

Currently in the Coalition

Updates from the Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition—July 2023

Health Care Facility Water and Other Utility Outages

The Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response, or ASPR, compiled some particularly timely topics in their most recent issue of [The Exchange \(Issue 17\)](#). Those of you who participated in our most recent mass casualty exercise will see some commonalities! So we thought we would share this issue with you, in hopes that these lessons learned make it into your stack of summer reading. Enjoy!

Natural disasters remain an ongoing threat, something our colleagues in health emergency readiness and response know all too well. As temperatures rise and we approach hurricane season, we at ASPR encourage you to review your plans, supplies, and memoranda of understanding, and conduct exercises to determine what your facility would do in the event of a long-term utility outage.

The below articles focuses on the experiences and lessons learned by health care facilities and systems that endured water and other utility outages because of severe weather. We examine the effect of the Jackson, Mississippi's long-term water outage on a health care system; how HCA Houston Tomball has incorporated lessons learned after 2021's winter storm Uri led to power and water outages in several hospitals in Texas; the significant effect of Hurricane Ian on hospitals in Florida; and how the Northwest Health care Response Network worked with hospitals across Seattle and beyond to manage a severe heat event in 2021. These articles emphasize the importance of local, state, and regional partnerships and the need for regular exercises of our emergency response plans.

- [Crisis in Mississippi: The Emergency Management and Hospital Response to the City of Jackson's Water Outage](#)
- [No-Notice Health Care Facility Water Loss: HCA Houston Healthcare Tomball's Experience](#)
- [The Hurricane Ian Experience at Lee Health: Wreckage, Resilience, and Recovery](#)
- [Extreme Heat Events: Lessons from Seattle's Record-Breaking Summers](#)



Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition

Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk & Sumter Counties

[Key Contacts](#)

Hunter Zager
Preparedness Coordinator
Hunter.Zager@TampaBayHMPC.org
(727) 580-2431

Franklin Riddle
Executive Director
Franklin.Riddle@TampaBayHMPC.org
(727) 313-0625

Turea Sheppard
Administrative Assistant
TBHMPC2@gmail.com
(727) 580-1024

www.tampabayhmpc.org



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Upcoming Coalition Meetings

Manatee CHAMP:
July 12th

Hernando County ESF-8
Working Group:
July 13th

Pinellas CHAMP:
July 14th

Polk County Health
Care Coalition:
July 17th

Hillsborough County
Health Care Coalition:
July 20th

Citrus County ESF-8
Working Group:
July 26th

For more info on attending these meetings, please reach out to the County Chairperson. Contact info is available on [our website](#).



TRACIE
HEALTHCARE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
INFORMATION GATEWAY

Important Info & Updates

July is Extreme Heat Month: FEMA Announces First #SummerReady Extreme Heat Campaign to Promote Preparedness and Resilience This Summer

The #SummerReady campaign seeks to help mitigate this risk by reaching targeted populations and boosting awareness of the impacts of extreme heat, while highlighting straightforward steps individuals and families can take to prepare. This campaign will not only offer easy-to-understand messaging and safety tips for the public but will also provide government stakeholders, emergency managers and members of the media with FEMA resources they can use to communicate these risks to residents and mitigate the impacts of extreme heat events in their communities.

“As we enter the summer months, the National Weather Service has already issued more than 100 heat advisories and warnings throughout portions of the country including record temperatures in Puerto Rico and Texas,” said FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell. “We know extreme heat temperatures lead to more heat-related illnesses and deaths, especially among already vulnerable populations. The #SummerReady campaign is another example of FEMA leaning forward to ensure that communities, and the leaders that serve them, have the resources and information needed to protect against extreme heat and other hazards.”

The #SummerReady campaign follows the Biden-Harris Administration’s recent announcement highlighting historic investments to build community climate resilience nationwide. To further promote the administration’s efforts in building resilient infrastructure throughout the nation, FEMA will host webinars during the next several weeks and months to help emergency managers complete successful pre-disaster mitigation grant applications to build resilience against hazards, including extreme heat events.

