THE STATE WATCH OFFICE

The State Watch Office (SWO) is located in the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee, FL and is staffed 24/7/365 by Watch Commanders, Duty Officers, Operations Officers, and State Meteorologists. The SWO monitors day to day incidents, activities, and events within the State of Florida that could require a State response, as well as ensures the operational readiness of the State Emergency Operations Center.

As Florida’s official State Warning Point with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the SWO maintains communications systems and warning capabilities to ensure that the state’s population and emergency management agencies are warned of developing emergency situations and can communicate emergency response decisions as mandated by § 252.35 F.S.

The SWO is a situational awareness hub that collects, analyzes, and shares information with local, county, state, and federal partners to aid in their response roles as referenced in § 252.351 F.S. Our mission is to provide members of the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) with the most accurate Common Operating Picture available relating to ongoing or impending hazardous situations throughout the State. A core component of this mission is our strong relationships with the state agencies, private-sector partners, and voluntary agencies that comprise Florida’s 18 Emergency Support Functions (ESFs).

The SWO also maintains a direct relationship with the Florida Fusion Center, which allows both Emergency Management and Law Enforcement officials to have the most complete and up-to-date intelligence available to better serve our citizens, businesses, and visitors.
The **Florida Division of Emergency Management** plans for and responds to both natural and man-made disasters. These range from floods and hurricanes to incidents involving hazardous materials or nuclear power.

The Division is the state's liaison with federal and local agencies on emergencies of all kinds. The Division prepares and implements a statewide Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), and provides technical assistance to local governments as they prepare emergency plans and procedures.

The Division maintains the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in Tallahassee, which serves as the communications and command center for reporting emergencies and coordinating state response activities with all state agencies and the Executive Office of the Governor.

**Our Mission**

*Working together to ensure that Florida is prepared to respond to emergencies, recover from them, and mitigate against their impacts.*

**Contact Info**

Florida Division of Emergency Management  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)
State Meteorological Support Unit (SMSU)
The State Meteorological Support Unit (SMSU) is the link between the State Emergency Operations Center and all atmospheric and physical science entities. These liaisons and subject matter experts ensure that the State Emergency Response Team has the weather data needed to make decisions and carry out missions. It is comprised of meteorologists and supported by qualified volunteers from state agencies, federal agencies, and universities. The SMSU monitors products from the National Weather Service and interprets their potential impact on active incidents and operations statewide.

When severe weather watches, warnings, and certain advisories are issued, the State Watch Office will notify the affected counties via one of its communication systems. This notification is in addition to notifications that are received directly from the National Weather Service via other means, as a required backup method of communication for StormReady programs. Other urgent messages from the National Hurricane Center, Storm Prediction Center, or National Tsunami Warning Center will also be forwarded by the State Watch Office when appropriate.

It is important to note that all watches and warnings are disseminated by the National Weather Service’s seven Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) that serve all 67 counties in Florida. A listing of offices, the counties they cover and their contact information, are on the back of this page.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFICE</th>
<th>NUMBER</th>
<th>COUNTIES OF RESPONSIBILITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOBILE</td>
<td>251-633-2471</td>
<td>Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa</td>
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<tr>
<td>MELBOURNE</td>
<td>321-254-6083</td>
<td>Brevard, Indian River, Lake, Martin, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, St. Lucie, Volusia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIAMI</td>
<td>305-229-4528</td>
<td>Broward, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Miami-Dade, Mainland Monroe, Palm Beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KEY WEST</td>
<td>305-295-1316</td>
<td>Monroe (Florida Keys only)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
All of Florida’s 67 Counties have been designated by the National Weather Service as **StormReady**. Being part of a Weather-Ready Nation is about preparing for your community's increasing vulnerability to extreme weather and water events.

To be officially **StormReady**, a community must:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center
- Have more than one way to receive severe weather warnings and forecasts
- Have more than one way to alert the public
- Create a system that monitors weather conditions locally
- Promote the importance of public readiness
- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.

Methods of warning collection can include, but are not limited to NOAA Weather Radio, email subscription services, NWSChat, Law Enforcement teletype programs, local television, and internet platforms.

StormReady certifications are in effect for 3 years and may require an on-site verification visit. For more information on StormReady, visit [www.weather.gov/stormready/](http://www.weather.gov/stormready/)

**NOAA Weather Radio Station Information:**
[http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/)
A **WATCH** means conditions are favorable for severe thunderstorm, tornado, or flash flood development. Keep alert by listening to a radio, television, or weather radio for the latest weather information.

A **WARNING** means a severe thunderstorm, tornado, or flash flood has been sighted or indicated by radar. People in the path of the storm should take immediate life-saving actions.

An **ADVISORY** is issued for a weather event that is capable of producing severe weather, but does not reach warning criteria. Advisories may also be issued for extreme temperatures, dense fog, or heavy rainfall that results in ponding of water on roadways/low lying areas but does not pose an immediate threat to life.

