



**JANUARY 2026**

# THE SITUATION REPORT

*The Official Newsletter of  
Greenville County Emergency  
Management*



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# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

## REBECCA HOFBAUER

Administrative Coordinator

Meet our new Administrative Coordinator, Rebecca!

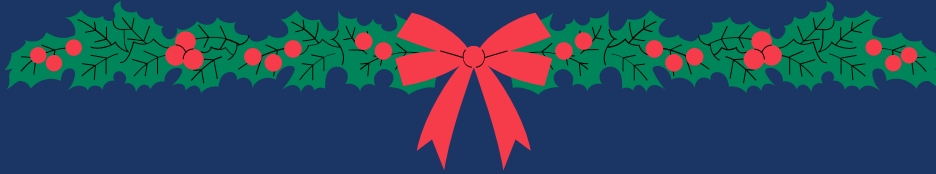


Rebecca Hofbauer joined the Greenville County Emergency Management team in December of 2025 as the new Administrative Coordinator. She graduated from the University of South Carolina in May of 2025 with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance. Rebecca is excited to bring her background in business to the Emergency Management team! She is also excited to learn about Emergency Management from a great team and further her career in this position.



When Rebecca is not working she loves to spend time with her friends, family, and dogs. She also really loves to travel and explore when she gets the opportunity to. To relax, Rebecca enjoys reading books and recommends that everyone reads Harry Potter at least once in their life. Rebecca is excited to serve the people of Greenville County and to join the Emergency Management team!

# LEO SANTA



What better way to celebrate the Christmas season than by serving those in need within our community. This past December, the Greenville County Sheriff's Office, along with local police and fire departments, the South Carolina Highway Patrol, the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, Greenville County EMS, and Greenville County Public Safety proudly participated in the LEO Santa program. Through this initiative, participating agencies worked together to collect and deliver toys to children in underserved neighborhoods, helping to bring joy, hope, and holiday cheer to families throughout the community.







LEO Santa, with the support of their volunteers, was able to deliver toys to over 7,000 children in the Greenville and Spartanburg counties.





# GE VERNOVA EMERGENCY RESPONSE DRILL



On December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025, GE Vernova held a drill to exercise their emergency response plan. They simulated a gas explosion with injuries that the team had to identify and mitigate.

GE Vernova is a global leader in the energy sector with key operations in power, wind energy, nuclear energy, and grid solutions. The plant located in Greenville, SC specifically focuses on gas turbine production, producing between 70 and 80 gas turbines annually.

Parties that participated in this drill included, GE ERT, Mauldin FD, Greenville City FD, Greenville County Special Operations HazMat, and Greenville County EMS. Greenville County Emergency Management commends every party that participated in this drill and the valuable training opportunity this provided.



# STAY SAFE DURING WINTER TRAVEL

## Know before you go

- From blizzards, to avalanches, to ice storms, be aware of the winter risks in places you visit. Check the local weather forecasts and warnings before heading out. Visit National Weather Service for up to date forecasts and download the FEMA App for alerts in up to five locations.
- Check your local weather and traffic reports before heading out.
- If your roads are not in good shape, consider postponing non-essential travel until the roads are cleared. If you do have to go out, make sure you are prepared in case you become delayed while traveling.
- Tell others your route and anticipated arrival time.

## On the road

- Make sure your vehicle is in good working condition before you travel.
- Keep your gas tank as full as you can. A full tank will also keep the fuel line from freezing.
- Install good winter tires and make sure they have enough tread, or any chains or studs required in your local area.
- When driving, increase your following distance from 3-4 seconds to 5-6 seconds. It takes longer to slow down and stop on icy roads.
- Every vehicle should have an emergency supply kit in the trunk. Kits should be checked every six months and expired items should be replaced regularly.
- Keep family and emergency phone numbers, including your auto insurance provider and a towing company in your phone.
- Consider keeping a power bank for your phone in your car in case your car loses power.
- If stranded, run the engine for about 10 minutes per hour to run the heater and charge your cellphone. Open a window slightly to let fresh air in and avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.



# PREVENTING HOUSE HEATING FIRES

Although trending downward since the early 1980s, heating fires remained the second leading cause of home fires in 2021. An estimated 32,200 home heating fires were reported to fire departments within the United States. These fires caused an estimated 190 deaths, 625 injuries and \$442 million in property loss.

Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from all heat sources including fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, portable heaters or candles.

Always plug space heaters directly into an outlet, and make sure its cord isn't damaged or frayed.

Never use an oven to heat your home.

Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected each year by a professional.

Visit the U.S. Fire Administration [Home Fires page](#) to learn about how to prepare for and prevent home fires including tips for [individuals with disabilities](#) and [older adults](#).

**Learn more about preventing fires.**



# TRAINING SPOTLIGHT

**Course Name:** ICS/EOC Interface Workshop (G191)

**When:** January 13, 2026

**Time:** 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

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

[LMS Link](#)

**Course Name:** Emergency Planning (G235)

**When:** February 18-19, 2026

**Time:** 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

**Location:** Greenville County Emergency Management EOC - 225 S. Pleasantburg Drive, Greenville SC 29607

[LMS Link](#)

**Course Name:** ICS 300 Intermediate ICS (ICS300)

**When:** March 3-5, 2026

**Time:** 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

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

[LMS Link](#)

**Course Name:** ICS 400 Advanced ICS (ICS400)

**When:** May 5-6, 2026

**Time:** 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

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

[LMS Link](#)



Need to register for a training?

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