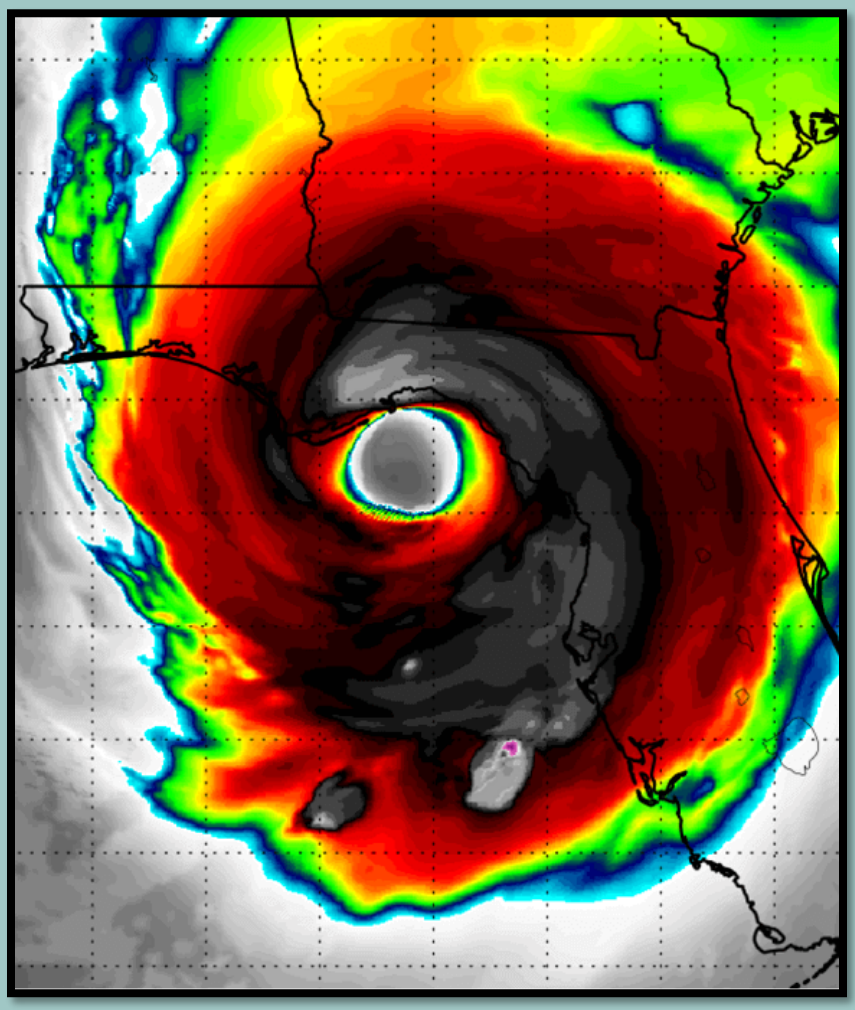
Jefferson County Disaster Preparedness Guide

2026



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We cannot prevent disasters, but we can ensure that communities are better prepared and more resilient.

Jefferson County Emergency Management

Jefferson County Sheriff, Mac McNeill

"To the residents of Jefferson County: Hurricane season is upon us, and it's crucial that we prepare now. Ensure you have essential supplies—water, non-perishable food, blankets, and toiletries—ready in case of emergencies. Remember, our grocery stores and gas stations might not be accessible during severe storms. Your safety is our top priority, and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office stands ready to support and protect our community through any challenges that may arise."



Jefferson County Manager, Douglas Baber

"Public safety is our single highest duty to the people of Jefferson County. From emergency operations to frontline response, every county department is aligned, prepared, and focused on keeping you and your loved ones safe through any event or activation. We are in this together, and county government stands ready to guide, serve, and protect our community every step of the way. Stay safe, stay prepared, and stand united."



Emergency Management, Director Kristy Anderson

"Our Emergency Operations Center is fully equipped and ready to respond to any emergencies that may arise. I encourage everyone to review their emergency plans, assemble disaster supply kits, and stay informed through official channels. By working together and staying prepared, we can ensure the safety and resilience of our community."



Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners

As your County Commissioners, our foremost priority is the safety and well-being of every member of our community. Living in Florida means we face unique challenges from hurricanes, tropical storms, and other natural disasters. Preparing ahead of time can make all the difference in protecting your family, your home, and your neighbors.

We urge all residents to take disaster preparedness seriously. Develop an emergency plan, assemble a disaster supply kit, stay informed through official channels, and know your evacuation routes. Being prepared not only saves lives but also helps our entire community recover faster after an event.



