



RC/PIO News & Notes |

January 30, 2026

A Weekly Update from **Eric Jens, Risk Communicator** – Georgia Department of Public Health
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News & Notes

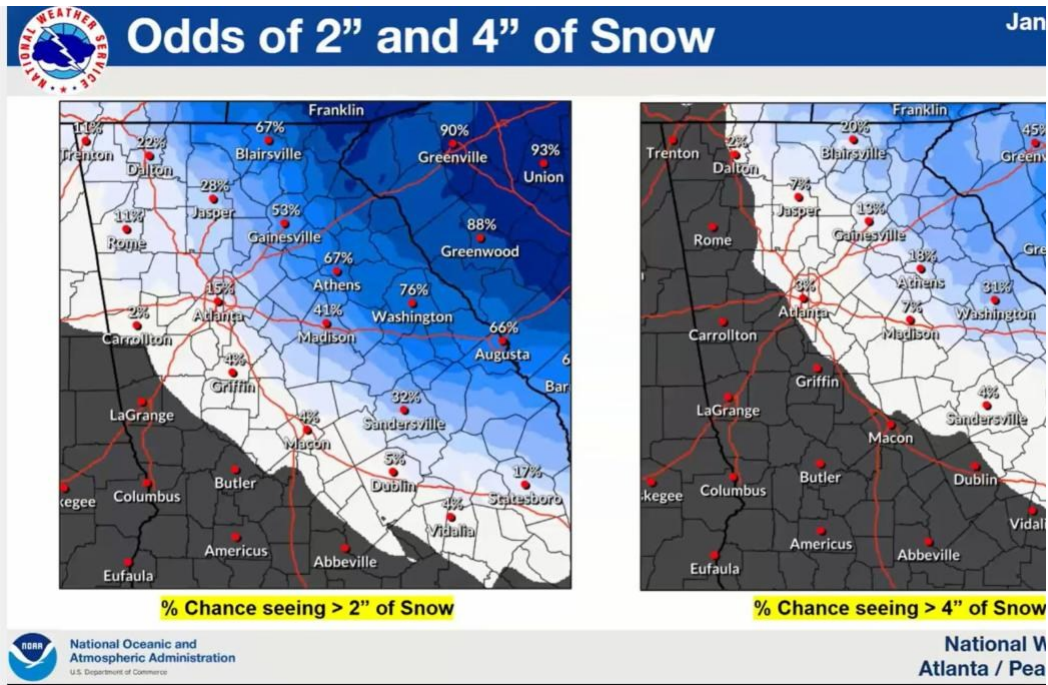
As expected, winter weather, and Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication training remain a focus this week.

Annual R/C meeting and CERC training

We received word this week that approval has been granted for an in-person annual statewide DPH risk communicators meeting and a Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication training to be held in Macon. The tentative days are Thursday, April 9, and Friday, April 10 respectively. We'll have more information on each event in the coming weeks. If you have ideas for topics or speakers for the risk communicators meeting, please reach out.

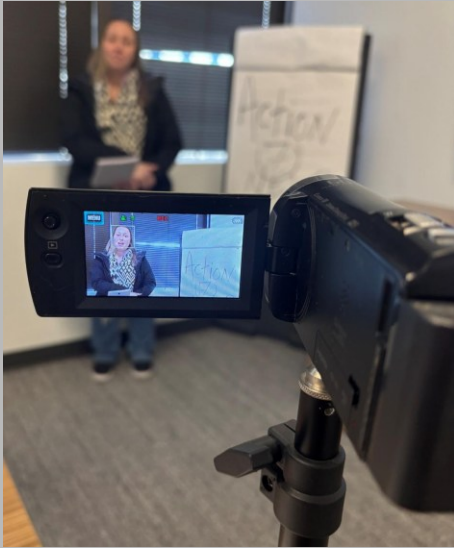
Winter Weather

One week after freezing temperatures and icy conditions hit a portion of Georgia, primarily the Northeast, another cold front this weekend could bring even colder temperatures and a chance of snow. Ironically, Monday is the start of [Georgia Severe Weather Preparedness Week](#).



And thanks to LaKieva Williams for sharing a story about how MRC volunteer Maria Scarlett is helping to provide some warmth for those in need in the Augusta area. The emergency thermal blankets were donated to the Richmond County Sheriff's Office.





CERC training for state Epi

We had 57 attend Tuesday's DPH Media / Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication training at the state EOC. The epidemiology focused session provided a great opportunity to learn from each other, which along with formal feedback, will be used to improve future trainings. The group was fully engaged and brought many insightful considerations to the discussion throughout the day. There were 52 who attended a similar session last week. Thanks to everyone who helped organize, provided feedback, and contributed to an educational and fun event.





Next Week Preview

There is a quarterly meeting of the Atlanta BioWatch Advisory Committee Monday afternoon that has been switched to a virtual setting in anticipation of potential weather impacts in the original location of Lawrenceville. More FIFA planning and severe winter weather response is anticipated next week.

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.

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