



Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Melbourne FL
1000 AM EST Fri Feb 06 2025

...Friday February 6 is Temperature Extremes and Wildfire Awareness Day...

Central Florida lies within a humid subtropical climate zone, characterized by hot, humid summers and mild winters. During the summer, peak heat index values, which combine air temperature and humidity, frequently exceed 100°F from June through early September, and occasionally reach dangerous levels of 108°F or higher, especially in July and August. To avoid life-threatening heat stroke on hot days, make sure to drink plenty of water and take frequent breaks. Also, never leave children or pets alone inside a vehicle, even for short periods, as temperatures can rise quickly in a car leading to injury or death from heatstroke. If venturing outside, put on sunblock and wear a suitable head covering before engaging in outdoor activities.

The lowest temperatures across east central Florida typically occur between December and February. On average, the region experiences at least one or two freeze events with temperatures at or below 32°F each winter season. During hazardous cold, make sure to dress warmly in layers and bring pets inside overnight. Also, be extremely careful when using portable heaters as deaths often occur from fires that are started in homes due to faulty equipment or from improper usage.

The threat of wildfires is most pronounced from March through May, when the east central Florida dry season coincides with increasing sun angle, seasonally dry fuels, and warmer temperatures. Wildfires may however occur at any time during the year, with evolving concerns due to the expansion of urban areas into wildland.

Persons should ensure a cleared safety zone exists around the perimeter of their property so flames cannot easily spread to structure. Make sure to discard cigarettes, matches and other combustible materials in a closed container. Outdoor burning must be conducted by trained personnel during favorable weather conditions, while using adequate equipment. Campfires and any other open flame should be thoroughly extinguished until smoke is no longer visible. Do not hesitate to call 911 if a wildfire is suspected.