District 1 – Jessica Gramling

jgramling@jeffersoncountyfl.gov



District 2 – Gene (Eugene) Hall

ghall@jeffersoncountyfl.gov



District 3 – J. T. Surles

jtsurles@jeffersoncountyfl.gov



District 4 – Austin Hosford

ahosford@jeffersoncountyfl.gov

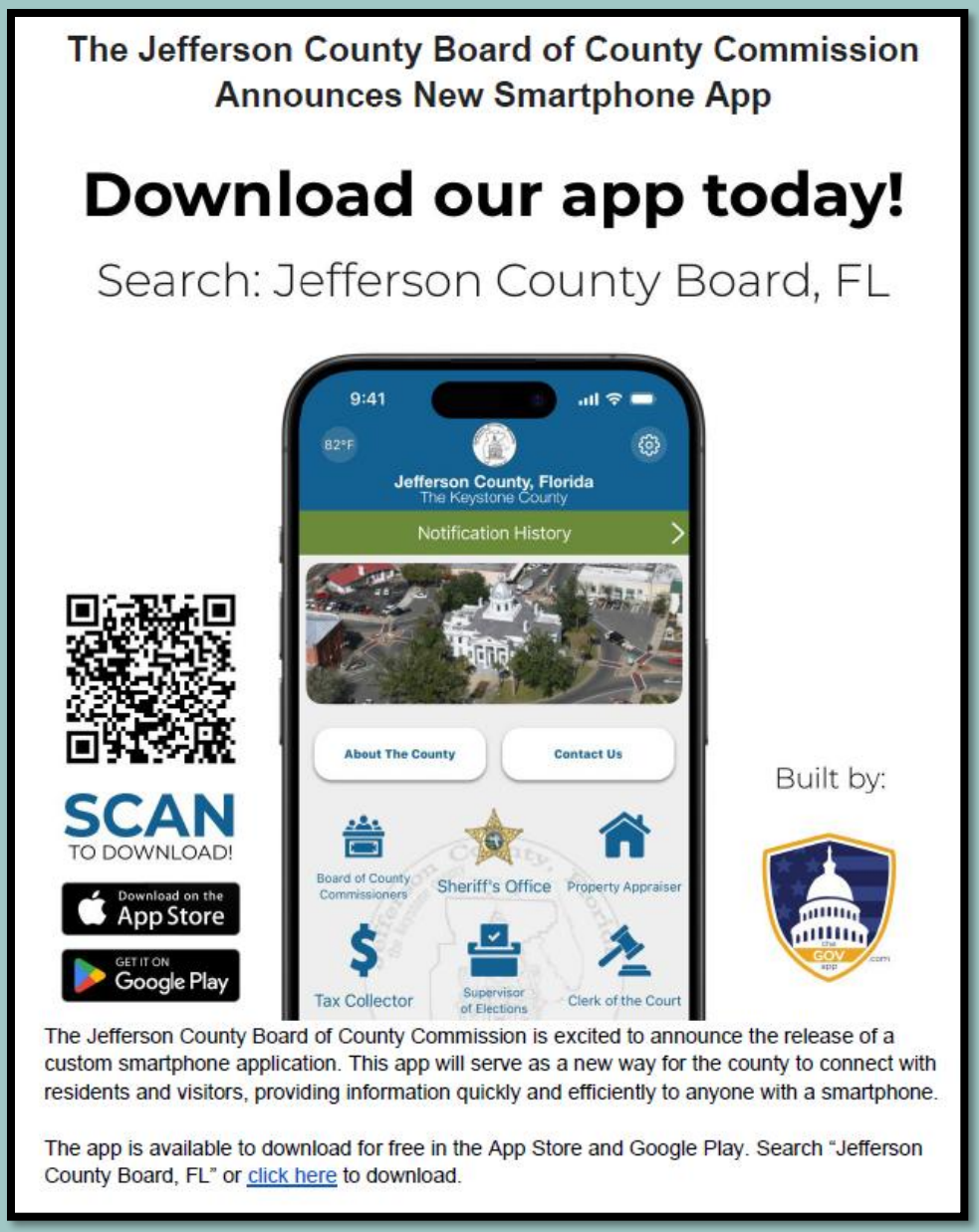


District 5 – Ben White

bwhite@jeffersoncountyfl.gov

Be Informed

- Sign up for Alerts: Alert Jefferson – https://www.jcso-fl.org/alerts/
- Monitor local news (WCTV, WTXL, NOAA Radio, etc.) and social media



For the latest updates, visit the Jefferson County Emergency Management Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonCountyEM.

