



The Briefing for April 3, 2024

The last Briefing was April 1, 2024

[Tallahassee, FL 10-Day Weather Forecast - The Weather Channel | Weather.com](#)

Severe Weather Threat Continues for North & Central Florida Today

The State Division of Emergency Management has issued the following Alert –11:45am

- [4-3-24 Severe Weather Update.pdf](#)

• **What:** A new Tornado Watch has been issued for portions of North and Central Florida this morning, remaining in effect until 5:00 PM EDT. There is a Slight Risk for Severe Weather (level 2 of 5) spanning from Northeast Florida through the I-4 corridor, with a Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) extending to Lake Okeechobee. Additional Severe Thunderstorm/Tornado Watches and Warnings will be issued as conditions warrant. The primary severe weather threats over the Florida Peninsula will include damaging wind gusts (50-70 mph), instances of penny to quarter-size hail (0.75-1” in diameter), frequent lightning, heavy downpours, and a couple tornadoes. Any thunderstorms that develop ahead of the main line this afternoon would pose an isolated greater tornado concern. The severe weather threat will diminish from northwest to southeast this evening; however, rain chances remain elevated across the southern Peninsula tonight (40-60% chance).

• **Where & When:** **Northeast & Central Florida - Today** Tornado Watch #86 is in effect for the following counties: Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hernando, Lake, Levy, Marion, Nassau, Orange, Pasco, Putnam, Seminole, St. Johns, Sumter, Union, and Volusia.

• **Potential Impacts:**

- Strong to severe thunderstorms will be capable of producing damaging wind gusts (50-70 mph), isolated hail (penny to quarter, or 0.75-1” in diameter), frequent lightning, and a couple tornadoes.
- Localized power outages, downed trees/limbs, and damage to structures (especially mobile/manufactured homes) may be possible. Brief tornadoes may cause localized greater structural impacts.
- Breezy conditions will continue to develop today through the Florida Peninsula; Wind Advisories in effect through 8:00 PM EDT as frequent wind gusts of 30-45 mph are forecast this afternoon.
- Widespread flooding is not anticipated; however, urban corridors and normally flood-prone areas could see instances of brief and localized flooding/ponding of water.
- *Additional Severe Thunderstorm & Tornado Watches/Warnings will be issued as conditions warrant.*

For the latest severe weather updates, see products from your local National Weather Service office and the [Storm Prediction Center](#).

Here are the proposed Constitutional Amendment that are on the ballot in November!

There are five proposed constitutional amendments that will appear on the November General Election ballot. The proposals are listed below with active links that will take you to that actual proposed language and other information about the proposal.

Three of the proposals - #1, 2, and 5 are on the ballot based on actions of the Florida Legislature. Two of the proposals - #'s 3 and 4 are proposed based on the petition process.

In order to become part of the Constitution – the proposal must secure a 60% majority of the voters. It is widely anticipated that proposals 3 and 4 dealing with Marijuana and Abortion will generate significant turnout. Proposals 1 and 5 will impact local school boards and taxing authority revenues.

Proposal #1 - [PARTISAN ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS](#) – Sponsored by [The Florida](#)

Proposal #2 - [RIGHT TO FISH AND HUNT](#) – Sponsored by [The Florida Legislature/House \(HJR 1157\)](#)

Proposal #3 [Adult Personal Use of Marijuana](#) – Sponsored by [Smart & Safe Florida](#)

Proposal #4 - [Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion](#) – Sponsored by [Floridians Protecting Fre](#)

Proposal #5 - [ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS TO THE VALUE OF CERTAIN HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS](#)– Sponso

[Conservative Education Group Grades House and Senate Members](#)
[The Foundations for Florida's Futures issues Legislator Report Card](#)
[Education Report Card - A Florida Promise](#)

The Foundation for Florida's Future is an education policy organization created under the leadership of former Governor Jeb Bush. The Foundation is active in the legislative process in support of choice, vouchers, charter schools, and other issues impacting public education. The Foundation has published its Annual Report Card grading House and Senate members that participated in the 2024 legislative session. The Lawmakers are graded on a scale of A-F based on their votes on the Foundations legislative priorities.

[Important Calendar Dates for Small Counties and Small School Districts](#)

[Calendar of Key Meetings, Legislative Calendar and Election Dates for 2024-2025.docx](#)

[SMALL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AND SUPERINTENDENTS](#)
[UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETING](#)

FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference | June 5 – 7

[Link to Conference Registration](#)

[Link to tentative agenda](#)

Activities specifically scheduled for Small Districts

- **Wednesday – 1:45-3:14 – Snowy Egrets –THIS MEETING IS AN FSBA SESSION FOR SMALL DISTRICTS** This session conversation is intended to build upon the foundation set by last year's *Meaningful Conversations and Collaboration* series. This time slot and meeting is scheduled for School Board Members from small districts to share innovative solutions, insights, and strategies for the

challenges that Florida's small districts face. This session shifts the focus to the sharing of solutions and practical applications - Responding to your feedback from our surveys,

- **Thursday – 7:30am-8:30am – Annual Small District Breakfast meeting will be held on Thursday June 6th at 7:30am in the Skylark Room – 14th Floor – THIS EVENT IS A JOINT MEETING OF THE FSBA/SMALL DISTRICT COUNCIL AND THE SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSORTIUM.** This breakfast meeting is scheduled for School Board members and Superintendents from Small School Districts. The agenda will include organizational business items and reports. Information will be presented on the Legislative Session, the FEFP and other items related to Small District needs.

