you create plans and checklists to ensure that you don't forget anything.

Their commitment to preparedness is unwavering, and they work tirelessly to collaborate with local agencies and communities to strengthen overall resilience. The Division's efforts are supported by dedicated emergency management professionals, volunteers, and stakeholders who bring invaluable expertise and passion to every situation.

Discovering the Foundations of Your Plans



There are various plans you may need; some are straightforward and require minimal information, while others can be more intricate and demand detailed insights. Certain plans can be shared with friends and family members to ensure your safety.

When developing your Family Emergency Plan, it is essential to incorporate several supplementary plans. Firstly, a communication plan is crucial; in the event of a disaster, your family members may not be together, making it vital to establish how you will reconnect if separated. This plan should include detailed contact information for all household members and outline the methods for reaching each other.

Additionally, identify emergency contacts—individuals who should be notified in case of an emergency. It is wise to consider alternative communication methods in the event that cell towers become inoperable.

Furthermore, designate a meeting place for family members to gather if separation occurs. Another critical component is an evacuation plan, which should detail the evacuation routes in your area, including those from within your home in the event of a fire. This plan must also specify any designated locations for evacuation, transportation arrangements, and essential items to bring along. If you have pets, their needs should also be addressed; ensure that you have backup medication available if necessary.

Finally, if you plan to evacuate to a shelter, a shelter plan is necessary. This should include the shelter's location and the route you will take to reach it. Ultimately, the importance of having these plans in place cannot be overstated, and it is imperative to communicate them to your family so that everyone is aware of the procedures in case of an emergency.

For more information on how to form your plans please visit our website:
<https://www.franklinemergencymanagement.com/resources-2/> or scan the QR.



Disaster Plans



See What We Are Up To





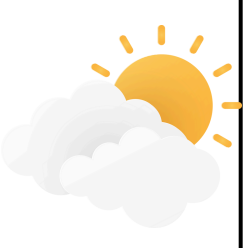
A glance at the projects that each staff member and prominent volunteer is undertaking.

- Jennifer Daniels, the Director, has been working on our Multi Year Strategic Plan (MYSP), attending trainings, updating our MOU's, and planning 2 exercises.
- Amanda Anthony, the Coordinator, is working on updating our finance books, and planning our Build Your Bucket Event for early May.
- Jessica Lockhart, the SPN Coordinator, has coordinated a Contractors meeting for March 25, 2025, is still taking training to further her knowledge about the field of Emergency Management, and currently planning a POD exercise for early May.
- Tim Keith-Lucas, the Operations Chief, is refining our checklists to ensure comprehensive hurricane preparedness, equipping our Mobile Command Trailer and preparing our MYSP.
- Scott Bush, the Quartermaster, is currently reorganizing the EOC trailers to accommodate a wider array of events, coordinating the organization of the Hangar, and also assisting with equipping our Mobile Command Trailer.
- Judi Ring, the CERT President, is developing educational materials to raise awareness about the CERT program among the public, updating our event schedule, and prepping our oncoming class of CERTers.
- Rob Zingarelli, the Lead Radio Operator, is concentrating on the radio wiring setup within the command trailer and is doing weekly check-ins with SARNET.
- The Inventory Manager, is in the process of consolidating equipment from various areas within the EOC to both the command trailer and its supporting trailer.
- Robin Gibson, our Vehicle Inspector, has been diligently checking and ensuring that our county vehicles are maintained and ready at a moment's notice.
- Allen Sanders, the Groundskeeper, has resumed grounds maintenance activities in preparation for the forthcoming summer season and is currently maintaining chainsaws.
- The team eagerly awaits the review and approval of the new building plans by the state Office of Environmental and Historic Preservation.

Upcoming Events

Event	Description	Date	Time	Location
Camp Gordon Johnston Parade	Camp Gordon Johnston Museum's Veteran's Parade	Saturday March 8th, 2025	10:45 AM	Carrabelle, FL
Ham Radio Test	Ham Radio Test @ Wakulla County Library	Thursday March 13, 2025	6:00 PM	Wakulla County Library
Carrabelle Culture Crawl	Culture Crawl	Saturday March 22, 2025	10 AM - 3 PM	Downtown Carrabelle

Weather Outlook

	<u>Sat, March 8</u>	<u>Sun, March 9</u>	<u>Mon, March 10</u>	<u>Tues, March 11</u>	<u>Wed, March 12</u>
Weather					
	Showers	Thunderstorms	Partly Cloudy/Wind	Sunny	Mostly Sunny
Temp. (F)	65 / 71	59 / 71	50 / 66	52 / 72	57 / 73

EOC Tip of the Week

**Review and Update Your
Communication Plan**

Here are steps for creating your communication emergency plan:

- Gather family members to discuss the plan.
- Identify safe meeting points inside and outside the home.
- Designate a reliable out-of-town contact.
- Create a contact list with important information.
- Consider special needs for family members with disabilities.
- Practice the plan through regular drills.



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