

*This brochure is published
for the visitors to Saint
George Island and was
compiled from
information from the
Franklin County
Emergency Management
Office.*

*Please read carefully and
enjoy your stay.*

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
FLORIDA
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT**

*For public information,
call the telephone hotline
at*

**850-653-4206
850-653-4207
850-653-4208**

**HURRICANE STRENGTH
CATEGORY**

The Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Scale is used internationally to determine a hurricane's strength and predict the amount of damage it might cause.

Category 1 – Wind speeds of 74-95 mph - minimal damage

Category 2 – Wind speeds of 96-110 mph - moderate damage

Category 3 – Wind speeds of 111-130 mph – major damage

Category 4 – Wind speeds of 131-155 mph – extensive damage

Category 5 – Wind speeds of 156+ mph – catastrophic damage

WEATHER ADVISORIES

Tropical Storm Watch – wind speeds of 39-73 mph expected within 36 hours

Tropical Storm Warning – wind speeds of 39-73 mph expected within 24 hours

Hurricane Watch – wind speeds of 74 mph or higher expected within 36 hours

Hurricane Warning – wind speeds of 74 mph or higher expected within 24 hours

EVACUATION ORDER

An order is issued by the local government agency advising everyone in the area to evacuate. Once the order is issued, immediate evacuation is required by STATE LAW.

MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Local County:
FRANKLIN CTY EMERGENCY MGMT
28 Airport Road
Apalachicola, Florida 32320
Main Office Phone: 850-653-8977
Fax: 850-653-3643
Public Hotline: 850-653-4206,
850-653-4207 or 850-653-4208

State of Florida:
Florida Division of Emergency
Management
www.floridadisaster.org

Federal:
National Weather Service
www.nws.noaa.gov

Federal Emergency Management Agency
(FEMA)
www.fema.gov

Emergency Assistance:
American Red Cross
www.redcross.org

HURRICANES!!!

Hurricanes are tropical cyclones with torrential rains and sustained winds of 74 mph or greater, which blow in a counter-clockwise direction around a center eye. Hurricane winds can exceed 200 mph and can severely affect areas hundreds of miles inland.

A hurricane striking land creates three major hazards – storm surge, winds and heavy rains. Storm surge is the most dangerous. Nine out of ten hurricane-related deaths are caused by drowning.

A storm surge is a dome of water which can be more than 20 feet high. At landfall, this mountain of water, aided by the hammering effect of the waves, acts like a giant bulldozer, sweeping over everything in its path. The stronger the hurricane, the higher the storm surge, the stronger the winds.

Wind damage can also result from tornadoes spawned by hurricanes.

Hurricanes are classified into five categories based on their wind speed, central pressure, and damage potential.

Franklin County has no recognized storm shelters. Storms greater than a Category 2 will completely isolate the county and depending on the severity, may inundate the entire county.

Franklin County Emergency Management strongly advises that you read and understand the following guidelines.

1. Look at an evacuation map and outbound routes Now! Become familiar and KNOW your escape route.
2. It is important that you pay strict attention to all advisory broadcasts and the advice of local officials. Listen to radio or television weather stations. The local radio station is WOYS (100.5FM).
3. Ensure your vehicle is full of gasoline and that it is ready for immediate departure.
4. Gather your belongs in one area to avoid confusion later.
5. Do not wait for the locals to begin evacuation. Your unfamiliarity with the area will only impede your evacuation later.

6. Let family or friends know that you are leaving. Be brief on the phones!
7. If you have any doubts about the severity of the storm, prudent action to take, or any other information, call the Franklin County Emergency Management Hotline at 850-653-4206, or talk with qualified emergency personnel (Fire Department, Police, Radio and TV.) Do not rely on word of mouth.
8. Above all, do not try to second-guess a hurricane. Their unpredictability can alter a storm's characteristics very suddenly and once you are caught in it, there is very little chance that you will receive assistance until the storm is over.
9. One final thought to keep in mind – if in doubt –
“BE WISE – MOBILIZE”

**EVACUATION ROUTES:
State Road 300 off St. George Island
US 98 West or US 319/98 East at
Apalachicola/Eastpoint
State Road 65 North at Eastpoint
State Road 67 North at Carrabelle**