



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Saturday, April 27, 2024



State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level

Level 2 Activation



SERT On-Call Personnel

Position	Personnel	Phone	Email
Operations Chief	Amy Godsey	(850) 519-8483	Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com
Watch Officer	Woody Harvey	(850) 591-7939	Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Ben Mauro	(850) 566-4904	Benjamin.Mauro@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Lauren Warfield	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Jay Griffin	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Cassi Farestvedt	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Melissa James	(850) 566-6422	Melissa.James@em.myflorida.com
Plans Chief	Kaylynn Perry	(850) 254-5657	Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com
Logistics Chief	Christina Goetzman	(850) 519-8581	Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com
Human Services Director	Pam Hughes	(850) 528-5638	Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com
Emergency Services	Rob Dietrich	(850) 727-3414	Robert.Dietrich@em.myflorida.com
Infrastructure Branch Director	Megan Hill	(850) 591-2496	Megan.Hill@em.myflorida.com
ESF 8 On-Call	Brandon Gore	(866) 786-4673	DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov
Public Information Officer	Marnie Villanueva	(850)-591-9544	Marnie.Villanueva@em.myflorida.com
DEM Finance and Admin	Jeremy Smith	(561) 662-8028	Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com



Response Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 2: Willie Bouie	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 4: James Carter	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 6: Paul Siddall	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 8: Karen Kozac	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	In Region	On-Call Status



Region 2 Coverage Provided by RRC 2
 Region 3 Coverage Provided by RRC 4
 Region 9 Coverage Provided by RC 7

RC Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



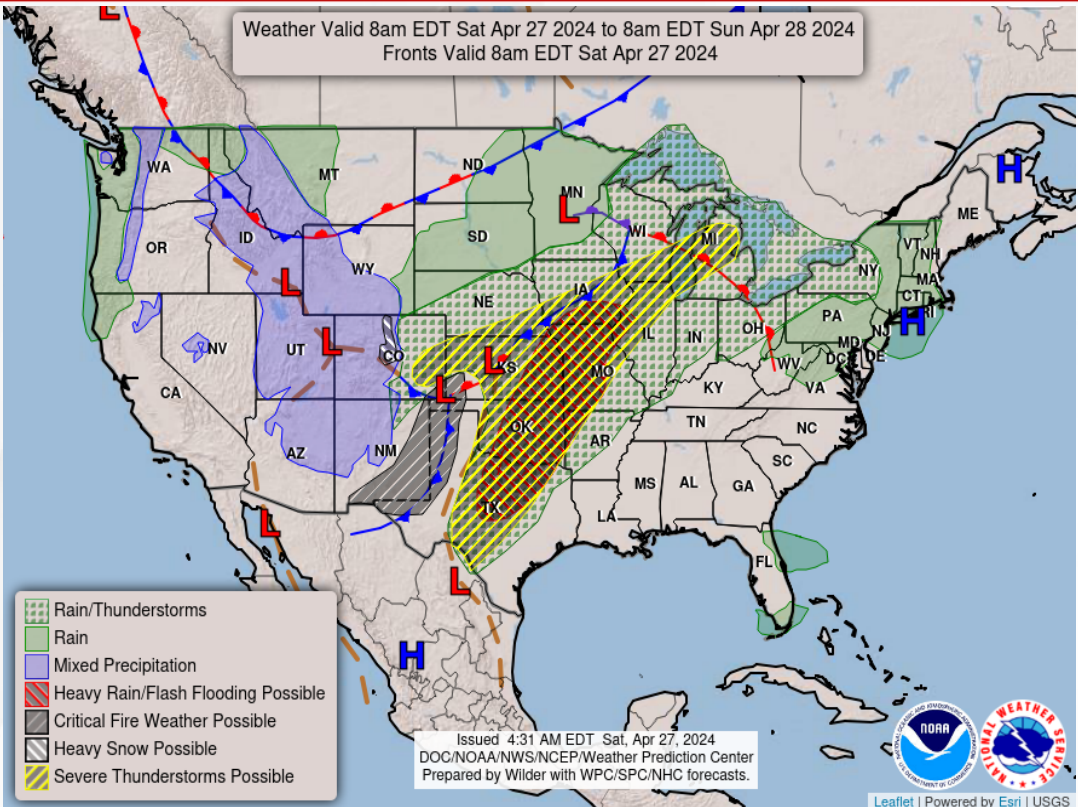
Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	In Region	On-Call Coverage for Region 2
Region 3: Patrick James	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	In Region	On-Call Coverage for Region 4
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	In Region	Off & Monitoring
RRCT Manager	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Grant Goodwin	In Region	On-Call Coverage for Region 6
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	In Region	Off & Monitoring

