



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EP NEWS & VIEWS



**May & June
2025**



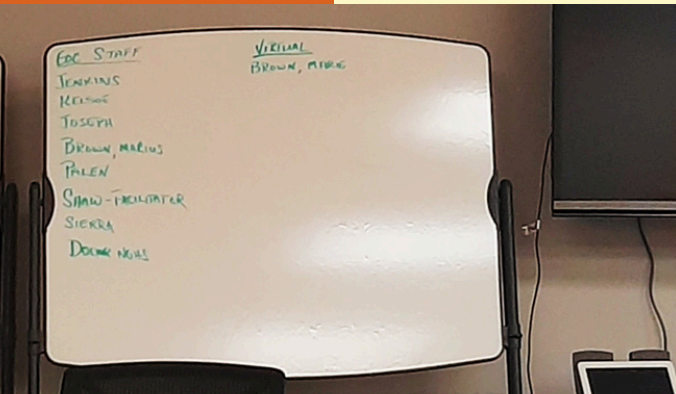
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BLAST FROM THE PAST



COMMUNITY EVENTS



Extreme Winter Weather and Surge Exercise 05/15/25 | Virtual & District Office

The Healthcare Coalition organized a tabletop, or discussion-based exercise focused on a winter storm scenario. Designed to provide a learning environment, participants practiced their response plans, policies, and procedures. Fruitful discussions were hosted both at the District Office in the Emergency Operations Center and online about roles and how each agency could improve their response.

Healthcare Coalition Meeting

05/30/25 | Virtual

The Healthcare Coalition Meeting convened several agencies online to discuss the upcoming budget, a Regional Hotwash, and more. A real incident at Stephens County Hospital was discussed including key takeaways and improvements. The next quarterly meeting is tentatively planned for September.

Georgia Mountains Healthcare

Coalition - Region B

May 30th, 2025

9:30am – 11:30am

Virtual

Quarterly Meeting Agenda	
9:30 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coalition Intro <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Leadership o Partners
---	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No Cost Extension Projects - 2025/2026 Budget - Training Dates - 2025 Winter Weather MRSE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Key Takeaways- Regional Hotwash - Stephens Co. Hospital Incident - Partner Updates
11:30 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting Adjourn



WIC Farmer's Markets

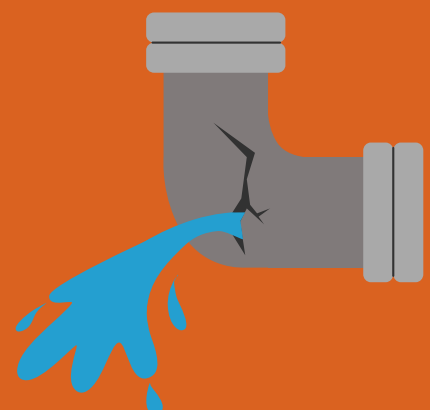
06/17/25- 06/26/25 | Health Departments

The Women Infants and Children Program organized multiple farmer's markets in District 2 for WIC participants. Over 130 at Hart, over 360 at Habersham, and over 100 people at Union County Health Department received fresh fruits and veggies. Several departments of District 2 were present to support. The EP team assisted with technical difficulties, traffic flow, and also provided Covid test kits and preparedness information to the community.

INCIDENT REPONSE: Pipe Burst

05/21/25 | Stephens County Hospital

Stephens County Hospital experienced a pipe burst, leading to flooding and a diversion of services. The incident was monitored, and the Healthcare Coalition Facilitator updated the status of the facility. Services were restored within 4 hours. Communication between agencies including the Health Department, EP team, Environmental Health, Stephens County hospital, Stephens County EMA, and State EP was established quickly.



