



## Reference Training Guides

### ***Florida Weather Subject Guide***

Florida is a state that's known for its weather, both good and bad. Keeping up with the weather, especially during hurricane season, has become a normal and necessary part of life in our state. Examples of customer questions that you might encounter on this topic include:

- When does Florida's hurricane season start?
- Where's the nearest hurricane evacuation center?
- What's the 7-day forecast for next week?
- How much rain does Osceola County get per year?
- What kind of emergency items will I need in case of a storm?

#### **Useful keywords/subject headings for searching**

Florida Climate  
Florida Disaster Recovery  
Florida Emergency Management  
Florida Hurricanes  
Florida Storms  
Florida Temperatures  
Florida Weather  
Hurricane Protection  
Hurricane Zones  
Florida Meteorology

#### **Call numbers to search under**

363.34922 – Hurricane Andrew & Hurricane Hugo  
551.55 – Storms  
551.552 – Hurricanes  
551.553 – Tornadoes  
551.554 – Thunderstorms  
551.6 – Weather

#### **Internet Links**

*AccuWeather.com*

<http://www.accuweather.com/>

Provides forecast, radar, map, and extreme weather information; searchable by city, state, or zip code.

*Florida Automated Weather Network*

<http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu/>



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Provides up-to-date weather information (geared toward agricultural activities) through a system of automated weather stations distributed throughout the state; produced by the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

*FloridaDisaster.org*

<http://www.floridadisaster.org/>

This site lets you create a detailed and personalized disaster plan for you and your family; includes information on emergency supplies needed, local emergency contacts, evacuation routes, etc. and is provided by the Florida Division of Emergency Management.

*Florida Division of Emergency Management*

<http://www.floridadisaster.org/index.asp>

Provides a wide range of information including current weather watches, warnings, and advisories, tropical outlooks, and has detailed sections on all types of unique Florida weather phenomena including lightning, excessive heat, tornadoes, hurricanes, rip currents, droughts, etc. It also includes information on disaster planning and prevention.

*Local6.com Weather*

<http://www.local6.com/weather/index.html>

Includes detailed forecasts, current and historical almanac information, marine forecasts, Orlando area weather cams, hurricane and extreme weather sections, and other weather resources on Florida.

*National Hurricane Center*

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

Provides information on hurricane history, hurricane preparedness, tracking charts, up-to-date weather outlooks, satellite imagery, forecast and analysis tools, and much more; produced by the National Weather Service.

*National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration*

<http://www.noaa.gov/wx.html>

This excellent government produced weather portal serves as a “one stop shop” for weather information on the U.S.

*National Weather Service*

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>

Billed as “the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for the United States,” the NWS provides in-depth weather warning, forecast, and observational data; searchable by city, state or zip code. Affiliated with the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.



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### *Federal Emergency Management Agency*

<http://www.fema.gov/>

The official website of FEMA; contains information on disaster recovery and assistance.

### *Osceola County: Hurricane Center*

<http://www.osceola.org/index.cfm?lsFuses=department/Hurricane>

Contains news, updates, and other valuable information on weather events in Osceola County; displays the current activation level of the county Emergency Operations Center. Information on local emergency shelters and phone hotlines is also provided.

### *The Weather Channel*

<http://www.weather.com/>

Contains current weather news, maps, forecasts, video highlights, etc.

### *Weather Underground*

<http://www.wunderground.com/>

Provides free, real-time online weather information on a large assortment of weather topics for over 60,000 U.S. international cities, including many in Florida.

## Databases

### *Grolier Online*

The *Grolier Online* database contains encyclopedic entries on hurricanes and other weather phenomena. The entries explain how hurricanes, storms, etc. form and have historical information on notable past weather events, such as Hurricane Hugo.

### *INFOTRAC OneFile*

*INFOTRAC OneFile* contains many indexed articles on Florida weather and related issues from a number of magazines and journals.

## Print Resources

### *After the Storm: Disaster and Recovery Tips and Information*

DVD 363.34 AFT (Copy at Central)

### *The Climate and Weather of Florida*

551.697 HEN (Copies at BVL, Poinciana, and St. Cloud)

Provides easy-to-read explanations of all facets of the extreme weather phenomena of Florida—from sunny days to hurricanes.

### *Encyclopedia of Hurricanes, Typhoons, and Cyclones*

551.55 LON (Copies in Reference and Non-fiction at Central and all major branches)

This resource is full of information on named storms, explanations of meteorological terms, descriptions of meteorological instruments, biographical data on key figures in the field, etc.



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*Florida Building Code: Test Protocols for High Velocity Hurricane Zones*  
REF 343.759 FLO (Copies in Reference at Central and all major branches)  
Relates state building code standards information.

*Florida Hurricanes and Tropical Storms, 1871-2001*  
551.55 WIL (Copies at Central and all branches)  
A chronological guide to the hurricanes, tropical storms, and near-misses to impact Florida from 1871 through 2001.

*Florida's Hurricane History*  
551.55 BAR (Copies at Central, BVL, and Poinciana)  
Contains historical information on hurricanes from the 16<sup>th</sup> century up to the mid 1990's.

*Florida Weather*  
551.697 WIN (Copies at Central and all branches)  
This resource contains a wide range of information on Florida's weather phenomena, and is arranged by season: fall, winter, spring, and summer.

*Homebuilder's Guide to Coastal Construction: Technical Fact Sheet Series*  
692 HOM (Copies at Central and all major branches)  
A series of 30 fact sheets produced by FEMA that provides recommendations concerning coastal residential buildings.

*In the Eye of Hurricane Andrew*  
363.34 PRO (Copy at Central)  
An in-depth, personal account of Hurricane Andrew and its effect on the state.

### Local Contacts

*American Red Cross of Central Florida*  
Five North Bumby Avenue  
Orlando, FL 32803  
(407) 894-4141  
<http://centralflorida.redcross.org/home.php>

*Federal Emergency Management Agency*  
Region IV Office  
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road  
Atlanta, GA 30341  
(770) 220-5200  
This FEMA regional office serves Florida.



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### *National Hurricane Center*

11691 SW 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Miami, FL 33615-2149  
(305) 229-4470

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

### *Osceola County Emergency Services*

(407) 343-7000

<http://www.osceola.org/index.cfm?lsFuses=department/EmergencyServices>

### *Osceola County Hurricane Hotline*

(407) 343-4111