



The GP Responder

August 2021

<https://gp-cert.org>

Vol. 2, Issue 3

Message from Incident Commander, Gordon Holtby

I hope you enjoy the fifth edition of The GP Responder. I know that 2021 has been a very frustrating year for many of us – just as things started to open back up, the Delta variant put us back on our heels. However, I like the direction that we are moving in, and I want everyone to continue to stay safe and vigilant. As we head into the “teeth of the 2021 hurricane season” – which I regard as August 15th through the end of October, please prepare your family and loved ones for any storms that may come our way. Hopefully, one of the articles in the newsletter entitled “Understanding Hurricane Computer Models” will help in understanding the various weather predictions that come our way. A second article provides an interesting comparison between GP weather in May, June and July of both 2021 and 2020, and there are also a couple of short articles on keeping storm drains clean. I wanted to reiterate that new residents are welcome to join the all-volunteer GP-CERT team at any time. We are starting up on-line CERT basic training, and will hold in person training in early October if we determine it is safe to do so. If interested, please reach out to any of the volunteers listed at the end of this newsletter for more information on becoming a volunteer or on training opportunities. I wanted to mention that I had announced at our last GP-CERT meeting that I have made the difficult decision to step down as Incident Commander of GP-CERT at the end of the 2021 hurricane season (or earlier if the right person can be found to step into that role). While we have accomplished a great deal together since inception of GP-CERT in January of 2019, I felt that new leadership was needed to take our team to the next level. Unfortunately, hurricane season overlaps with budget season, and my role as Chair of the Finance Committee has impacted my ability to lead both teams. I will continue to be involved with GP-CERT, but in a lesser role. I wanted to also take this opportunity to thank each and every one of the fabulous volunteers in GP-CERT for all of their support and assistance to me over the years.



Sincerely,
Gordon Holtby
gordon.holtby@gmail.com / (847) 612-2571

Volunteers Needed!

GP-CERT is a volunteer organization that deploys in the aftermath of disasters in the community. There is a continued need for volunteers to work in areas such as damage assessment, search and rescue, team organization, communications, and basic first aid. Volunteers will be assigned to tasks based upon their desires, skills, and experience. Background/training in these areas is encouraged, but not required. The GP-CERT training and preparation will allow community members to respond and assist each other in those hours between the incident and the return of our property management staff.



For more information or to volunteer, please go to the GP-CERT website at <https://gp-cert.org> or contact Gordon Holtby at gordon.holtby@gmail.com

Gran Paradiso Weather for May, June and July 2021 vs 2020

submitted by David Elwart

The following statistics are from my backyard Tempest Weather station located here in the Villagio section of Gran Paradiso.

You can view the current weather, daily forecast, and 10 day forecast here in Gran Paradiso by going to: <https://www.wunderground.com/weather/us/fl/venice/KFLVENIC125>

Or to view current conditions such as Temperature, Wind Speed, Wind Direction and Gust, Pressure, Precipitation, UV, and Solar Radiation:

https://www.wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/KFLVENIC125?cm_ven=localwx_pwsd_ashn

	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021
Temperature min	60.3	73.0	73.8	65.8	71.4	73.2
Temperature max	91.4	93.9	94.5	90.7	91.2	93.0
Temperature average	78.3	82.8	84.2	79.9	81.3	82.4
Relative Humidity % min	40	43	54	31	46	60
Relative Humidity % max	99	99	99	99	99	99
Relative Humidity % average	81	84	79	79.9	87	90
Lightning Strikes (within 10 miles)	742	1565	2066	44	488	377
Wind Max	26.2	24.3	31.5	23.3	23.8	32.5
Wind Average Speed	3.1	2.5	2.7	3.4	2.4	2.5
Rain Total Inches	3.64	7.31	6.61	0.19	6.84	12.23
Rain Duration Minutes	816	1971	1144	74	1672	2238

Understanding Hurricane Computer Models

submitted by David Elwart

With the Atlantic Hurricane season kicking into its most active time from mid-August through September, I thought it would be a great time to give an overview of Hurricane Computer Models.

Each Model Has a Slightly Different Purpose.

Most models have the goal to be the very best, but each one has a different way of getting to that result. Forecast Models are limited by human imagination and bounded by weather data.

Some weather models are built on statistics, some on atmospheric dynamics, others are built on other models and others yet are built entirely on climatology and persistence of the current atmosphere.

Models usually run every six hours. The following list of models are some of the most frequently used and accurate models currently used in Hurricane forecasting and tracking. Many of these models are available for your viewing. <https://weather.us/model-charts>



1. Spaghetti Plots

Most hurricane computer models show possible impacts, time and course. Meteorologists present the output of the various computer models and ensemble members that is often simplified into a herd of lines showing possible hurricane tracks, on a single chart colloquially known as the "Spaghetti Model." Spaghetti plots usually only show the "where" and a loose representation of "when" for tropical systems.

2. European (ECMWF)

For hurricanes, the Euro is the least prone to spurious storm development, and it has the best average model track skill over 2018-2020. Website is at: <https://www.ecmwf.int/en/forecasts>

3. American (GFS)

GFS output is freely available and most likely underpins the forecasts on your favorite weather app. This model underwent its most significant revamp in decades only a few years ago, and seems to be providing much better forecasting for the Atlantic hurricane season in the 1- to 3-day range the last few years. Website: <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/weather-climate-models/global-forecast>

4. HWRF

The HWRF is considered to be the flagship hurricane-specific American model. It is designed to incorporate tropical cyclone inner-core processes. HWRF provides useful guidance, particularly in favorable environments for development, but is biased towards over-strengthening storms. Website: https://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/gc_wmb/vxt/HWRF/index.php

Contd. on next page

Understanding hurricanes contd.

