



Virginia Department of
Emergency Management

Hurricane Season Briefing

Date: June 3, 2022

State Coordinator of Emergency Management

Shawn Talmadge

Previously served as Deputy Secretary of Public Safety & Homeland Security

Has served within the emergency response and homeland security field for over 25 years at the state and local level as an incident commander, critical care paramedic, firefighter, and hazardous materials technician.

Former Battalion Chief in the Hanover County Fire-EMS Department.

Serves in Virginia National Guard as the Red Team Chief at the 29th Infantry Division.



Chief Deputy State Coordinator of Emergency Management

Erin Sutton

Prior to VDEM, she served as the Director of the City of Virginia Beach Office of Emergency Management.

Has worked in emergency planning and management for the last 15 years.

Also held positions with the Virginia Beach Department of Public Health, developing the Virginia Beach Medical Reserve Corps and leading the city-wide pandemic planning effort as Emergency Planner.

She is a Certified Emergency Manager, Certified Floodplain Manager and has her Project Management Professional certification.



Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security

Robert “Bob” Mosier

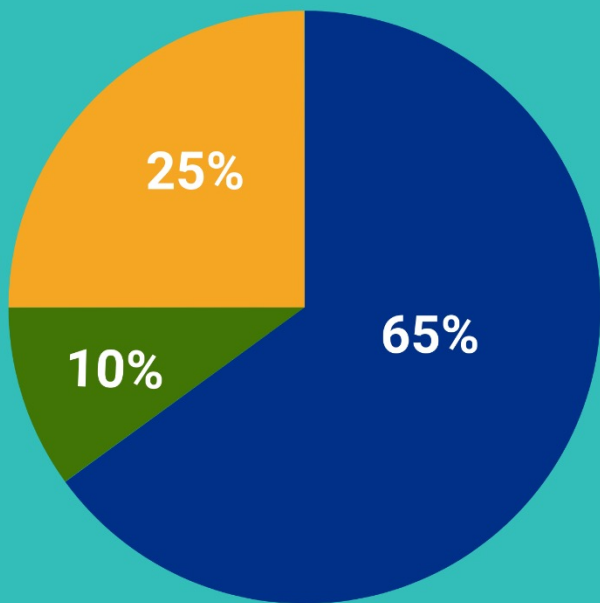
Gov. Youngkin appointed Bob Mosier as the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security in 2022

Bob previously served as Sheriff of Fauquier County with a career spanning over 30 years in local, county, Federal Government, domestic, and international law enforcement





