



# Penobscot EMA What's new???

Penobscot Emergency Management Agency  
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“Prepare for the unknown by studying how others in the past have coped with the unforeseeable and the unpredictable.”

— [Gen. George S. Patton](#)

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Our physical location is now:  
**69 Hammond St.**  
(Next to the Bangor Post Office)

Newsletter Date June 2014

## *FY 2014 Homeland Security Grant Funding*

We're asking everyone to start thinking of the next round of Homeland Security Grants and possible projects that we can accomplish with the funding. Projects should fit the DHS Homeland Security Grant Criteria and be of a regional nature. Items such as planning, trainings, exercises, equipment and interoperable communications are the categories. Please bring your thoughts/ideas to the meetings designated in the notification email previously submitted for Friday June 13<sup>th</sup>.

Contact Michelle Tanguay, EMA, for more information.



Many celebrate with friends, food and fireworks. However, before you light that fuse there are a couple of things you need to know. According to the consumer product safety commissions when popping firecracker keep these tips in mind.

1. Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities.
2. Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
3. Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
4. Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
5. Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
6. Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
7. After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding it to prevent a trash fire.

### Message from the Director...

Are you looking to be a volunteer? Have free time to help out during emergencies and/or disasters? Penobscot County Emergency Management (EMA) is looking for a core group of people to help during times when our Operations Center is activated for trainings and exercises as well as real world events. Having that extra pair of hands for data entry or administrative support is vital for us having a successful operation. Love animals? We are also looking for volunteers to oversee and administer pet sheltering at any of our Regional Shelters when activated. If this interests you or you know of someone that would be interested, please give us a call or email!!

-Michelle Tanguay  
mtanguay@penobscot-county.net

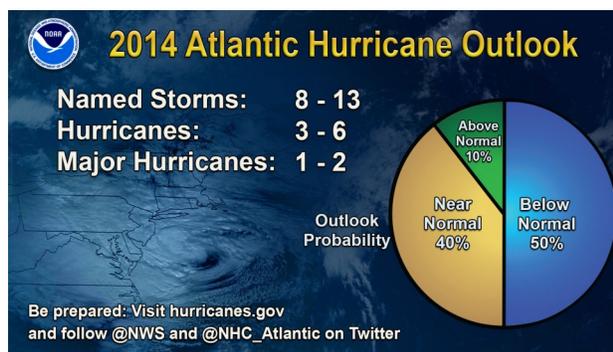
## NOAA predicts near-normal or below-normal 2014 Atlantic hurricane season

### El Niño expected to develop and suppress the number and intensity of tropical cyclones

In its 2014 Atlantic hurricane season outlook issued to-day, NOAA's Climate Prediction Center is forecasting a near-normal or below-normal season.

The main driver of this year's outlook is the anticipated development of El Niño this summer. El Niño causes stronger wind shear, which reduces the number and intensity of tropical storms and hurricanes. El Niño can also strengthen the trade winds and increase the atmospheric stability across the tropical Atlantic, making it more difficult for cloud systems coming off of Africa to intensify into tropical storms.

The outlook calls for a 50 percent chance of a below-normal season, a 40 percent chance of a near-normal season, and only a 10 percent chance of an above-normal season. For the six-month hurricane season, which begins June 1, NOAA predicts a 70 percent likelihood of 8 to 13 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), of which 3 to 6 could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including 1 to 2 major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5; winds of 111 mph or higher). These numbers are near or below the seasonal averages of 12 named storms, six hurricanes and three major hurricanes, based on the average from 1981 to 2010. The Atlantic hurricane region includes the North Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico.



2014 Atlantic Hurricane Outlook (Credit: NOAA) Download: [www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2014/images/outlook2014.jpg](http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2014/images/outlook2014.jpg)

"Thanks to the environmental intelligence from NOAA's network of earth observations, our scientists and meteorologists can provide life-saving products like our new storm surge threat map and our hurricane forecasts," said Kathryn Sullivan, Ph.D., NOAA administrator. "And even though we expect El Niño to suppress the number of storms this season, it's important to remember it takes only one land falling storm to cause a disaster"

Gerry Bell, Ph.D., lead seasonal hurricane forecaster with NOAA's Climate Prediction Center, said the Atlantic – which has seen above-normal seasons in 12 of the last 20 years – has been in an era of high activity for hurricanes since 1995. However, this high-activity pattern is expected to be offset in 2014 by the impacts of El Niño, and by cooler Atlantic Ocean temperatures than we've seen in recent years.

"Atmospheric and oceanic conditions across the tropical Pacific are already taking on some El Niño characteristics. Also, we are currently seeing strong trade winds and wind shear over the tropical Atlantic, and NOAA's climate models predict these conditions will persist, in part because of El Niño," Bell said. "The expectation of near-average Atlantic Ocean temperatures this season, rather than the above-average temperatures seen since 1995, also suggests fewer Atlantic hurricanes."

(Continued on next page)

## NOAA 2014 Atlantic hurricane season (cont.)

NOAA is rolling out new tools at the National Hurricane Center this year. An experimental mapping tool will be used to show communities their storm surge flood threat. The map will be issued for coastal areas when a hurricane or tropical storm watch is first issued, or approximately 48 hours before the anticipated onset of tropical storm force winds. The map will show land areas where storm surge could occur and how high above ground the water could reach in those areas.