5. British (UKMET)

For tropical weather the UKMET model is an independent second opinion that can be uniquely correct, but often has a westward bias for storm motion. Website: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/>

6. HMON

In 2020, the HMON model was a little better than HWRF for track forecasting. It performed much worse on intensity. This model is often on its own with wacky predictions. Website: <https://nws.weather.gov/products/viewItem.php?selrow=841>

7. Canadian (CMC)

The Canadian model performs respectably in the mid-latitudes. This model was upgraded in 2019 to improve its tropical performance. Some meteorologists refer to the CMC as laughably bad to merely ignorable. Website: https://www.myfoxburricane.com/cmc_carib_mslp.html#:~:text=CMC%20Model%20Description,is%20run%20through%20240%20hours

What model should I be looking at? (No, it's not the Weather Channel!)



The official National Hurricane Center forecast. NHC experts synthesize computer guidance with real-world observations and scientific knowledge to make superior predictions. NHC forecast has led all individual models in 2018 and met or exceeded the best multi-model blends at all lead times and forecast errors have continued to decline. **In 2020 the average NHC five-day track forecast was roughly as accurate as their two-day forecast was in 1990.** The NHC forecast is updated each day at 5 am, 8 am, 11 am, 2 pm, 5 pm, and 8 pm. Website: <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>



Important Address Information

In the event of a medical emergency at the Clubhouse, the 911 operator will require a street address. Simply saying, Galleria Boulevard, is not enough information for the emergency operator to send an ambulance. The address for the GP Clubhouse is

20061 Galleria Boulevard

We will post it in this newsletter from time to time, put it on our website, and inform all CERT volunteers.

Picture courtesy of Creative Commons

Storm Drain Awareness

submitted by Cheryl Heeren

As we are in the middle of rainy season, it is very important that we as a community be aware of the potential for flooding of our streets, driveways, etc. due to clogged drainage grates, storm drains due to leftover contractor debris (sand, cement, dirt, mulch, etc.), and joints along the street curbs that have become overgrown with grass and weeds.

Meanwhile, here are a few tips for maintaining the storm grates, drains, and curb joints:

1. Inspect the top of the drain grating regularly, as well as the curb joints. It is very easy for water to backup when it does not have a clear path to a drain. Clear off the area on and around the storm drain grate. If you can easily sweep or remove the debris, it would be very helpful to both you and your neighbors to do so.
2. And, if you cannot do that, but are aware of a potential problem and there is time, kindly contact GP management to advise them of the issue so it can be promptly taken care of.
3. Lastly, avoid opening and unclogging the storm drain or grates yourself by placing your hands or arms into these areas.

Storm Drains with Issues

inspected by Rich MacCready

- 12276 Canavese - light vegetation
- 12351 Canavese - moss
- 13392 & 13328 Caravaggio - piece of metal in drain catching debris
- 13554 Vancanza - metal strap in drain
- 20080/ 20151/20191 Ragazza - debris
- 20319 Lagente - debris
- 12440 Ghiberti - both sides of road has debris
- 20714 Benissimo - sand runoff from construction into street curb
- Pool parking lot - middle drain debris
- Back gate - both side metal straps

(Please report any storm drains that need cleaning to the Clubhouse office staff. Doing this well ahead of a storm is important.)



Find Your Zone and Zone Leader

During an emergency, Gran Paradiso is managed by a team of volunteers who will assist the community and neighborhoods during the emergency. Each Zone is led by a Zone Leader who will direct this team of volunteers.

Find your Zone by locating your street name and looking at the color coded column on the left for the Zone number. See the CERT website for [maps](#) of each Zone.

Zone	Road #	Road Name	Name Type	Zone	Road #	Road Name	Name Type
1	1	Vancanza	Drive	4	1	Tesoro	Drive
1	2	Valprato	Court	4	2	Benissimo	Drive
1	3	Caravaggio	Court	4	3	Basilica	Drive
1	4	Campanile	Court	4	4	Trattoria	Loop
1	5	Duomo	Court	5	1	Ragazza	Circle
1	6	Loggia	Court	5	2	Lagente	Circle
2	1	Passagio	Drive	5	3	Ghiberti	Circle
2	2	Cristoforo	Place	5	4	Prego	Place
2	3	Uffizi	Court	5	5	Garibaldi	Lane
2	4	Portenza	Lane	5	6	Amica	Loop
2	5	Classico	Court	5	7	Felice	Drive
2	6	Brillante	Drive	6	1	Canavese	Lane
2	7	Elegante	Court	6	2	Romagna	Place
2	8	Reale	Circle	6	3	Ricchezza	Drive
3	1	Granlago	Drive	6	4	Vecchio	Lane
3	2	Famiglia	Drive	6	5	Cinqueterre	Drive
3	3	Grazie	Place	6	6	Valore	Court
3	4	Amerigo	Lane	6	7	Vita	Court
3	5	Saluti	Place	6	8	Buono	Court
				C	1	Renaissance	Blvd
				C	2	Prestigio	Blvd