**NOTE:** Warnings are issued as *Storm Based Warnings* using polygons that detail the storm’s expected path. At times, this can lead to more than one active warning in a given county. [http://www.nws.noaa.gov/sbwarnings/](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/sbwarnings/)

The **National Hurricane Center (NHC)** issues forecasts and outlooks for tropical systems or potential tropical systems on [www.hurricanes.gov](http://www.hurricanes.gov).

**Storm Surge Watch:** There is a possibility of life-threatening inundation from rising water moving inland within the specified area, generally within 48 hours.

**Storm Surge Warning:** There is a danger of life-threatening inundation from rising water moving inland from the shoreline somewhere within the specified area, generally within 36 hours. If you are under a storm surge warning, check for evacuation orders from your local officials.

**Hurricane Watch:** Hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74+ mph) 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) 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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Emergency Management Office</th>
<th>24-Hour Warning Point PHONE</th>
<th>24-Hour Warning Point FAX</th>
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<tr>
<td>ALACHUA</td>
<td>352-264-6500</td>
<td>352-955-1818</td>
<td>352-264-6690</td>
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<td>BAKER</td>
<td>904-259-6111</td>
<td>904-259-2861</td>
<td>904-259-5829</td>
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<tr>
<td>BAY</td>
<td>850-248-6040</td>
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<td>850-248-6058</td>
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<td>BRADFORD</td>
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<td>904-964-2066</td>
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<td>BREVARD</td>
<td>321-403-1124</td>
<td>321-633-1737</td>
<td>321-635-7849</td>
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<tr>
<td>BROWARD</td>
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<td>954-572-6267</td>
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<td>CALHOUN</td>
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<td>CHARLOTTE</td>
<td>941-833-4000</td>
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<td>941-575-5334</td>
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<td>FLAGLER</td>
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<td>MARTIN</td>
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<td>772-221-2399</td>
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<td>786-336-6644</td>
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<td>OKEECHOBEE</td>
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<td>863-763-3117</td>
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<td>PALM BEACH</td>
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<td>PASCO</td>
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<td>863-401-2222</td>
<td>863-298-5660</td>
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<td>PUTNAM</td>
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<td>386-329-0807</td>
<td>386-329-0893</td>
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<td>SANTA ROSA</td>
<td>850-983-5360</td>
<td>850-983-5372</td>
<td>850-983-5374</td>
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<td>SARASOTA</td>
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<td>941-316-1201</td>
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<td>ST JOHNS</td>
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<td>904-823-3174</td>
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<td>ST LUCIE</td>
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<td>SUMTER</td>
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<td>SUWANNEE</td>
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<td>UNION</td>
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<td>WAKULLA</td>
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<td>850-926-0858</td>
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<td>850-892-8065</td>
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<td>850-892-8532</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASHINGTON</td>
<td>850-638-6203</td>
<td>850-638-6111</td>
<td>850-638-6184</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA</td>
<td>954-967-3650</td>
<td></td>
<td>954-967-5121</td>
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### Florida Highway Patrol Regional Communications Centers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Counties Served</th>
<th>Location &amp; Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson,</td>
<td><strong>Tallahassee</strong> 850-245-7700 Ext. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leon, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist,</td>
<td><strong>Jacksonville</strong> 904-301-3700 Ext. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, St. John’s, Suwannee,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sumter</td>
<td><strong>Tampa</strong> 813-631-4020 Ext. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Volusia</td>
<td><strong>Sanford</strong> 407-737-2200 Ext. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broward, Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, St. Lucie, <strong>Turnpike</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lake Worth</strong> 561-357-4000 Ext. 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miami-Dade, Monroe</td>
<td><strong>Miami</strong> 305-470-2500 Ext. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Manatee,</td>
<td><strong>Ft. Myers</strong> 239-938-1800 Ext. 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarasota</td>
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### Florida Department of Environmental Protection District Offices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pensacola</td>
<td>850-872-4375</td>
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<tr>
<td>Panama City</td>
<td>850-245-2010</td>
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<td>Tallahassee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>904-256-1700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>407-897-4100</td>
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<td>Southwest</td>
<td>813-470-5954</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>561-681-6767</td>
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<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>239-344-5600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ft. Myers</td>
<td>305-289-7070</td>
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![Map of Florida with Districts and Offices](image)

**Main Office**

**Branch Office**
# IMPORTANT CONTACTS

## Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement Communications Centers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Counties Served</th>
<th>Location &amp; Phone</th>
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<td>Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Wakulla, Walton, Washington</td>
<td>Tallahassee 850-245-7716</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota</td>
<td>Tampa 813-558-5050</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brevard, Flagler, Indian River, Lake, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Putnam, Seminole, St. Johns, Sumter, Volusia</td>
<td>Orlando 407-275-4150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broward, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, St. Lucie</td>
<td>Lake Worth 561-357-4202</td>
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### Public Wildlife Alert Hotline:
888-404-3922