[Read here](#) for more information.

BE PREPARED FOR EXTREME HEAT

Extreme heat often results in the highest annual number of deaths among all weather-related disasters.

In most of the U.S., extreme heat is a long period (2 to 3 days) of high heat and humidity with temperatures above 90 degrees.

Greater risk

Can happen anywhere

Humidity increases the feeling of heat as measured by a heat index

IF YOU ARE UNDER AN EXTREME HEAT WARNING

- Find air conditioning, if possible.
- Avoid strenuous activities.
- Watch for heat illness.
- Wear light clothing.
- Check on family members and neighbors.
- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Watch for heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.
- Never leave people or pets in a closed car.

HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN EXTREME HEAT THREATENS

Prepare NOW

- Find places in your community where you can go to get cool.
- Try to keep your home cool:
 - Cover windows with drapes or shades.
 - Weather-strip doors and windows.
 - Use window reflectors such as aluminum foil-covered cardboard to reflect heat back outside.
 - Add insulation to keep the heat out.
 - Use a powered attic ventilator, or attic fan, to regulate the heat level of a building's attic by clearing hot air.
 - Install window air conditioners and insulate around them.
- Learn to recognize the signs of heat illness. For more information visit: www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremehot/warning.html.

Be Safe DURING

- Never leave a child, adult, or animal alone inside a vehicle on a warm day.
- Find places with air conditioning. Libraries, shopping malls, and community centers can provide a cool place to take a break from the heat.
- If you're outside, find shade. Wear a hat wide enough to protect your face.
- Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- Drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated. If you or someone you care for is on a special diet, ask a doctor what would be best.
- Do not use electric fans when the temperature outside is more than 95 degrees. If you or someone you care for is on a special diet, ask a doctor what would be best.
- Avoid high-energy activities.
- Check yourself, family members, and neighbors for signs of heat-related illness.

Recognize +RESPOND

- Heat Cramps
 - Signs: Muscle pains or spasms in the stomach, arms, or legs.
 - Actions: Go to a cooler location. Remove excess clothing. Take sips of cool sports drinks with salt and sugar. Get medical help if cramps last more than an hour.
- Heat Exhaustion
 - Signs: Heavy sweating, pale/flushed, muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea or vomiting, and fainting.
 - Actions: Go to an air-conditioned place and lie down. Loosen or remove clothing. Take a cool bath. Take sips of cool sports drinks with salt and sugar. Get medical help if symptoms get worse or last more than an hour.
- Heat Stroke
 - Signs: Extremely high body temperature (above 103 degrees) indicated by an oral thermometer, red, hot, and dry skin with no sweat, rapid, strong pulse, dizziness, confusion, and unconsciousness.
 - Actions: Call 9-1-1 or get the person to a hospital immediately. Cool down with whatever methods are available until medical help arrives.

Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to Ready.gov and search for extreme heat. Download the FEMA app to get more information about preparing for extreme heat.

TBHMPC Tropical Weather Planning Resources

For additional information and resources, please visit the [Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition Tropical Weather](#) page. Below are a few resources you will find:

- [Ready.gov Family Plans](#)
- [Citrus](#)
- [Pasco](#)
- [Know Your Zone, Know Your Home](#)
- [Hardee](#)
- [Pinellas](#)
- [County Hurricane Preparedness Guides & EM Websites](#)
- [Hernando](#)
- [Polk](#)
- [Hillsborough](#)
- [Sumter](#)
- [Manatee](#)

Malaria Cases in Sarasota County

A [statewide mosquito-borne illness advisory](#) was issued by the Florida Department of Health on June 26th, following the announcement that four confirmed cases of malaria have been treated and recovered in Sarasota County. Malaria is transmitted through infected mosquitoes. Residents throughout the state should take precautions by applying bug spray, avoiding areas with high mosquito populations, and wearing long pants and shirts when possible - especially during sunrise and sunset when mosquitos are most active. FDOH also released [Malaria Information for Clinicians](#) on their website and via the FLHAN (Health Alert Network).

