# FEMA Preparedness Call



May 1, 2012



# Agenda

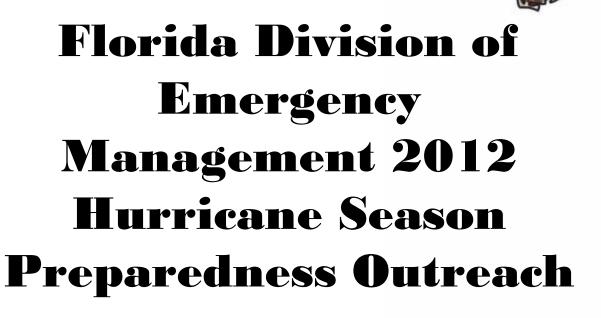
- Welcome/Technical Overview
- Ready.gov Welcoming Comments, Chris Bernstein, Web Program Manager
- 2012 Hurricane Season Preparedness Outreach William Booher,
   External Affairs Director, Florida Division of Emergency Management
- Great Hurricane Blowout.org Trenise Lyons
- Hurricane Irene Preparedness Activities Cindy O'Neill-Vitale,
   Fairfield, Connecticut CERT
- Improving Assistance for Disaster Survivors Karole Johns, Program Manager, Disaster Assistance Improvement Program
- Question and Answer Session





State Emergency Response Team www.FloridaDisaster.org











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Get A Plan!







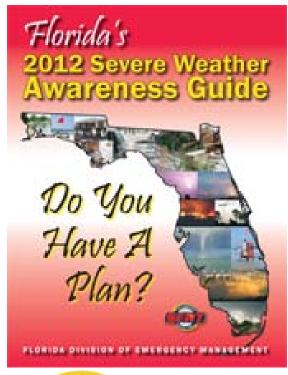


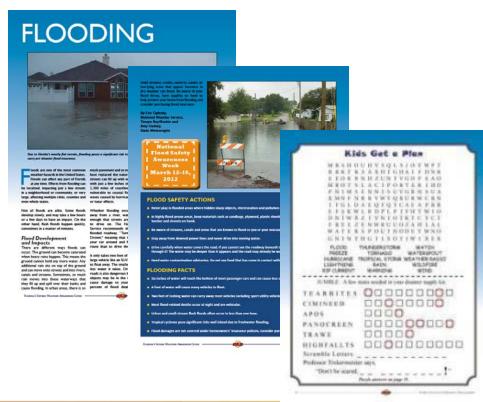


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# **Severe Weather Awareness Guide**







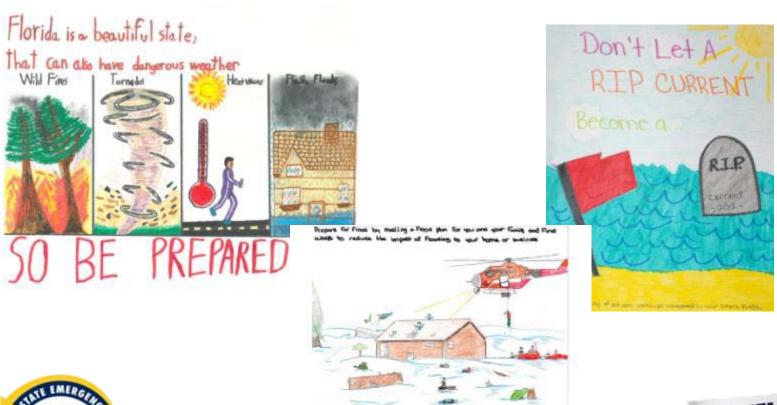




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# **Severe Weather Awareness Student Contest**









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# <u>Local Expos</u>

- Hurricane Awareness Tour
- Hurricane Preparedness Day
  - County & State

WeatherFest (NWS)







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Florida Division of Emergency Management

"Severe Weather Awareness Week" Video Contest

# **Public Service Announcements**

 FloridaEvacuates with The Weather Channel

Hurricane Season PSAs

Airing of Severe Weather
 Awareness Week video contest

winners







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# FloridaEvacuates.Org















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# Partnership with Radio Disney

Severe Weather Awareness
 Week

Education in the Park

Florida State Fair

Holiday Concert







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# Florida Outdoor Advertising Association