### Nuisance Alligators:
866-FWC-GATOR

### Fish Kill Hotline:
800-636-0511

### Red Tide:
866-300-9399
STATE COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

- VTC
- FNARS
- NAWAS
- Landline

**FEMA**
Federal Emergency Management Agency

**NWS**
National Weather Service

State Watch Office

- State and Local Law Enforcement
  - Landline
  - SLERS
  - FIN

- State Field Assets / Alternate Facilities
  - Landline
  - SLERS
  - MSAT/Iridium
  - EMnet

- County Warning Points
  - Landline
  - *Hot Ring Down*
  - Amateur Radio

* For CWPs in Nuclear Power Plant Emergency Protective Zone *

**SLERS** State Law Enforcement Radio System  **MSAT** Mobile Satellite Radio

**NAWAS** National Warning System  **FNARS** FEMA National Radio System

**VTC** Video-Teleconference  **FIN** Florida Interoperable Network
The Division is required to establish [and maintain] a system of communications and warning to ensure that the state’s population and emergency management agencies are warned of developing emergency situations and can communicate emergency response decisions under §252.35, Florida Statutes.

Effective July 1, 2020, §252.351 F.S. requires the Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) to create a list of reportable incidents and requires political subdivisions to report incidents contained on the list to the State Watch Office. It also authorizes FDEM to establish guidelines a political subdivision must follow to report an incident and requires FDEM to annually provide the list of reportable incidents to each political subdivision with an effective date. An online list of reportable incidents can be found at www.floridadisaster.org/SWO.

As soon as practicable following its initial response to an incident, a political subdivision shall provide notification to the SWO that an incident specified on the list of reportable incidents in this guide has occurred within its geographical boundaries.

States are required to develop, maintain, and test the Emergency Alert System (EAS) in accordance with Title 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i) and (o), 303(r), 524(g) and 606; and 47 CFR, Part 11, Federal Communications Commission Rules and Regulations, Emergency Alert System (EAS). The State Watch Office transmits Required Monthly Tests according to a pre-established schedule with the Communications Unit and the Florida Association of Broadcasters. Local broadcasters also conduct weekly tests. For more information about the Florida EAS Plan, please visit http://fab.org/eas-plan/.

NUREG 0654/FEMA-REP-1 establishes emergency notification requirements and criteria for Radiological Emergency Response Plans for Nuclear Power Plants.

COMMUNICATION TESTS

The State Watch Office conducts statewide communications tests that include all counties and other stations on a weekly basis. Participation in these tests is required in order for the Division to comply with statutory mandates.
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NETWORK SYSTEM [EMNET]

Emergency Management Network (EMnet) is primarily used for point-to-point voice calling and as an Emergency Alert System (EAS) messages initiation point to Florida broadcasters as well as the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), which can notify citizens via smartphones, weather radios, and other devices. EMnet remains installed in Florida’s Nuclear Power Plants, the Florida Fusion Center, Division Alternate Facilities, and some County Warning Points.

HOT RING DOWN for NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS [HRD]

As part of their operating license with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Duke Energy and Florida Power and Light operate and maintain HRD circuits between plant control rooms and emergency facilities, the County Warning Points and EOCs for counties within the 10 mile Emergency Planning Zone around the plants, the State Watch Office, and the DOH Bureau of Radiation Control. For more information, contact the SWO.

STATE COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS
STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT RADIO SYSTEM [SLERS]

On a daily basis, SLERS is used by the State Watch Office (SWO) and our FDEM Regional Coordinators to report their current location or communicate updates about incidents they are responding to. Additional staff members, when deployed, are also assigned a SLERS Radio. The Division is assigned 1 primary and 3 regional talk groups for its daily use, which are monitored by the SWO 24/7.

Other users of SLERS include FDLE, FHP, FWC, FDOT, DOH, FLNG, RAD control and both the Florida and US Forest Services. SLERS frequencies are encrypted, and cannot be monitored by conventional scanners.

FLORIDA INTEROPERABILITY NETWORK [FIN]

The Florida Interoperability Network (FIN) is an interoperable voice communications network based on the Motorola MotoBridge platform, which enables Emergency Responders using dissimilar radio systems and frequencies to communicate directly with each other. The FL Department of Management Services operates the system, which is currently installed in over 240 PSAPs statewide. The State Watch Office has a FIN terminal, which is monitored by our Operations Officers 24/7 (resource name: “SOFEOC”).

To use a regional mutual aid channel on FIN, or for assistance, contact your FHP Regional Communications Center (see the Important Contacts) section.

For more information on FIN: https://www.dms.myflorida.com/business_operations/state_technology/public_safety_communications/radio_communications_services/florida_interoperability_network_fin
MOBILE SATELLITE RADIO [MSAT]
MSAT allows the Watch Office to communicate with other SERT response partners & counties via private or group push-to-talk voice communications and place or receive satellite telephone calls. Florida currently has fifteen MSAT talk groups on the system: seven regional, one Emergency Management, two FDLE, two Department of Health, two FLNG, and one FDOT.