2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook



■ Above-normal ■ Near-normal ■ Below-normal season

Season probability

Named storms
14-21

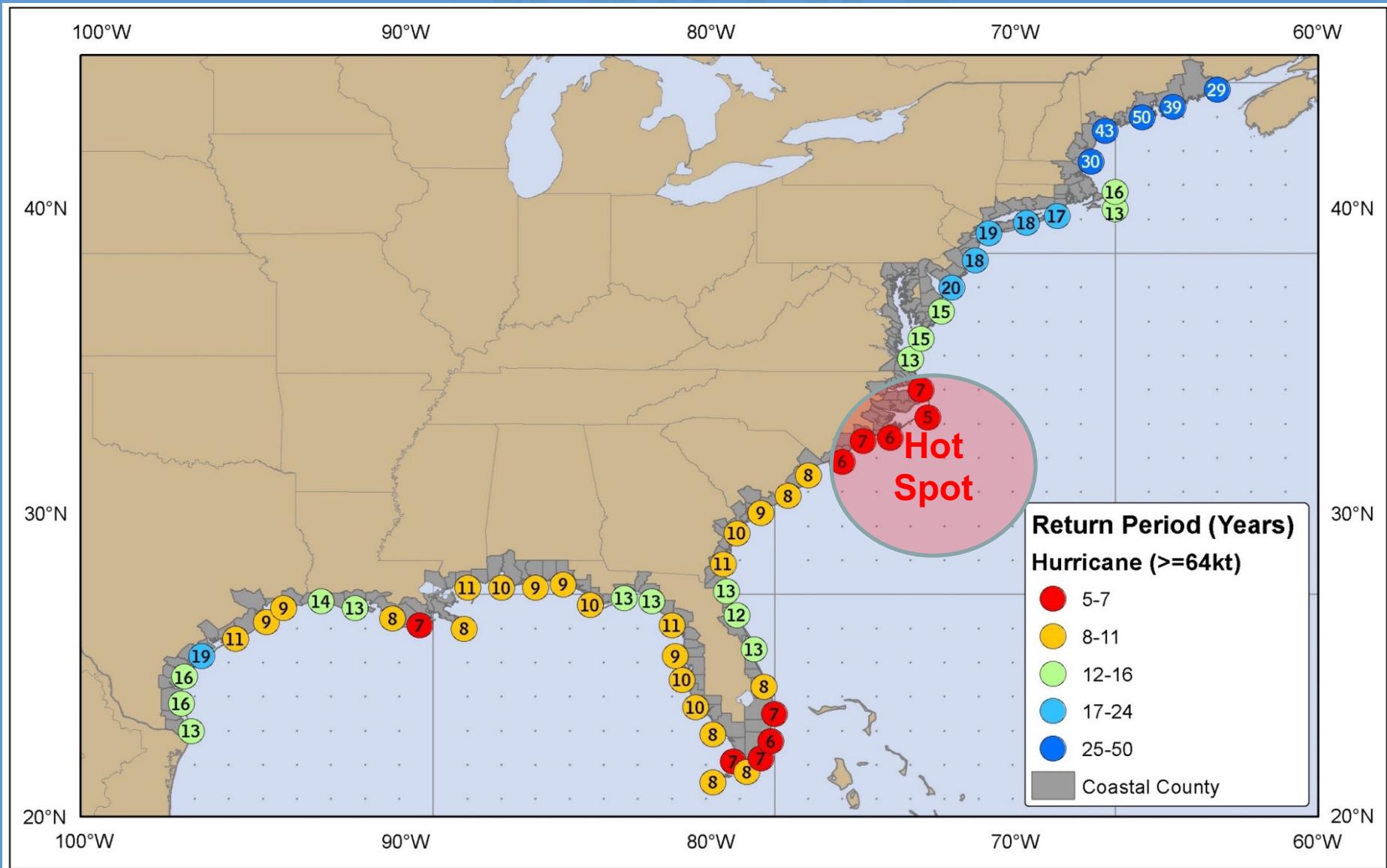
Hurricanes
6-10

Major hurricanes
3-6

