



MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Mike Womack
Executive Director

Kent Buckley
Deputy Director

"Disaster Preparedness Saves Lives and Property"

MEMA's Mission

- Help save lives, protect property and reduce suffering.

- **TEAMWORK** is ESSENTIAL.





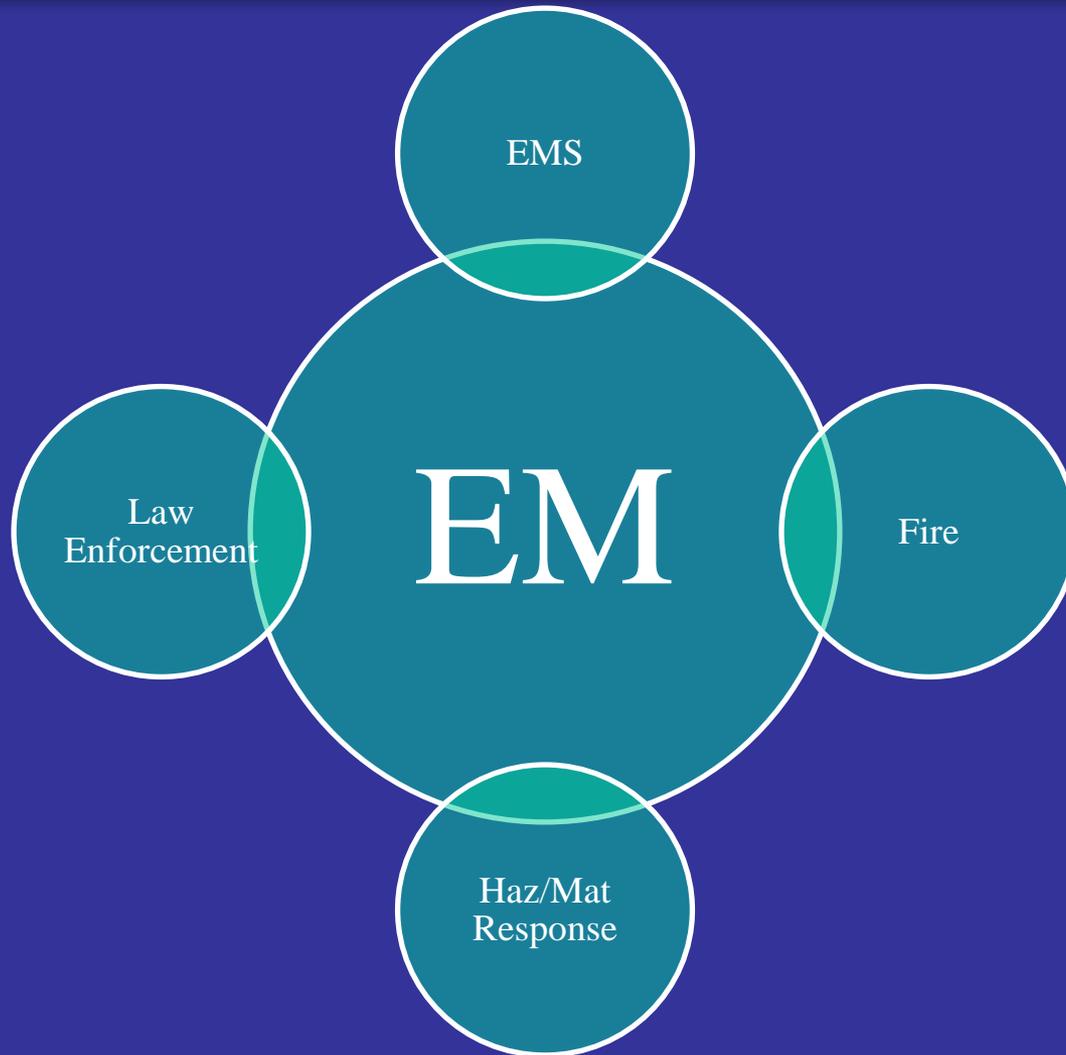
Importance of Weather

Forecasts help:

