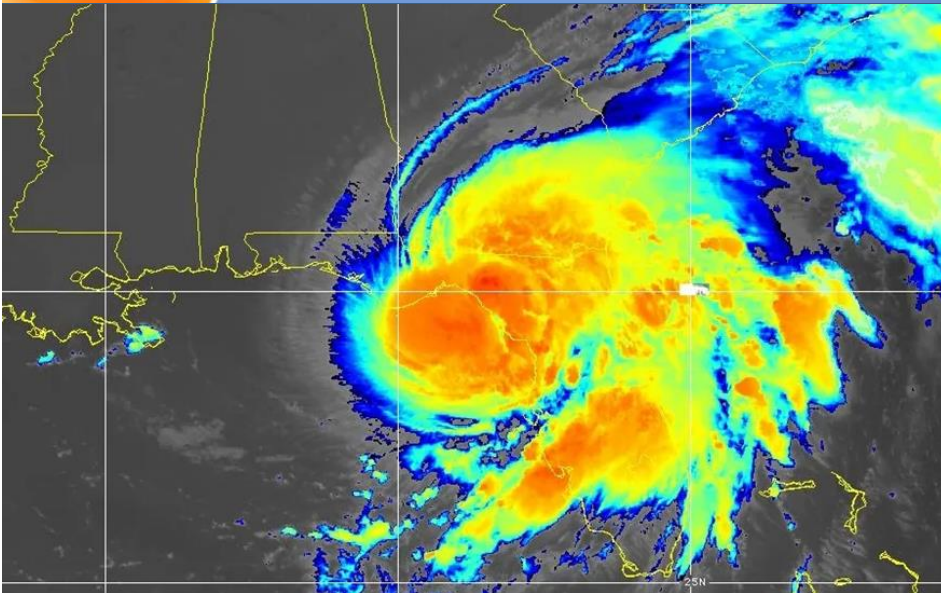




The Sentinel

Newsletter of
the Florida State
Agricultural
Response Team



Hurricane Debby Impacts the Gulf Coast of Florida.

Special Edition: SART Responds to Hurricane Debby

On August 2nd the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) activated to a level 2 as they gathered more information on the storm developing in the Caribbean that would later be called Hurricane Debby. The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) began to prepare Floridians and stage equipment in strategic areas of Florida to have the most effective response to the storm. As shelters and residents prepared for the impact on North Florida, Emergency Support Function (ESF) 17 and the Florida State Agricultural Response Team (SART) monitored the storm as it developed into a Category 1 hurricane.

Hurricane Debby made landfall on August 5th in Steinhatchee, Florida at approximately 7:30 am as a Category 1 hurricane and

followed a close path as Hurricane Idalia in 2023. Taylor and Dixie Counties were the first to be impacted by the storm by the way of storm surge and wind damage.

Madison, Suwannee, Lafayette, and Hamilton Counties were second to be impacted with 12 plus inches of rainfall causing major flooding in surrounding rivers.

This flooding affected pasture lands, personal property, roadways, shelters, and animal and agricultural infrastructure. Animal shelters were also affected by the flooding in Taylor, Suwannee, Sarasota, Manatee, and Hamilton Counties.

Continued, next page.

Special Features of this Issue:

- *Florida Disaster Preparedness Guide for Animals and Agriculture*
- *Become a Volunteer of the Florida Veterinary Corps Today!*
- *Celebrate September as National Food Safety Education Month*

“Supporting our farmers, ranchers, and growers in the aftermath of a natural disaster is not just about rebuilding and replanting — it’s about safeguarding our state and nation’s food security”

— Wilton Simpson
Florida Commissioner of Agriculture



Special Edition: SART Responds to Hurricane Debby

The Florida State Agricultural Response Team coordinated small animal evacuation and animal food donations. Emergency Support Function 17 staff arrived on August 2nd at the SEOC to start preparing resources for animals and agriculture needs to aid in the response efforts of Hurricane Debby. SART Partners were also getting ready to provide aid to those who would be potentially impacted, starting with evacuating small animals from the coastal Taylor and Dixie Counties before landfall and pet-friendly sheltering supplies in Wakulla County.