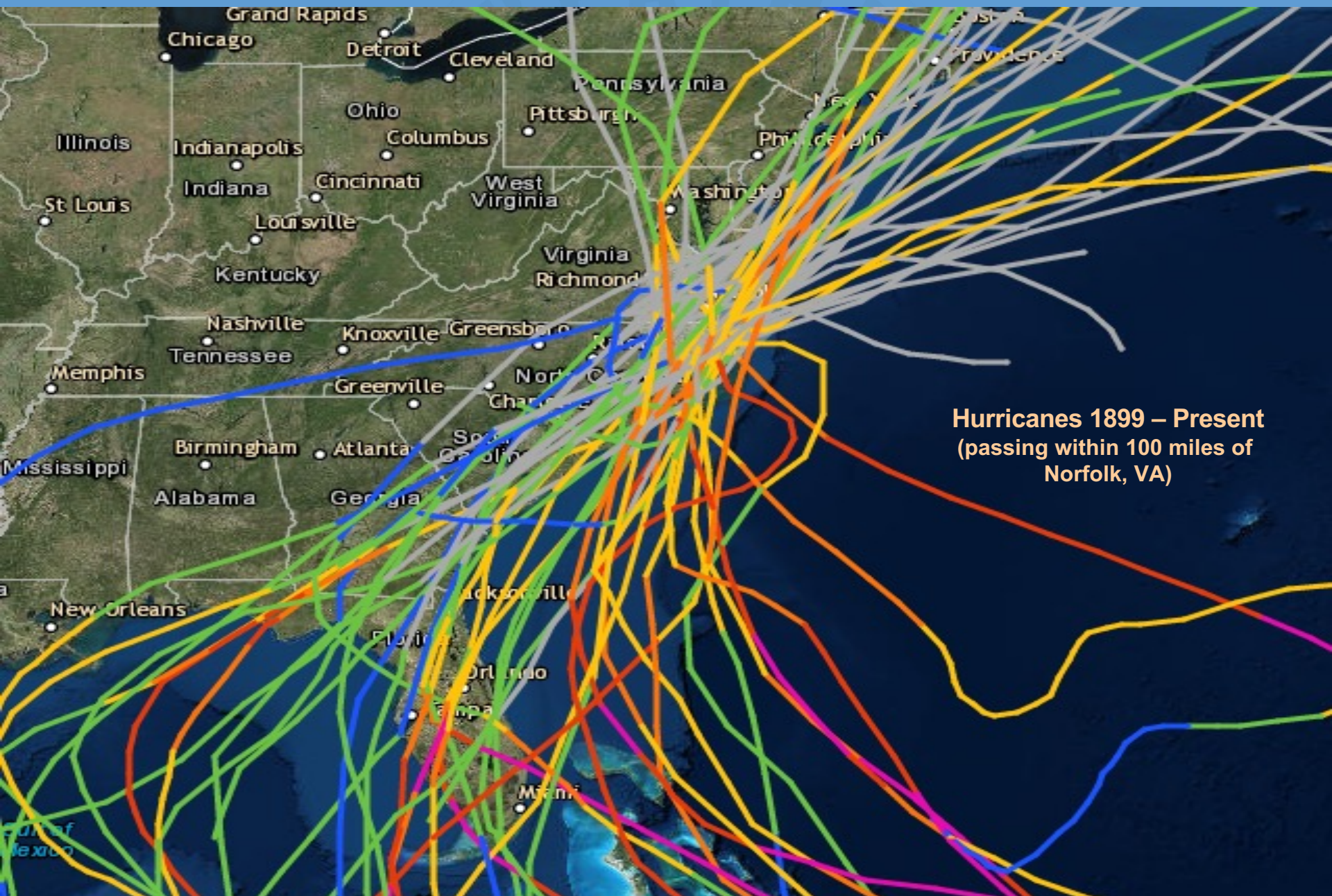
Normal

10 names storms, 6 hurricanes, 2-3 major hurricanes

Hurricane Return Intervals

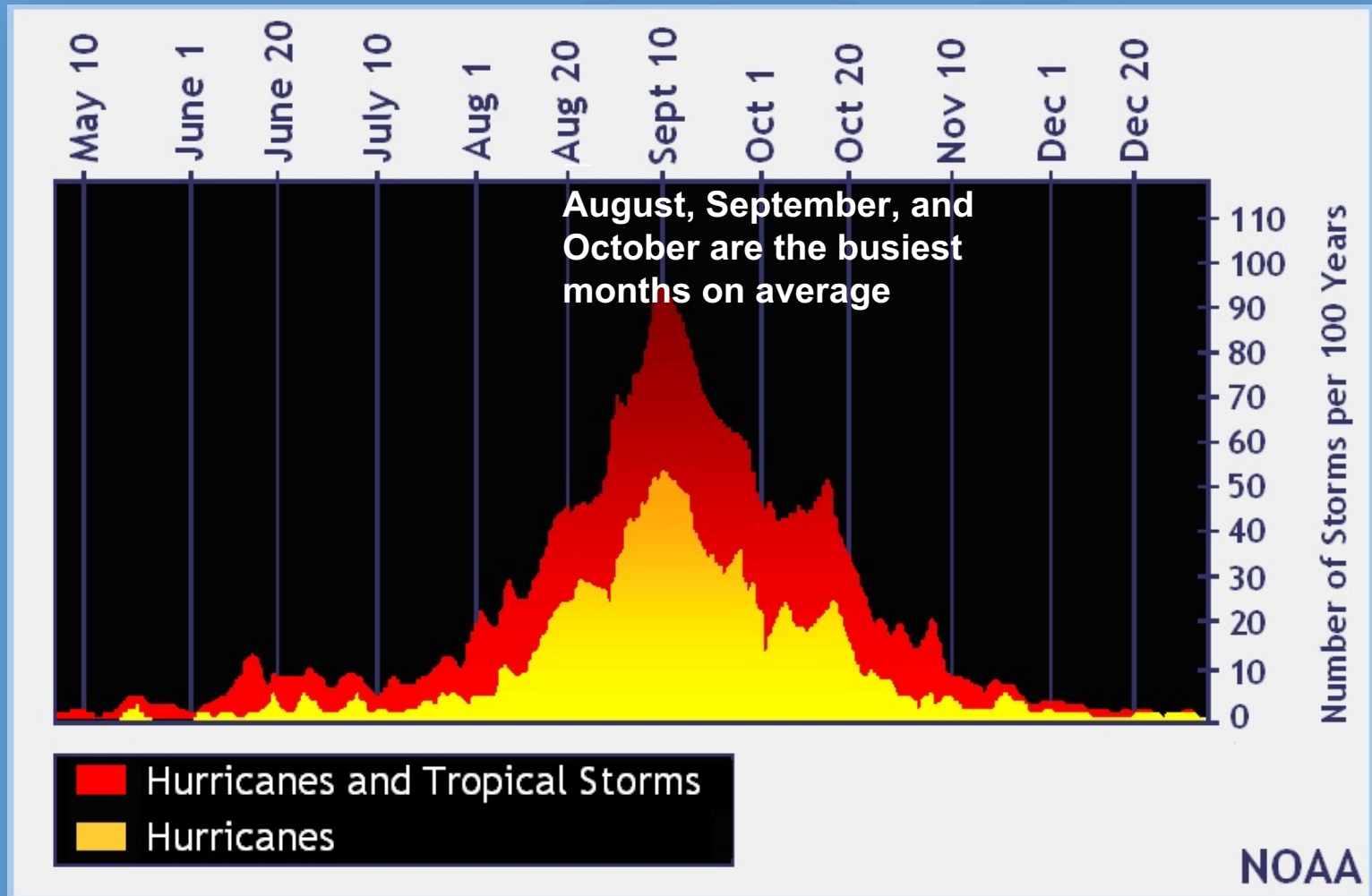


Historical Storm Tracks



Timing Hurricane Season

When Do We See the Most Hurricanes?