RRC Status
Normal Operations
In Region / Delayed Response
Deployed / Delayed Response
Out of Service / Unavailable

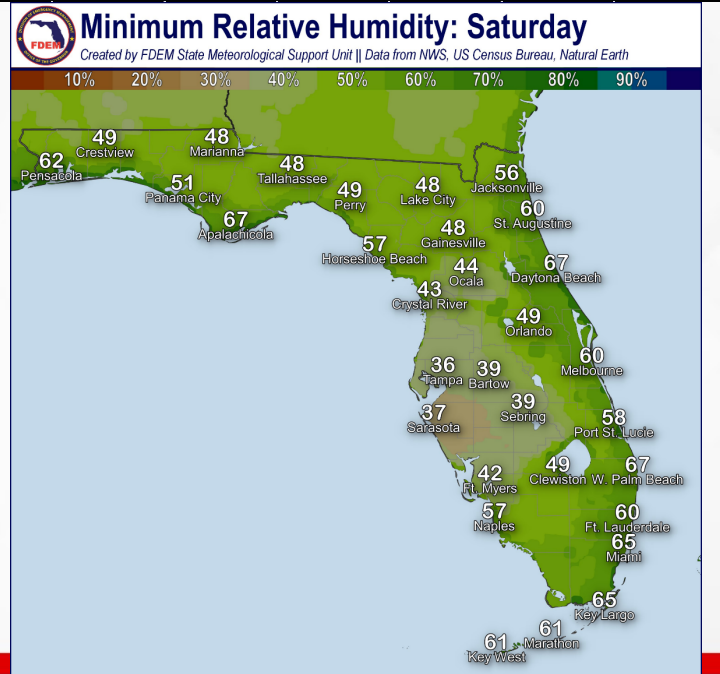
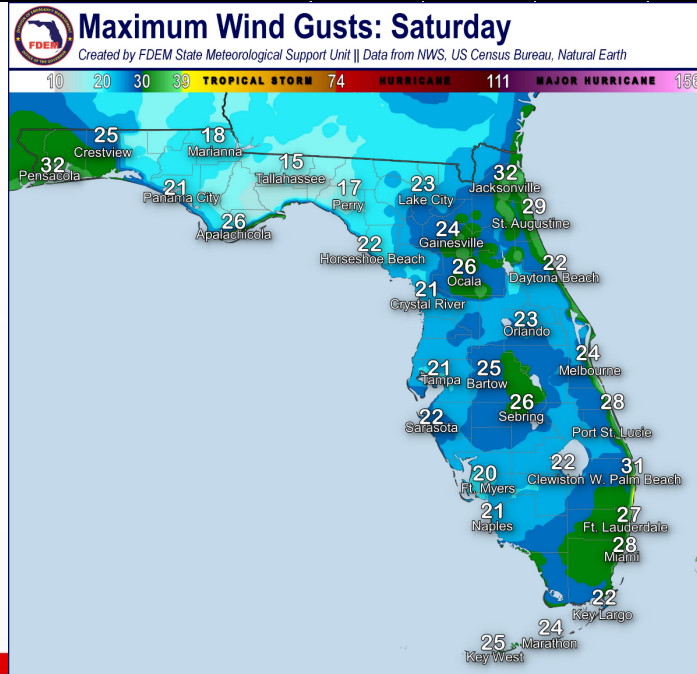


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire					L	L	L		L	
River Flooding			M							
Rip Currents	H	H	L	H	H	L		H	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	14.39 ft. (0.67 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	290 (+12) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