SMALL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF **UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETING**

Florida Association of Counties Annual Summer Conference

[Link to Conference Registration](#)

[Link to Tentative Agenda - June 25-28 .docx](#)

**The Small County Coalition will hold its Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday
7:00-8:30AM in Room - BC 10-11**

Headlines Around the State

[*Herald: Trump called Florida's 6-week abortion ban a 'terrible mistake.' He'll say more next week*](#)

[*NYTimes: Biden Assails 'Outrageous' Florida Abortion Ruling as His Campaign Blames Trump*](#)

[*FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis hands off big piece of Haiti rescue mission to State Department*](#)

[*Wash. Post: 'No help here': Florida abortion ruling leaves women with few options*](#)

[*NBC Miami: Florida Keys arrest of alleged Russian spy connected to 'Havana Syndrome' mystery seen in new video*](#)

[*The Capitolist: Federal judge blocks Biden's highway emissions rule, siding with AG Ashley Moody*](#)

[*Post: Palm Beach County is the world's largest investor in Israel Bonds - is it worth the stake?*](#)

[*WUSF: Federal judge rejects a request to block flood insurance changes*](#)

[*Sentinel: Seminole tells Joel Greenberg consultants: Prove you did actual work*](#)

[*Axios: Florida among nation's leaders in app-based workforce*](#)

[*Times: This Tampa cigar factory is now the last operational one in the country*](#)

[*My News 13: Abortion, Marijuana ballot issues put eyes on Florida*](#)

[*Herald: Abortion access is on the ballot in Florida. So are two justices who voted against it*](#)

[*WUSF: How the Florida Supreme Court's opinions on abortion will impact health care and politics*](#)

[*News4Jax: Florida abortion providers brace for new law restricting abortions after six weeks*](#)

[*WLRN: Planned Parenthood centers in Florida prepare for a six-week abortion ban*](#)

[*The Capitolist: Hurricane Ian losses near \\$20B as state makes financial aid available*](#)

[*TCPalm: Florida Legislature lets local governments make their own fertilizer rules, bans again*](#)

[*FlaPol: Daryl Parks launches challenge to Corey Simon in SD 3*](#)

[*FlaPol: Tom Leek rounds up congressional support for state Senate bid*](#)

[FlaPol: Report: COVID-19 tanked state's return on VISIT FLORIDA spending](#)

[FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis appoints Kevin McDonald to Indian River School Board](#)

[FlaPol: Kathy Castor backs Charlie Justice as he faces stiff opposition in re-election bid](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: Mysterious python parasite threatens Florida's native snakes, pushing toward their 'extreme decline'](#)

[The Capitolist: Fuel costs give utility customers break](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: Approval of FPL fuel charge cut will reduce prices for consumers](#)

[Times-Union: Before raising rates, JEA threw \\$70K holiday party with appetizers and drinks from open bar](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: Palm Beach County schools to vote on \\$54 million charter school settlement](#)

[Ledger: Florida Bar closes review of complaint against retired state attorney in Schofield case](#)

[Politico: Florida's abortion ruling puts Trump on the spot over DeSantis bans](#)

[Politico: DeSantis wins in court over migrant flights, but legal skirmish far from over](#)

[Axios: Biden campaign outlines plan to flip Florida, a state Trump won twice](#)

[The Hill: Biden campaign announces it will target flipping Trump's Florida](#)

[FlaPol: Joe Biden campaign announces Florida leadership team](#)

[FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis acknowledges it's 'not the norm' for states to retrieve people from foreign countries](#)

[WUSF: A federal trial is underway for Florida's controversial voter registration law](#)

[WLRN: Florida voting advocates are fighting to keep the voting rolls accurate](#)

[My News 13: New Florida dashboard calculates health care cost of illegal immigrants](#)

[WUSF: USF hunger strikers continue their divestment protest after a number of hospitalizations](#)

[News4Jax: Amid Haiti's spiraling violence, Florida residents worry about family, friends in the island nation](#)

[News4Jax: Will part of Florida be underwater in the near future? Scientists, leaders developing solutions to fight back](#)

[FlaPol: Pat Kemp to seek Democratic nomination in CD 15, hopes to challenge Laurel Lee](#)

[WUSF: Army Corps puts hold on polluted Lake Okeechobee water flowing into Caloosahatchee](#)

[WLRN: Federal judge orders Biscayne National Park to publish rules for long-stalled marine preserve](#)

[My News 13: Florida's average gas prices see another small drop](#)