Horse food donations were transported to Manatee County by the Florida State Animal Response Coalition. Photo Credit: Steve Carriere.

After Hurricane Debby made landfall with a small shift to the east from the original predicted landfall location, the storm caused major flooding creating a need for animal food donations and animal relocation from flooded animal shelters. Animal food donations were coordinated through SART Partners, Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and Florida State Animal Response Coalition (FL SARC), to bring animal food and hay deliveries to Manatee and Suwannee Counties. Hamilton and Suwannee Counties received help for their animal shelters with volunteers, crates, and other sheltering supplies to relocate affected small animals. University of Florida, Shelter Medicine Program was instrumental in working with the aforementioned SART Partners to help find new locations for the animals in need. Industry partners such as the Florida Cattlemen's Association also provided support to over 40 horses and donkeys by delivering hay to the owner of those animals who could not leave their property due to a flooded driveway. Other industry partners, United Dairy Farmers of Florida and Southeast Milk Inc., worked closely with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), Division of Food Safety/Dairy to provide aid to dairy farmers without power and those dealing with flooding issues.



Continued, next page.

Special Edition: SART Responds to Hurricane Debby

Keeping the Skeeters at Bay!

As Hurricane Debby inched closer to the Gulf Coast of Florida, it became clearer this storm was going to be a high-water event instead of a wind event. Unfortunately, the impacts of high-water events are more drawn out and often require a longer recovery period. The impact was exacerbated due to already high-water tables in threatened areas. Some counties, like Madison County, received one inch of rain an hour, totaling 12 inches of rain. Other areas received much more. As Debby tracked further north, more rain was dumped into the headwaters of Florida rivers. The fresh rain from the north made its way slowly downstream and caused riverine flooding in many areas.

Flood waters can take a considerable amount of time to recede. During that time, a lot of problems were created – property damage, crop damage, lost pastures, and environments that are incredibly friendly to mosquitoes. The latter problem is where ESF 17 FDACS Agricultural Environment Services (AES) has recently stepped in to help. Approximately one-week post-landfall, AES activated its Mosquito Control Incident Response Team (MCIRT). The mission of the MCIRT is to provide one-time spraying to areas that are experiencing very high mosquito numbers. This will help speed up the recovery efforts by protecting recovery workers and the general populace who may be more exposed to the mosquitoes by loss of electricity and damages to screened windows or doors.

The MCIRT compares an area's 3-year baseline mosquito numbers to mosquito numbers it is experiencing 7 to 10 days after the landfall of the hurricane or tropical storm. Traps are set out overnight using dry ice to attract the female mosquitoes to see if the mosquito populations are significantly elevated. Both numbers and species are determined by staff. Speciation is important since certain species of mosquitoes are known carriers of diseases like West Nile Virus, Zika Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, etc. Once an area qualifies for an aerial spray application the county is required to notify the public 24 to 48 hours in advance. An ultra-low volume (ULV) mist is applied with planes flying at a height of 300 ft above the ground starting at dusk and proceeding into the night. The planes of the contracting companies use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to guide their instrumentation to target the spray in the pre-approved spray zones. A post-application trapping of the mosquito numbers is compared to the pre-application number. A county spray mission is considered complete once an 80% reduction rate has been achieved. MCIRT coordinated the aerial spraying in seven counties and over one million acres in the Hurricane Debby recovery.



MCERT planes preparing to spray impacted areas after Hurricane Debby.
Photo Credit: Dr. James Cooper.



As we move into the recovery phase of Hurricane Debby relief, we would like to thank all of our SART Partners for all your hard work to provide aid to Florida's Animal and Agriculture Community!

Florida State Animal Response Coalition

www.fl sarc.org

352-658-1224

Pet Evacuation Documents Bag

Pet's Name:

Bring these items when you evacuate. Prepare one bag per pet.

- Medication (make sure it's current)
- Medical Records
- Vaccination Records
- Special Medical/Behavioral Instructions
- Picture of your Pet and Picture of You With Your Pet
- All Identification Numbers (Microchip, Tattoo, Rabies Tag)
- List of Distinguishing Features/Marks
- Emergency Contact Information for You
- Emergency Contact Information for Your Pet (Vet, babysitter, caregiver, etc.)

