

RC/PIO News & Notes 5-31-2019

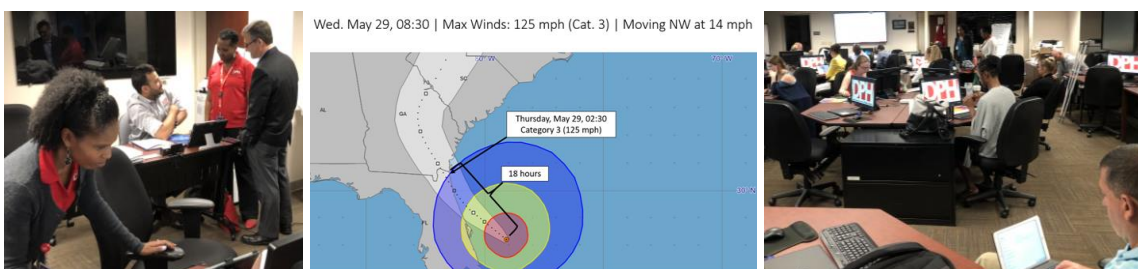


FROM Eric Jens, GA DPH Risk Communicator
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News and Notes

The annual Hurricane exercise known as HURREX was held this week. There were a handful of meetings and some work on planning for up-coming events. This includes the next Media and CERC (Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication) class. Registration is not quite ready to open but you will hopefully receive an invite to register before the end of next week. Plans are still on track to hold it August 28 in Valdosta, and I'm quite excited about how the agenda is shaping up.

Hurricanes and HURREX



Between the HURREX exercise hosted by GEMA this week and continuing Hurricane Response Hub activities, we should be well prepared for the start of hurricane season, which officially begins tomorrow. Here's an excerpt from DPH PHEP Director Scott Minarcine on the topic: *While the season officially begins this weekend, it is important to note that we have already had a named storm for this year, Andrea formed and dissipated in less than 24 hours on May 20-21. Predictions for this season are that it will be average in the number of storms that form. All that means is that there are currently no weather patterns indicating an exceptional amount of activity. As we have seen the last three consecutive years, it only takes one storm for Georgia to have significant impacts. Please ensure you, your districts and your teams are "weather aware" throughout the hurricane season. We ask that you work to finalize your local preparations and we will provide situational awareness throughout the season.*

From a Communications perspective for HURREX, we had five districts and the state posting to the Web EOC event and exchanging dozens of e-mails throughout the exercise. Fortunately, 'Hurricane Casey' did only notional damage. (pic. below from GEMA sent by Jennifer Burkholder)



NPHIC Notes

In addition to providing great weekly updates on many of the greatest public health threats from throughout the country, the National Public Health Information Coalition also calls attention to some of the latest studies. There were a couple of interesting ones this week.

One, dealing with the most dangerous cars by state: [What's in Your Driveway?](#)

And two, addressing germs in your methods of payment: [What's in Your Wallet?](#)



"making public health public"



Microblading

I must confess, when I first heard this term I thought about in-line skates or another form of battery-powered scooter being introduced. Turns out this is more about facial cosmetics and is in the process of being regulated as body art like tattoos, which is where DPH comes in. Here's a news report from a daily media summary distributed this week: [Microblading](#)



Next Week Preview

We have a variety of meetings next week ranging from a review of the accreditation process to a state PHEP staff operational meeting as well as continued planning for future endeavors.

About "News & Notes"

"News & Notes" is a weekly communication aimed at risk communicators and public information officers within Georgia's 18 public health districts. The goal of the communication is to increase preparedness through the exchange of information about significant events, training and other planned activities. Some information herein may be considered FYUO or For Your Use Only. Please be judicious when forwarding. For questions, comments or to submit information for inclusion, contact Eric Jens at Eric.Jens@dph.ga.gov