



FEBRUARY 2025

THE SITUATION REPORT

*The Official Newsletter of
Greenville County Emergency
Management*



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Best WISHES

Jessica Stumpf, Director of Greenville County Emergency Management has been with Greenville County for eight years. She has recently accepted a position with Baron Weather as a Public Safety Solutions Engineer.

Jessica received a Bachelor of Science in Meteorology from Penn State and spent over 6 years as a Broadcast Meteorologist in Pennsylvania, Texas, and Myrtle Beach. She also holds a Master of Science in Emergency Management from Millersville University.

Prior to joining Greenville County Emergency Management, Jessica worked at South Carolina Emergency Management Division and responded to the October 2015 Historic Flood and Hurricane Matthew.

Jessica joined the Emergency Management team in January 2017 as the first Emergency Planning Coordinator, was then promoted to Deputy Director in August of 2019, and promoted to Director in September of 2021.

Throughout her tenure with Emergency Management, Jessica spearheaded many projects, including the annual Get Ready Greenville County community disaster preparedness event, our newsletter-*The Situation Report*, and the Greenville County Emergency Management website redesign. Jessica handled coordination of the Paris Mountain Wildfire Mitigation Plan and Outreach and Education campaign. That plan is now a part of the County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and it led to the county's first community, the Stoneridge neighborhood on Paris Mountain, to be designated as fire wise. With her background in Meteorology, Jessica quickly became the county's primary expert for all weather-related concerns and facilitated all county weather briefings during severe weather events or emergency operations center activations. Hurricane Helene in September of 2024 was a major OPGON 1 EOC activation, which lasted 16 days. Helene, being an unprecedented event, caused extensive wind damage and power outages lasting from several days to weeks. Under Jessica's leadership, the EOC quickly adapted to the disaster situation to ensure the safety and security of Greenville County residents.



Director Jessica Stumpf
2017-2025

CAREER Highlights

2017: Responded to Hurricane Irma, the Lake Lanier Tornado, April 03, 2017 Severe Weather Event, April 05, 2017 Severe Weather Event, and Total Solar Eclipse.

2018: Responded to March For Our Lives Demonstration, Hurricane Florence, Winter Storm 8-10 December, and launched the Get Ready Greenville County Event.

2019: Assisted with the Simpsonville Tornado response.

2020: Responded to April 13 and April 25 Tornadoes, COVID19, the February and May Flooding Events, Hurricane Sally, Black Lives Matter Protests, and Tropical Storm Zeta. She also deployed to Louisiana with SC-TF1 in response to Hurricane Laura.

2021: Assisted with Get Ready Greenville County, March 6 Greenville Black Lives Matter Protest, November DMV Exercise, and Tropical Storm Fred.

2022: Responded to December 24 Communications Outage, assisted with Get Ready Greenville County, Hurricane Ian, January Winter Storm, and July 6 Missing Child Search.

2023: Assisted with Get Ready Greenville County, responded to Oscar St. Search, and Glassy Mountain Plane Crash.

2024: Supported Election Day Event, Get Ready Greenville County, Hurricane Debby, the June Paragliding Accident, and Hurricane Helene.

2025: Responded to January 10-11 Winter Storm.

*Member of SC-TF1 Palmetto Incident Support Team
Sworn in as President-Elect of SCEMA*



Congratulations

Kathy Opalacz

ON YOUR
PROMOTION as
**INTEROPERABILITY
TECHNOLOGY
MANAGER**



Kathy Opalacz started her career in Emergency Services as a 911 Communications Specialist for the City of Greenville Police and Fire Departments in 2009. In June 2020, she accepted a position with South Carolina Emergency Management Division working in Hazard Mitigation, the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program, and then the Regional Emergency Manager Program. Kathy joined the Greenville County Emergency Management team as the Training and Exercise Coordinator in December of 2022. She has since accepted a new position within our department as the Interoperability Technology Manager. Kathy will be responsible for coordinating and supervising the overall management of the County's interoperable Palmetto 800 radio system and backup systems, ensuring interoperability between all departments across the county on a day-to-day basis as well as during emergencies or disasters. With her Communications background and extensive knowledge of Emergency Management, she is a perfect fit for the Interoperability Technology Manager position!