In addition to these items, you should also bring the following:

Food/Water for 7 days
Food and water bowls
Poop bags
Toys and treats

2 extra collars and leashes
Bedding
Trash bag

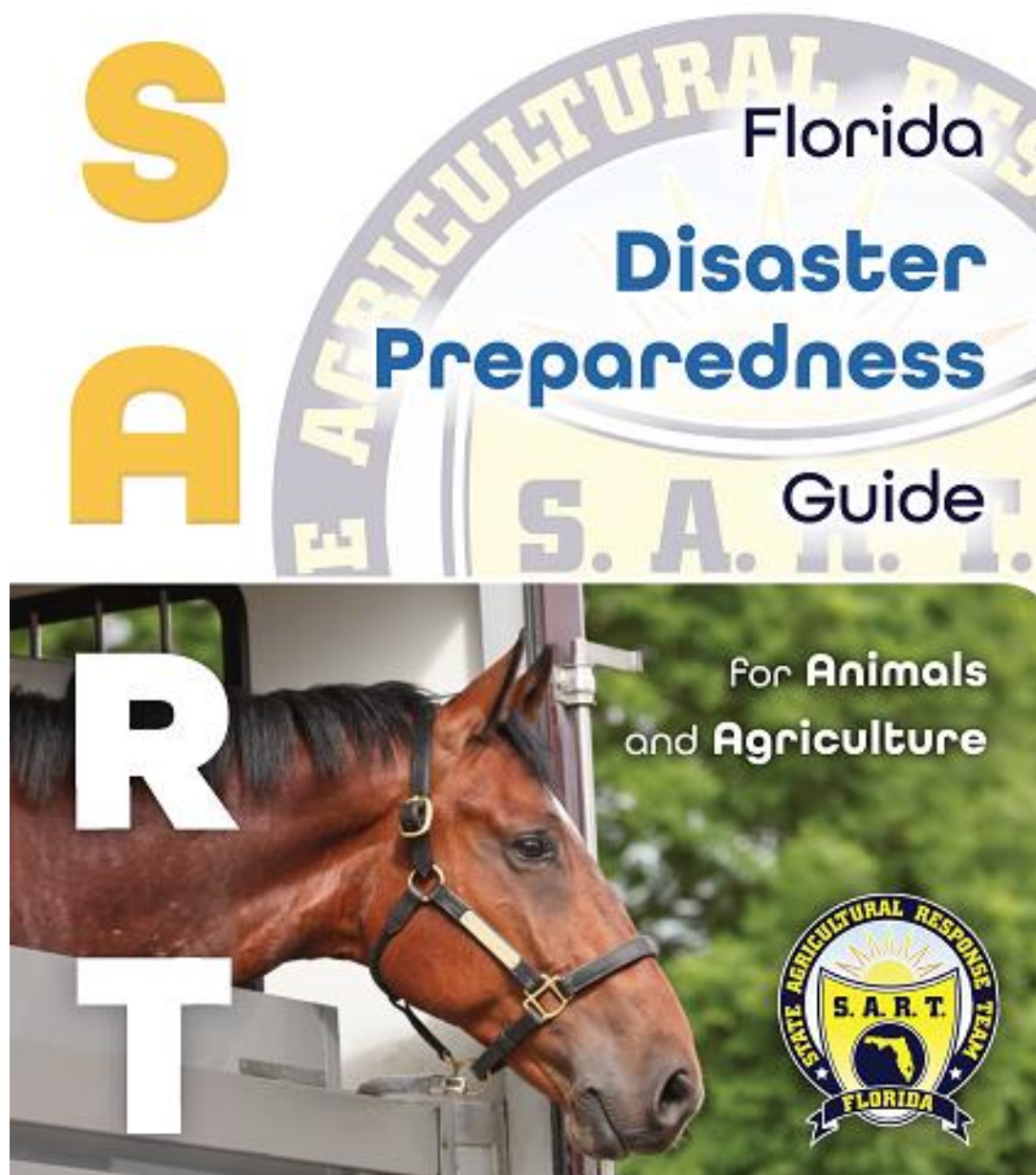
Pet first aid kit
Pet carrier
Litter box/litter

The Florida Disaster Preparedness Guide for Animals and Agriculture

The [Florida Disaster Preparedness Guide for Animals and Agriculture](#) was developed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) and the Florida State Agricultural Response Team (SART). This guide explores the various animal and agricultural sectors in the state of Florida that are at risk from natural and man-made disasters, and what you can do to help prepare and protect animals and agriculture before a disaster strikes. The recommendations and resources in this guide are applicable to preparing for all hazards such as hurricanes, floods, wildfires, disease introduction, hazardous material spills, and more.