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# <u>June 1, 2012</u>













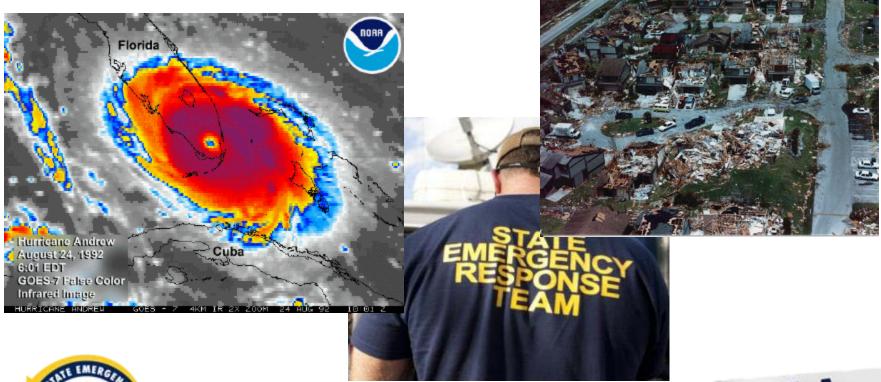




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# **Hurricane Andrew: 20 Years Later**









# The Great Hurricane Blowout Year Three!

May 1, 2012



### The Great Hurricane Blowout









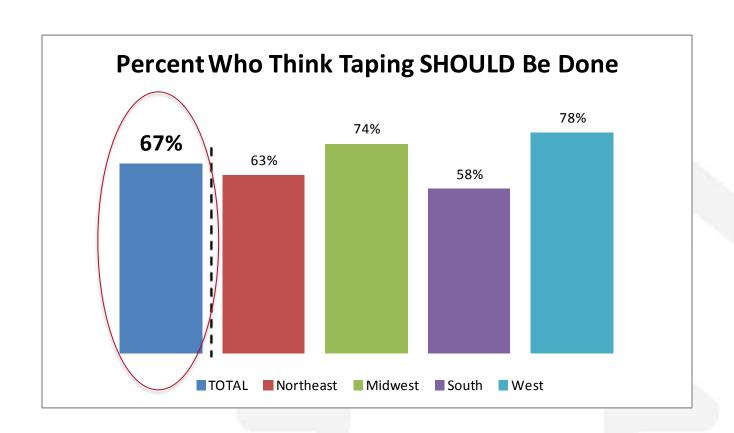






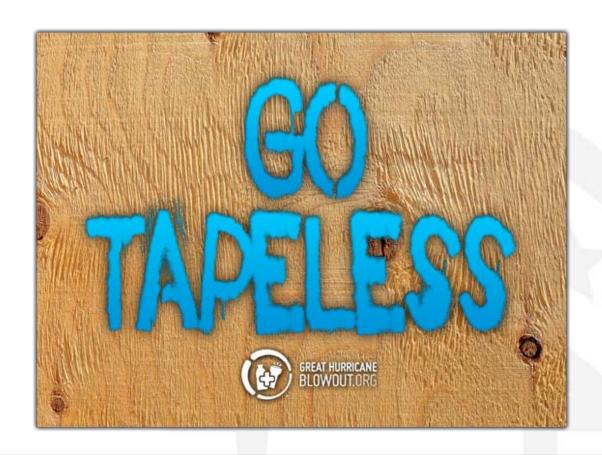


# The Great Hurricane Blowout - The Numbers





# The Great Hurricane Blowout – Go Tapeless





# Go Tapeless Launch at Nat'l Hurricane Conference





# The Great Hurricane Blowout – Tapeless Champions Recruitment







### The Great Hurricane Blowout







### Resources Available



In just one hour, you can create your family's

hurricane emergency plan. Having a family emergency

season. Plans should include important documents like

copies of insurance policies, the deed to your home,

and other personal papers. You also want to include

your evacuation information, a shelter in place plan,

important phone numbers and a home inventory. Create your family's personalized plan

Build Your Storm Kit

plan is the first step to getting ready for hurricane

#### Watch & Learn



#### Watch & Learn



#### Watch & Learn



■ 00:38/09:33 - → + □ It will only take an hour to pull together the items you

### One Day ACTIVITIES

#### Hurricane Resistant Landscaping

In a high wind event anything can become a dangerous flying object. Inspect your property to identify any potential landscaping issues. You can then use this document to consult with a professional landscaper if necessary.