Hurricane Bring Many Hazards Statewide

Storm Surge



Tornadoes



Wind

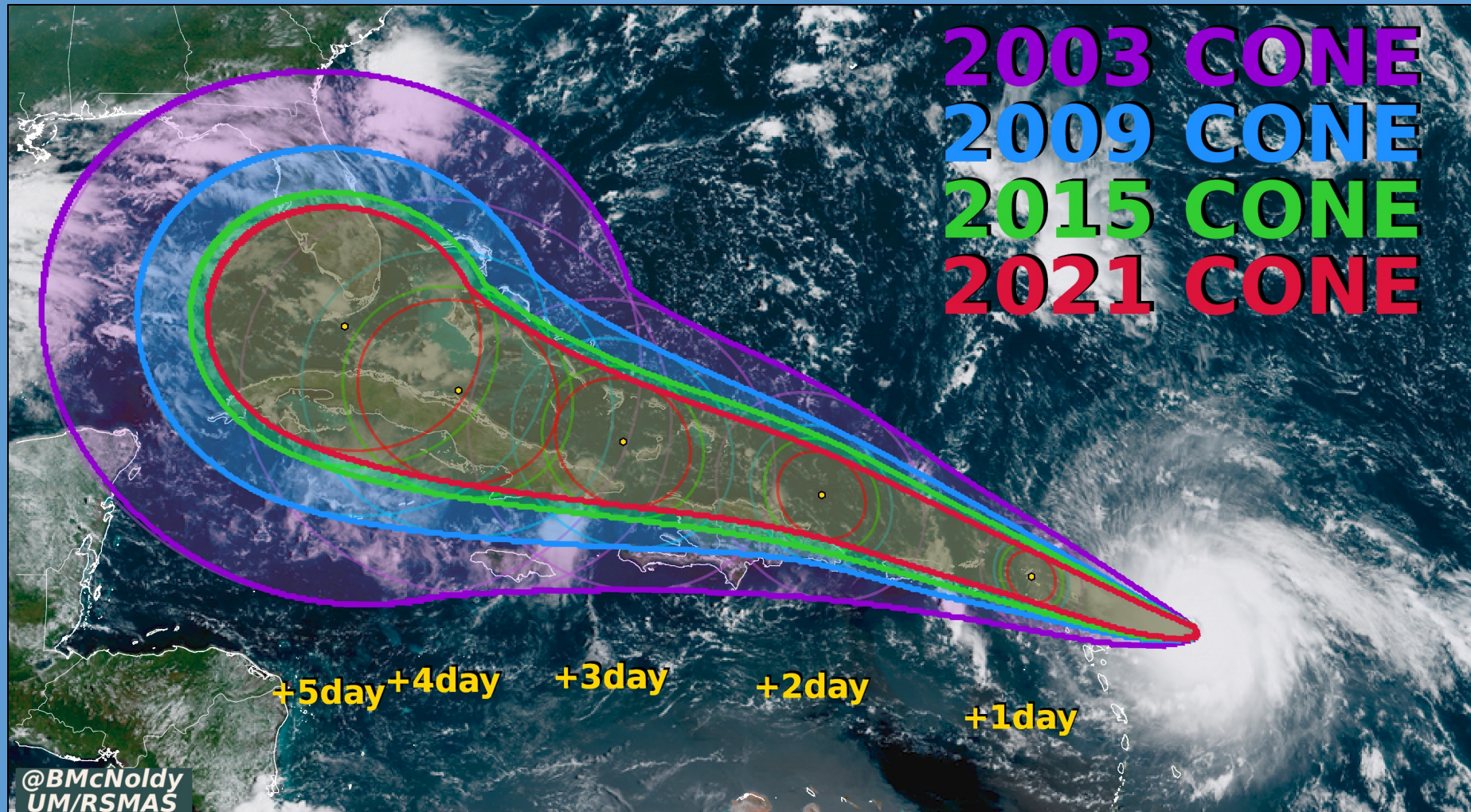


Inland
Flooding



No part of the State is immune from Tropical Hazards and potential disaster

Increased Accuracy Helping To Pinpoint The Threats



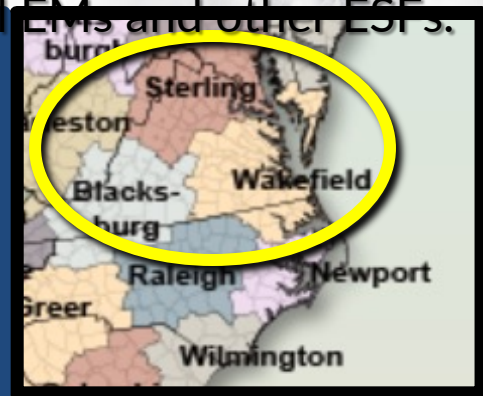
Cone based on NHC errors over the previous 5 years