Build a Disaster Supply Kit

- Water (1 gallon per person/day)
- Non-perishable food, Flashlights, Batteries
- Manual can opener, First-aid kit, Medications
- Important documents, Cell phone chargers, and Cash
- Baby and pet supplies, Hygiene items

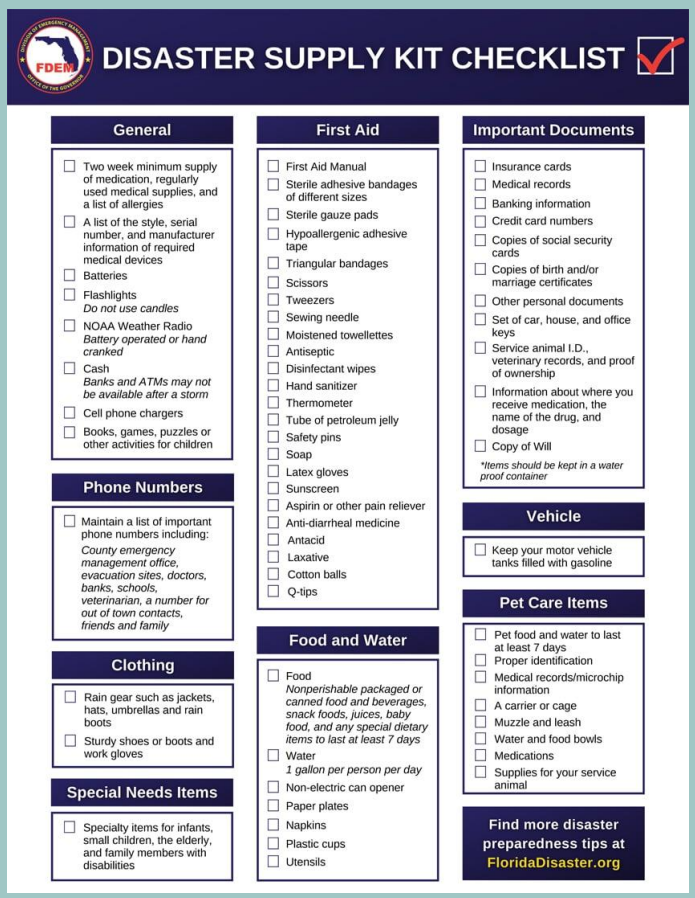


Make a Family Plan

- Know your evacuation zone: floridadisaster.org/Know
- Plan two evacuation routes
- Choose a family contact outside the area
- Plan for pets (not all shelters accept them)

Strengthen Your Home

- Trim trees, clear debris, and gutters
- Board up windows or install storm shutters
- Secure outdoor items and fuel tanks



DISASTER SUPPLY KIT CHECKLIST

General

- ☐ Two week minimum supply of medication, regularly used medical supplies, and a list of allergies
- ☐ A list of the style, serial number, and manufacturer information of required medical devices
- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ Flashlights *Do not use candles*
- ☐ NOAA Weather Radio *Battery operated or hand cranked*
- ☐ Cash *Banks and ATMs may not be available after a storm*
- ☐ Cell phone chargers
- ☐ Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

Phone Numbers

- ☐ Maintain a list of important phone numbers including: *County emergency management office, evacuation sites, doctors, banks, schools, veterinarian, a number for out of town contacts, friends and family*

Clothing

- ☐ Rain gear such as jackets, hats, umbrellas and rain boots
- ☐ Sturdy shoes or boots and work gloves

Special Needs Items

- ☐ Specialty items for infants, small children, the elderly, and family members with disabilities

First Aid

- ☐ First Aid Manual
- ☐ Sterile adhesive bandages of different sizes
- ☐ Sterile gauze pads
- ☐ Hypoallergenic adhesive tape
- ☐ Triangular bandages
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Tweezers
- ☐ Sewing needle
- ☐ Moistened towellettes
- ☐ Antiseptic
- ☐ Disinfectant wipes
- ☐ Hand sanitizer
- ☐ Thermometer
- ☐ Tube of petroleum jelly
- ☐ Safety pins
- ☐ Soap
- ☐ Latex gloves
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Aspirin or other pain reliever
- ☐ Anti-diarrheal medicine
- ☐ Antacid
- ☐ Laxative
- ☐ Cotton balls
- ☐ Q-tips

Food and Water

- ☐ Food *Nonperishable packaged or canned food and beverages, snack foods, juices, baby food, and any special dietary items to last at least 7 days*
- ☐ Water *1 gallon per person per day*
- ☐ Non-electric can opener
- ☐ Paper plates
- ☐ Napkins
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Utensils

