

THE BULLETIN

The Official Newsletter of the FDEM Mitigation Bureau

What's the Buzz? A Silver Jackets Update

By: Dan Curcio

The Florida Silver Jackets team is finalizing the Inland Resilience Guidebook for Highlands and Columbia counties. The team held a webinar to gather input from participating members in June and meetings with the counties to discuss the drafts were held in August. The last meeting will be held in September for final approval from the counties.

The team will also participate in a project led by the Environmental Protection Agency at Lake Martin in Bay County. This project will focus on rebuilding the area along Cherry Street, the main access point for the cities of Parker and Springfield. Currently, the street is prone to flooding from Lake Martin during high tides and heavy rainfalls. The project will to mitigate the risk of flooding to allow vehicles to pass through with greater ease and make the area more welcoming for recreational activities. The project will also support the Recovery and Resiliency Partnerships Project vision of helping communities recover from Hurricane Michael by leveraging a broad array of support from local, state and federal agencies. The Army Corps of Engineers will provide a hydrologic and hydraulic study in the project area to assess the water flow issues from Lake Martin.

For more information on the Silver Jackets team and upcoming meetings, please contact Dan Curcio at Daniel.Curcio@em.myflorida.com.



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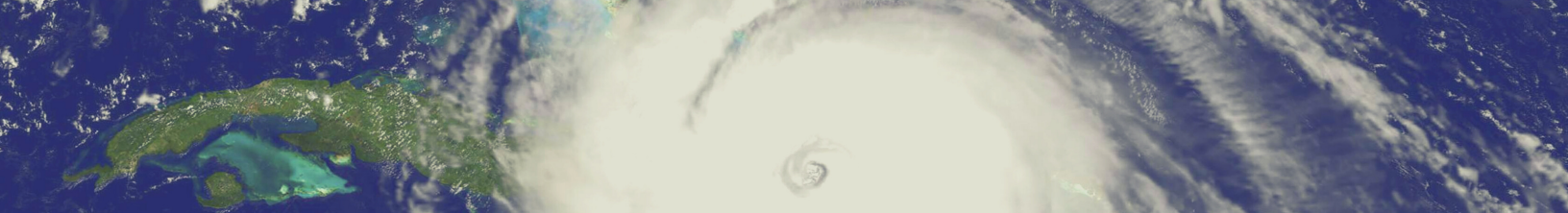
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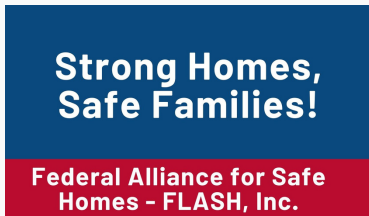
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FLASH Launches Strong Homes Podcast

By: Zoe LaPointe, Federal Alliance for Safe Homes, Inc.



How much do shutters cost? What is the best way to make a home insurance inventory? Does COVID-19 affect my hurricane preparations? Answers to these questions and more are in the new Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) podcast series, *Strong Homes, Safe Families!*



The podcast series features guest expert interviews on topics including safety and supplies, insurance checkups and catastrophe claim process preparation. Episodes feature checklists and videos to highlight new content, like a new comprehensive hurricane shutter checklist with descriptions, pricing and feature comparisons. Additional topics

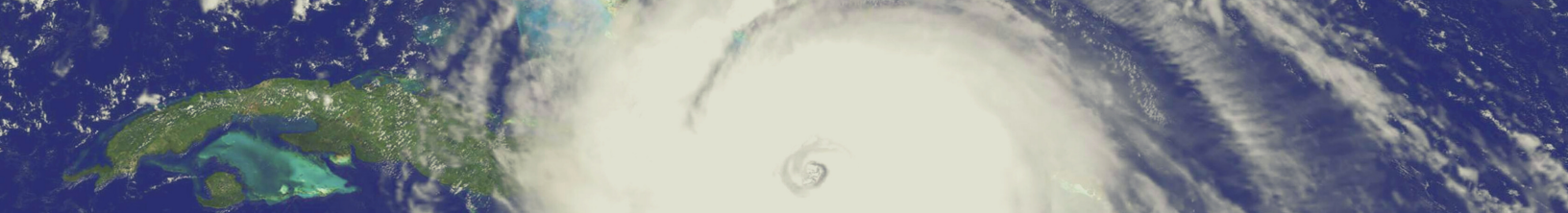
focus on home fortification shortcuts like soffit strengthening to meet the need for actionable, affordable, more straightforward ways to get #HurricaneStrong in 2020.