#### What to look for in your trees

GO SUBSCRIBE

If you see any of the issues below, you may have a weakened tree that can potentially come down, lose a limb or cause other problems during a hurricane. Signs include:

- · Cracks in the trunk of major limbs
- . Trees that look one-sided or lean significantly
- . Branches hanging over the house or near the roof
- . Limbs in contact with power lines
- . Mushrooms growing from the bark signaling decay
- Insect infestations

#### Caring for your trees

- · Regular and proper pruning can strengthen the health and vitality of your trees.
- Removal of dead, diseased or damaged parts of the tree will also stop the spread of disease and harmful insects that can significantly weaken or destroy your tree.
- · Avoid pruning branches flush to the tree. Doing so removes not only the limb but part of the trunk, opening the tree to possible decay or insect damage.

#### If you are planting new trees

Some varieties of trees are more prone to storm damage than others. City foresters, county extension offices, local nurseries and landscape firms can provide advice on tree selection for your area and soil conditions.



#### anchors

ly be used because different ood frame versus masonry lag screws and plastic coated nry homes use expansion bolts expansion anchors



One Weekend

ACTIVITIES

ing and Installing Plywood Shutters













**Find Your Peril** 

Select

### Contact

# Great Hurricane Blowout



Trenise Lyons trenise@flash.org 850-385-7233 x. 112

www.flash.org

## 2012 FLASH Annual Meeting: You're Invited



### **2012 Annual Meeting**

### **Open Sourcing the Disaster Safety Movement**

October 31 - November 2

**Disney Contemporary Hotel** 





# Overview – Fairfield CERT

- Part 1 Setting the Stage
- Part 2 Fairfield CERT
- Part 3 Local Activities / CERT Activities
- Part 4 Observations and Moving Forward

# Hurricane Irene Stats

- Formed August 20, 2011 –
   Dissipated August 29, 2011
- Sustained Winds 120mph
- Approximately 49 fatalities
- Estimated 18.7 billion in damages
- Affected: Lesser Antilles, Turks and Caicos, Bahamas, Eastern United States with landfall in NC, CT, NJ, NY and Eastern Canada

# **Hurricane Irene Stats**

- Ninth named storm, first hurricane and first major hurricane of 2011 season
- First hurricane to make landfall in the US since Hurricane Ike in 2008
- Seventh costliest hurricane in United States history, only behind Hurricane Andrew 1992, Hurricanes Charley and Ivan 2004, Hurricanes Wilma and Katrina 2005, and Hurricane Ike 2008

 <sup>^</sup> a b c Lixion A. Avila and John Cangialosi (December 14, 2011). "Hurricane Irene Tropical Cyclone Report" (PDF).
National Hurricane Center. Retrieved February 18, 2012.

# **East Coast Preparations**

- Six Major League Baseball games were postponed or moved to another date
- One National Football League preseason game was postponed, The Barclays golf tournament was shortened and three Major League Soccer games were postponed
- Hundreds of thousands of people evacuated near coastal areas, and hundreds of shelters were prepared

# **CT State Preparations**

- Thursday, August 25 CT Governor Dannel Malloy declared a state of emergency and the state's emergency operations center was fully activated
- Friday, August 26 Southern CT, along Long Island Sound, had a hurricane warning in place
  - Northern CT had a tropical storm warning in place
- Saturday, August 27 Metro-North Commuter Railway and Amtrak temporarily halts train service

# Fairfield Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

- Established 2007
- August of 2011 over 60 active CERT members

**Mission:** Assist local emergency management agencies in disaster, crisis and emergency response.

To promote safety education, emergency and disaster preparedness.

Address the needs (including rescue, care, and shelter) of individuals with household pets and service animals prior to, during and following a major disaster or emergency.

