The Sentinel

Newsletter of the Florida State Agricultural Response Team

Hurricane Michael was the first Category 5 hurricane to strike the contiguous United States since Andrew in 1992.

Special Features of this Issue:

- *SART Partners Coordination Call Announced*
- *Farm Bureau Goes Mobile with New App*
- *UF VETS Participate in Swift and Flood Water Rescue Training*
- *Have You Visited the New FLSART.org*

Hurricane Michael Upgraded to a Category 5 Storm

Remember last year's destructive Hurricane Michael? The one that, at the time, was reported as a Category 4 storm? Well, think again.

Post-storm analysis estimates show the storm had sustained winds high enough to elevate a notch higher, making it the first Category 5 hurricane to strike the contiguous United States since Andrew in 1992.

Scientists at NOAA's National Hurricane Center conducted a detailed post-storm analysis on all the data available for Hurricane Michael and have determined that the storm's estimated intensity at landfall was 140 knots (160 mph).

This final wind intensity is a 5 knot (5 mph) increase over the operational estimate and makes Michael a category 5 storm on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale at the time of landfall on October 10, 2018, near Mexico Beach and Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida.

In advance of the storm, Governor Rick Scott declared a state of emergency for 35 of Florida's 67 counties.

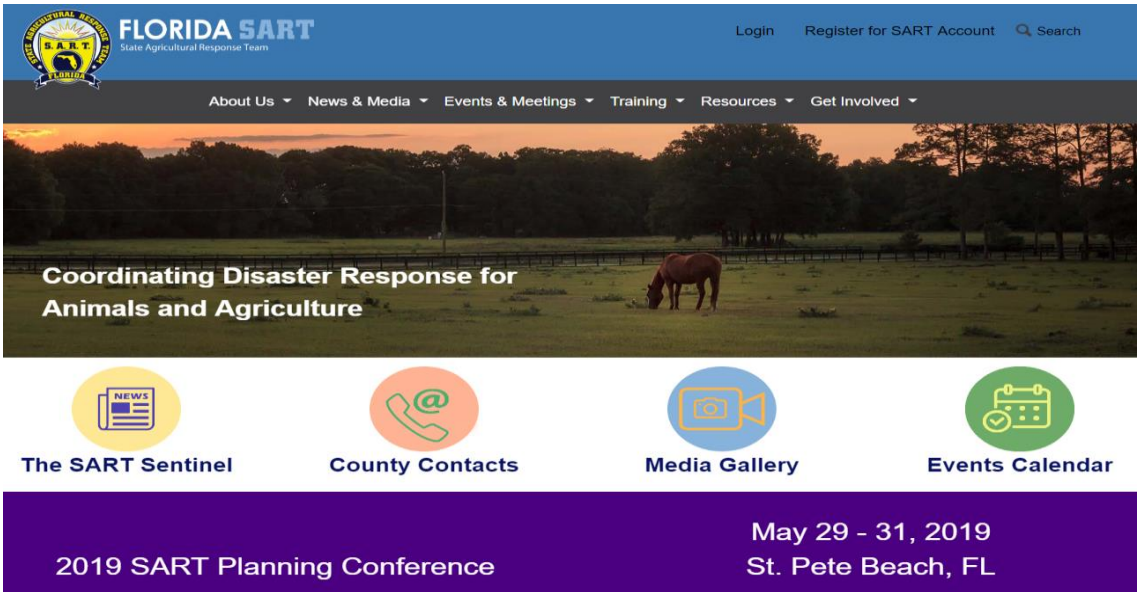
In the aftermath, at least 17 people died of storm-related accidents and more than 1.3 million homes and businesses were without power.

Read more at: https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/hurricane-michael-upgraded-to-category-5-at-time-of-us-landfall

"I am both honored and humbled to receive this prestigious public health award. I would like to honor and thank all the many public health practitioners who do hard work in the field day after day."

— Danielle Stanek, DVM
Recipient of the 2019 Florida Outstanding Woman in Public Health award.
Read the story on Page 6.

Have You Visited the New FLSART.org?



Florida SART launched the latest version of their FLSART.org Website. The new and improved site brings additional functionality and a more streamlined design to members and the general public. Highlights include:

- Updated, custom-made SART training modules;
- A new and improved menu which better organizes important information into Training and Resources;
- Quick links on the home page include County Contacts and our new Media Gallery; and
- *SART Sentinel* featured stories on home page.

Also, be sure to check out the Events Calendar for the most current trainings and events. *www.FLSART.org*

Farm Bureau Goes Mobile

There's an app for that. Florida Farm Bureau has developed an app for members to stay up-to-date on the latest ag news, market updates and member benefits. Download from iTunes or Google Play.

SART Partners Coordination Call Announced

A SART Partners Coordination Conference Call is scheduled for Monday, May 6, at 2:00 p.m. to participate in the Statewide Hurricane Exercise taking place in Tallahassee at the State Emergency Operations Center. The call will be held for SART partners to participate in the exercise scenario with Emergency Support Function 17 and practice incident prioritization and response actions for a major hurricane event in Florida.

