

THE SITUATION REPORT

The Official Newsletter of Greenville County Emergency Management

WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS

by Mackenzie Forgacs

Wildfire preparedness protects lives and property within America's wildlands. As a growing number of individuals move into areas where wildfires are a real threat, it is essential to look at the many ways individuals can prepare for such a disaster.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) provides several resources and public education programs regarding wildfires. One of these programs, known as Firewise USA, helps to educate individuals on best practices for protecting your home against a fire. Through everyday household chores such as cleaning out gutters and removing excess vegetation surrounding a property, residents can increase their home's resilience to a wildfire.

In an effort to increase wildfire preparedness within Greenville County, public officials are working to develop a Wildfire Mitigation Plan for Paris Mountain. Residents are highly encouraged to get involved. Please reach out to Greenville County Emergency Management to receive the details for our next public meeting.

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:


Hurricane Awareness: Watch Vs. Warning - pg.2

2021 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook - pg. 3

Preparedness Initiatives - pg. 4

Greenville County Emergency Management: A Month In Review - pgs. 5-6

Upcoming Events - pg. 7



"In a typical year, South Carolina responds to over 5,000 wildfires, which burn nearly 30,000 acres." - South Carolina Emergency Management Division

HURRICANE AWARENESS: WATCH VS. WARNING

by Mackenzie Forgacs

**"Hurricanes are among nature's most powerful and destructive phenomena." -
National Weather Service**

The 2020 Atlantic hurricane season is considered to be one of the most active seasons in history, breaking several different records throughout the year. According to the [National Weather Service \(NWS\)](#), a record thirty named storms formed, with thirteen becoming hurricanes and 6 becoming major hurricanes. Additionally, a record twelve storms made landfall in the United States. This significant hurricane season has created the need for continued public outreach and education as the 2021 Hurricane Season rapidly approaches.

Some of the most common misunderstandings each year is the confusion of hurricanes vs. tropical storms and of watches vs. warnings. The chart below outlines the differences between a hurricane watch, a tropical storm watch, a hurricane warning and a tropical storm warning.

Hurricane Watch

Hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or greater) are possible within your area. Because it may not be safe to prepare for a hurricane once winds reach tropical storm force, the NHC issues hurricane watches 48 hours before it anticipates tropical storm-force winds.

Hurricane Warning

Hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or greater) are expected somewhere within the specified area. NHC issues a hurricane warning 36 hours in advance of tropical storm-force winds to give you time to complete your preparations.

Tropical Storm Watch

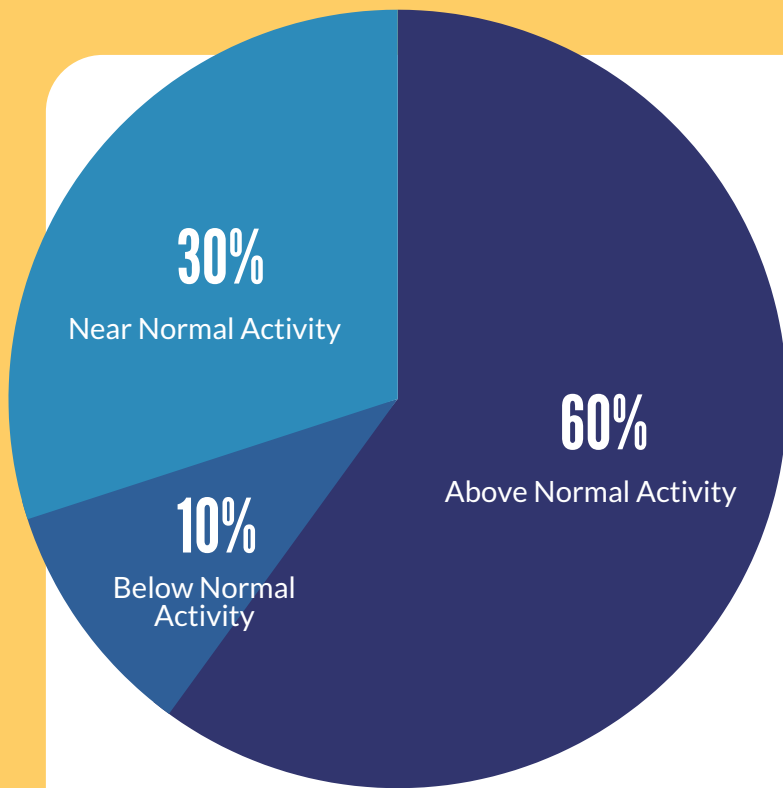
Tropical storm conditions (sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph) are possible within the specified area within 48 hours.

Tropical Storm Warning

Tropical storm conditions (sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph) are expected within your area within 36 hours.