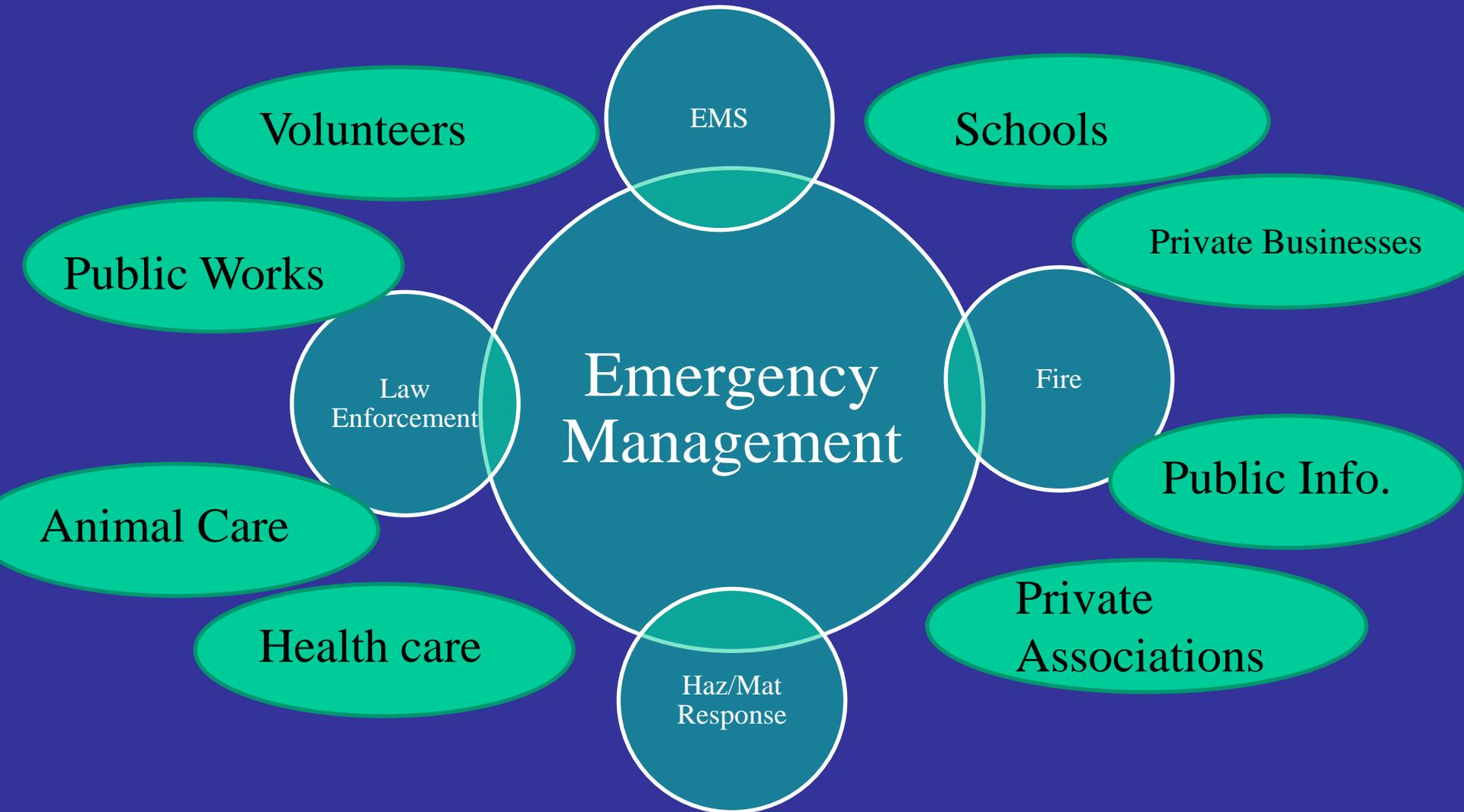
- Warn communities
- Pre-position supplies
- Speed Response



Emergency Management



Emergency Management





Emergency Management

All of these agencies and entities rely upon accurate weather information for daily operations as well as for preparation and response to a disaster or catastrophic event.

Ice Storm of 1994



Ice Storm of 1994



- Ice Storm Arrives Wednesday Night.
- Some Icing and Power Outages Reported.

•Critical Need for Accurate, Timely Weather Information.

Why?

Ice Storm of 1994



- Coordinating Response.
- Need to Ensure Safety of Responders and Citizens.
- Identify Needed Resources.

•**Weather Forecast** : More Icing Expected Thursday.

Ice Storm of 1994



- 3 to 6 inches of Ice Accumulation
- Massive Power Outages
- Major Tree Damage

• **Cost:** More Than \$1 billion in Damage

Caledonia Tornado 2008

- Caledonia/Columbus/
Lowndes County tornado,
Jan. 10, 2008.
- EM Director called
county & city reps
together **BEFORE** severe
weather began.



Caledonia Tornado 2008

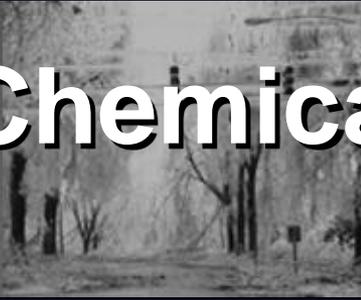
- Using Current Weather Forecasts, Prepared for Severe Weather Outbreak.

- That Afternoon EF-3 Tornado Strikes Caledonia High School.

- NO INJURIES AT SCHOOL.**



Chemical or Haz/Mat Incident



Chemical or Haz/Mat Incident



- Response Depends Heavily Upon the Weather.

- **Need to Know:** Temperature, Dew Point, Relative Humidity, Current Wind Speed/Direction and Chance of Precipitation.

Why?

Chemical or Haz/Mat Incident



- Materials and Chemicals React Differently Under Different Weather Conditions.

- This Information is Critical for Safe Cleanup and Response to any Chemical or Haz/Mat Incident.



Questions?

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