

WF Observations

Quarterly Newsletter for the South Florida Emergency Management and Spotter Community
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FPL Receives Mark Trail Award

South Dade NOAA Weather Radio Praised

Florida Power and Light (FP&L) has been honored for its work in expanding the NOAA Weather Radio transmitter coverage in south Miami-Dade County, including the adjacent coastal waters and Biscayne Bay, with a NOAA Mark Trail Award.

Mark Trail Awards are presented to individuals, local governments, organizations and corporations, highlighting their community actions, gifts, and response to NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts, which exemplify the radio's lifesaving benefits.

March Cooler, Wetter Than Normal

Our weather pattern changed dramatically in March! After record dryness from November 2004, through February 2005, all reporting stations in South Florida received above normal rainfall for March, ranging from around 4 inches at Miami to over 6 inches at West Palm Beach. Normal rainfall ranges from 2 to 3.5 inches across South Florida.

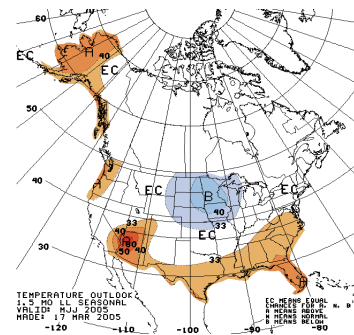
Temperatures were mostly below normal, ranging from near normal on the Gulf coast at Naples to as much as 1.6 degrees below normal at West Palm Beach.

NWS Tsunami Plan Taking Shape for Florida Counties

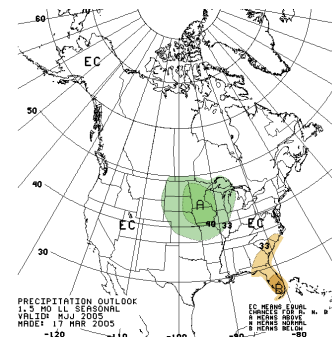
Because of the remote but still real possibility of a tsunami in the Atlantic Basin, the NWS has implemented a multi-phase plan to alert people along the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf Coasts in case a tsunami should threaten. Beginning on April 20, 2005, the NWS tsunami warning plan for the Atlantic includes monitoring the tsunami threat by the West Coast & Alaska Tsunami Warning Center (WC/ATWC) in Anchorage, AK. If a likely tsunami is detected by the WC/ATWC they will send, depending on the actual threat, either a Tsunami Warning, Tsunami Watch, or Tsunami Information Bulletin to Miami Weather Forecast Office (WFO). WFO Miami will then disseminate this information through our normal warning channels including NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) and the Emergency Alert System (EAS) as well as through the Family of Services (FOS).

The NWS has embarked on a program entitled TsunamiReady. Many of the components of the TsunamiReady Program are similar to the successful StormReady Program. Counties that are StormReady have already fulfilled many of the TsunamiReady requirements. Please contact the WFO Miami WCM if you would like more information about this program.

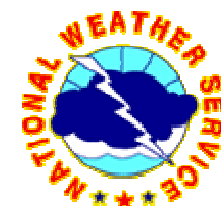
CPC Outlook for May Jun Jul



Above normal temps



Below normal precipitation



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