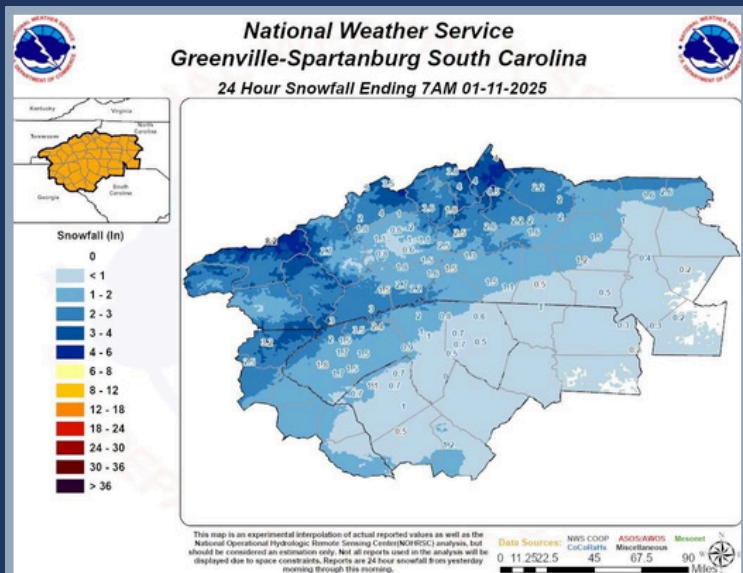
Snow Joke, It's Icy Out There!



Thursday, January 9th, 2025, a Winter Storm Warning was issued for northeast Georgia and the western Carolinas Friday into early Saturday morning. Snow, sleet, and ice were all expected to impact Greenville County, especially south of I-85 where significant icing was expected. Due to the anticipated impacts, Greenville County Emergency Management moved to OPCON 2 with a partial activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). A State of Emergency was issued by Governor McMaster on Friday, January 10, 2025, in preparation and support of the winter weather impacts.



Representatives from several Public Safety entities-Public Works, SCDOT, Dispatch, Firefighters Association, EMS, DPH, Public Information, and Law Enforcement all staffed the EOC to support the activation. Additional agencies maintained situational awareness through County Conference calls and briefings hosted by the EOC. The highest snowfall totals for Greenville County were between 1-2" in the northern region of the county with 0.23" of ice accumulation in the central region of the county.

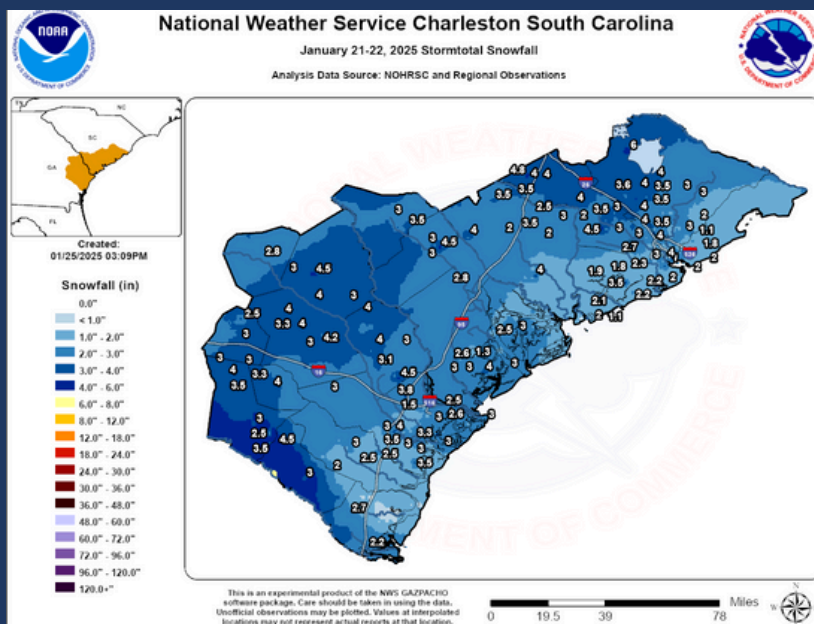


HELP IS ON THE WAY!