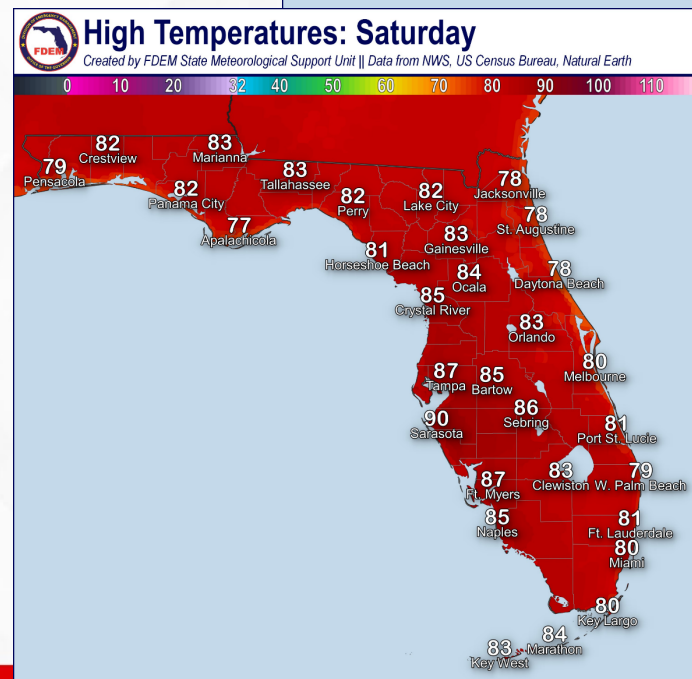
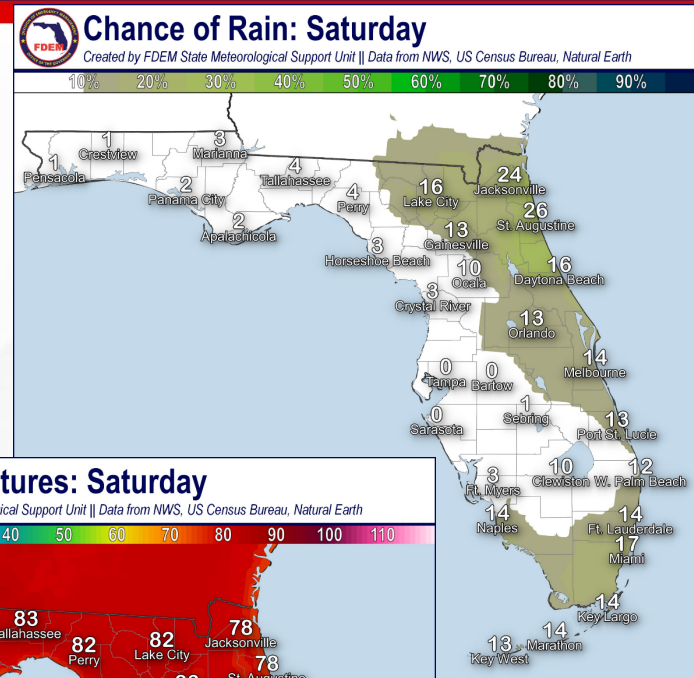
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

High pressure along the U.S. Eastern Seaboard will weaken slightly today but remain dominant over the weather pattern. Isolated to widely scattered showers will likely move onshore along the Eastern Peninsula, South Florida, and the Keys at times due to breezy, and at times gusty, onshore winds and adequate moisture (10-25% chance of rain). The rest of the state will remain dry throughout the day (near 0-10% chance of rain). Despite partly to mostly cloudy skies, high temperatures will continue to rise into the low to middle 80s with West-Central Florida reaching the upper 80s to **low 90s** under sunnier skies. Coastal areas may see highs in the upper 70s as breezy onshore winds develop.

Dry air will continue to linger across portions of Central and Southwest Florida, allowing relative humidity values to fall **near or below critical thresholds (30-40%)** this afternoon and creating another day of **sensitive to locally elevated wildfire conditions**. **Red Flag Warnings** are not anticipated but cannot be ruled out along portions of interior Central Florida that have seen a lack of substantial rainfall persist across the area and are experiencing **abnormally dry (emerging drought)** conditions. Winds will continue to strengthen today as a strong frontal system over the Central U.S. pushes up against the area of high pressure to the east. **Wind gusts near 20-30 mph** are anticipated nearly statewide with **locally stronger gusts upwards of 30-35 mph** anticipated along the Florida Panhandle and Eastern Peninsula Coastlines.