UF VETS in Action…

The University of Florida (UF) Veterinary Emergency Treatment Service (VETS) Animal Technical Rescue team provided response for a cow trapped in a dry septic tank on April 17th in Putnam County, Florida. Also involved in rescue efforts were Putnam County Sheriff's Department, Putnam County Animal Control, Putnam County Volunteer Fire Service, and Alachua County Sheriff's Department.

The cow was able to be safely retrieved from the tank without further injury and reunited with her calf.

UF VETS recently received a generous donation from Banfield and Petsmart Charities that will greatly enhance their response capabilities. The new truck and bunk trailer will provide up to twelve sleep spaces, a bathroom, and office area for the team while operating in the field. The efficient use of space also allows this trailer to house a lot of equipment and gear during transport to keep the total number of vehicles UF VETS brings to a site to a minimum.

The team is thankful to Banfield and Petsmart Charities for providing them with this asset for future events.

Enrollment Open: Multiple Courses for Small Animal Emergency Sheltering

The Florida State Animal Response Coalition (SARC) has upcoming opportunities for their Awareness Level 1 and Operations Level 2 Small Animal Emergency Sheltering courses.

When disaster strikes, the team of trained volunteer responders will be there to shelter and protect Florida's companion animals.

The Awareness Level 1 course (FL-003-RESP) gives students the knowledge necessary to work in a small animal emergency shelter. This class provides expertise and practical experience required to become a disaster animal responder. The Operations Level 2 (FL-607) course gives many new job options, in addition to leadership skills and team-led opportunities. This course expands upon information covered in Awareness Level 1 and ICS-100 courses. Both courses are certified by the Florida Division of Emergency Management and are geared for Florida responders who want to help companion animals and their owners during a disaster.

Course topics include: Personal Preparedness, Overview of the Incident Command System, Deployment Preparedness, Assisting in Shelter Setup, Daily Care and Feeding, Proper Cage Cleaning and Disinfection, Animal Behavior, Stress Management, Zoonotic Diseases, and Personal Safety.

For more information about the courses, and to register, please visit: http://flsarc.org/Training.html

May 11 Course – Jacksonville, FL (Awareness Level 1)

When: Saturday, May 11, 2019
Where: First Coast No More Homeless Pets, 6817 Norwood Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32208
Register: http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eg4y6xplb8089c63&llr=cmn8hziab

June 1 Course – Sarasota, FL (Awareness Level 1)

When: Saturday, June 1, 2019
Where: Cat Depot Training Center, 2525 17th Street, Sarasota, FL 34234
Register: http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eg2jekc33a38ea09&llr=cmn8hziab

June 15 & 16 Course – Jacksonville, FL (Operations Level 2)

When: June 15-16, 2019
Where: First Coast No More Homeless Pets, 6817 Norwood Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32208
Register: http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eg7ymtyz16dc44b4&llr=cmn8hziab

July 13 & 14 Course – Lakeland, FL (Operations Level 2)

When: July 13-14, 2019
Where: Florida SPCA, 5850 Brannen Rd S, Lakeland, FL 33813
Register: http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eg4y3iu06de422ce&llr=cmn8hziab

WILL YOU BE READY WHEN THE NEXT DISASTER STRIKES?

Join us at the 2019 SART Planning Conference

May 29-31, 2019
Sirata Beach Resort · St. Pete Beach, FL

Meet with experts to get the resources you need and learn how to integrate animal care and agriculture into your disaster planning while enjoying this lovely resort.

Register by **May 3** www.flsart.org

The SART Mission: Coordinating Disaster Response for Animals and Agriculture

STATE AGRICULTURAL RESPONSE TEAM
S. A. R. T.
FLORIDA

www.flsart.org

In the News

Short stories and updates from around the state and nation…

Dr. Stanek of FDOH received the Florida Outstanding Woman in Public Health Award
On April 3rd, Danielle Stanek, DVM, joined a group of professionals as the 2019 Florida Outstanding Woman in Public Health in a ceremony at the USF College of Public Health. Initiated by USF in 1988, nominations are solicited from public health practitioners across the state. The COPH bestows the award each year to a woman whose career accomplishments and leadership contribute significantly to the field of public health in Florida. "People who wrote in support of her nomination all spoke of her approachability, availability around the clock, her incredible work ethic and her commitment to the health and safety of the public," said Dr. Donna Petersen, dean of the COPH and a senior associate vice president of USF Health. "I present to you a truly great public health hero." Read More

SART Steering Committee Meeting Cancelled
The SART Steering Committee Meeting for May has been cancelled. An update will be sent later with details for the next meeting.

Registration Deadline Extended to May 3rd for SART Planning Conference
The 2019 SART Planning Conference is set for May 29-31, 2019 in St. Pete Beach, Florida. The deadline to register has been extended to May 3. To see the latest agenda or to register, please visit: https://flsart.org/EventMeetings/PlanningConferences/index.jsp

Looking for Pet-Friendly Sheltering Information?