If you do not have an MSAT unit for push-to-talk, and are not able to reach the SWO by any other communication system, call our MSAT base station at (888) 890-5178.

IRIDIUM SATELLITE PHONES
A military grade asset, Iridium phones use a satellite network to provide reliable two-way backup communications in the event of cell network outages or failure. Phones include GPS tracking and SOS distress button, SMS and short email messaging capability.

To call the SWO from a Landline or Cell Phone: **011 + (480) 263-8838**

The Landline or Cell Phone (caller) is billed for an international call.

Iridium to Iridium Call:
00 + Iridium Number + GREEN Button
Ex: 004802638838
AMATEUR RADIO

Amateur radio has been a proven method to provide communications for local, State, and Federal authorities. If major communications infrastructure is lost during an emergency, amateur radio operators can be vital in establishing communication between State officials, local governments, and voluntary organizations active in disasters.

Your local Emergency Management office likely already has a list of local amateur radio operators on hand, and may involve local radio clubs in your county’s emergency exercises. If local operators are not available and their services are needed during an emergency, contact the State Communications Unit through the State Watch Office. The unit will communicate your request to regional amateur radio officials, who should be able to organize a qualified, trained radio team’s assistance during the emergency situation.

CALL SIGN AND FREQUENCIES

The call sign for the State EOC is KA4EOC and can be found on 147.285 pl 94.8, 3.950 MHz, 7.142 MHz, or 5.371 MHz USB and on SARNET (Statewide Amateur Radio Network) on UHF.

Communications checks with licensed amateur radio operators within county emergency management offices are conducted on a weekly basis. A list of SARNET towers and transmission frequencies can be found at www.sarnetfl.com/system-maps.html.
The State Watch Office (SWO) Incident Tracker is our web-based situational awareness tool that is used to document all active incidents statewide. The tool also has integrated mapping and notification capabilities. The SWO uses this tool to track day-to-day incidents and share information with other State, local, and Federal response partners.

Access to Incident Tracker and certain GATOR layers are For Official Use Only. To request an account, please contact the State Watch Office 24/7.

https://apps.floridadisaster.org/SWO/
Geospatial Assessment Tool for Operations and Response (GATOR) is an interactive web mapping tool for the display of geographic information to support emergency preparedness, operations, and response. Real-time data such as weather radar, weather watches and warnings, and tropical storm tracks are displayed along with base map data such as roads, facilities, wildfires, and aerial photographs. The public site is available at [http://map.floridadisaster.org/gator/](http://map.floridadisaster.org/gator/). Additional layers are available when logged in through SWO Incident Tracker.
WHEN TO REPORT AN INCIDENT TO THE STATE

In Florida, all incidents (with the exception of a Nuclear Power Plant incident) are handled first at the local level by a community’s first responders. Under Florida Statutes, certain incidents must be reported to the State Watch Office. In some cases, the reporting burden for hazardous materials or environmental impact incidents falls to the Responsible Party of the release.

Initial response actions to protect life or property should **ALWAYS** take precedence before making a notification to the State Watch Office; please notify us as soon you have the resources available to do so. A list of reportable incident types with specific guidelines and information to collect for each incident type follows in the next two sections of this guide.

In addition, we ask that you report any incident that:

- Is deteriorating, or requires mutual aid resources for initial response.
- Requires regional response or specialized assets, such as a HAZMAT team, Bomb Squad, Search and Rescue Team, etc.
- Has attracted an inordinate amount of attention from Florida media, or has attracted any attention from a national media outlet.
- Is likely to result in the declaration of a Local State of Emergency, or require State Assistance to stabilize and manage the incident.

**REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR ALL INCIDENTS**

- Name (or Operator Number), callback number, and the agency you are calling on behalf of.
- Exact location of the incident (street address, intersection mile marker, or latitude/longitude), and the time/date the incident occurred.
- Contact information for the responsible party (if known) or on-scene contact (when requesting a callback from the State).
- Any Injuries or Fatalities along with their location and severity.
- Any Major Road Closures, Evacuations, or Lockdowns.
- Any Hazardous Materials or Petroleum releases.
- Any need or anticipation for State Assistance.

After this information is given, be prepared to answer additional questions that are specific to the type of incident being reported.

**INCIDENT UPDATES**

Please call the Watch Office with updates as they become available. While we don’t want to interfere with local response efforts, we may call for an update on an incident’s status every 15-60 minutes if we have not already received one.
WHEN TO REPORT AN INCIDENT TO SWO

CONTACT METHODS

To report an incident, use any of the following methods. Order of preference is below.