This publication is available only to SART members. To access the Florida Disaster Preparedness Guide for Animals and Agriculture, visit the SART website at flsart.org, and navigate to the "Resources" tab. It may also be accessed directly at:

<https://flsart.org/resource/DisasterPreparednessGuides/DisasterPreparednessGuides.jsp>



Become a Volunteer of the Florida Veterinary Corps Today!



Florida veterinarians and veterinary technicians have volunteered to assist local and state emergency management officials in responding to animal emergencies. The Florida Veterinary Corps is recruiting more volunteers to help protect our state.

Become A Volunteer

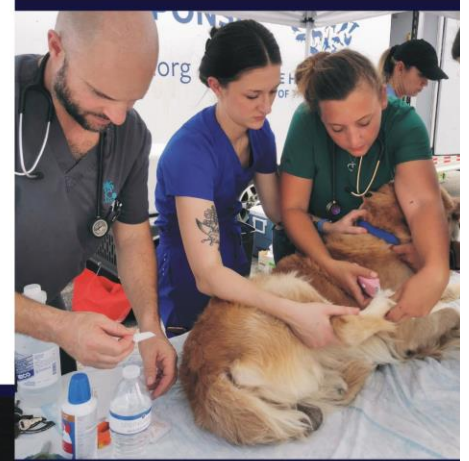
To apply to the Florida Veterinary Corps, visit www.FLSART.org



Florida VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Safeguarding Animal and Public Health in Florida



A cooperative effort of the Florida State Agricultural Response Team and its Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Veterinary Medical Association, and University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine.

Florida Veterinary Corps



What is the Florida Veterinary Corps?

- The Florida Veterinary Corps (The Corps) is a component of the Florida State Agricultural Response Team (SART), established within the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and a cooperative effort with the Florida Veterinary Medical Association and the University of Florida, College of Veterinary Medicine.
- The Corps has been established to enlist veterinarians and veterinary technicians who are willing to volunteer their services in responding to animal emergencies in the state of Florida.
- During activation, Corps volunteers will work within an Incident Command System structure under state Emergency Support Function 17 as part of the State Emergency Response Team.
- Corps volunteers will be kept informed as to the status of emergencies and the need for volunteers depending upon the specific emergency.
- Volunteers may serve in veterinary infrastructure assessment teams, triage or emergency animal treatment teams, and animal disease surveillance or control teams under an Incident Command System structure.

Obligation of Corps Volunteers

- Corps volunteers will serve only when activated within an Incident Command System structure under state Emergency Support Function 17 as part of the State Emergency Response Team and adhere to all state regulations and rules.
- Complete the following four Incident Command System trainings to apply for The Corps. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides the independent study courses online, free of charge. The training is required for credentialing of emergency responders by the Department of Homeland Security. The courses are critical to train a professional volunteer Corps capable of responding as part of the state Emergency Support Function 17 and State Emergency Response Team.
 - IS-100.C: Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS)
 - IS-200.C: Basic ICS for Initial Response
 - IS-700.B: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System (NIMS)
 - IS-800.D: National Response Framework, An Introduction
- Corps volunteers will only be activated in response to specific emergency situations and may decline service at any time.

Rationale

- Protecting animal agriculture and household pets in Florida begins locally and requires cooperation, participation, and partnership.
- Federal or other outside assistance to deal with an animal disease emergency may not be available for hours or days.
- Animal agriculture in Florida is highly vulnerable to severe disruption and financial loss through natural disasters and exotic or zoonotic diseases.
- Counties and state agencies must be prepared to respond to animal disasters through planning and identification of human and material resources.
- Natural disasters are unpredictable and cannot be prevented.
- Florida has a high risk for introduction of a foreign animal disease.