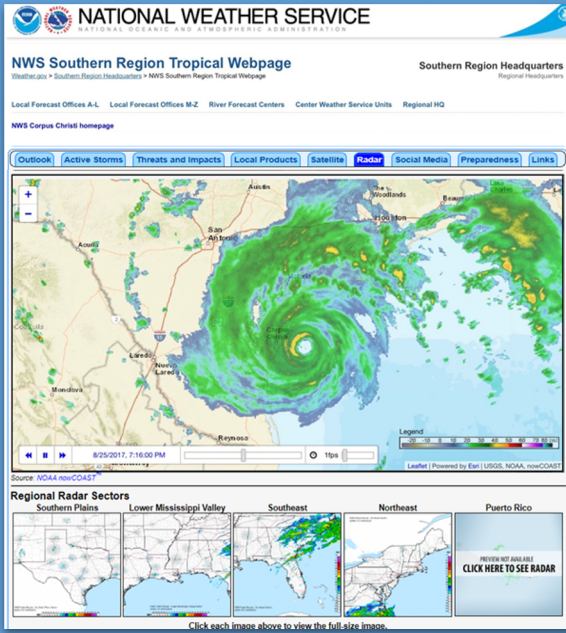
NWS Offices Serving



- 24 / 7 operations updating forecasts every few hours
- Responsible for localizing forecast and impacts from one jurisdiction to another
- Coordinate with the Hurricane Center and numerous other agencies during hurricanes
- Each office has 16 meteorologists, 3 electronics technicians, hydrologist and others support staff
- Provide Briefings to VDEM, local EMS and other ESFs.



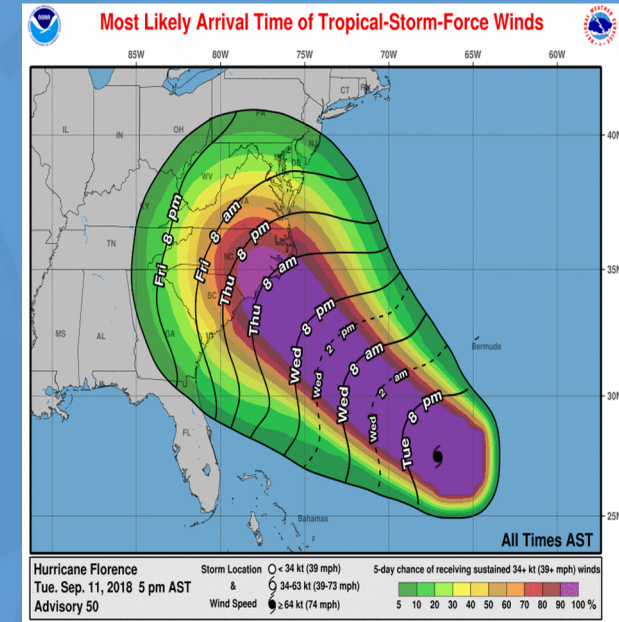
Keep Up With Latest OFFICIAL Forecasts and Warnings