Email: SWP@em.myflorida.com

Landline: (850) 815 - 4001 or (800) 320 - 0519

Alternate Landline: (850) 487 - 3234 or (850) 487 - 3228

Cell phone: (850) 591 - 0071

Fax: (850) 815 - 4979
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FIRE INCIDENT

Events to Report:
- Wildfires (Brush Fires)
  - 1 acre or more within an Urban interface.
  - Within 3 miles of any State or Federal highway.
  - 3 acres or more in an unpopulated area.
  - Any fire that requires protective actions.
- Commercial or Multi-Unit Residential Fire
- Residential Structure Fire
  - Any occupied multi-residential structure (apartment/condo)
  - Any occupied residential structure with displacements
  - Any residential structure that contains hazardous materials
- Industrial Fire

Information to Report:
Wildfire:
- What is the size of fire? (acreage)
- Number & type of threatened structures. (i.e. residential, commercial)
- Number of homes/businesses evacuated, if applicable.
- Location where evacuees are being sheltered.
- Has the Florida Forest Service (FFS) been notified?
  - Are they responding or on scene?
  - FFS incident number or fire name, if known.
- Where is the location of staging area / command post?
- Agencies responding?

Any Structure Fire:
- Structure type. (apartment, warehouse, health care facility, etc.)
- What are the agencies responding?
- What is the location of staging area / command post?
SEARCH AND RESCUE

Events to Report:
- Rescue beacons. (ELT / EPIRB / PLB)
- Structure collapse or Urban Search & Rescue response.
- Transportation incident requiring search & rescue.
- Industrial accidents.
- Law Enforcement search.

Information to Report:
- What type of situation is it (structural, industrial, transportation)?
- Are there any missing or overdue aircraft in the area?
- What structures or facilities are affected?
- What caused the incident?
- Number of people affected?
- Are there any unmet needs?
- What agencies/departments are responding?

Note about Rescue Beacons

In the U.S., the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) receives all distress signals from the three types of devices.

1-800-283-5955

For ELT/EPIRB, the AFRCC provides an information bulletin and will advise if the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) will attempt to locate the signal.

If a PLB is active, SWO will notify the County Warning Point and local law enforcement through MOU/MOAs between AFRCC and County Sheriff’s Offices. Local law enforcement must attempt to locate the signal, or contact the AFRCC to request a CAP mission.

ELT - Emergency Locator Transmitter (Aircraft)
EPIRB - Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (Marine)
PLB - Personal Locator Beacon
BOMB THREAT / DEVICE

Events to Report:
- Any bomb threat.
- Any report of a threat to inflict harm on large numbers of people or significant damage to critical infrastructure.
- Any device detonation.
- Any suspicious device.
- Any unexploded ordinance.

Information to Report:
- How was the threat received/ who found the device?
- The exact wording of the threat, if applicable?
- Description of the device?
- Is a search being conducted? By who?
- Are there any evacuations? How many? Where to?
- Who is on-scene?
CIVIL EVENTS

Events to Report:
- Planned Events (i.e. Republican National Convention, Super Bowl)
- Civil Disturbance
- Rioting

Information to Report:
- Was the event planned or announced?
- Cause of disturbance?
- Groups or organizations responsible?
- Number of people participating?
- Is the incident confined to one location?
- Law Enforcement agency coordinating response
- Departments / agencies on scene?
LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

Events to Report:
- Law Enforcement search or manhunt
- Active Shooter or Shooting
- Looting
- Poisoning
- Powder Incident

Information to Report:
- Description of incident?
- Description of individual(s) responsible?
- What areas are threatened?
- Law Enforcement agency coordinating response?
- Departments / agencies on scene?
**SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY**

**Events to Report:**
- Correctional facility incident (requiring outside assistance)
- Suspicious person or activity
- Infrastructure breach
- Lockdown (schools included)
- Security breach

**Information to Report:**
- Description of Incident.
- Description of individual responsible.
- Is the incident confined to one location?
- What Law Enforcement agency is coordinating response?
- What departments / agencies are on scene?

**FDLE Regional Fusion Centers**

- **Statewide - Florida Fusion Center (FFC)**
- **Northwest Florida Fusion Center (NWFFC)**
- **North Florida Fusion eXchange (NFFX)**
- **Northeast Florida Fusion Center (NEFFC)**
- **Tampa Bay Regional Intelligence Center (TBRIC)**
- **Central Florida Intelligence eXchange (CFIX)**
- **Southeast Florida Fusion Center (SEFFC)**
- **Southwest Florida Fusion Center (RSIX)**
MASS MIGRATION

Events to Report:
• Migrant landings

Information to Report:
• Were they intercepted at sea or did they make landfall?
• Number of vessels
• Number of migrants (men, women, children)
• Citizenship or ethnicity of migrants
• Has U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) been notified?
• Have any migrants been quarantined? What facility?
• Any injuries or fatalities?
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SEVERE WEATHER

Events to Report:
- Any incident associated with weather phenomena involving:
  - Possible or confirmed damage to infrastructure or buildings.
  - Significant impacts to the natural environment.
  - Injuries or fatalities, protective actions, evacuations, or sheltering of victims (in-place or otherwise).
- Major road closures due to downed trees and/or power lines.
- Hail greater than 1” (quarter size or larger).
- Funnel cloud and tornado reports.
- Flooding (any abnormal rise of freshwater or saltwater) that is resulting in major road closures or entering/threatening structures.
- Any roadways or bridges closed due to icy or snowy conditions.

