



THE SENTINEL

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA STATE AGRICULTURAL RESPONSE TEAM

Vol. 2, No. 8, August 2006

Contents

- [Corner Store Conversations](#)
- [Advisory Board Meeting Reminder](#)
- [United Animal Nations Job Posting](#)
- [Struckbylightning.org](#)
- [Florida SART Coordinator Moving On](#)
- [September is National Preparedness Month](#)
- [Disasters and the Law: Katrina and Beyond](#)
- [Updated Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook](#)
- [Storm Surge Marker Live on Webcam](#)
- [About the SART Sentinel](#)
- [Tip of the Month!](#)

Corner Store Conversations

August has so far brought some wins and some losses.

We all breathed a sigh of relief when Tropical Storm Chris petered out before ever reaching the Florida coastline. And the recent update to the Atlantic hurricane season predictions should have everyone quite pleased, although it is certainly no guarantee that it will be quiet out there on the open sea.

On August 18th, we are bidding farewell to our SART Coordinator, Elizabeth Wang, as she moves on to the state of Texas. She will lead Texas' newly formed State Animal Resource Team (TXSART) as their Director.

Wins and losses. Both a fact of life and both surmountable with hard work and a little luck for added measure. With a little luck, August will close with more wins than losses. Until September.... Enjoy reading!

[\[top\]](#)

Advisory Board Meeting Reminder

The Next Advisory Board meeting will be Wednesday, September 6, 2006 at the Florida Cattleman's Association in Kissimmee. A full agenda with tours are planned so the meeting will begin promptly at 9:00 AM with a break for lunch, then regroup at the Osceola County IFAS Extension office until 2:00 PM.

RSVPs are due to Liz Wang no later than Wednesday, September 16, 2006. Please call or email all RSVPs.

[\[top\]](#)

United Animal Nations Job Posting

United Animal Nations (UAN) provides emergency animal sheltering and disaster relief services and is an advocate for the critical needs of animals. Based in Sacramento, California, UAN operates programs for animals in crisis or in need across the nation, including its Emergency Animal Rescue Service program, which trains and deploys thousands of volunteers who come to the aid of animal victims of disasters.

UAN is currently recruiting a full-time professional to be based in the Sacramento, California, headquarters office, who will manage all program-related activities for the animal disaster services program and supervise Emergency Animal Rescue Service staff, including headquarters and field personnel (both paid and volunteer).

For additional information, contact Nicole Forsyth, UAN; (916) 429-2457 or email employment@uan.org. Alternatively you may visit the UAN Web site at <http://www.uan.org>.

[\[top\]](#)

Struckbylightning.org

Struckbylightning.org is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting lightning and electrical safety education. Their Web site includes safety information for children, white papers, a strike database, and links to many partner organizations.

Check it out at <http://struckbylightning.org>.

– As reported in *Disaster Research*, 456, Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado, Boulder

[\[top\]](#)

Florida SART Coordinator Moving On

Effective August 18, 2006, our Coordinator will be leaving her post. Elizabeth has accepted a position as Director of the Texas State Animal Resource Team (TXSART).

Stationed in Austin at the Texas Veterinary Medical Association and Foundation, she will be taking a lead role in helping to further develop the fledging program which came into existence earlier in 2006.

We look forward cultivating a relationship with Texas in order to better recognize animal and agricultural emergency programs on a national level and for mutual aid in the event of an emergency.

Congratulations and best of luck!!

In Liz's absence, please direct all questions and concerns about newsletter, county SART, general SART, and others to Dr. Greg Christy at christg@doacs.state.fl.us or (850) 410-0900.

[\[top\]](#)

September is National Preparedness Month

September 2006 marks the third annual National Preparedness Month, the nationwide effort to encourage Americans to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses, and schools. Throughout the month, the U. S. Department of Homeland Security will work with a wide variety of organizations, including local, state, and federal government agencies and the private sector, to highlight the importance of family emergency preparedness and promote individual involvement through events and activities across the nation.