NWSWakefieldVA



NWSNHC



<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov>

<https://weather.gov/akq>

<https://weather.gov/lwx>

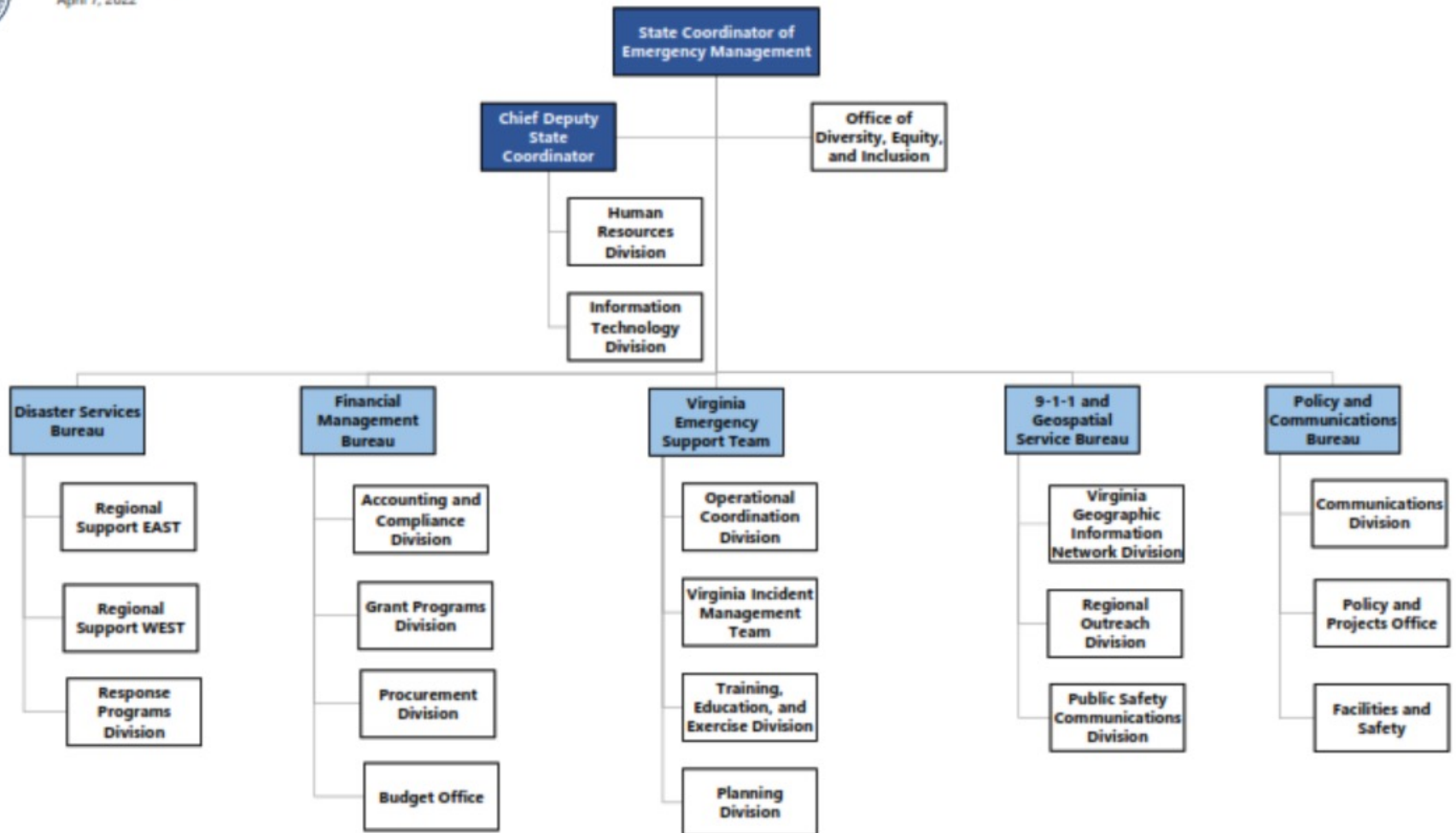
<https://weather.gov/rnk>

<https://www.weather.gov/akq/tropical>

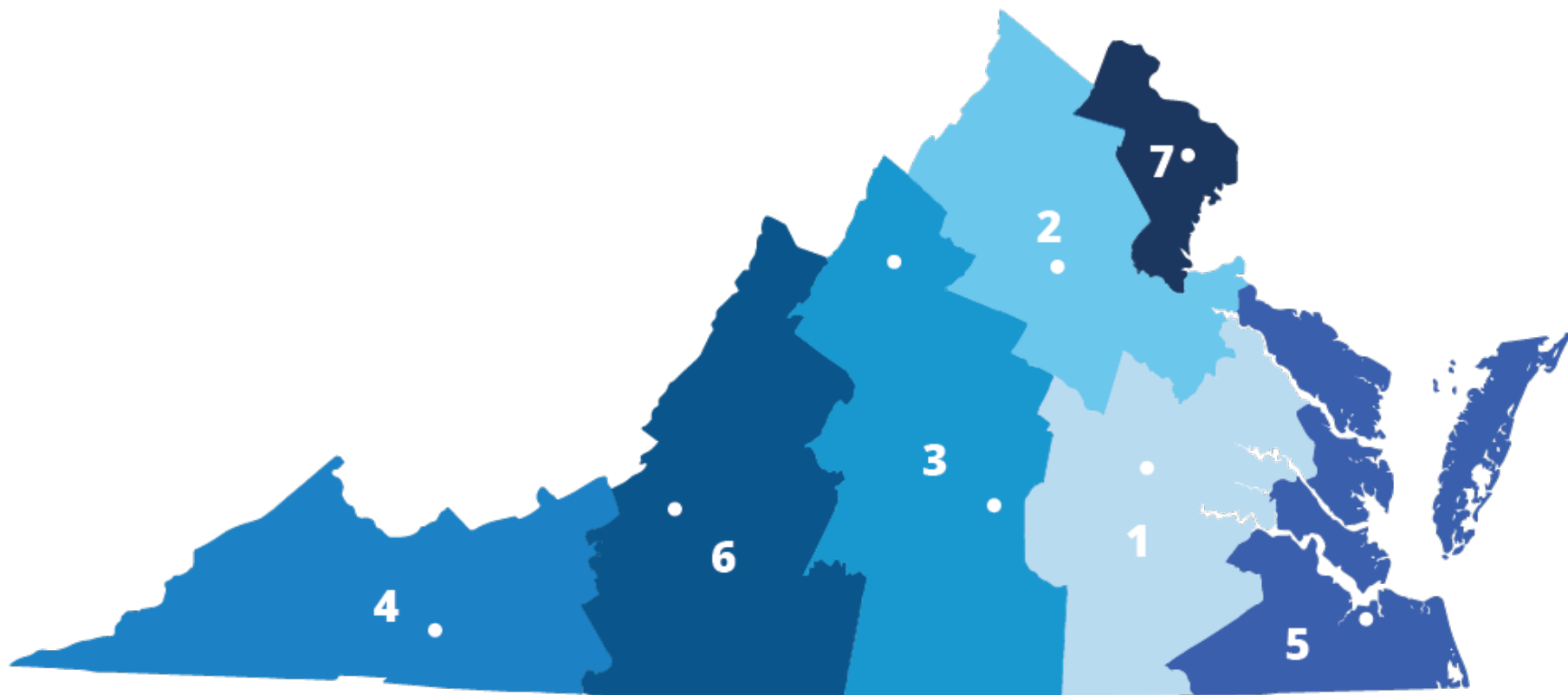
VDEM Structure



Virginia Department of Emergency Management
Organizational Chart
April 7, 2022



VDEM Regions



Virginia Emergency Support Team

– Jennifer Maul, VDEM

- Construct of 12 Lead and more than 100 supporting state agencies, bringing together the Commonwealth's whole of government response to support localities during emergencies and disasters - more than 300 trained members from government, private sector and volunteer agencies
- VDEM personnel serve in key leadership positions
- Supporting Programs
 - Commonwealth of Virginia Incident Management Team
 - Adjunct Emergency Workforce -
 - Private Sector / Critical Infrastructure
 - Voluntary Agency Liaison
- EO 41 (2019) – involvement of all state agencies and employees in disaster response
- Planning
 - Situational Awareness Unit (SAU)
 - State level strategic plans
 - Local Capability Assessment for Readiness (LCAR)
 - Threat Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA)



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VDEM Disaster Services

- John Northon, VDEM

- **Response Programs**

Disaster Logistics

Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT)

Special Operations (Search & Rescue, Incident Management Teams, Water Rescue, Communications Caches, Technical Rescue)

Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP)

- **Regional Support East & West**

Seven VDEM offices throughout the Commonwealth
Chief Regional Coordinator, Disaster Response & Recovery Officer, All Hazards Planner, HAZMAT Officer, Recovery and Mitigation Specialist, SAR Coordinator (R5 & R6), Hurricane Program Manager (R5)



Operational Awareness and Tips

- John Northon, VDEM

- WebEOC is our system of record to place resources and supply request prior to and during events
- Having staff trained and using Crisis Track software (recovery) (these two bullets should be in the regional slides)