The new SART website has posted valuable resources for pet-friendly sheltering under **Resources > Pet Sheltering**. For all the details, visit: https://flsart.org/resource/petshelter/

Pet-Friendly Sheltering
Online Training Announcement

The Florida State Agricultural Response Team (SART) will soon offer an online, state-certified training on pet-friendly sheltering. The online training will provide participants with guidance on how to plan for and operate a pet-friendly shelter to ensure that individuals evacuating from a disaster with household pets are accommodated.

This training will include useful information on how to:

- Use the Incident Command System in pet-friendly shelter planning and operations;
- Create a plan for a pet-friendly shelter;
- Understand the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (PETS Act);
- Establish partnerships for resource coordination;
- Deliver a unified message to the public before, during and after an emergency, and;
- Set up, operate and demobilize a pet-friendly shelter.

Upon successful completion of the course, participants will receive a downloadable Toolkit that offers functional guidance and plan templates, and a certificate of completion approved by the Florida Division of Emergency Management.

RELEASE DATE
Summer 2019

COURSE DURATION
4 hours

COURSE FEE
Free

COURSE MODE
100% online

TARGET AUDIENCE
Emergency Managers
County Employees
Shelter Volunteers

PROVIDED BY
Florida State Agricultural Response Team, in partnership with the Florida State Animal Response Coalition

POINT OF CONTACT
LeiAnna Tucker
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
(850) 410-0920
LeiAnna.Tucker@freshfromflorida.com

Food Safety and Food Defense Report

A special section dedicated to feed and food emergency planning and response.

FDACS' Division of Food Safety is responsible for assuring the public of a safe, wholesome, and properly represented food supply through permitting and inspection of food establishments, inspection of food products, and performance of specialized laboratory analysis on a variety of food products sold or produced in the state. The Division of Food Safety monitors food from the farm's gate? farm gate, through processing and distribution, to the retail point of purchase.

- Summer Williams and Steve Carmody attended the Incident Command System All Hazards Incident Commander training in Bradenton, Florida the week of April 22. Completion of this course includes certification to play the role of an Incident Commander during Incident Response. (Pictured above)
- Due to the statewide severe weather events on Friday April 19, Gilchrist and Hamilton Counties had major county-wide power outages. Some areas were without power for over 24 hours. The Bureau of Food Inspection conducted phone assessments of the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (FDACS)-regulated food establishments in these counties to ensure the food supply was not affected.
- Emergency Support Function (ESF) 17 has been scheduling county Emergency Operations Center (EOC) meetings throughout the past few months in preparation of the 2019 Hurricane Season. At this point in time, Food Safety has covered 52 counties. The local outreach has been phenomenal!
- The Statewide Hurricane Exercise will be conducted May 6-9, 2019 at the State EOC. The Division of Food Safety will be playing a role in this exercise under ESF 17.
- Members from the Division of Food Safety attended a multi-agency meeting with other Food Regulatory agencies (FDA, USDA, DBPR, DOH, AHCA, and Elder Affairs) on April 17. Items discussed included CBD in food, a Hepatitis A outbreak update from DOH, and an overview from USDA on the Super Bowl activation in Georgia.
- Summer Williams will be presenting on Food Safety response at the Department of Health's Regional Coordinator's Meeting in Orlando, Florida on May 14th.

Photo by Kenneth Wilsey, FEMA

Disaster Response & Recovery
Mental Health First Aid Training

This training was designed to provide emergency responders, UF/IFAS extension agents, Florida State Agricultural Response Team (SART) team members and partners, first and direct Responders, Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (FDACS) employees and community members who are active in natural disasters with the skills needed to address mental health needs and issues following disasters. The aim is to create mental health awareness and encourage proactive and informed decision making in individuals before, during, and after disasters. Seven total trainings will be held throughout Florida.

Osceola County April 30-May 1
Pinellas County June 4-5
Charlotte County June 19-20
More trainings to come.

Learn more and register at **piecenter.com**

UF IFAS UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Center for Public Issues Education

FYCS

UF VETS Participate in Swift and Flood Water Rescue Training

Earlier this month, three UF VETS team members participated in human swift and flood water rescue training through the Public Safety Diving Association.

This training is just in time to prepare for the upcoming hurricane season, and will greatly enhance the team's ability to respond to swift and floodwater emergencies involving animals while maintaining responder safety.

Lear more about UF VETS at: https://www.vetmed.ufl.edu/about-the-college/administration/directors-office/about-vets/

Please log in and update your membership information online at:

www.FLSART.org

About the *SART Sentinel*

The *SART Sentinel* is an email newsletter prepared monthly by the members of the **Florida State Agricultural Response Team**. Past issues of the *Sentinel* are archived on the Florida SART website at www.FLSART.org.

If you have a story or photo that you would like to have considered for publication in the *SART Sentinel*, please contact the editors.

Editor: Michael T. Turner, The Turner Network, LLC (www.TurnerNetwork.com) under contract with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry.
E-mail: flsart@turnernetwork.com

Associate Editor: LeiAnna Tucker, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry.
E-mail: LeiAnna.Tucker@FreshFromFlorida.com