[News4Jax: Florida voters will decide whether to protect abortion rights and legalize pot in November](#)

[My News 13: Florida Supreme Court upholds states 15-week ban on most abortions, paving way for 6-week ban](#)

[Democrat: Florida abortion rulings: A win for both sides, but voters have last say with Amendment 4](#)

[NBC Miami: Abortion rights supporters hopeful over Amendment 4 on ballot despite 6-week ban](#)

[Democrat: Florida will vote on recreational marijuana in November, state supreme court rules. What happens now?](#)

[Herald: Florida Republicans say abortion ballot question more 'extreme' than their 6-week ban](#)

[Bradenton Herald: Abortion access will be on Florida's ballot. How have the laws changed through the years?](#)

[WLRN: Range of reactions to Florida Supreme Court upholding 15-week abortion ban, ballot language approval](#)

[CBS Miami: In Miami news conference, Gov. DeSantis announces toll breaks, "Not an April Fool's Joke"](#)

[NBC Miami: Florida toll relief program returns for another year](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: Florida renews price break for drivers on Turnpike, I-95, I-595 and other toll roads](#)

[Herald: What does the marijuana amendment that Floridians will vote on actually say?](#)

[My News 13: DeSantis suspends Orlando commissioner Regina Hill over exploitation, fraud charges](#)

[My News 13: Florida school districts excited for increase in Early Childhood Education funding](#)

[Herald: Florida Republican told he can't ride in Miami Beach Pride parade. He's threatening to sue](#)

[Times: New USF degree aims to address shortage of school psychologists](#)

[WLRN: New academy aims to reach students in Florida juvenile detention system](#)

[WLRN: The slow battle to save 'The beating heart of Florida': The gopher tortoise](#)

[TCPalm: These Florida fish are spinning, acting erratically and dying. What we know and how to help](#)

[Herald: Florida lawyer writes rules to win condo auctions for \\$100. Judges let him do it.](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: Broward School Board asked to fire general counsel over charter school dispute](#)

On The Docket for this Week

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2024

- DEATH PENALTY CASE
 - Time: Wednesday, 9 a.m.
 - Description: The Florida Supreme Court will hear arguments in two cases, including an appeal by Death Row inmate Tyrone T. Johnson, who was convicted of killing his girlfriend, Stephanie Willis, and her 10-year-old son, Ricky, in 2018 in Hillsborough County. Johnson was sentenced to death in the child's murder.
 - Location: Florida Supreme Court, 500 South Duval St., Tallahassee.
- PAROLE CASES
 - Time: Wednesday, 9 a.m.
 - Description: The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet.
 - Location: Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 337350165
- GAMBLING ISSUES
 - Time: Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.
 - Description: The Florida Gaming Control Commission will meet.
 - Location: Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.
- UNEMPLOYMENT CASES
 - Time: Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.
 - Description: The state Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission will meet.
 - Location: Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission, 1211 Governors Square Blvd., Suite 300, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 850-988-5144. Code: 261180880
- CHIROPRACTIC BOARD
 - Time: Wednesday, 12:30 p.m.
 - Description: The Florida Board of Chiropractic Medicine will meet.
 - Location: Information at <https://floridaschiropracticmedicine.gov/meeting-information/>

- INSURANCE RATES EYED
 - Time: Wednesday, 2:30 p.m.
 - Description: The state Office of Insurance Regulation will hold a hearing on a proposal by Cypress Property & Casualty Insurance Co. to raise homeowners' property-insurance rates.
 - Location: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3411429876695768> 668, Call-in number: 1-877-309-2074. Code: 702258306

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024

- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS
 - Time: Thursday, 11 a.m.
 - Description: The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release its weekly opinions.
- NURSING BOARD MEETS
 - Time: Thursday, 1:30 p.m.
 - Description: The Florida Board of Nursing will meet.
 - Location: St. Petersburg Marriott Clearwater, 12600 Roosevelt Blvd. North, St. Petersburg.
- WETLANDS PERMITTING
 - Time: Thursday, 2:30 p.m.
 - Description: U.S. District Judge Randolph Moss will hold a conference in a legal battle about a decision in 2020 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to shift permitting authority to Florida for projects that affect wetlands. The conference comes after Moss in February sided with environmental groups and vacated the shift. Florida is seeking a stay of Moss' ruling.
 - Location: U.S. district court, Washington, D.C.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024

- BOARD OF MEDICINE MEETS
 - Time: Friday, 8 a.m.
 - Description: The Florida Board of Medicine will meet.
 - Location: The Westshore Grand, 4860 West Kennedy Blvd., Tampa.
- NURSING BOARD MEETS
 - Time: Friday, 8:30 a.m.
 - Description: The Florida Board of Nursing will meet.
 - Location: St. Petersburg Marriott Clearwater, 12600 Roosevelt Blvd. North, St. Petersburg.

About the Briefing!

The Briefing is prepared by Chris Doolin

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The Briefing is compiled to provide information to elected officials and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and the Small School District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email _cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com

www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdcc.org and click on the red Briefing button