To kick off the series, FLASH President and CEO/podcast host Leslie Chapman-Henderson spoke with Ken Graham, Director of the National Hurricane Center. They addressed how COVID-19 is affecting people in "hurricane states" and how physical and social science research are coming together to save lives and protect communities. Future guests will share best practices in building codes, earthquake, flood, lightning, wildfire safety and more.

Strong Homes, Safe Families! playlist includes:

- #HurricaneStrong and the 2020 Season feat. National Hurricane Center Director Ken Graham
- The Scoop on Hurricane Shutters feat. Tim Robinson, Managing Partner of (GPP) and President of the International Hurricane Protection Association
- Skills + Supplies Today = Safety and Survival Tomorrow feat. Sean Reilly, District Manager for Lowe's along North and South Carolina coast-between Myrtle Beach and Morehead City
- #HurricaneStrong Home Hacks that Save Time and Money feat. Bill Ferimer, Lowe's Store Manager in Wilmington, North Carolina
- Have an Insurance Checkup and Make Your Policy #HurricaneStrong feat. Amanda Chase, State Farm Agent
- Take Steps Today for a Smooth Hurricane Claim Process Tomorrow feat. Elizabeth Gulick - Vice President of Claims Operations, USAA and member, FLASH Board of Directors
- Dr. Anne Cope on Science That Makes Us #HurricaneStrong feat. Dr. Anne Cope, Chief Engineer, IBHS

If you or someone from your organization is interested in being a guest on *Strong Homes, Safe Families!*, please email Zoe@flash.org. *Strong Homes, Safe Families!* is available on Apple Podcasts, Breaker, Google Podcasts, Pocket Casts, RadioPublic and Spotify.



FEMA Audio Project Captures Local Stories of Resilience

By: Alison Kearns, FEMA

In May, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX Office launched the *Level Up Audio Project*, a series of 10- to 15-minute conversations with local leaders on the West Coast who are making hazard mitigation a priority in their communities. The series was created to support local conversations about hazard risk and resilience, strengthen a network of hazard mitigation and climate adaptation professionals and inspire action. *Level Up* discusses many themes, including:

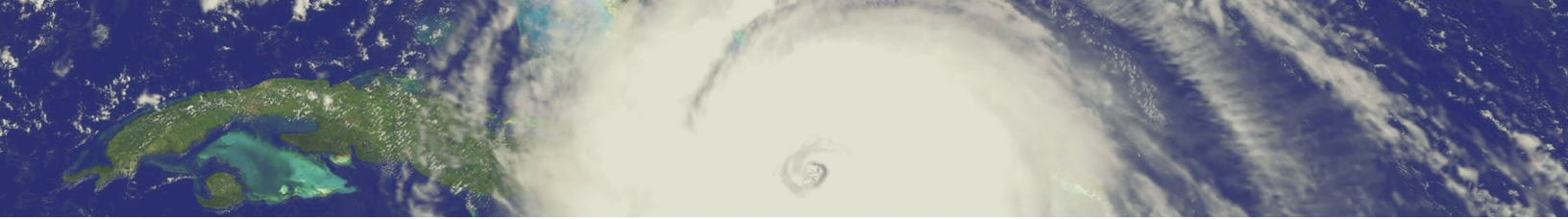


- Hazard mitigation
- Ecosystems and natural resilience
- Climate change
- Equity, environmental justice, social resilience; and more

FEMA partnered with the Georgetown Climate Center (GCC) to distribute *Level Up* to reach a broader audience. The partnership was born out of a shared desire to inform and empower State and local jurisdictions to reduce the impacts of natural disasters and climate change. While the podcasts use examples from Region IX, many of the themes are very relevant to Florida. Tune in to hear:

- The City of Tehama stacked various funding sources to elevate homes and protect the community from floods
- The Solano County Water Agency helped rural landowners mitigate flood risk by assisting them with permit applications for streambed work
- The City of Santa Cruz integrated climate adaptation with hazard mitigation planning processes to ensure more coordinated implementation
- An immigrants' rights organization made sure all members of the community were able to rebuild following the Thomas Fire; and more

The *Level Up Audio Project* can be accessed on the GCC website and via streaming platforms, including Blubrry, Apple Podcasts, and Stitcher. If you have any questions or comments, please contact fema-r9-mitigation-planning@fema.dhs.gov.