Information to Report:
- Damage report and location.
- Type and number of structure(s) damaged.
- Estimated time of occurrence.
- Any displacements.
- Road/waterway closures associated with weather phenomena.
- Critical infrastructure impacted.
EARTHQUAKE / SINKHOLE

Events to Report:
- Earthquake / Aftershock
- Landslide
- Subsidence or Sinkhole

Information to Report:

Earthquake or Aftershock:
- Magnitude
- Location
- Depth

Subsidence or Sinkhole:
- Dimensions and depth?
- Is rock visible in the feature?
- Is water at the bottom of the feature?
- If so, what is the source of the water?
- Any surface or sub-surface structures or utilities threatened or damaged?

All Incidents in this category will also include:
- What agencies are responding?
- What agencies have been notified?
**POPULATION PROTECTION**

*Events to Report:*
- Shelter-in-place orders.
- Evacuation orders.
- Emergency shelter openings.

*Information to Report:*

**Shelter-in-Place / Evacuation Order:**
- What is the reason for the order?
- Where is the impacted area?
- Which department or agency ordered it?
- What is the duration of the order?
- Number of residences impacted?
- Number of businesses impacted?
- Total number of individuals impacted (if known)?

**Shelter Openings:**
- Shelter name.
- Shelter address.
- Hours of operation.
- Contact information for the shelter.
- Capacity of the shelter.
- Current population.
PUBLIC HEALTH

Events to Report:
- Any suspected or confirmed infectious disease.
- Public health hazards.
- Mass casualty/fatality incidents.
- Incidents affecting health care facilities.

Information to Report:

Infectious Disease (reported in coordination with your County Health Department):
- The name or type of disease (if known)?
- Number of people ill or infected?
- What tests or examinations are planned or occurring?
- Is there a quarantine in effect?
  - If yes, where?

Public Health Hazard:
- What is the hazard?
- Is a callback from any state agency requested?

Mass Casualty:
- What level of MCI has been declared / number of patients?
- Known status of patients?
  - Critical, Immediate, Delayed & Deceased.
- Location of triage/treatment area?
- Which agency is coordinating the MCI?
- Are there any unmet needs?
- Is a callback from any state agency requested?

Impact to Healthcare Facility:
- Number of patients affected?
- Is the facility damaged?
- Is the facility being evacuated
  - If so, where?
- Is the facility accepting new patients?
  - If no, where have they been diverted to?
- Are there any unmet needs?
- Is a callback from DOH or the State Agency having jurisdiction requested?
PETROLEUM SPILL

Events to Report (62S-6, F.A.C.):
- Spills into or involving water or storm drain (any amount).
- Spills greater than 25 gallons on land (or potentially 25 gallons).
- Spills requiring any state/federal notification or assistance.
- Spills that may involve health issues, injuries, fatalities or that require protective actions, evacuations, or sheltering of victims (in-place or other).

Information to Report:
- Type of product.
- Quantity that has been released.
- What is its odor and color?
- What is the source or container?
- Where was it released?
- What is the cause of the release?
- Rate of the release?
- What time was the release discovered and secured?
- Were any storm drains affected?
  - If so, where do they drain to?
- Were any waterways affected?
  - If so, what is it called?
- Have any clean-up actions been performed?
- Is a callback from DEP requested?
WASTEWATER RELEASE


- Any release of wastewater (treated or untreated) including but not limited to wastewater treatment facility spills, broken force mains, lift station failures, overflow, etc.

Information to Report:

- Public System ID or DEP Permit Number.
- What is the name of the system?
- What is the type of system it is?
- What type of wastewater is it?
- How much was released?
- Where did the release come from?
- Has the release stopped?
  - If so, when?
- Was the release contained on-site at a water reclamation facility?
- Were any storm water systems impacted?
- Did the release enter any surface waters?
  - If so, was the water a source of drinking water?
- What clean-up actions are taking place?
- What is the status of clean-up actions?
HAZMAT

Events to Report:
- All Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) spills and releases.
- All CERCLA/EPCRA Section 304 chemicals released that meet or exceed their reportable quantity (see http://www.epa.gov/oem/tools.htm#lol).
- All spills or releases that may involve health issues, injuries, fatalities or that require protective actions.
- Any natural gas or propane releases.

Information to Report:

Chemical Agent:
- Type of agent.
- Agent name.
- Total quantity released.

Biological Hazard:
- Common name and scientific name.
- Hazard description.
- Total quantity released.

Radiological Material:
- Radiation type.
- Isotope name.
- Is any local or regional assistance requested?

Toxic Industrial Chemical:
- Chemical and index name?
- CAS Number?
- Section 304 or CERCLA reportable quantity?
- Chemical state?
- Total quantity released.
- Rate of release.
- Cause of release.
- Time discovered? Secured?
- Were any storm drains affected?
- Any waterways affected?
- Is a callback from DEP requested?