- VA Code 44-146.19 covers the emergency management requirements for political sub divisions.
- Shall have a director of emergency management
- Shall prepare and keep current a local or interjurisdictional emergency operations plan
- Plan → train → exercise → identify gaps → apply for grants → receive funding → fix gaps
- Emergency Management is a team sport
- Hurricanes and Tropical Storms are statewide events
- Flooding is a year round threat



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Emergency Management Processes

- Jack King, VDEM

- VDEM Regional Support has teams in each region led by the Chief Regional Coordinator.
- Prior to, during, and sometimes after an event, the regional office will hold a regional call, usually starting 3-4 days prior.
- On this call, the region will update on regional posture and seek information from regional partners.
- EOC status, planning actions, and anticipated needs will be requested.
- It is important to note some requests could take 3-4 days to be delivered to a jurisdiction.
- It is important for localities to let the Regional Office know of anticipated needs early so those requests can be processed.



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Emergency Management Processes

Cont.

- Jack King, VDEM

- While the regional teams work with all regional partners, at the local level, the team works with the local Emergency Manager.
- Especially important when needing resources.
- All requests from a locality should go through that locality's EM and logged into WebEOC
- Bypassing the local EM could cause a delay as any request will be confirmed with the local EM before processing.
- Localities are responsible for maintaining and updating their Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).
- In event the Governor issues an evacuation order, localities are responsible for local evacuation routes if needed, and plans for getting transportation dependent citizens to shelters or transfer points.
- Localities are responsible for opening, staffing and maintaining a local shelter.