Mitigation Spotlight

The Mitigation Bureau is proud to announce that the Florida State Floodplain Management Office has been awarded the Tom Lee State Award for Excellence in Floodplain Management from the Association of State Floodplain Managers in June 2020.

The Tom Lee State Award for Excellence in Floodplain Management is given annually to recognize an outstanding floodplain management program or activity at the state level. It preserves the memory of Tom Lee (1935-1976), a visionary floodplain manager responsible for some of this country's finest state-level programs and for his instrumental work in developing the regulatory framework that we still seek to implement and improve today. Eligible entries include an overall program or specific outstanding products or activities.

Congratulations to Steve Martin and all the State Floodplain Office staff!

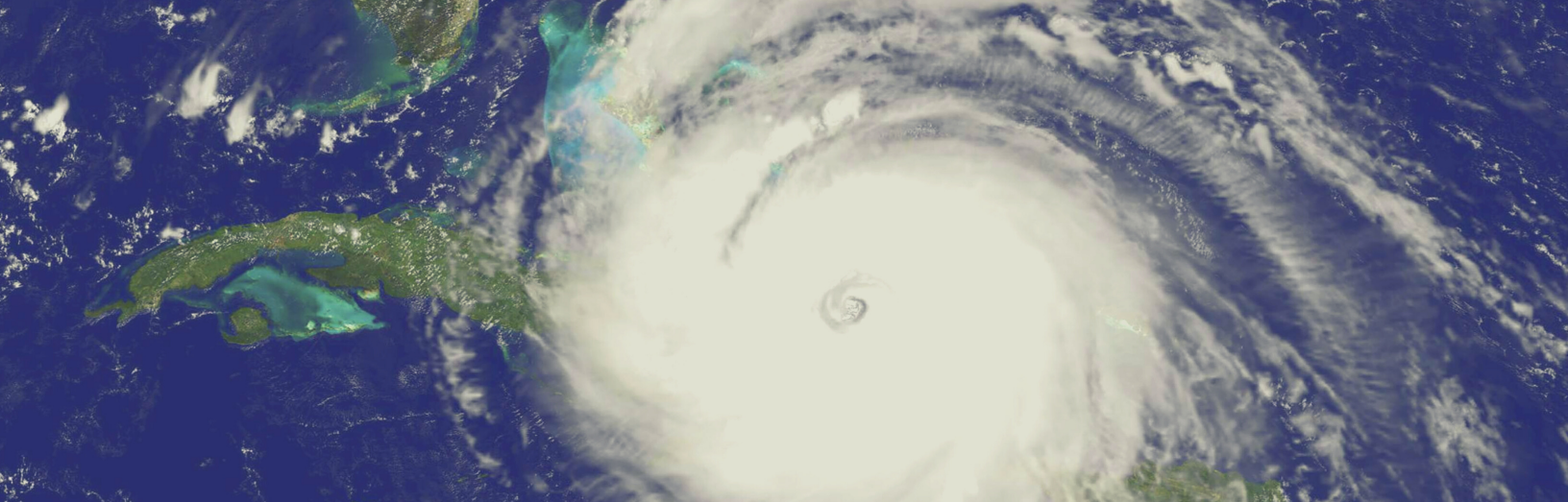
The Cyclone of LMS Updates!

We are in a Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) update cycle. Each plan must be updated every five years and 48 plans are up for review in 2020. Keep track with us as we work our way through!

County Congratulations!

We want to congratulate Calhoun, DeSoto, Leon, Palm Beach, Pasco, Seminole and St. Johns on completing their update cycle!

- 7 Under Review
- 0 In Revisions
- 6 Approved Pending Adoption
- 12 Approved
- 7 Cycle Complete
- 2 Expired



Check us out on social media!

The weekly #MitigationMonday campaign has been postponed to focus on the COVID-19 response. In the meantime, check out FDEM's *Know Your Zone, Know Your Home* campaign with web, social media and newsletter content for this hurricane season. Contact Kristin Buckingham for more information.

Need More Information?

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The Bureau of Mitigation

Mitigation is an integral part of the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM). Mitigation actions reduce or eliminate the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters. Due to Florida's weather, geography and miles of coastline the state is highly vulnerable to disasters. Disasters can be very costly to both the citizens and government.

Under the direction of Division Director Jared Moskowitz and State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Miles E. Anderson, the Bureau of Mitigation administers several federal mitigation grant programs including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program and the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program. The Bureau also administers a state funded mitigation program called the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program.

If you would like to know more about mitigation in Florida please visit: www.floridadisaster.org/mitigation.

