



The Briefing for October 6, 2024

The Last Briefing was October 2, 2024

College Football Week Seven

***Hurricane Milton expected to be Cat 3 making landfall Wednesday morning
State Division of Emergency Management is calling for Hurricane Milton to
make landfall as a Category Three Storm beginning Wednesday morning
through Thursday.***

- Hurricane Milton is expected to strengthen as it proceeds easterly through the central Gulf.
- Storm will be a significant rain event with Substantial Windfield and Storm surge in the Hurricanes path.
- Initial Impacts could begin to be felt in strike zone area later today.
- Make sure any issues or concerns are communicated to your local Emergency Management Offices to handle with the State.

Here are some important links for information stay up to speed -

[Link to Hurricane Milton Updates and Information](#)

[Link to State Division of Emergency Management Website](#)

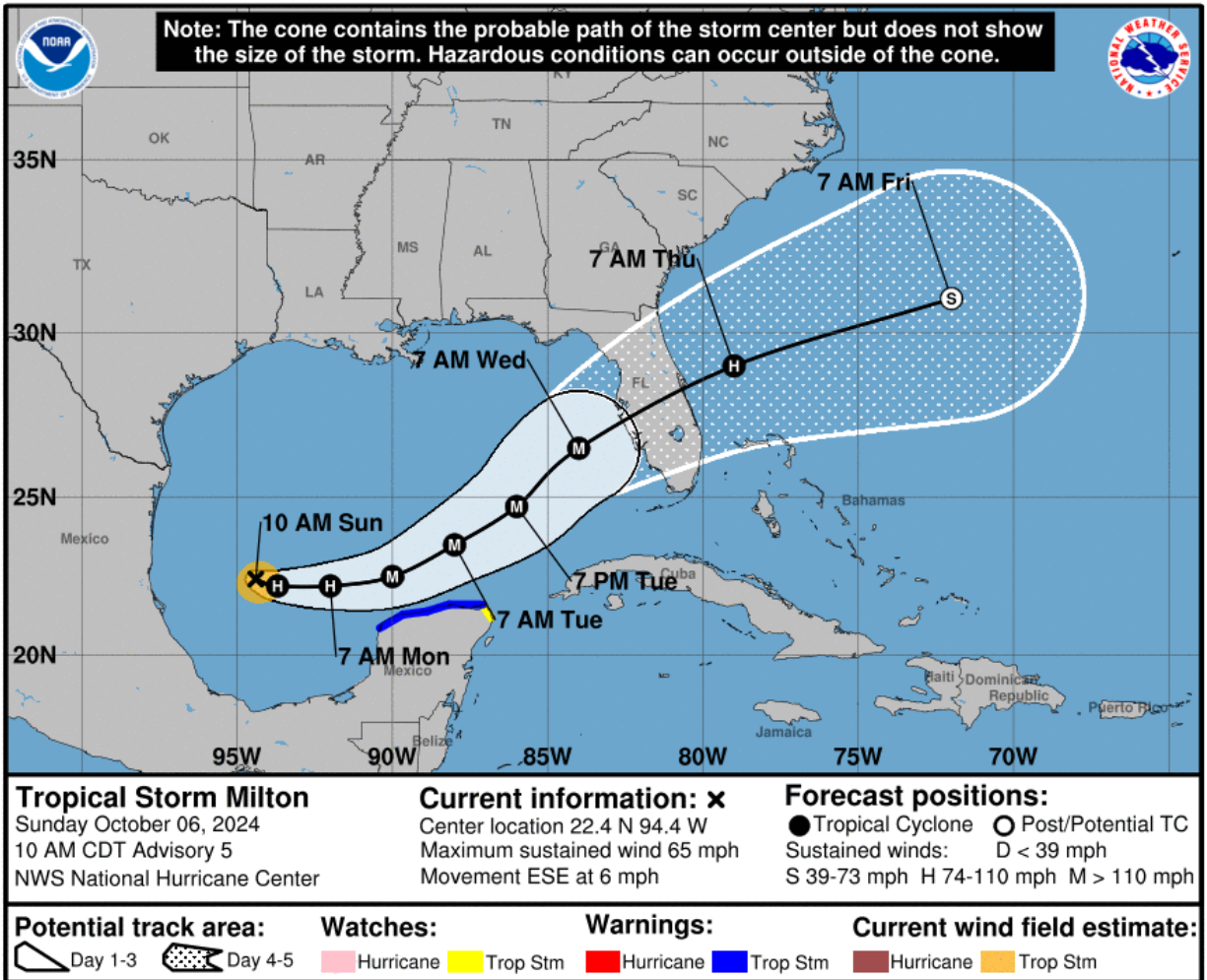
[Link to Florida Association of Counties Disaster Resources Website](#)