Become a Volunteer

To apply to the Florida Veterinary Corps, visit www.FLSART.org

PHOTO GALLERY: Florida Veterinary Corps Volunteers Participating in the Florida SART and ESF 17 2024 Full-Scale Exercise

Photos courtesy of LeiAnna Moorhead



Be Sure to Check Out the FDACS and UF IFAS Partnership Video

The Florida State Agricultural Response Team (SART), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), and University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) teamed up to create a new video on their disaster response partnership.



Florida Department of
Agriculture and
Consumer Services

UF | IFAS
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Published in December 2022 on [YouTube](#), the video features interviews with LeiAnna Moorhead (FDACS Emergency Programs Manager), Dr. Saqib Mukhtar (UF/IFAS Associate Dean for Extension, Agriculture, and Natural Resources), and Dr. Angie Lindsey [Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN)].

EDEN is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and is a collaborative multi-state effort by cooperative extension services across the country to improve the delivery of services to citizens affected by disasters.






Dr. Lindsey highlighted the important connection that agricultural extension agents have throughout the State of Florida. "We learn so much from our Extension agents and the work that they're already doing throughout the state and the work that they do within their own communities for disaster preparedness, recovery, and response," said Dr. Lindsey.

To view the video for yourself, and to like or comment, please visit:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S1IXsjd-FCw>

EDIBLES TO PLANT IN September



	North	Central	South
 EASY TO TRANSPLANT	Arugula, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Endive, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Strawberry, Swiss Chard	Arugula, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Eggplant, Endive, Kale, Lettuce, Peppers, Sugarcane, Swiss Chard, Strawberry, Swiss Chard, Tomatoes, Tropical Spinaches	Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Eggplant, Endive, Kale, Lettuce, Peppers, Sugarcane, Swiss Chard, Tomatillo, Tomatoes, Tropical Spinaches
 TRANSPLANT CAREFULLY	Celery, Mustard, Spinach	Celery, Mustard, Pineapple, Spinach	Amaranth, Calabaza, Long Squash, Luffa, Mustard, Papaya, Pineapple, Seminole Pumpkin, Sweet Potatoes
 USE SEEDS	Beans (bush, pole), Carrots, Onions (bulbing, bunching), Radish, Squashes, Turnips	Beans (bush, lima, pole), Carrots, Cucumbers, Onions (bunching), Radish, Squashes, Turnips	Beans (bush, lima, pole), Carrots, Cucumbers, Okra, Onions (bunching), Peas (southern), Squashes, Turnips

UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA



Gardening SOLUTIONS

For more information, please visit GardeningSolutions.ifas.ufl.edu

UF/IFAS Florida Gardening Calendars

The [Gardening Calendar publications](#) on the UF/IFAS Solutions for Your Life website gives Florida gardeners a monthly guide for what to plant and do in their gardens and includes links to useful gardening websites, all based on University of Florida research and expertise. Three different editions of the calendar provide specific tips for each of Florida's climate zones—North, Central, and South.

[What to Plant in September - University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences \(ufl.edu\)](#)

Counties, Is Your Contact Information up to date on the SART Website?

Please review your county emergency contact information at: <https://filsart.org/resource/countyinformation.jsp>.

If you need to make changes to your county contact information, please send a request to LeiAnna Moorhead at LeiAnna.Moorhead@FDACS.gov. During an emergency, ESF 17 and SART provides necessary food and water to affected areas to help protect animals, agriculture, and pets.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Small Animal Emergency Sheltering Training

Florida State Animal Response Coalition (FLSARC) continues a heavy summer courseload for communities throughout the state of Florida, offering our Level 1 and Level 2 Awareness and Operations courses for individuals wanting to learn more about temporary and emergency sheltering operations, AND to become FL SARC disaster responders! These courses are crucial to local and statewide sheltering support when disasters and emergencies strike. To date we've completed 23 classes this year, with over 200 students successfully graduating.

To become a SARC responder, you must have completed at least Level 1 Awareness, completed ICS 100, and have a current tetanus vaccination. To learn more about current course offerings and becoming a disaster responder, go to www.flsarc.org/training and www.flsarc.org/volunteers

More classes will be scheduled into summer 2025, so stay tuned!