Early testing on continued improvements to NOAA's Hurricane Weather Research and Forecasting model (HWRF) shows a 10 percent improvement in this year's model compared to last year. Hurricane forecasters use the HWRF along with other models to produce forecasts and issue warnings. The HWRF model is being adopted by a number of Western Pacific and Indian Ocean rim nations. NOAA's seasonal hurricane outlook is not a hurricane land-fall forecast; it does not predict how many storms will hit land or where a storm will strike. Forecasts for individual storms and their impacts will be provided throughout the season by NOAA's National Hurricane Center.

"It only takes one hurricane or tropical storm making land-fall to have disastrous impacts on our communities," said Joe Nimmich, FEMA associate administrator for Response and Recovery. "Just last month, Pensacola, Florida saw five inches of rain in 45 minutes – without a tropical storm or hurricane. We need you to be ready. Know your risk for hurricanes and severe weather, take action now to be pre-pared and be an example for others in your office, school or community. Learn more about how to prepare for hurricanes at [www.ready.gov/hurricanes](http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes)."

To help those living in hurricane-prone areas prepare, NOAA offers hurricane preparedness tips, along with video and audio public service announcements in both English and Spanish, featuring NOAA hurricane experts and the FEMA Administrator at [www.hurricane.gov/prepare](http://www.hurricane.gov/prepare).

NOAA's outlook for the Eastern Pacific basin is for a near-normal or above-normal hurricane season, and the Central Pacific basin is also expected to have a near-normal or above-normal season. NOAA will issue an updated outlook for the Atlantic hurricane season in early August, just prior to the historical peak of the season.

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on Face-book, Twitter and our other social media channels.

### Maine Prepares Tip Special Health Needs Special Emergency Needs

Individuals with chronic illnesses or conditions, and those who love them and who care for them, should build a plan that fits with their unique health needs:

- Do you have an emergency supply of essential medications if someone can't get to a pharmacy?
- Do you have a back-up treatment facility in the event your usual place of care is closed?
- If you are unable to transport yourself out of your home, have you made an evacuation plan based on your unique needs?

Reach out to your community to talk confidentially about special help you might need during an emergency. Visit [Maine Prepares](#). You'll find fact sheets, tips and news to help your family, school, business, community or service organization prepare for any emergency or disaster.

*Source: Maine Prepares Tip: May 12, 2014*

## Training Opportunities

### Community Mass Care & Emergency Assistance (G108)

Date: June 11—12, 2014, 8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Location: Brewer, Maine—Jeff's Catering  
 Contact: Mike Grant—MEMA (207) 287-3178 fax  
 Register: Submit FEMA Application Form

### Tactical Combat Casualty Care

Date: June 21 & 22, 2014  
 Location: Glenburn Public Safety Building  
 Cost: \$200.00 per person  
 Register at [www.mpssolutionsgroup.com](http://www.mpssolutionsgroup.com)

## Exercise Schedule

### Husson University

June 11th — Functional Active Shooter  
 FMI: Contact Penobscot EMA: 945-4570

### USPS Hampden Facility

June 24th — Full Scale Anthrax Exercise

### Ripogenus Dam

August 27th — Table Top Exercise  
 FMI: Contact Mike Grant at MEMA 624-4400

## Meeting Schedule

June 13th - FY14 Homeland Security Grant Funding

- 9:00-10:00 Law Enforcement
- 1:00-2:00 Fire Department & Towns

Location: Penobscot EMA

July 8th - Vulnerable Populations Communication Plan

- 1:00-2:30

Location: Penobscot EMA

July 17th - Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

- 12:30-1:30

Location: UMO (exact Hall TBD)



### Maine Emergency Management Agency is sponsoring the following training Hazmat IQ Above the Line/ Below the Line Training

Date: June 07th at Presque Isle FD  
 June 10th at Orono FD  
 June 11th at Waterville FD  
 June 12th at S. Portland FD (Central Station)  
 June 13th at Kennebunk FD  
 June 14th at Westbrook Public Safety Building

Start Time: 0830

The HazMat IQ Above The Line/Below The Line system is a patent pending program developed by responders, for responders and only available from HazMat IQ. The Haz-Mat IQ system incorporates a trademarked innovative street smart "Cheat Sheets" that enable responders to safely and efficiently respond to any known or unknown chemical or mixture.

Students taking this course will be able to size-up (physical state, hazards, initial hot zone, correct meters and PPE) any chemical in minutes. The system then coaches responders through a streamlined chemical re-search method to verify their initial size-up, preparing responders to immediately go to work when they arrive on a Hazardous Materials/WMD event.

### To register, please contact:

Robert Gardner or Faith Mayer  
 Maine Emergency Management Agency  
 E-mail: [maine.serc@maine.gov](mailto:maine.serc@maine.gov)  
 Phone: 1-800-452-8735

"Private-sector preparedness is not a luxury; it is a cost of doing business in the post-9/11 world. It is ignored at a tremendous potential cost in lives, money and national security."

— [The 9 11 Commission Report](#)