

# *Emergency Management*

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

EOC News

MAY 30TH, 2025

### **Franklin County, Hurricane Season Is Here—Are You Prepared?**

The time has arrived once again—Hurricane season is upon us. Now is the moment to ensure you are ready.

#### **Review Your Emergency Plans**

- Take a moment to revisit your emergency plans.
- Ensure your family understands what to do and where to go if a storm approaches.
- Stock up on essentials: water, non-perishable food, flashlights, batteries, and necessary medications for at least 3–7 days.

#### **Know Your Evacuation Route**

- If you reside in an evacuation zone, familiarize yourself with your route and identify a safe destination.
- Discuss plans with friends or family in safer areas and arrange to stay with them if needed.
- If you need special assistance or transportation, register with our office asap, or your medical provider.

#### **Safeguard Important Documents**

- Keep vital documents, such as IDs, insurance papers, and medical records, secure and dry in a waterproof folder or bag.
- If possible, create digital copies as a backup.
- Charge your phones and consider having a battery backup or portable power bank available.

#### **Don't Forget Your Pets**

- Ensure your pets have food, water, identification, and a safe place to stay.
- Remember that many shelters may not accept animals, so plan ahead for their safety as well.

#### **Stay Informed**

- Sign up for Alert Franklin and follow reputable news sources and government updates.
- A battery-powered radio is also a good backup in case of power outages.

#### **Check on Your Neighbors**

- Reach out to your neighbors, particularly the elderly or those who may require additional assistance.
- A brief conversation now could make a significant difference later.

**Preparation is more than just a checklist—it's peace of mind.** Let's take care of ourselves, our families, and our community. Franklin County is resilient. Together, we will be ready.

**If you need assistance in creating your plan, don't worry—we're here to help! Our Disaster Survival Guide and Pet Guide can support you in developing your plans. Simply scan the QR Codes below to access the guides, or reach out to our Emergency Management Specialist, Jessica Lockhart, at [jessical@franklincountyflorida.com](mailto:jessical@franklincountyflorida.com) to receive a copy via email.**

**Pet  
Resource  
Guide**



**Disaster  
Survival  
Guide**



## **Emergency Management Staff, Volunteers, & Stakeholders**

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

### **Franklin County Emergency Management Director, Jennifer Daniels**



My goal is to help Franklin County become as resilient as possible in the face of hurricanes and other disasters. I believe in a whole community approach, one where we all work together to recover from a disaster in our county.

I was born and raised in Franklin County. My mother was the Property Appraiser, and my father was a manager for one of the main telecommunications companies. I raised my two sons here with my husband. His father was the City Clerk for Carrabelle for many years. I grew up with most of the leaders of Franklin County. I am proud to be a Franklin County citizen.

I began my career in EM more than 10 years ago and moved up the ranks until I became Director two years ago. I was honored to be mentored by the previous Director. I am a certified Florida Professional Emergency Manager. I serve on the Certification Committee for FEPA (Florida Emergency Professional Association) and have served in the past as an Area Governor.

The staff at Franklin County Emergency Management, Amanda Anthony, Coordinator and Jessica Lockhart, EM Specialist, are amazing. They help educate our residents in how to protect themselves by being prepared, having a plan, registering for programs that will assist them, and keeping informed via Alert Franklin. We have been blessed by a corps of volunteers who help us every week and during activations.

During the last two years we have added county-wide radio communications based on a repeater in Carrabelle. We have purchased Starlink Satellite for several locations in the county. We have also purchased and equipped a mobile command trailer to allow us to respond from a base outside the county or in Tate's Hell. We are preparing for our new EOC building which will be located on Hwy 65.

Franklin County is a community that is dear to my heart because I call it home. I will continue to serve it to the best of my ability. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to do so. As always, we are here to serve you.

### **Preparedness Programs**

Franklin County offers several programs designed to help during a disaster, including the **Special Needs Registry** and **Evacuation Transportation Assistance**.