Important Documents

- ☐ Insurance cards
- ☐ Medical records
- ☐ Banking information
- ☐ Credit card numbers
- ☐ Copies of social security cards
- ☐ Copies of birth and/or marriage certificates
- ☐ Other personal documents
- ☐ Set of car, house, and office keys
- ☐ Service animal I.D., veterinary records, and proof of ownership
- ☐ Information about where you receive medication, the name of the drug, and dosage
- ☐ Copy of Will

**Items should be kept in a water proof container*

Vehicle

- ☐ Keep your motor vehicle tanks filled with gasoline

Pet Care Items

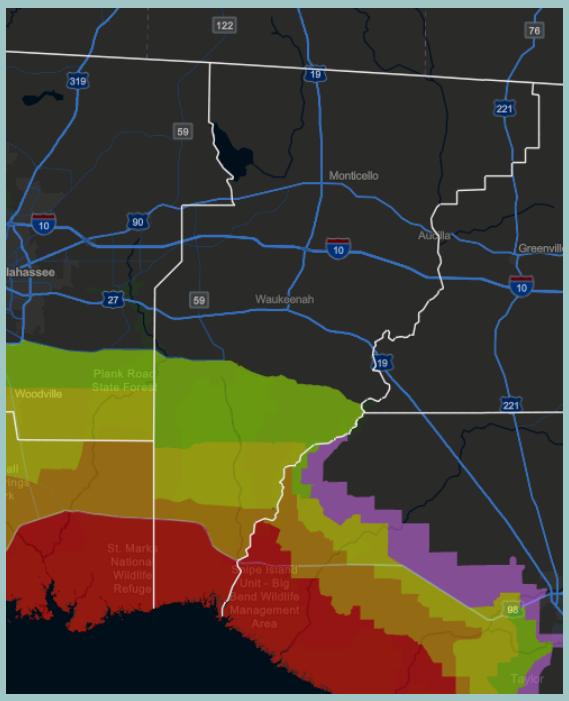
- ☐ Pet food and water to last at least 7 days
- ☐ Proper identification
- ☐ Medical records/microchip information
- ☐ A carrier or cage
- ☐ Muzzle and leash
- ☐ Water and food bowls
- ☐ Medications
- ☐ Supplies for your service animal

Find more disaster preparedness tips at FloridaDisaster.org

Hurricane Evacuations in Jefferson County: What You Need to Know

1. Know Your Evacuation Zone

- Coastal and low-lying areas of Jefferson County fall into Zones A–D on storm surge maps.
- Inland residents should verify their risk via the statewide **Know Your Zone** tool floridadisaster.maps.arcgis.com.



2. When to Evacuate

- Evacuation orders are based on surge predictions.
- Jefferson County has previously issued mandatory evacuations for mobile homes, low-lying areas, RVs, and modular homes during storms like Hurricane Helene.

Evacuation Sheltering

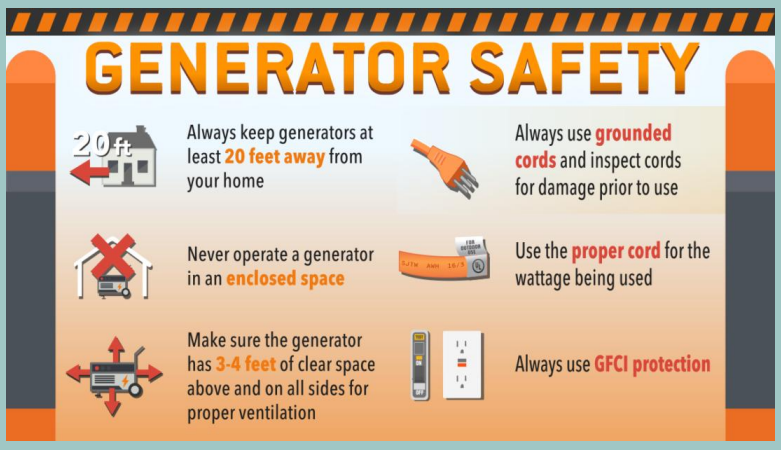
County Shelter: Jefferson County K-12 50 David Road, Monticello, Florida

If you require a special-needs shelter that provides essential care for individuals who need support beyond what general shelters offer, please register at: https://snr.flhealthresponse.com/. Currently, Jefferson County does not provide this sheltering, but many surrounding counties do.