SART Partners Meeting

The following meeting is by invitation only to primary representatives of SART partner agencies and is not open to the public:

- Quarterly In-Person Meeting – September 25th, at 10:30 a.m.



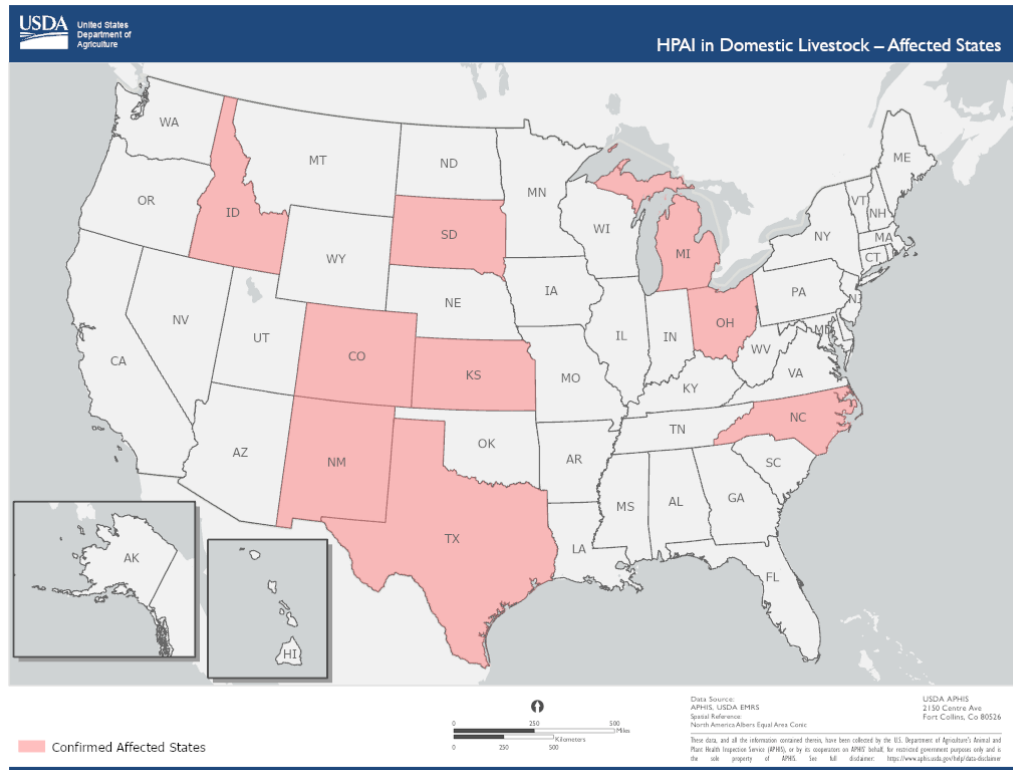
In the News...

- [Commissioner Wilton Simpson Announces Historic Partnership to Increase Florida-Grown Beef, Eggs, Dairy Provided to Florida Food Banks](#) (FDACS)
- [Commissioner of Agriculture Wilton Simpson Launches Natural Disaster Recovery Loan Program for Florida Farmers Impacted by Hurricane](#) (FDACS)
- [Detections of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza \(HPAI\) in Livestock](#) (USDA/APHIS)
- Fair season is here, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has published the following resources for fair organizers and animal exhibitors.
 - [Considerations and Information for Fair Exhibitors to Help Prevent Influenza](#)
 - [Considerations and Information for Fair Organizers to Help Prevent Influenza](#)

USDA: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Detections in Livestock

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and State veterinary and public health officials are investigating an illness among dairy cows. Beginning in March, USDA confirmed the detection of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) amongst some domestic dairy herds.

HPAI is a disease that is highly contagious and often deadly in poultry, caused by highly pathogenic avian influenza A (H5) and A (H7) viruses; it is also known as bird or avian flu. HPAI viruses can be transmitted by wild birds to domestic poultry and other bird and animal species. Although bird flu viruses do not normally infect humans, sporadic human infections have occurred. It is important to note that “highly pathogenic” refers to severe impact in birds, not necessarily in humans.



This is a developing story. The USDA has opened a webpage and federal order with forthcoming guidance pertaining to the situation. Please visit <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-detections/livestock> for the latest details.