#### **Special Needs Registry**

This registry is for individuals with medical conditions or disabilities who require assistance with basic tasks or rely on electronic medical devices and lack other evacuation options. Signing up does not obligate you to go to a special needs shelter, but it provides the option if necessary. Those registered will receive a call from the Department of Health before a storm to check on their evacuation plans, whether they wish to go to a shelter, and if they require transportation assistance to a shelter.



#### **Evacuation Transportation Assistance**

This program is available for Franklin County residents without transportation, offering them the opportunity to be taken to a designated shelter if an evacuation order is issued. Individuals on the list will be contacted to confirm their desire to evacuate and will receive instructions regarding pick-up arrangements. Both programs are essential resources during a disaster. It is crucial for you or your loved ones who may require assistance to register now. Don't wait for a disaster to strike; preregistration is vital. To sign up, visit our website and click on either the Special Needs Registry tab or the Evacuation Transportation tab, or simply scan the QR code. If you need assistance with the registration process, please feel free to call or visit our office for help.

### **Sign-up for Alert Franklin**

As hurricane season approaches, it's essential to ensure that you and your loved ones are registered for Alert Franklin emergency messages. This mass notification system, managed by the Franklin County Emergency Management Office, delivers critical and urgent information, including evacuation orders, advisories, storm watches, warnings, and vital safety updates. Signing up is an important step to stay informed during a disaster. To register, simply visit our website and click on the Alert Franklin tab, or scan the QR code. If you need any help with the registration process, don't hesitate to call or visit our office for assistance.



## **See What We Are Up To**


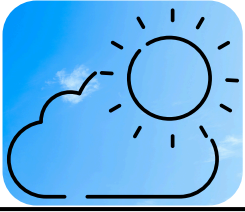
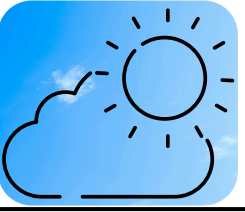
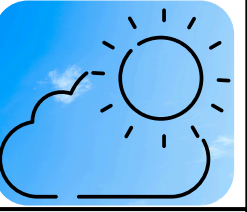


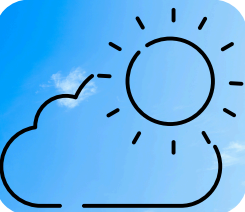



*A glance at the projects that each staff member and prominent volunteer is undertaking.*

- Jennifer Daniels, the Director, has been working on our Multi Year Strategic Plan (MYSP), attending trainings, updating our MOU's.
- Amanda Anthony, the Coordinator, is working on reviewing CEMP's and our updating our website.
- Jessica Lockhart, the EM Specialist, is working on updating our office's finance and grant books, and taking training to further her knowledge about the field of Emergency Management.
- 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
Start of Hurricane Season		June 1, 2025	All Day	
Juneteenth	Holiday	June 19, 2025	All Day	
4 <sup>th</sup> of July	Holiday	July 4, 2025	All Day	

## Weather Outlook

	<u>Sat, May 31</u>	<u>Sun, June 1</u>	<u>Mon, June 2</u>	<u>Tues, June 3</u>	<u>Wed, June 4</u>
Weather					
	Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy
Temp. (F)	67 / 85	70 / 85	71 / 86	75 / 87	75 / 85
	<u>Thur, June 5</u>	<u>Fri, June 6</u>	<u>Sat, June 7</u>	<u>Sun, June 8</u>	<u>Mon, June 9</u>
Weather					
	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Scattered Thunderstorms
Temp. (F)	75 / 87	76 / 88	76 / 88	76 / 88	76 / 88

### EOC Tip of the Week

## Reliable Sources

Please ensure that you are actively listening to and utilizing trustworthy sources, such as:

- NWS Tallahassee
- NOAA
- WOYS - Oyster Radio
- Appalachicola Times
- Franklin County Emergency Management
- Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM)

### Let Us Know What You Think

#### Address

28 Airport Road  
Apalachicola, FL 32320

#### Phone

(850) 653-8977

#### Email

[emfranklin@franklinemergencymanagement.com](mailto:emfranklin@franklinemergencymanagement.com)

#### Website

[www.franklinemergencymanagement.com](http://www.franklinemergencymanagement.com)

#### Social Media

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FranklinEOC>

#### Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
0830 - 1630