Upcoming Trainings & Events

Plugged in Series: Understanding Ian's Impacts to Better Prepare for the Next Hurricane with Dan Noah

If you missed this webinar, that occurred on Tuesday, June 13th at 1:30pm, take an hour and watch the recording! It features Dan Noah, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service Tampa Bay, who covers some very important lessons learned from last year's Hurricane Ian impacts in Southwest and Central Florida. The recording is on our [TBHMPC website](#) (no login needed!), so feel free to share with colleagues as well.

CISA Active Shooter Preparedness Webinar

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Region 4 (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee) is hosting a two-hour security webinar on Active Shooter Preparedness. Given today's ever-changing threat environment, preparing for and training employees to cope with active threats and workplace violence should be a key piece of an organization's emergency action plan. This webinar provides information and best practices that supports and enhances the emergency action planning capabilities of your organization. [Get more info and register here.](#)



**CYBERSECURITY
& INFRASTRUCTURE
SECURITY AGENCY**



Emergency Management Training

Here are upcoming EM trainings available for registration on [SERT TRAC](#).

- O-305 All Hazards Incident Management Team— Hillsborough County Public Safety Complex from July 31st – August 4th. Prerequisites are IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, IS-800, G-300, and G-400. [Register here.](#)
- G-300 Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents
 - ⇒ [Wednesday, July 19th—Friday, July 21st](#) at Hillsborough County EOC
 - ⇒ [Monday, July 31st—Wednesday, August 2nd](#) at Pasco County EOC
- G-400 Advanced Incident Command System Command & General Staff
 - ⇒ [Tuesday, July 11th—Wednesday, July 12th](#) at Pinellas County EOC
 - ⇒ [Monday, July 24th—Tuesday, July 25th](#) at Citrus County EOC

Florida Healthcare Coalitions

- **Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness** (MGT-439) - July 18th & 19th in Fort Myers. [Register here.](#) Offered by the Southwest Florida Healthcare Coalition.
- **Hospital Incident Command System (HICS)** – July 25th in Viera (Brevard County). [Register here.](#) Offered by the Central Florida Disaster Medical Coalition.



FLORIDA HEALTH CARE COALITIONS

Free Webinars from All Clear Emergency Group

The July webinar is on **Planning Best Practices** on July 12th at 2pm EST - All Clear believes in practical plans that are actually usable in an emergency and in the benefits of a comprehensive planning process. We also understand that plan writing can seem insurmountable. Join us as we discuss best practices to get your plan writing moving! [Register here.](#)

CyberSecureFlorida Training Initiative for State and Local Governments

The CyberSecureFlorida training initiative stems from Florida Legislation HB5001, Section 2944B, which directs Cyber Florida “to conduct cybersecurity training for state and local government executive, managerial, technical, and general staff.” Every employee has a role to play in preventing cybercrime, and this effort aims to make Florida’s public sector workforce the most cyber-ready in the nation! [Click here](#) or below for more info.



AN INITIATIVE TO STRENGTHEN FLORIDA'S CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

FREE
state-funded
cybersecurity
awareness
education &
technical
training for the
public-sector

Courses are free and open to ALL state and local government employees, including

- State government
- County government
- Municipal government
- Law enforcement
- State University System
- Florida College System
- Public School Districts

Visit cybersecureflorida.org/training to view courses and register!

Options tailored for all skill levels and job roles:

- General cybersecurity awareness for office staff
- Technical certification training for IT/cyber personnel
- Risk management, incident response, policy, and governance courses for executives and managers
- Each course provides a digital badge certifying completion

Program partners offering approved courses:



Upcoming Conferences

Florida Health Care Association—FHCA Annual Conference & Trade Show (Orlando) - July 23rd—27th

The FHCA 2023 Annual Conference & Trade Show is the largest and leading long term care conference in the southeast.