If anyone is unable to make contact with relatives – friends etc. in Western North Carolina have them go to the following website and complete the form. They will be contacted.

<https://www.floridadisaster.org/operation-blue-ridge-relief/>

Tropical Outlook

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



Other News

The State Board of Education is scheduled to meet this Wednesday in St. Johns County

Here is a link to the SBE Agenda

<https://www.fldoe.org/policy/state-board-of-edu/meetings/2024/2024-10-09/>

Small County Coalition and Small School District Council Consortium News

December 4 - Small County Coalition Legislative Meeting - Tampa

December 5 - Small District Meeting – Tampa

- The Officers and Executive Committees of the Small County Coalition and the SSDCC met separately by ZOOM call this past Friday. The major item on the agenda is discussion of final processes to establish the Legislative Priorities for the 2025 Legislature.
- The process for both organizations will be to revise the 2024 priorities including new issues that pertain to small counties and school districts. Included in the review will be items submitted to the Florida Association of Counties, the Florida Association of District School Superintendents and the Florida School Boards Association.

- The Legislative proposals will be adopted at organizational meetings in Tampa the first week of December.
- If any member of the Coalition or the SSDCC have an issue that needs to be considered please send a brief narrative including Title of Issue and a brief explanation.

Headlines Around the State

FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis calls State of Emergency for 35 counties as Milton approaches Florida's West Coast

Herald: More flooding ahead as forecast calls for Milton to hit Florida as a Cat 3 hurricane

Sun-Sentinel: Florida braces for direct hit from Milton as major hurricane

WUSF: Hurricane weary Florida prepares for Milton's major impacts next week

AP: Tropical Storm Milton forms in Gulf of Mexico and could intensify to hurricane threatening Florida

Sun-Sentinel: Parts of South Florida could see over 10 inches of rain this week as likely Hurricane Milton approaches

WUSF: Debris disposal is a priority as Tropical Storm Milton heads towards storm battered area

FlaPol: Orange County gives out free sandbags as experts warn to prepare for Hurricane Milton

FlaPol: Pinellas County to open sandbag locations ahead of Tropical Storm Milton, forecast to become a hurricane

Floridian: Rubio, Scott Call on FEMA for Expedited Reimbursements to Local Government for Hurricane Recovery

NYTimes: Missing People, Power Outages, Ruined Roads: Issues Across the Southeast After Helene

Floridian: Bean Introduces Bill Fighting Health Insurance Fraud

FlaPol: Florida cities fly high in property investment rankings, with rent hikes exceeding income increases

On The Docket This Week

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2024

- JUDGE CONSIDERS MEAT LAW - Monday, 8:30 a.m. - Chief U.S. District Judge Mark Walker will hold a hearing in a request to block a new Florida law that bars the production and sale of "cultivated meat" in the state. California-based UPSIDE Foods, Inc. is challenging the constitutionality of the law. Joseph Woodrow Hatchett United States Courthouse and Federal Building, 111 North Adams St., Tallahassee.
- **VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE** - Monday is the deadline to register to vote in the Nov. 5 election.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024

- JUSTICES TAKE UP FPL RATES - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - The state Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments in three cases, including a long-running fight about a 2021 settlement that increased Florida Power & Light's base electric rates. The groups Florida Rising, the