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State Shelter Plan Update

– Tina Wang, VDSS

- Local shelters are the backbone of the Commonwealth's sheltering system. The state shelter plan supplements local capacity in a catastrophic event.
- For much of the pandemic, the state shelter plan called for non-congregate sheltering (hotels). This hurricane season, health guidance allows the state plan to return to congregate as the primary means of sheltering.
- State shelter partners are aligning plans with updated VDH guidance to reduce the risk of introducing and transmitting COVID-19 in congregate emergency shelters.
- VDSS, DGS, and VDEM are working to establish contracts to support state shelters in the 2022 hurricane season.



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Public Communications Efforts

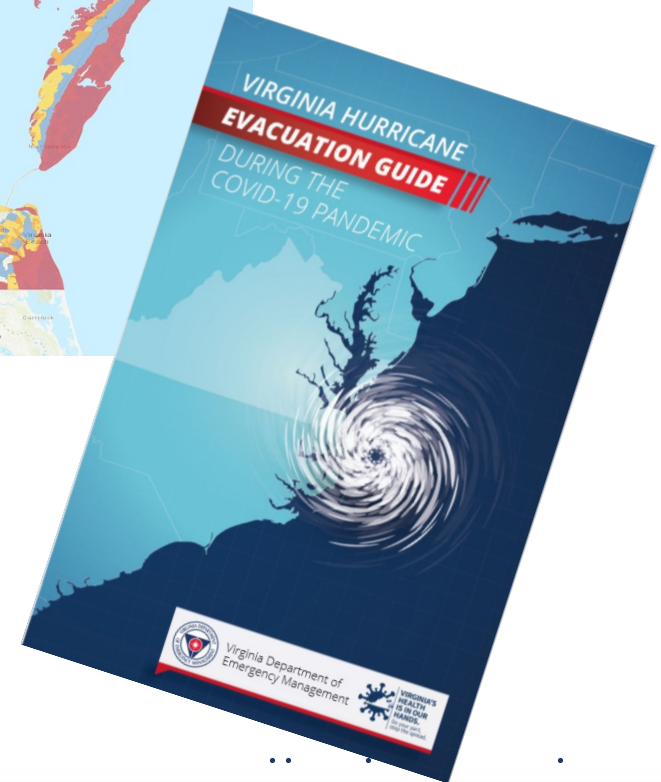
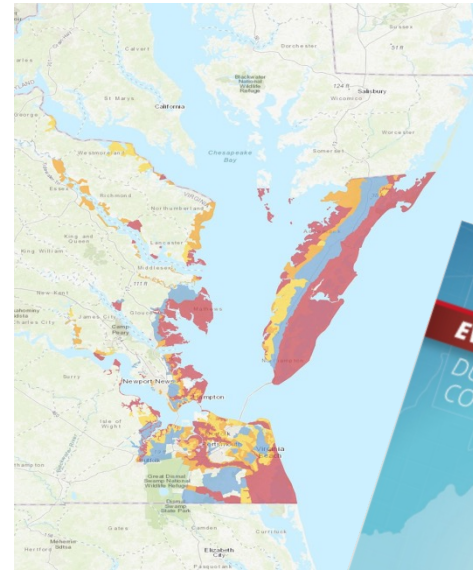
– Lauren Opett, VDEM

- PIO meetings before, during, and after disasters
Sharing of graphics, example here:
<https://www.vaemergency.gov/media-assets/>
Need to develop more robust PIO list across the Commonwealth
- Need to build relationships early and often
- Partners in preparedness
Partnering with non-profit organizations to reach and support vulnerable populations
Allows residents to receive information from sources they trust in their communities
More information:
<https://www.vaemergency.gov/partners-in-preparedness/>



Know Your Zone (KYZ) and Hurricane Guide

Know Your Zone is an awareness initiative that applies to roughly **1.25 million** residents in **23 localities** along Coastal Virginia, the region of the state most vulnerable to hurricanes and other tropical storms



Virginia Sales Tax Holiday

August 5-7, 2022

Eligible Items: <https://www.tax.virginia.gov/virginia-sales-tax-holiday>

- Hurricane and emergency preparedness products
 - Portable generators - \$1,000 or less per item
 - Gas-powered chainsaws - \$350 or less per item
 - Chainsaw accessories - \$60 or less per item
 - Other specified hurricane preparedness items - \$60 or less per item
- School supplies, clothing, and footwear
 - Qualified school supplies - \$20 or less per item
 - Qualified clothing and footwear - \$100 or less per item
- Energy Star™ and WaterSense™ products
 - Qualifying Energy Star™ or WaterSense™ products purchased for noncommercial home or personal use - \$2,500 or less per item



THANK YOU!