- Training: Basic CERT Course, NIMS Training, Shelter Operations and Shelter Management by ARC, Pet Sheltering by ACO and Veterinarian
- Additional training

 Tuesday, August 23 – EMD contacts CERT President to alert possible activation based on hurricane path

Fairfield CERT President contacts team members to determine availability should the town decide to open a shelter

Fairfield BOE alerted to possible shelter operations (FLHS used as shelter)

 Thursday, August 25 – Likely probability of shelter opening Fairfield CERT President prepares shift assignments

Friday, August 26 – Fairfield CERT President meets town
 Assistant EMD, Deputy Fire Chief Art Reid. Meet with
 Utility Company to confirm generators, electric and
 air conditioning will work. Walk through of FLHS shelter.
 Meet with custodial staff

Meeting at First Selectman's Office to review hurricane preparations. Present at the meeting were EMD, FFD, FPD, BOE, Utilities, Health Department/MRC, Public Works, Red Cross and CERT

CERT is officially activated by EMD (NO self activation in CT)

 Friday, August 26 - Health Department/MRC is officially activated and will support and partner with CERT in shelter operations

Fairfield Animal Control is officially informed that a pet shelter would be opened and co-located at FLHS

 Saturday, August 27 - Town residents are notified (through reverse 911, TV, radio and town website) that a People and co-located Pet Shelter will open at noon

Town residents are notified of a voluntary evacuation and told that it would become mandatory at noon

 Saturday, August 27 - Expected impact to the town from Saturday at 4:00pm through Sunday at 4:00pm

Fairfield First Selectman closed Town facilities Saturday at 8:00am

CERT team members and Health Department/MRC team members meet at FLHS Shelter at 8:00am Saturday

Shelter trailers and the Health Department truck were unloaded

 Saturday, August 27 - FLHS Shelter is set up: including registration, dormitory, feeding area, recreation room and medical room

ACO (Animal Control Officer, Vinnie Pennatto), along with CERT team members, set up the Pet Shelter (30 crates pre-assembled)

IC was established: Incident Command (Shelter Manager) – CERT

Health Department/MRC took over food operations

Health Department/MRC supported the shelter with a Doctor and a Nurse for all shifts and additional support for registration

### Media Headlines



- Based loosely on ARC shelter structure
- Outdoor signage secured in place
- Teams set up: Registration, Dormitory, Feeding,
   Communications, Medical, Pet Shelter, Recreation, Security
- Medical room set up and staffed by Health Department/MRC to provide care for guests with special medical needs

- General Population Dormitory set up in large gymnasium
- Second gymnasium (small) available if needed
- Entertainment Room with movies and games (Health Department/MRC supported this effort)
- Volunteer Lounge and sleeping quarters established
- Radio/Communications room established

- Shifts (12.5 hours)
- Registration
   (12:15 pm first family registers 10 members + 1 pet)
- Communications flowed from EMD to IC CERT (Shelter Manager) to shelter volunteers and shelter guests
- Methods used: cell phone, land line, e-mail, txt messaging, radios – flexibility
- Announcements and status updates about the storm, flooding, power outages, damage...









- PD and FD periodic walk through of shelter (visual id)
- EMT Services positioned outside of entry way in an ambulance
- Guest count 3x a day. Guests responsible for walking and feeding their own pets
- Casual Atmosphere. Guests visited with staff. Younger guests helped with tasks. Custodial staff was amazing

### **Event Stats**

- 85 Guests / 1 Handicapped / 5 arrive by ambulance
- 2 Homeless
- 13 Pets
- Shelter Opens Saturday / Closes Monday
- 26 CERT members / 350 CERT volunteer hours
- Food Donations Made
- Spontaneous Volunteers
- 1 cot stolen

### **Event Stats**







- In Fairfield, CT, five homes were damaged beyond repair by flooding and storm surge along the coastline
- The storm hit the shoreline in concert with a strong high tide, causing a surge that swamped roads and homes from Fairfield
- Along Fairfield Beach Road in Fairfield, flood waters surrounded homes, with the waters of the sound rising a 1/4 mile from the shoreline

### **Event Stats**





 Sunday, August 28 - 754,000 customers, about half the state, were without power

Route 15, The Merritt Parkway, was closed from the NY State line to Meriden due to fallen trees

Schools delayed opening for 3 days

# Take-aways

- Health Department/MRC important partner in shelter operations
- Custodial staff Keys to the Kingdom
- Communication with EOC / EMD was excellent
- Flexibility, flexibility, flexibility
- Set up and break down was flawless
- Exterior/Interior signage needs improvement