Partly to mostly cloudy skies and a few isolated showers along the East Coast and Keys can be expected to persist through the overnight hours (near 0-15% chance of rain). Low temperatures will remain in the 60s across North and Central Florida and upper 60s to middle 70s across South Florida and the Keys. Breezy winds will prevent fog from developing overnight and early Sunday morning.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **high risk for rip currents** can be expected along all Florida Panhandle and East Coast beaches as breezy winds onshore winds and large breaking waves develop today. A low risk persists along the West Coast. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

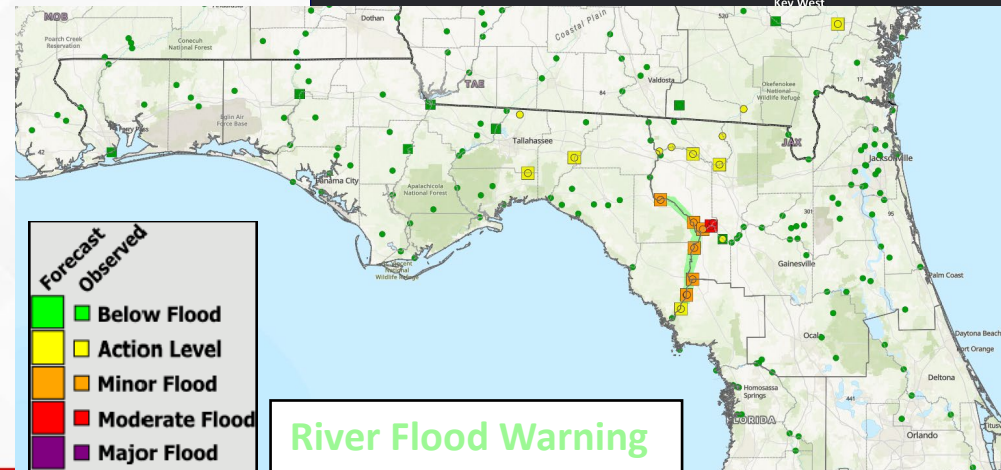
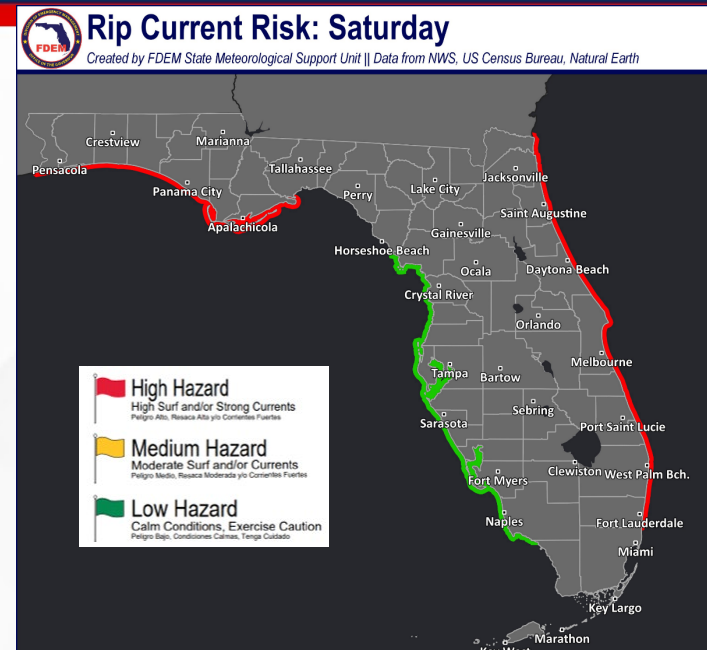
Marine Hazards: Breezy, and at times gusty, winds will continue to build ocean swells in the Gulf of Mexico and Western Atlantic today. **High Surf Advisories** will go into effect this morning as **large breaking waves of 4-6'** with **locally higher breaking waves around 7'** are expected this weekend. The rest of the Florida Panhandle can expect **wave heights** to reach 2-4'. Additional **High Surf Advisories** will go into effect this evening along the Southeast Coast as **large breaking waves of 5-8'** are anticipated in the surf. The Atlantic-facing Keys will also see 5-8' waves today. All other East Coast beaches can expect **wave heights near 4-6'** with **locally 7' breaking waves possible**. West Coast and Gulf-facing Key beaches will see 1-4' **wave heights**. **Hazardous beach and boating conditions** will develop statewide by this evening. **Minor beach erosion** may be possible along the Panhandle and Southeast Coast. **Red Tide** has been observed at background levels in one sample collected from Northwest Florida (Escambia County) on 4/18.

