



Charlie Crist  
Governor



Ruben D. Almaguer  
State Coordinating Officer

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
April 13, 2009

**CONTACT: Public Information-ESF14**  
(850) 921-0217

## **Severe Weather Possible for North Florida Today**

TALLAHASSEE – Residents across northern Florida are urged to monitor the severe weather threat today as another strong storm system moves into the southeastern United States. Thunderstorms developing along and ahead of this system's cold front will have the potential to produce damaging wind gusts, hail, frequent lightning strikes, heavy downpours, and isolated tornadoes.

A Tornado Watch is in effect for most of the Florida Panhandle and Big Bend regions through 5 PM Eastern today. Additional tornado or severe thunderstorm watches may be issued for the remainder of north Florida later today and tonight.

"We are encouraging residents, as well as our response and recovery teams to monitor this severe weather threat and be prepared to seek safe shelter if warnings are issued," said State Meteorologist Ben Nelson. "A NOAA Weather radio can be a lifesaver, especially during the nighttime hours."

The Storm Prediction Center has placed the northern third of the state in a slight risk for severe weather today. Strong to severe thunderstorms may produce additional rainfall totals of 2-4 inches with locally heavier amounts across the Florida panhandle and Big Bend today and tonight, which may result in flash flooding of small creeks, streams, and urban areas.

Most area rivers remain at flood or near flood status and residents are reminded to "Turn Around, Don't Drown, if faced with a flooded road. Residents along the middle and lower portions of the Suwannee and Santa Fe Rivers should continue their preparations as river crests progress southward this week.

For more information please visit: [www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org).

All students, teachers and parents can find educational information and free downloadable materials at: [www.KidsGetAPlan.com](http://www.KidsGetAPlan.com).

And for the latest daily situation and flash reports go to:  
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