Generator & Power Safety

Portable generators are internal combustion engines that generate electricity. They are useful when temporary or remote power is required and are commonly used during cleanup and recovery following disasters such as hurricanes and tornadoes.



Jefferson County CERT

CERT is a national program that trains volunteers in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. These volunteers are priceless, assisting first responders and the community before, during, and after disasters. If you are interested in volunteering, please call 850-408-0908.



Common Hazards in Jefferson County

🌧 Flooding

Prepare:

- Know if you're in a flood zone
- Get flood insurance
- Don't drive through water – **"Turn Around, Don't Drown."**

🔥 Wildfires

Prepare:

- Clear brush around your home
- Follow burn bans
- Have a go-bag ready to evacuate

⚡ Severe Storms & Tornadoes

Prepare:

- Have a NOAA weather radio
- Identify a safe room (interior, no windows)
- Stay inside during storms

Weather STEM Units in Jefferson County

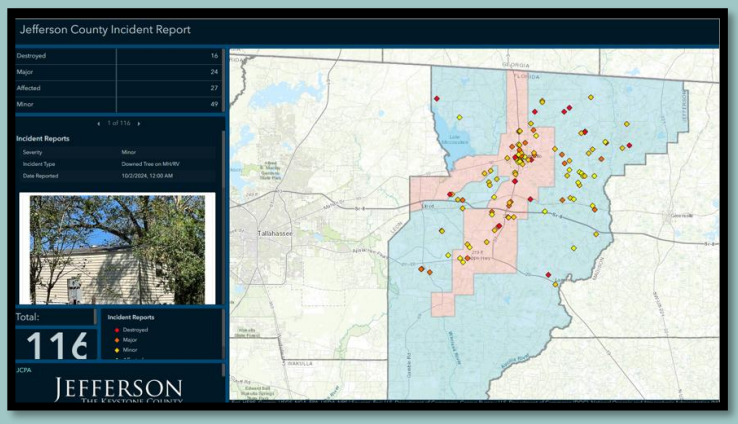


Weather Stem delivers real-time weather data, forecasting, and emergency tools to help communities, schools, and businesses stay safe. Jefferson County has five units: Aucilla Christian, Jefferson K-12, Jefferson County Emergency Management, Lloyd Fire Station, and Wacissa Springs. To view, please visit https://jefferson.weatherstem.com/.

Reporting Damages

The Jefferson County Property Appraiser's Office has launched a new **Self-Reporting Damage Portal** to assist residents in quickly reporting property damage following a natural disaster or emergency. This online tool is designed to improve the county's ability to assess impacts efficiently and help residents begin the recovery process sooner. To access the Self-Reporting Damage Portal, visit the Jefferson County Property Appraiser's website at https://jeffersonpa.net/.
For more information, contact the Jefferson County Property Appraiser's Office at (850) 997-3356.

Stay safe. Stay informed. And help us help you rebuild.



Downed Power Lines

- Assume all downed power lines are energized.
- Do not touch downed power lines.
- Contact your utility provider to report downed power lines. See page 11 for contact information.






JEFFERSON COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
JEFFERSON
IN GOD WE TRUST
COUNTY
SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS!
TEXT YOUR ZIP CODE TO 888777
Follow the prompts when texted back
323244
888777


ARE YOU PREPARED?
BE READY. STAY SAFE.
KNOW YOUR PLAN
HAVE YOUR EMERGENCY KIT
KEEP IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS & MEDS
STAY INFORMED
PREPAREDNESS STARTS WITH YOU!

Important Numbers

- Emergency: 911
- Emergency Management: 850-342-0211
- Sheriff's Office: 850-997-2523
- Health Department: 850-342-0170
- City of Monticello: 850-342-0153
- City of Monticello Police 850-342-0150
- Duke Energy: 800-769-3766
- Tri-County Electric: 800-999-2285
- Red Cross: 800-733-2767
- FEMA: 800-621-3362
- Jefferson County Office 850-342-0223
- Jefferson County Road Department 850-997-2036
- Jefferson County Fire & Rescue 850-342-0182
- Local Resources 211
- FEMA Disaster Assistance 800-621-3362
- Veterans Disaster Assistance 800-827-1000
- Social Security Administration 800-772-1213
- Disaster Distress Hotline 800-985-5990

For any other questions or suggestions related to preparedness, response, or recovery, please get in touch with our office at:

Jefferson County Emergency Management
169 Industrial Drive
Monticello, Florida 32344
Office: 850-342-0212
Cell: 850-408-0908
Kristy.anderson@JCSO-fl.org
Website: https://www.jcso-fl.org/