Coastal Flooding: Coastal flooding is not expected today; however, breezy easterly to southeasterly winds may lead to **elevated water levels (0.25-0.75' above normal)** at times of high tide along the vulnerable Forgotten Coast, primarily near Apalachicola.

Flash Flooding: There is no risk for flash flooding today.

Riverine Flooding: **River Flood Warnings** remain in effect for several rivers and waterways along the Suwannee Valley. **Moderate river flooding** continues for the [Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates](#) as water levels have crested and are beginning to fall. The [Santa Fe River near Hildreth](#) and portions of the Suwannee River ([at Luraville](#), [at Branford](#), [at Rock Bluff near Bell](#)) remain within **minor flood stage** but have crested and are forecast to fall below flood stage this weekend and early next week. Additional forecast points along the Suwannee River ([near Wilcox](#) and [at Manatee Springs](#)) continue to see **minor flooding** as water flows downstream through the river basin. Dry conditions over the next few days will help to allow elevated water levels to crest and slowly decline. No additional riverine flooding is expected and there are no other riverine concerns at this time. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

[Lake Okeechobee's](#) average elevation is 14.39 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.67 feet above normal for this time of year.





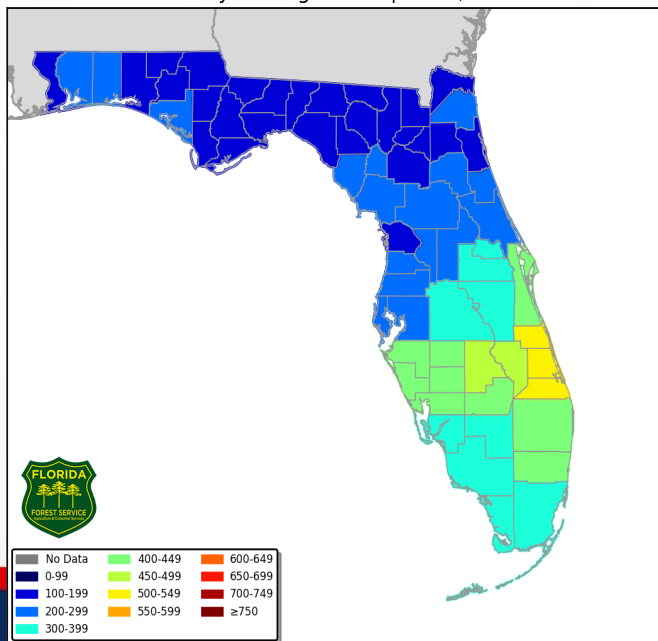
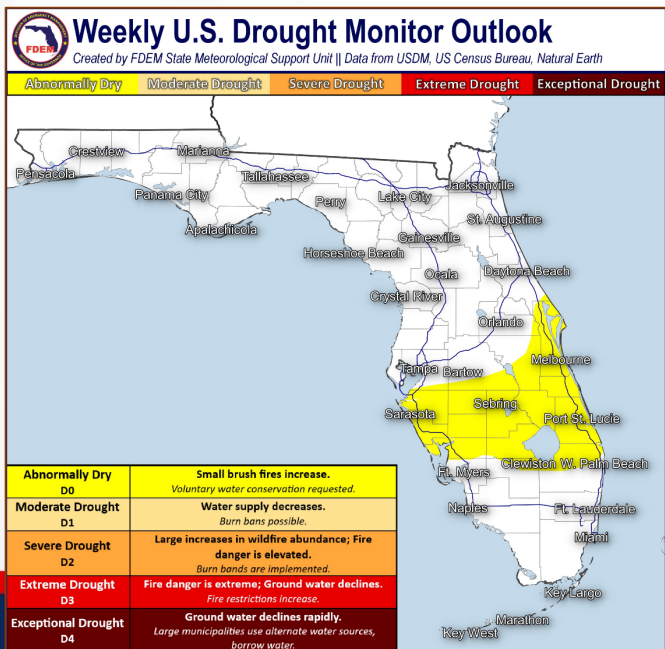
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Easterly to southeasterly winds will allow for moisture to slowly recover statewide over the next few days; however, high pressure building along the U.S. Eastern Seaboard will continue to allow dry air to linger across the interior Peninsula. Relative humidity values will fall **near or below critical thresholds (30-40%)** along portions of Central and Southwest Florida this afternoon, creating **sensitive to locally elevated wildfire conditions**. **Red Flag Warnings** are not anticipated but cannot be ruled out along portions of interior Central Florida that have seen a lack of substantial rainfall persist across the area and are experiencing **abnormally dry (emerging drought)** conditions. Winds will strengthen today as a strong frontal system over the Central U.S. pushes up against the area of high pressure to the east. **Wind gusts near 20-30 mph** are anticipated nearly statewide this afternoon with locally stronger **gusts upwards of 30-35 mph** along Florida Panhandle and East coastlines. Isolated to widely scattered showers will likely make their way onshore along the East Coast and South Florida today; however, rainfall will be limited. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 35 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 492 acres.