All of the Above Include:
- Container or device description
NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

- **St. Lucie NPP** - Risk Counties - Martin, St. Lucie.
  Host Counties - Brevard, Indian River, Palm Beach.
  Ingestion Counties - Glades, Highlands, Okeechobee, Osceola

- **Turkey Point NPP** - Risk Counties - Miami-Dade, Monroe.
  Host Counties - None.
  Ingestion Counties - Broward, Collier

- **Farley NPP (Alabama)** - Risk Counties - None.
  Host Counties - None.
  Ingestion Counties - Bay, Calhoun, Gadsden, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Washington

**Events to Report (Reported by the NPP to the Counties):**

- **Unusual Event** - Events are in process or have occurred that indicate a potential degradation of the level of safety of the plant or indicate a security threat to facility protection has occurred. No releases of radioactive material requiring off-site response or monitoring is expected unless further degradation of safety systems occurs.

- **Alert** - Events are in process or have occurred that involve an actual or potential substantial degradation of the level of safety of the plant, or a security event that involves probable life-threatening risk to site personnel or damage to site equipment because of hostile action.

- **Site Area Emergency** - Events are in process or have occurred that involve an actual or likely major failure of plant functions needed for protection of the public, or hostile action that results in intentional damage or malicious acts (1) toward site personnel or equipment that could lead to the likely failure of the facility, or (2) that prevent effective access to equipment needed for the protection of the public.

- **General Emergency** - Events are in process or have occurred that involve actual or imminent substantial core degradation or melting with potential for loss of containment integrity, or hostile action that results in an actual loss of physical control of the facility.

**Information to Report:**

Each Nuclear Power Plant has an Emergency Notification Form that is disseminated through the State Watch Office to the affected / impacted counties. Also refer to ‘Information to Report’ under ‘Radiological Material’ section on previous page.
ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME

Events to Report:
- Report of an alleged environmental crime.

Information to Report:
- What materials are involved?
- How long has the crime been occurring?
- What is the description of the individual/parties involved?
- What is the description of the vehicles involved?
- Were any waterways affected?
- If so, what are the names of the waterways?
- Have you contacted local Code Enforcement?
- If so, what actions has it taken?
- Would you like a call-back from an FWC Officer?
ANIMAL / AGRICULTURE

Events to Report:
- Suspected or confirmed animal disease.
- Suspected or confirmed agricultural disease.
- Crop failure.
- Food supply contamination.

Information to Report:

Animal Disease:
- What animals are affected?
- What type of disease is it?
- Number of animals infected?
- Number of animals deceased?
- What tests or exams are occurring or planned?
- Is there a quarantine in effect?
  - If so, where?
- Were any humans affected?
- Are there any human fatalities?

Agriculture Disease/Crop Failure:
- What crop(s) are affected?
- What type of disease?
- How many acres are affected?

Food Supply Contamination:
- What type/brand of food is affected?
- Where was it manufactured?
- What is the affected lot number(s)?
- What is the affected date range?
- Has a recall been issued?
ROAD / BRIDGE ISSUE

Events to Report:
- All incidents involving blockage or closure of, state, federal or interstate highways, major local roads, and/or evacuation routes.
- Bridge collapse, closure, or structure damage.

Information to Report:
- What is the roadway or bridge name?
- Location it is closed at? (Address, Intersection, Exit Ramp, Mile Marker, etc.)
- How many lanes are closed and what direction-bound traffic is affected?
- Reason for closure
- What is the duration of the closure?
- What department has the road/bridge closed?
- What agencies/departments are on-scene?
- Are there injuries and/or fatalities?
- Are there any petroleum spills?

What is a “major local road” closure?
A “major local road” is generally considered to be a roadway that has four or more lanes (or in rural areas, a two-lane roadway that serves as the primary circulation route between two populated areas) which if closed for an extended duration of time, would result in an extensive detour. Official state evacuation routes are also considered a major local road closure.

Neighborhood streets and other secondary roadways that are intersected by other surrounding streets are not considered a “major local road” and should not be reported unless there are other reportable hazards associated with the closure.

If in doubt, contact the State Watch Office and our Operations Officers will discuss the closure with you, and advise whether or not we will start a state Situational Awareness incident on the closure.
AIRCRAFT / AIRPORT

- All aircraft / airport accidents or hijacking (private, commercial, military)
- Airport incidents that result in lockdown or closure of terminal

Information to Report:

Aircraft Incident:
- Type of aircraft
- Make and model
- Tail number
- Owned/operated by
- Cause of incident
- Is there a fire?
- Number of people onboard
- Any injuries and/or fatalities
- Are other structures or roadways involved?
- Are there any Hazardous Materials on-board?
  - If so, were any released?
- Was any petroleum spilled?
- Any evacuations

Non-Security Airport Alerts:

- Alert I: An approaching aircraft indicates to the airport that it has a minor difficulty; e.g., feathered propeller, oil leak, etc. The emergency equipment and crews would standby at the equipment house for further instructions.

