



Weather-Ready Nation

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Post-Storm Safety

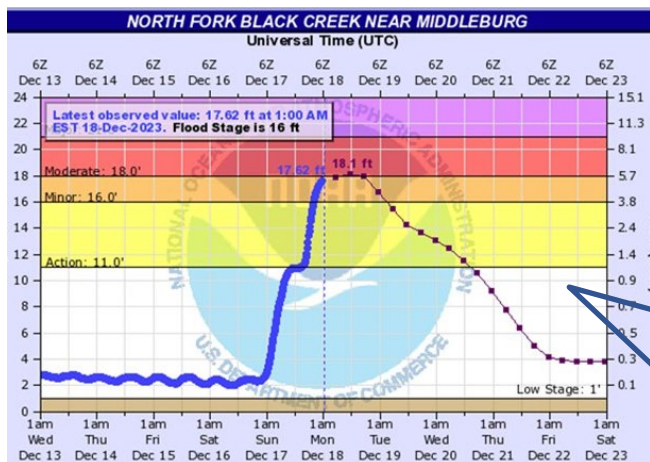


Photo: Shannon Stapleton; Reuters

FLOOD HAZARDS

Inland rivers will swell in the coming days as tropical rainfall drains into the basins, while rivers closer to the coast contend with rainfall flooding and lingering storm surge flooding that can take several tides cycles to 'flush out' of the basin.

Many rivers crest several days or even weeks after the storm passes. If you live near or cross a river to access your home, be aware that access may be limited or unavailable. You can monitor river levels at water.noaa.gov



Hydrographs (above) show you water levels for specific locations. Many inland river have forecasts you can monitor.

Hazards continue after the rain ends and winds subside in the wake of a tropical system. River flooding will peak in the coming days or weeks. Weakened structures have increased wind damage vulnerability. Those with no power and damaged shelter have an increase risk of exposure from heat, rain, and severe weather. Roads and bridges may be heavily damaged, or gone. It will take time for the community to recover.

CAUTION VENTURING OUTSIDE

- Structures & trees are weak – additional damage is still possible from weaker winds
- Compromised trees & limbs can still fall which can block roads & down power lines
- **NEVER ENTER FLOOD WATERS**

WIND HAZARDS



Do not enter a damaged building until it is declared safe by local authorities. Your shelter may begin to settle – if you hear unusual noises or shifting, leave your home. If you smell gas, immediately go outdoors & call 911. Do not walk or drive near damaged power lines – they may be live. Additional wind damage can still occur as trees and limbs fall.

Did You Know?



Debris, electrical lines, bacteria, reptiles, and fire ants are only **SOME** flood water hazards. **STAY OUT OF THE WATER.**



National Weather Service

National Weather Service

weather.gov

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4. Add your Location - Receive Weather Alerts, Shelter Information & Post Storm Guidance



Photo: Arkansas Democrat-Gazette
Colin Murphey

www.ready.gov/hurricanes

Caution After Storms

Only return home when directed it's safe to do so. Post-storm hazards include overexertion, heat exhaustion, gas leaks, no power and limited communications. Remain aware and proceed through recovery safely wearing safety gear, including goggles and heavy gloves. Pace yourself physically and mentally. This is the time to unite as a community, so make sure to check in on neighbors and family.

If you have a life-threatening emergency, call 911.

Florida Dept. of Health

floridahealth.gov

Florida Division of Emergency Management

floridadisaster.org



NWSNHC



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No Power Safety Tips

Dangerous Heat: Keep blinds closed, go to the coolest part of the structure, stay hydrated and wear light clothing. Take cold showers if water is safe. Visit a local cooling center like a library or mall.

Power Outages: Use flashlights, *not candles*, to avoid the risk of fire. Turn them on before entering buildings to avoid producing a spark that could ignite leaking gas.

Generator Safety: Keep outdoors at least 20 feet away from doors, windows and garages to avoid deadly carbon monoxide poisoning. Properly ground and do not overload it. Also use GFCI protection. Install carbon monoxide detectors.

Food & Water Safety: Food in the fridge can start to spoil in as little as 4 hours. When in doubt, through it out! Drink bottled water or water that has been properly boiled and use camp stoves and grills outdoors.