Drought: High pressure has yielded dry conditions and above normal temperatures nearly statewide over the last week, leading to deteriorating soil moisture and streamflow conditions. **Abnormally dry (emerging drought)** conditions have expanded along portions of the Central and Southern Peninsula on this week's drought monitor update and now stretch from the coast to the coast south of I-4 and north of I-75, surrounding and north of Lake Okeechobee. 60-day rainfall deficits have reached 4-6" below normal along eastern portions of Central and South Florida, east and northeast of Lake Okeechobee, with isolated pockets of 6-8" below normal. North and northwest of Lake Okeechobee to the West Coast, 60-day rainfall deficits have reached 2-4" below normal. Little to no rainfall expected across the region over the next week may exacerbate drought conditions.

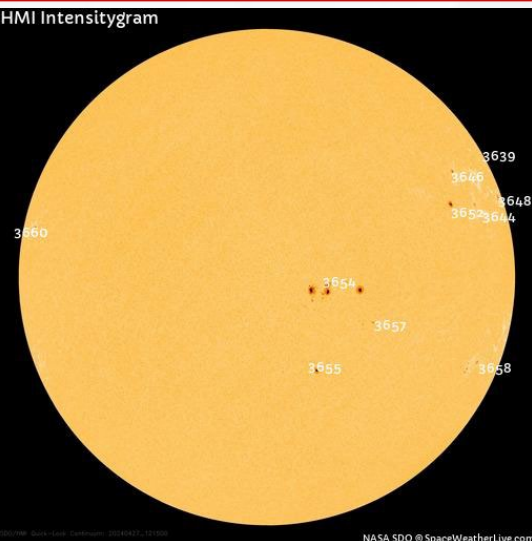
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **290 (+12)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **three** Florida counties (Indian River, Martin, and St. Lucie) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for April 26, 2024