Further, FDA states confidence that pasteurization does effectively inactivate HPAI in milk. However, “the FDA continues to advise strongly against the consumption of raw milk and recommends that industry does not manufacture or sell raw milk or raw milk products.” For more information, please visit <https://www.fda.gov/food/alerts-advisories-safety-information/updates-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza-hpai>.

In Florida, Commissioner of Agriculture Wilton Simpson issued Emergency Rule 5CER24-4. The Emergency Rule imposes specific restrictions on the importation of cattle into Florida to prevent the spread of HPAI. There have been no detections of HPAI in any livestock in Florida. For more information, please visit <https://www.fdacs.gov/News-Events/Press-Releases/2024-Press-Releases/Commissioner-Wilton-Simpson-Issues-Emergency-Rule-to-Further-Protect-Florida-Livestock-from-Highly-Pathogenic-Avian-Influenza>. View the FDACS Emerging Disease in Dairy Cattle announcement at: <https://ccmedia.fdacs.gov/content/download/115892/file/2024-HPAI-Dairy-Cattle-Announcement.pdf>

Did You Know? SART Offers Pet-Friendly Sheltering Online Training

The Pet-Friendly Sheltering Online Training is the first of its kind to be offered in Florida. The Training guidance to private, local, and state entities on how to plan for and operate a pet-friendly shelter to ensure that individuals evacuating from a disaster with their household pets are accommodated.



This training includes useful information on how to:

- Use the Incident Command System in pet-friendly shelter planning and operations;
- 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 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.

The four-hour course is designed for emergency managers, county employees, veterinary and animal services, and shelter volunteers. There is no charge for this 100% online course. For more information, please visit www.FLSART.org.



Chronic Wasting Disease Detected in Florida

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has confirmed that a road-killed 4.5 year-old female white-tailed deer in Holmes County sampled during routine surveillance activities has tested positive for [chronic wasting disease \(CWD\)](#). It is the first known case of CWD in Florida. CWD is a contagious disease of the brain and central nervous system that is always fatal to deer. FWC and Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) have implemented response and management actions to protect against the possible spread of CWD.

On September 8, 2023, the FWC issued a new executive order outlining regulations designed to increase sampling and slow the spread of CWD in Florida deer. Existing regulations pertaining to the establishment of the zone, baiting and feeding restrictions, prohibition of rehabilitating or releasing injured or orphaned deer and export of high-risk parts remain in effect. If you are a permitted captive Cervidae premises and have any questions regarding CWD, please reach out to the FDACS Division of Animal Industry, at (850) 410-0900. Visit the FWC [CWD website](#) for more information, updates, and resources.



Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

African Swine Fever Update

In 2021, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the detection of African Swine Fever (ASF) in the Dominican Republic. ASF is a deadly pig disease that spreads rapidly and affects domestic and wild swine. While not a threat to human health, the virus could devastate America's swine, pork industry, and food supply. Whatever pigs mean to you—your livelihood or a pet—we're all in it together. Protect our swine and keep the disease out of the United States. Please report any sick swine with clinical signs consistent with ASF to the State Veterinarian's Office through the e-mail address RAD@FDACS.gov, or by calling (850) 410-0900 (during office hours) or 1-800-342-5869 (after hours). You can also [file a report online](#).

Clinical signs of ASF in swine can include reddening of the skin, listlessness, vomiting, bloody diarrhea, conjunctivitis, lack of an escape response, trembling, complete loss of hind leg functioning, and high death loss.

It is important to note that Classical Swine Fever has been present in Haiti and the Dominican Republic for many years and, therefore, the U.S. does not receive pork products or live swine imports from either country. The highest risk of ASF introduction into the U.S. is from pork products brought in by international travelers via sea or air. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection has increased inspections of products and personal items brought into the U.S from affected countries. More information regarding ASF can be found on the USDA [website](#).

[Click here for the FDACS Announcement on ASF.](#)

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 gate, through processing and distribution, to the retail point of purchase.

