

AMS Peer Training Module

Hazardous Weather - Hurricanes

Activity: Track of Hurricane Jeanne

This activity involves a role-playing scenario. Individuals or teams should be formed to represent (a) the weather forecasting office, (b) government emergency response personnel, (c) school officials, and (d) civic representatives such as the town council and business interests. These representatives should consider what interests they support which may be somewhat contradictory in timing.

At each of the pauses, as denoted by the dotted lines in the plotting table, each group should answer questions 1 – 3 for their constituencies. Groups should attempt to arrive at a consensus for action in the community.

1. The forecasters should consider the hurricane's path and speed of movement for threatened areas. Considerations also include time of day for announcements, time to prepare and length of time needed to evacuate low-lying areas and traverse bridges and single lane roads.
2. Considerations need to include the population density, types and vulnerabilities of manufacturing, transportation infrastructure. Emergency management personnel are the ones to make binding evacuation decisions.
3. Thoughts need to be given to evacuation assembly locations and supplies as well as emergency medical equipment and aid. Finally, who should be included if conditions overwhelm local abilities to cope.