

RC/PIO News & Notes 10-24-2025



FROM Eric Jens, GA DPH Risk Communicator
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News and Notes

We have a good variety of topics this week, due in no small part to many great contributions.

State EPR monthly meeting



The monthly state DPH ERP meeting on Tuesday featured an update on the Medical Counter Measures program. Keith Goodman walked the group through the planning and operations of Points Of Distribution. Austin Spears presented The Knack, and talked about how best to capture data for reporting, even when preparedness matters are inherently not quantifiable. Additional updates were provided by leadership and finance. Jason Ellington told the group about plans being developed for the evacuation of Twin Towers during an emergency incident. Next month's meeting will be held at the RSS warehouse.



Radiological Communications

Thanks to Jessica Pavlick for sending this report from the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements regarding the [risk communication of radiation](#). The plain language table on page two provides some good examples of what would need to be done.

Thanks to Marie Moody for sharing the CDC training '[Radiation Risk Communication for Public Health](#),' featuring Vivi Siegel, who was my co-presenter at the State Environmental Health Directors Meeting in 2023.

Conferences

Thanks to Venessa Sims for sending us pictures from the Georgia Resiliency Conference in Jekyll Island this week.



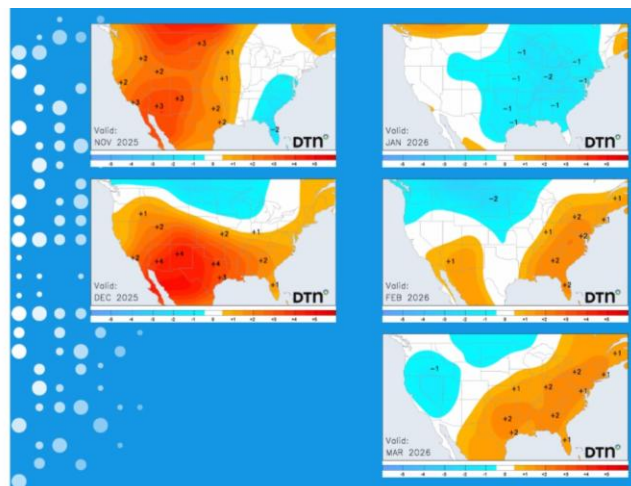
Thanks to KT McKnight for sending a picture from the American Healthcare Association Conference this week. Along with Mallory Garrett and Susie Fussel they presented on how Georgia leverages healthcare coalitions during emergency response.



Winter Weather Outlook

The Data Transmission Network (DTN) hosted its annual winter weather outlook on Wednesday. For Georgia, the season appears to be one with below average precipitation and average temperatures, although the second half of the winter could be slightly warmer than normal. Weather Risk Communicator Eric Jenks says there are many factors that go into these predictions including the anticipated weak La Nina this year, water temperatures in the oceans and great lakes, the polar vortex and the Siberian snow cover.

DTN
DTN
TEMPERATURE
OUTLOOK
(Nov-Mar)



DTN presenters also did a recap of last winter, which in late January brought snow to much of Georgia with the higher snowfall totals falling further to the southern part of the state.



Next Week Preview

Monday afternoon next week is the Atlanta BioWatch Advisory Committee meeting at the Dekalb Board of Health. There are additional meetings and webinars throughout the week. One week from today is Halloween.

About “News & Notes”

“News & Notes” is a weekly communication aimed at risk communicators and public information officers within Georgia’s 18 public health districts. The goal of the communication is to increase preparedness through the exchange of information about significant events, training and other planned activities. Some information herein may be considered FYUO or For Your Use Only. Please be judicious when forwarding. For questions, comments or to submit information for inclusion, contact Eric Jens at Eric.Jens@dph.ga.gov