Hurricane Debby Food Safety Response Efforts

In early August, FDACS Division of Food Safety activated to respond to 2024-Invest 97L, what would become Hurricane Debby. August 2nd, Division Leadership coordinated with the Planning team to begin preparations for a full-scale activation following the hurricane. August 5th, full activation commenced, and food safety response teams were provided a Just-in-Time training for Emergency Response and briefed on the response plan to begin assessing food establishments. Food safety response teams had 19,675 potentially impacted food establishments. This number was comprised of 18,071 retail food establishments and 1,604 manufacturing food establishments.

Food safety response teams diligently worked through the large list, reassembling each morning for a quick update then continued performing assessment until completed. Meanwhile, the Bureau of Dairy Industry remained in contact with the dairy farms and processors in path of the storm. Dairy Industry served as a vital link of communication with the team at the State Emergency Operations Center to secure generators, monitor flooding situations and flag critical infrastructure for power restoration priority. By August 13th, all 19,675 food establishments were assessed and follow ups were designated for any establishments that suffered any threats to food safety, including extended power outages. 269 follow ups were completed by August 21st.



CORE 4



The Core 4 of Food Safety

Remembering these steps can help keep you and your family safe from foodborne illness.



Clean

- Wash your hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds, including before and after you touch raw meat, poultry and seafood.
- Clean work surfaces, cutting boards, dishes and utensils with hot soapy water before and after preparing different kinds of food items.
- Rinse fresh fruits and vegetables under running tap water, including those with skins and rinds that are not eaten.



Separate

- Help prevent cross-contamination by keeping ready-to-eat foods away from raw foods like meat, poultry, seafood and eggs.
- Use separate cutting boards, plates and utensils for cooked foods and raw foods.



Chill

- Keep your refrigerator at 40°F or below and your freezer at 0°F or below.
- Keep food at a safe temperature when thawing and never defrost food at room temperature.



Cook

- Use a food thermometer to ensure meat, poultry, seafood and egg dishes are cooked to a safe temperature.



Visit the [Division of Food Safety Consumer Resources and Outreach website](#) for more food safety tips.



Ready Business Hurricane Toolkit

Why Should Organizations Care About Hurricane Risk?

Significant portions of the United States are at risk for the effects of tropical storms and hurricanes. It is important that organizations throughout the country, including associations, businesses, and community groups, understand the risks and potential impacts and prepare accordingly.



The *Ready Business Program* for Hurricane and the Preparedness and Mitigation Project Plan allow users to take action to protect employees, protect customers, and help ensure business continuity.

Organizations can achieve six levels for recognition through the Ready Business Program. The levels include **STAFF, SURROUNDINGS, SPACE, SYSTEMS, STRUCTURE,** and **SERVICE.** The first five levels can be achieved either independently or as a group. The **SERVICE** level is achieved by completing requirements for **STAFF, SURROUNDINGS, SPACE, SYSTEMS,** and **STRUCTURE** levels in addition to the **SERVICE** requirements

Benefits

Peace of mind that your organization is prepared not only for hurricanes, but for other business interruptions and natural disasters.

Ready Business **window cling** to announce to your customers or clients and employees that you have taken steps to prepare your STAFF, SURROUNDINGS, SPACE, SYSTEMS, STRUCTURE, and are prepared to be of SERVICE after an event.

Ready Business **recognition certificate.**

Ready Business **web badge** to display on your organization's website.

Organization listing on Ready Business website.

Sample **news release** to recognize and acknowledge your organization's participation in the *Ready Business Program.*

Gain tips for **media placement.**

Inspire others to take steps to improve community resiliency.

For more information, please visit:

https://ccmedia.fdacs.gov/content/download/79714/file/Hurricane_Ready_Business_Toolkit_Interactive_Final_508.pdf

SART Resources and Links



Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza – USDA APHIS Flock Defender

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/defend-the-flock-program/outbreak-illness/outbreak-illness>

Large Animal Incident Response Plan Template

<https://flsart.org/resource/TLAER>

Pet Sheltering Resources

<https://flsart.org/resource/petshelter>

Ask IFAS: Disaster Preparedness and Recovery

https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/entity/topic/disaster_preparedness_and_recovery

Ready Business Power Outage Toolkit

https://ccmedia.fdacs.gov/content/download/79712/file/Power_Outage_Ready_Business_Toolkit_Interactive_Final_508.pdf

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** 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.

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