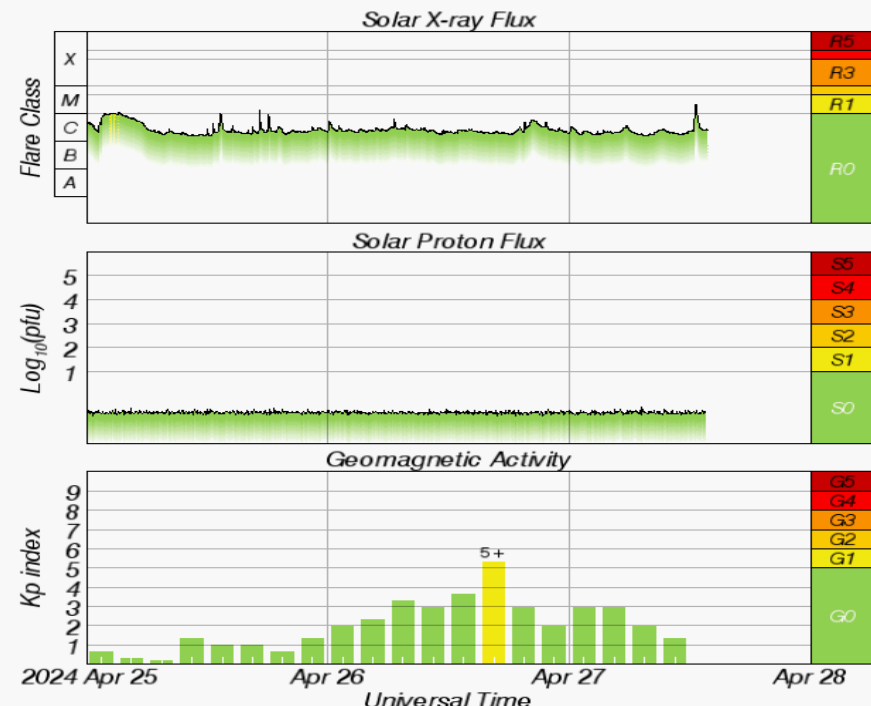
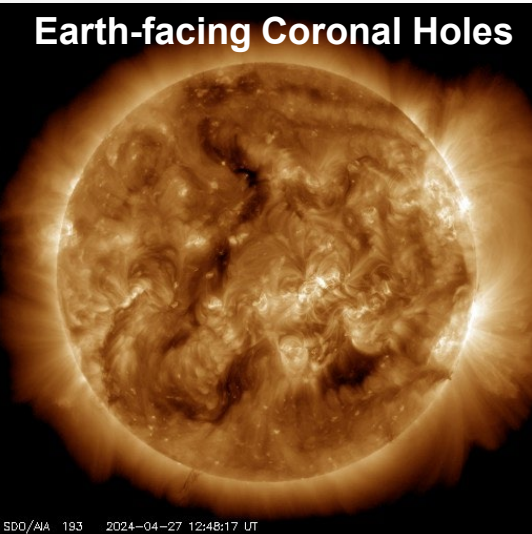




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 75%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C6 Solar Flare
X-class: 15%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
4/27	4/28
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 20% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is forecast to remain at moderate levels today with strong (M-class) solar flares expected and a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares. Active sunspot #3654 has a magnetic field that harbors energy for M-class solar flares. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts will accompany stronger solar activity, and strong (R3) radio blackouts will be possible with any X-class solar flares that develop. A slight chance for minor (S1) solar radiation storms persists due the flare potential and location of several active regions on the visible disk. Enhanced solar wind conditions are likely to continue over the next few days due to Coronal Hole High Speed Stream (CH HSS) influences and possible transient activity associated with multiple Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) expected to pass in close proximity to Earth. Quiet to active geomagnetic conditions are expected over the next day or so due to the combined influences of the CH HSS and multiple near-miss CMEs. There remains a chance for minor (G1) geomagnetic storms today due to this activity. The overall space threat to Florida is very low.



SWO Communications Systems & Contact Information

Equipment	Contact	Status	Comments
Phone:	800-320-0519, 850-815-4001, 850-591-0071 (Backup Cell)	Operational	
Backup Landline:	850-487-3234, 850-487-3228	Operational	
Fax:	850-815-4979	Operational	
Email:	SWP@em.myflorida.com	Operational	
SWO Tracker:	https://apps.floridadisaster.org/SWO/	Operational	
SLERS:	DEM Statewide	Operational	
FNARS:	WGY974	Operational	
Federal NAWAS:	State Watch Office	Operational	
EMnet Message:	FL.000- State Watch Office	Operational	
EMnet Voice:	FL SWP- State Watch Office	Operational	
IPAWS:	LP.1 Stations via Emnet	Operational	
FIN:	SOFEOC	Operational	
Satellite Phones:	888-890-5178 or 480-263-8838	Operational	
Website:	http://www.floridadisaster.org	Operational	

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