# Take-aways

- ID Tags: volunteer and shelter guests
- Communications with in the shelter need tweaking
- Support Services: Social Services and/or Psychologist
- Depth of staffing an issue for longer term
- Closing shelter: unexpected challenges
- Other CERTs in CT were active in additional areas: traffic control, commodity distribution, ham radio, EOC support, use of social media

### **Continuing Community Preparations**

- CERT Public Education series of newspaper articles targeting sheltering, expectation, what to bring
- Website development on town web site to include Fairfield CERT, preparedness information and recruitment for spontaneous volunteers
- Facebook for CERT private and only to communicate amongst our group as needed
- Planning tabletop in June: topic is sheltering



# DisasterAssistance.gov: Overview

Improving Assistance for Disaster Survivors

#### **Overview**

- Genesis of DisasterAssistance.gov
- DAIP Integration and Future Functionality
- DHS, FEMA and the DAIP E-gov Initiative
- DisasterAssistance.gov and Resources Available
- Recognition
- Contact information



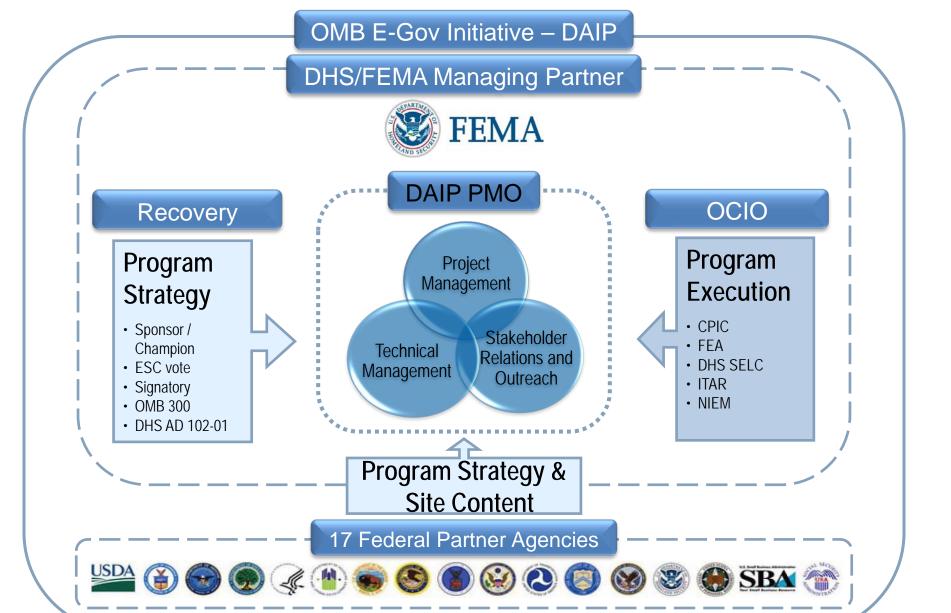
#### Genesis of DisasterAssistance.gov

- In the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma, the President called for Federal agencies to improve delivery of Federal disaster assistance
- Interagency Disaster Assistance Task
   Force comprised14 agencies headed by
   the Department of Homeland Security
   (DHS) and produced the Disaster
   Assistance Improvement Plan
- Disaster Assistance Improvement Plan led to the Disaster Assistance Improvement Program (DAIP), combining efforts and resources of 17 Federal agencies to help disaster survivors
- DisasterAssistance.gov launched an initial operating capability on December 31, 2008





Disaster Survivors





### Disaster Assistance. gov





#### DAIP Resources Available

- Program Management Office (<u>DAIP-PMO@dhs.gov</u>)
- 72 Forms of Assistance available (and growing)
- Fact Sheets, How-To Guides, Information Materials
- Outreach and briefing availability



### Recognition

- Mentioned as one of the top five government Web sites by Congress.org for making "important information easily available to citizens"
- Received Government Computer News Award for Government IT Achievement
- Named one of the nine Federal information technology program finalists for the American Council for Technology's Intergovernmental Solutions Awards, which recognize innovative use of technology to improve citizen services
- Received 2009 Best of NIEM Award presented by the National Information Exchange Model Program Office for intergovernmental collaboration and use of innovative technology
- Received a 2010 Commendation of Merit from the Society for New Communications Research for *DisasterAssistance.gov Digest's* pioneering the use Internet communications technologies



#### **Contact Information**

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