This signature event will take place July 23 - 27, 2023, at the Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando and will feature four keynotes and over 60 CE sessions, 280+ exhibits and several networking opportunities. Attendees will learn from experts, share ideas and help us honor our healthcare heroes as we celebrate with the theme, Edge of a New Frontier.

[Click here for more info!](#)

Home Care Association of Florida- HomeCareCon 2023 Annual Conference & Trade Show (Orlando)- July 31st– August 3rd

Please join Florida home care professionals at HomeCareCon, the Home Care Association of Florida (HCAF) 34th Annual Conference & Trade Show and Florida's leading and largest industry event of the year. HomeCareCon provides the opportunity to learn from industry leaders, network with peers, and stay up-to-date on the latest trends and policy changes. Attendees can also explore cutting-edge products and services from sponsors and exhibitors, and gain valuable insights into the industry. This year's conference theme is LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION! to spotlight innovation and promote adaptability to a rapidly evolving industry. [Get more info here.](#)



**BEFORE
DURING
& AFTER**

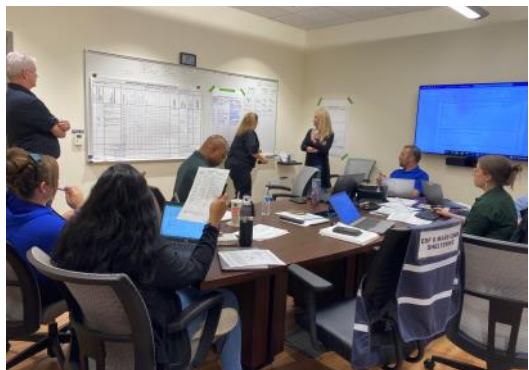
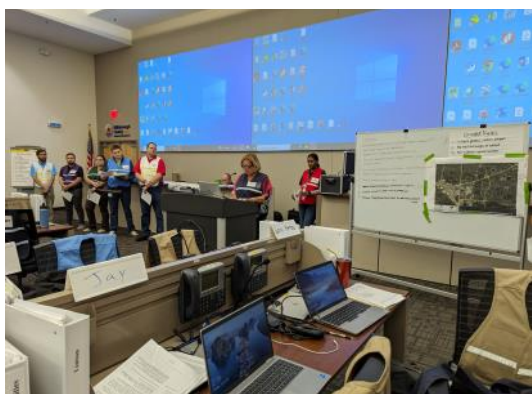
A Podcast for Emergency Managers by FEMA

Did you know FEMA has a podcast for Emergency Managers? Check out Before, During & After—the most recent episode is on How to Prepare Communities for Extreme Heat! [Listen here](#) to this one and 116 previous episodes as well.

Coalition Highlights

O-305 All Hazards Incident Management Team at the Hillsborough County EOC

The Coalition sponsored an O-305 course the last week of June at the Hillsborough County EOC for our members and partners to improve their skills as Incident Management Team members. See below for some highlights from this interactive course!





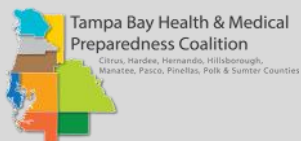
Citrus County Sheriff's Office

The Citrus County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) has been busy the past three Saturdays training new community members in first aid, fire safety and other necessary disaster response tools!



Hernando County's 2023 Hurricane & Safety Expo

Hernando County hosted their 2023 Hurricane & Safety Expo at Challenger K-8 School, Spring Hill, FL. They had a great meteorological panel with BayNews9's Mike Clay, Bobby Deskins of 10 Tampa Bay, Channel 13's Dave Osterberg and Dan Noah with the NWS Tampa Bay's Ruskin office. The Expo was well attended and they gave away a brand new home generator to one lucky resident.



We want to hear from you! If you would like to share a highlight or from your organization in a future Coalition newsletter or publication, please email it to Turea at TBHMPC2@gmail.com.