These organizations will provide information, host events, and sponsor activities that disseminate emergency preparedness messages to, and encourage action in, their customers, members, employees, stakeholders, and communities across the country. Specifically, these activities will urge Americans to get emergency kits, make emergency plans, educate themselves about the threats to their communities, and get involved with their communities' preparedness efforts.

For more information about National Preparedness Month, including a calendar of events, visit <http://www.ready.gov/america/npm/>.

– As reported in *Disaster Research*, 458, Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado, Boulder

[\[top\]](#)

Disasters and the Law: Katrina and Beyond

The Law Library at the University of California, Berkeley developed this Web site containing information gathered from a variety of sources on a multitude of topics discussing the law's response to natural disasters. Each topic contains links to relevant articles, responses from government and military officials, policy papers, opinion pieces, regulatory guidance, and statutory authority.

You can locate this Law Library at <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/library/disasters.html>.

-- As reported in *Disaster Research*, 454, Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado, Boulder

[\[top\]](#)

Updated Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook

NOAA continues to predict a high likelihood (75% chance) of an above-normal 2006 Atlantic hurricane season and a 20% chance of a near-normal season, according to a consensus of scientists at National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center (CPC), National Hurricane Center (NHC), and Hurricane Research Division (HRD).

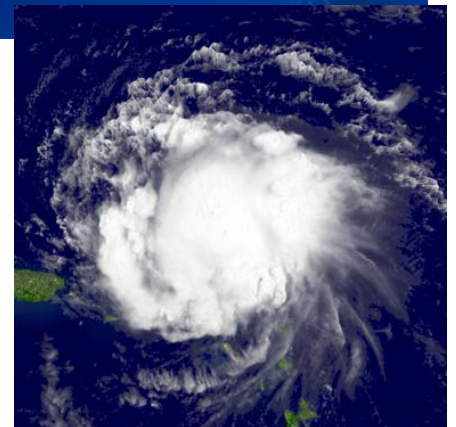
The updated outlook calls for a seasonal total of 12-15 named storms, with 7-9 becoming hurricanes, and 3-4 becoming major hurricanes (categories 3-5 on the Saffir-Simpson hurricane intensity scale). For the remainder of the season, experts expect an additional 9-12 named storms, 7-9 hurricanes, and 3-4 major hurricanes.

To read the entire updated report with discussion, visit <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/outlooks/hurricane.shtml>.

Clicking on the link for the Press Release brings readers to audio from the press conference announcing the updated report.

-- Adapted from NOAA's National Hurricane Center Web page.
Photo of Tropical Storm Chris. Graphic and photo by NOAA.

[\[top\]](#)



Storm Surge Marker Live on Webcam

The Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross (ARC) had a project that began in 2004 with the placement of a series of painted storm surge markers along the coastlines of Franklin, Jefferson, Taylor, and Wakulla Counties. The marker at St. Teresa Beach in Franklin County can be viewed via Webcam on the Internet.

To view the marker live, go to <http://www.tallytown.com/redcross/ssm-01.html>.

To find out more about the storm surge markers project and see pictures taken during the first phases of the project, go to <http://www.tallytown.com/redcross/ssm.html>.

[\[top\]](#)

About the SART Sentinel

Editor: Elizabeth Wang, SART Coordinator, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry

Associate Editor: Gregory S. Christy, DVM, State ESF-17 Coordinator, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry

The SART SENTINEL is an e-mail newsletter prepared monthly by Elizabeth Wang and the staff of the Florida State Agricultural Response Team. Past issues of the Sentinel are archived on the Florida SART Web Site, www.flsart.org.

If you have a story or photo that you would like to have considered for publication in *The SART SENTINEL*, contact the Editors.

[\[top\]](#)

Tip of the Month!

New Pets and Emergencies Brochure

The U. S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Ready.gov Web site includes the brochure "Preparing Your Pets for Emergencies Makes Sense. Get Ready Now."

Download the brochure from <http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/pets.html>.

--As reported in *Disaster Research*, 455, Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado, Boulder

[\[top\]](#)