BEAT THE HEAT

"Extreme heat is a period of high heat and humidity with temperatures above 90 degrees for at least two to three days." (Ready.gov)

It is more difficult for the body to cool off during these temperatures; therefore, heat related illnesses are more likely to occur including heat stroke, heat exhaustion, heat cramps, sunburn, and heat rash (CDC). Know the heat alerts below from weather.gov

HEAT ADVISORY

Categorized as dangerous heat conditions.

EXTREME HEAT WATCH

The environment is favorable for an extreme heat event, but it's occurrence is uncertain.

EXTREME HEAT WARNING

Dangerous heat conditions have occurred or are expected.

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS:



newborns



children



elders



pregnant women



individuals with chronic illnesses

When temperatures are high, be intentional to protect yourself and your loved ones. Small steps below can help your body regulate and properly keep cool, preventing heat illnesses (CDC).

- Remain indoors and in A.C. as much as possible
- Even if you're not thirsty, proactively drink fluids
- Clothing: Loose, light-colored, and light-weight
- Avoid over exerting yourself physically outdoors
- Cool showers or baths can help you cool you down.
- Stay connected with others by checking on friends or neighbors
- Never leave children or pets in cars,
- Stay updated with local news for alerts and information

DANGEROUS HEAT & NO POWER?



Keep blinds closed to prevent sunshine from heating the indoors



Go to the coolest part of the house or building (usually the basement)



Reduce body temperature by taking a cool shower/bath, or putting hands/feet in cool water



Stay hydrated and wear lightweight, light-colored clothing



Find local cooling centers: malls, libraries, movie theaters, etc

Always monitor yourself and others for symptoms of heat illness.
Call 911 in the event of heat stroke!

As hurricanes require warm, moist air, warm weather is ideal for hurricanes.

When hurricanes occur, trees may fall and power outages can occur, causing significant impacts. Make sure to have a plan for medications that require refrigeration or power. See more tips on the left.

Hurricanes

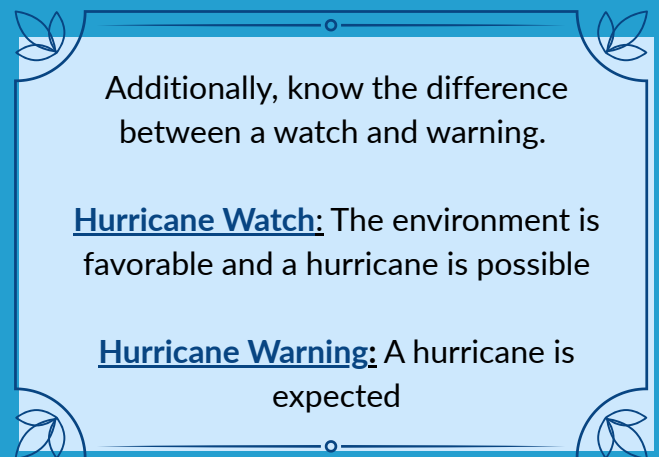
DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?

As hurricanes are common in Georgia from June to November, it's important to discuss a plan with your household. Disasters can occur while your family members are at work, daycare, etc. Here is where you can start (Ready.gov).

- How will I get into contact with my family members?
- Where will I go during a hurricane?
- How will I receive emergency alerts?



https://www.weather.gov/wrn/hurricane_infographics



PREPARE IN ADVANCE (CDC & Ready.gov)

Home Ready

- Clear your yard from bikes and patio or lawn furniture that could get blown away and trim trees in the yard
- Know how to turn off the power. During flooding, downed power lines, or evacuation, switch off power if possible.
- Review your home and property insurance policies

Car Ready (CDC)

- Fill gas in car
- Move vehicles under garage or under cover
- Create and store a car emergency kit

Pet Ready

- Create pet emergency kit: food, water, medicine, first aid kit, collar with ID tag plus harness or leash, carrier or travelling bag, grooming essentials, sanitation essentials, and familiar/favorite items
- Ensure pet has proper identification: collar, tags, photos, and microchip
- Identify safe place to take pet before an emergency