- Alert II: An approaching aircraft indicates to the airport that it has a major difficulty; e.g., engine on fire, faulty landing gear, no hydraulic pressure, etc. This could mean emergency equipment would proceed to a predetermined location (end of runway, etc.) to await development of the potential emergency.

- Alert III: An aircraft indicating that it is involved in an accident on or near the airport and emergency equipment should proceed immediately to the scene.
MARINE INCIDENT

Events to Report:
- Any marine accident.
- Any marine hijacking.
- Any vessel sinking.
- Any major waterway or shipping channel blocked.
- Port closure or major transportation channel blockage.
- Port Authority ordered closure (reason for closure).

Information to Report:
- Vessel name / type.
- Cause of accident.
- Hull length
- Flag
- Registration number.
- Owner/Operator?
- Were there any people onboard?
- Any fires?
- Names of waterways affected.
- Any waterways closed?
- Any hazardous materials or petroleum on board?
RAILROAD

Events to Report:
• All railroad incidents (passenger and commercial).

Rail Incident:
• Type of train.
• Name of the operating company.
• Train Number
• Rail Line
• Mile Post
• DOT Crossing Number
• What was the cause?
• Is there a Derailment?
• Are there any Hazardous Materials on-board?
  • If so, were any released?

NOTE: In a rail accident or emergency involving the release of hazardous materials, the State Watch Office can assist in obtaining information about the train or cargo if the records carried in the locomotive are not accessible by responders on-scene. Try to obtain specific locomotive or car numbers when requesting this assistance.
DRINKING WATER INCIDENT

**Events to Report:**

- Any incident involving contamination or disturbance to public water sources (drinking water facility, wells, pump houses, etc.).
- Any issuance of a “Boil Water Notice”.

**Information to Report:**

**Drinking Water Facility:**

- What is your Public System ID Number?
- What is the facility name?
- Was there any trespassing, vandalism, or theft?
  - If so, what occurred?
- Was there any damage to the facility or distribution system?
- If so, was it intentional? What kind of damage?
- Was ANY access made to the water supply?
- Is there any degradation to the water quality, system pressure, or water production?
- Description of the individual(s) responsible?
- Has local Law Enforcement been contacted?
  - If so, what is the case number?

**Boil Water Advisory:**

- What is your Public System ID Number?
- Cause of incident.
- How many customers are affected?
- Affected areas?
**DAM FAILURE**

**Events to Report:**
- Any potential or confirmed dam, dike, OR levee failure.

**Information to Report:**
- What is the dam/dike/levee name?
- Who is responsible for maintaining the dam?
- Related waterways / tributaries?
- Pool volume / capacity behind the dam?
- Has a break occurred?
  - If so, what caused the failure?
- Is there a threat to downstream populations?
  - If so, how large of an area and how many are affected?
- What corrective actions are being taken?
- Estimated date and time of when the repairs will be complete?
- Are there any evacuations?
- Are there any road closures?
- Are there any injuries and/or fatalities?
- What agencies are responding?
- Where is the location of the Staging Area or Command Post?
- Do you anticipate the need for state assistance?
UTILITY EMERGENCY / ISSUE

Events to Report:
- Telecommunications outage
- Drinking water outage
- Electric outage
- Electric generating capacity advisory
- Natural gas outage

Information to Report:

Telecommunications Outage:
- Name of the communications system. System operated by?
- How many customers are affected?
- Is 911 telephone service affected?
- Any damage to the facility or distribution system?

Drinking Water Outage:
- System name and ID number.
- How many customers are affected?
- Is this the result of trespassing, vandalism, or a security breach?
- Estimated time of restoration?
- Was a “Boil Water Advisory” issued?

Electric Outage:
- Name of the system. Who is it operated by?
- What caused the outage?
- How many customers are affected?
- When is the estimated time to 98% or greater restoration?
- Is there any damage to the facility or distribution system?
- Has the utility company been notified?

Generating Capacity Advisory:
- Is it an Advisory, Alert, or Emergency?
- Is it due to a fuel shortage?
- What is in the text of the advisory?

Natural Gas Outage:
- System name. Who is it operated by?
- How many customers are affected?
- Estimated time to restoration?
- Is there any damage to the facility or distribution system?
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MILITARY / SPACE EVENTS

Kennedy Space Center Launches
The SWO monitors and documents launches from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and Kennedy Space Center. Brevard County will notify the SWO about an impending launch (usually 72 hours in advance). All launch window times, scrubbed launches, and successful launches are noted in the SWO Incident Tracker and state and local partners are notified for situational awareness.

Initial Launch Notification:
- Launch Location
- Mission Name
- Mission Launch Date
- Launch Window Start/End
- Staff report to operations center by: (date/time)
- County EOC Activate by: (date/time)
- Next Launch Notification date

Other Military Activity
Florida plays a major role in our Nation’s Defense Industrial Base, with many active installations, training sites, and DOD contractors in the state. Periodically, certain exercises will be communicated to the state for our situational awareness. When appropriate, this information will be communicated to County Emergency Management officials.
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