Environmental Confederation of Southwest Florida and the League of United Latin American Citizens of Florida are challenging the Florida Public Service Commission's approval of a four-year settlement that FPL reached with the state Office of Public Counsel, which represents consumers, and other parties. The settlement led to a \$692 million rate increase in January 2022 and another \$560 million hike in 2023. The settlement also included such things as allowing increases in 2024 and 2025 to pay for solar-energy projects. But in a somewhat-unusual move, the Supreme Court last year sent the case back to the commission because justices said the regulatory panel had not shown why the settlement "is in the public interest and results in rates that are fair, just and reasonable." The commission responded in March by issuing a more-extensive order approving the settlement. That led the opponents to appeal the new order to the Supreme Court. Florida Supreme Court, 500 South Duval St., Tallahassee.

- SUWANNEE WATER BOARD - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - The Suwannee River Water Management District Governing Board will meet. Suwannee River Water Management District, 9225 County Road 49, Live Oak.
- HEALTH INSURANCE - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - The state Health Insurance Advisory Board will meet. Call-in number: 1-866-299-7949. Code: 1433866
- ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE BOARD - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - The St. Petersburg College Board of Trustees will meet. St. Petersburg College, Allstate Center, 3200 34th St. South, St. Petersburg. <https://vimeo.com/event/20816>
- ST. JOHNS WATER BOARD - Tuesday, 10 a.m. - The St. Johns River Water Management District Governing Board will meet. St. Johns River Water Management District, 4049 Reid St., Palatka.
- ABORTION ISSUES - Tuesday, 10 a.m. - Rep. Anna Eskamani, D-Orlando, will host a discussion in Winter Park about a Florida law that prevents abortions after six weeks of pregnancy. Reporters may contact anna@annaforflorida.com for information.
- SUNSHINE WATER RATES - Tuesday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Public Service Commission will hold an online hearing about a proposal by Sunshine Water Services Co. to raise rates. <https://www.floridapsc.com/watch-archive-psc-events>

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2024

- STATE BOARD OF SCHEDULED TO MEET - - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The State Board of Education will meet. St. Johns River State College, 2990 College Dr., St. Augustine.
- JUSTICES HEAR DEATH PENALTY CASE - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments in three cases, including an appeal by Death Row inmate Mesac Demas, who was convicted of killing his wife and five children in 2009 in Collier County. Florida Supreme Court, 500 South Duval St., Tallahassee.
- PAROLE CASES - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet. Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 337350165
- UNEMPLOYMENT CASES - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. - The state Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission is scheduled to meet. Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission, 1211 Governors Square Blvd., Suite 300, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 850-988-5144. Code: 261180880
- CENTRAL FLORIDA COUNCIL - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. - The Central Florida Regional Planning Council will meet. Okeechobee County Commission chamber, 304 N.W. Second St., Okeechobee.
- SUNSHINE WATER RATES - Wednesday, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. - The Florida Public Service Commission will hold two hearings on a proposal by Sunshine Water Services Co. to raise

rates. Locations: 10 a.m. at Eustis Community Center, 601 Northshore Dr., Eustis. Also, 6 p.m. at Altamonte Springs Commission chamber, 225 Newburyport Ave., Altamonte Springs.

- REFUGEE ISSUES - Wednesday, 10 a.m. - The Orlando Area Refugee Task Force will meet. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/orlando-area-refugee-task-force-meeting-0>
- DAYTONA STATE TRUSTEES - Wednesday, 1 p.m. - The Daytona State College Board of Trustees will hold a workshop, followed by a regular board meeting. Daytona State College, Wetherell Student Services & Administration Building, 1200 West International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach.
- ABORTION ISSUES - Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - Senate Minority Leader Lauren Book, D-Davie, will moderate an event hosted by the Reproductive Freedom Collective of Broward County about abortion rights. <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkcOQtzopEtFZC9AJiB6-fwYdHskT6VJ#/registration>
- MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES - Wednesday, 7 p.m. - State Rep. Christine Hunschofsky, D-Parkland, will hold a town-hall event focused on the mental health of teens and young adults. Coral Springs City Hall, 9500 West Sample Road, Coral Springs.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024