Greenville County Public Works crews and equipment staged to assist in historic snow storm

Moisture moving northward from the Gulf of Mexico ahead of an upper-level trough combined with arctic temperatures caused record snowfall along parts of the Gulf Coast from January 20-22, 2025. Downtown Charleston received about 4" of snow, a rare occurrence, as the last snowstorm to hit the area was in January 2018 when 5" of snow fell across the region.



Greenville County Public Works crews answered the call and assisted our neighbors in the Low Country! 2 plows, 2 sanders, and 8 crew members headed south to Charleston and assisted in recovery from the historic snow storm.



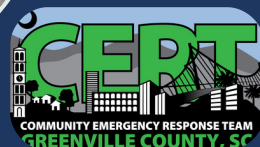
CERT VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION NIGHT



Greenville County Emergency Management hosted a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) recognition night on January 21, 2025 to honor the exceptional efforts of the county's CERT program during the response to Hurricane Helene.

On September 29, 2024, volunteers from the CERT program assisted Greenville County Emergency Management with establishing a call center during Helene. Volunteers worked multiple shifts, answering approximately 400 calls from citizens between September 29th and October 9th that consisted of reports of downed trees, power outages, and assistance for medical needs such as sheltering, medication, and food. Volunteers worked tirelessly to provide Greenville County residents with vital information and, most importantly, hope during an extremely challenging time.

CERT volunteers were recognized with a certificate of appreciation, an Operation Helene patch/sticker in appreciation for their dedication and positive impact they made on Greenville County.





ONSOLVE® CODERED

BE IN THE KNOW WITH **CODERED**

CodeRED is an emergency notification service that allows emergency officials to notify residents and businesses by telephone, cell phone, text message, email, and social media regarding time-sensitive general and emergency notifications. Only authorized officials have access to the CodeRED system. The CodeRED system will send critical communications, from evacuation notices to missing child alerts.

On January 27, 2025, Greenville County Emergency Management upgraded to the new CodeRED platform, reaching more than 5,000 Greenville County residents with a message to be on the lookout for new alerts coming from the following:

Email alerts will come from: greenvillecountysc@notify.onsolve.net

Text alerts will come from: **24639**

Phone call alerts will come from: **206-536-3695**

Residents already signed up for CodeRED were asked to sign in and select weather notification settings. Residents that do not have an account were asked to register for an account at the following URL: <https://accountportal.onsolve.net/greenvillecountysc>. Anyone needing assistance with CodeRED can contact Greenville County Emergency Management at 864-467-2068 or visit <https://gceoc.com/prepare/get-ready-greenville/> to access CodeRED Reference Guides for registering for an account and managing alert notifications.



TRAINING SPOTLIGHT

Course Name: ICS 300 Intermediate ICS (ICS 300)

When: February 25-27, 2025

Time: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Location: Greenville County Emergency Management-225 S Pleasantburg
Dr. Greenville, SC 29607

[Register Here](#)

Course Name: Integration of Cybersecurity Personnel into the EOC for Cyber Incidents (MGT 456)

When: March 18-20, 2025

Time: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Location: Greenville County Emergency Management-225 S Pleasantburg
Dr. Greenville, SC 29607

[Register Here](#)

Course Name: [Basic Academy Week 1-Foundations of Emergency Management \(L101\)](#)

When: [March 24-28, 2025](#)

Time: [9:00 am – 5:00 pm](#)

Location: [Dorchester County EOC-212 Demming Way Building 1, Summerville SC 29483](#)

[Register Here](#)



Need to register for a training?

Greenville County Emergency Management Training: [Training & Exercises Calendar](#)
South Carolina Emergency Management Division Training: [Training Registration System](#).