2021 ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON OUTLOOK

by Mackenzie Forgacs



Seasonal Outlook Probabilities

NAMED STORMS

13-20

HURRICANES

6-10

MAJOR HURRICANES

3-5

2021 ATLANTIC TROPICAL CYCLONE NAMES

Ana
Bill
Claudette
Danny
Elsa
Fred
Grace

Henri
Ida
Julian
Kate
Larry
Mindy
Nicholas

Odette
Peter
Rose
Sam
Teresa
Victor
Wanda

The NOAA news release for the upcoming season can be found [here](#).

In an effort to prepare for future weather events, text 'GreenvilleCounty' to 99411 to register for CodeRed Emergency Alerts directly on your mobile device.

PREPAREDNESS INITIATIVES

by Mackenzie Forgacs



The Ready Campaign

The Ready Campaign is a National public service campaign that was designed to help educate and empower the public to prepare for, respond to and mitigate emergencies that could occur within their community.

[ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov)



South Carolina Hurricane Preparedness Week: May 30 - June 5, 2021

Hurricane Preparedness Week is a preparedness initiative that focuses on preparing for the upcoming Hurricane Season. Throughout this week, local and state emergency management agencies will participate in public outreach. The South Carolina Emergency Management Division has released the [South Carolina Hurricane Guide](#) for the upcoming season and has launched a new interactive website to promote hurricane preparedness: hurricane.sc.



Pet Preparedness Month

Pets are additional members of the family. That is why it is just as important to prepare your pets for a disaster as it is the rest of your family! Preparing a pet preparedness kit, talking to local animal shelters, and developing a plan to evacuate with your pet during a disaster are just some of the ways you can prepare. Click [here](#) for more ideas regarding Pet Preparedness.

GREENVILLE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: A MONTH IN REVIEW

by Mackenzie Forgacs, Rick Mullinax, and Rachel Nafziger



APRIL 28-30, 2021

Greenville County Emergency Response Hazmat Team joined Parker District Fire Department for Hazmat Technician and Hazmat Operations Training. Several county agencies gained hands-on experience with leaking 55-gallon drums, pipe leaks, chlorine leaks, and executing recon missions with drone capabilities. Over 200 responders participated and interagency relationships were strengthened. Special thanks to the many instructors who made this training possible.

MAY 8, 2021

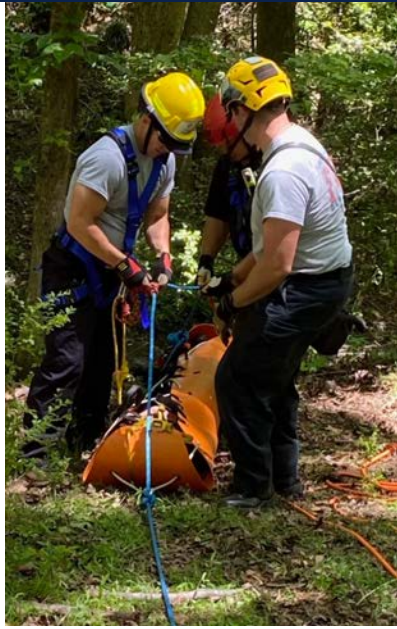
Congratulations to the 20 community members who completed their Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) basic training. Due to COVID-19, the CERT program moved from its traditional classroom model to an online learning platform. As a supplement to the online content, participants attended a special training day to gain valuable hands-on experience in disaster medical operations, fire suppression, and search and rescue.



MAY 15, 2021

Greenville County Emergency Response Team, Greenville County Sheriff's Office and Greenville County EMS conducted several training scenarios consisting of low and high angle rescue, drone operations, locating, assessing, treating and transporting subjects, communication practices, and Incident Command procedures. Over 75 individuals participated from various fire departments, GCEMS, GCSO, and GCEM. Special thanks to our instructors and to Fire Chief Zac Terry for allowing GCERT to train in Canebrake Fire District.





GREENVILLE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: A MONTH IN REVIEW



UPCOMING EVENTS

by Mackenzie Forgacs

June 5 - GCEM will be at the 'Kids Tent' at the Travelers Rest Farmers Market

June 7 - AWR-317: REP Core Concepts Course (RCCC)

June 8 - MGT445: REP Plume Plan Review Course (RPPR)

June 11 - GCERT Hazmat Ethanol Training. Register [here](#).

June 28 - G428: CERT Train the Trainer

June 30 - Oconee Nuclear Station Reception Center Congregate Care Training and Exercise

July 7 - G427: CERT Program Manager

July 13 - G205: Recovery from Disaster: Local Community Role

July 20 - G235: Emergency Planning

July 26 - L146/L105: Basic Academy Week 3 (HSEEP & Public Information and Warning)

Ongoing - Dam Ownership Online Training. Click [here](#) for more information.

Need to register for a training? Visit the South Carolina Emergency Management Division [Training Registration System](#).