- SOUTH FLORIDA WATER BOARD - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet. South Florida Water Management District, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach. https://sfwmd-gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3N00LVoQQVO3zfVeNd38Iw#/registration
- HEALTHY KIDS PROGRAM - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Healthy Kids Corp. Board of Directors will meet. Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport, 9300 Jeff Fuqua Blvd., Orlando.
- ARTS AND CULTURE - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Council on Arts and Culture will meet. <https://dos-myflorida.zoom.us/j/81045841965?pwd=aCk0km0MVwjagxBNcgD67anhId5baV.1>. Meeting ID: 81045841965. Code: 115587
- HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION - Thursday, 10 a.m. - The Florida Commission on Human Relations will meet. Call-in number: 850-270-6017. Code: 218011934
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- NORTHWEST WATER BOARD - Thursday, 1 p.m. - The Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet. Northwest Florida Water Management District, 81 Water Management Dr., Havana.
- SUNSHINE WATER RATES - Thursday, 2 p.m. - The Florida Public Service Commission will hold an online hearing on a proposal by Sunshine Water Services Co. to raise rates. <https://www.floridapsc.com/watch-archive-psc-events>
- FLORIDA GATEWAY TRUSTEES - Thursday, 5 p.m. - The Florida Gateway College Board of Trustees will meet. Florida Gateway College, Administration Building, Lake City.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2024

- REFUGEE ISSUES - Friday, 10 a.m. - The Miami-Dade Refugee Task Force will meet. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/miami-dade-refugee-task-force-meeting-0>
- CITRUS SEASON - Friday, noon. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture will provide the first production forecast for the 2024-2025 citrus growing season. Call-in number: 1-888-844-9904. Code: 8552986

- HEARING HELD IN FSU-ACC FIGHT - Friday, 1:30 p.m. - Leon County Circuit Judge John Cooper will hear arguments on a request by the Atlantic Coast Conference to put on hold a lawsuit filed by Florida State University while an appeal plays out. Cooper scheduled the hearing amid the ACC's appeal of his Aug. 13 order refusing to dismiss the lawsuit. Along with appealing the order to the 1st District Court of Appeal, the ACC filed a motion for a stay of the underlying lawsuit. The motion is part of months of legal wrangling in a two-state battle about issues such as sports media rights. Call-in number: 1-786-635-1003. Meeting ID: 99711779062. Code: 209657
- FINANCE REPORTS DUE - State candidates and political committees face a Friday deadline for filing updated finance reports.

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES PROJECTED FOR FY 24-25

Activities listed involve local elected county commissioners, school board members and school superintendents.

2024

November 5 -	General Election Day
November 19 -	Newly Elected local officials take office
November 20-22	Rural Economic Development Summit
December 3-6 -	FSBA/FADSS - Winter Meeting – Tampa
December 4 -	Small County Coalition Legislative Meeting - Tampa
December 5 -	Small District Meeting – Tampa
December 2-6-	Interim Committee Meeting - House of Representatives Only
December 4-6	FAC Legislative Conference – Tampa
December 9-13	Interim Committee Meeting - Senate only

2025

January 13-17-	Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate
January 21-24	Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate
February 2 -	Deadline for release of Governors recommended budget
February 3 – 7	Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate
February 10 – 14	Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate
February 17 – 21	Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate
March 4	Regular Session Begins
March 18 -	Small County Coalition Legislative Briefing/Reception
March 19-	FAC Day in the Legislature
March 19 – 20	FSBA 38th Annual Day in the Legislature, Tallahassee, FL
March 19	Small School District Legislative Briefing
March 19 -20	Rural Counties Day in the Legislature
May 2 -	Regular Session Ends
June 11 – 13	FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference, Tampa, FL
June 12 -	Small School District Breakfast Meeting
June 24-27	FAC Annual Summer Meeting - Orlando
June 25	Small County Coalition Annual Business Meeting - Orlando

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

If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdcc.org and click on the red **Briefing** button