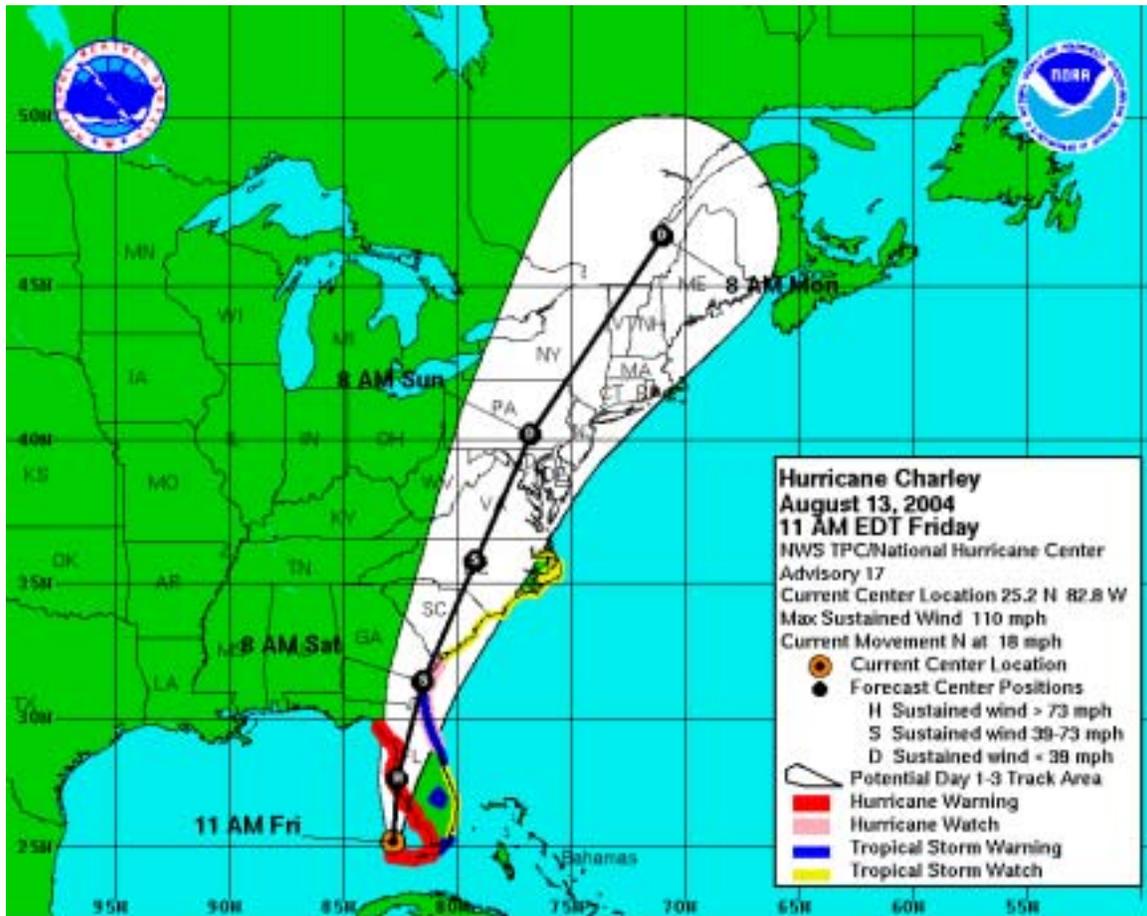


**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
HURRICANE CHARLEY**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF ENERGY ASSURANCE**

STORM TRACK:



UTILITIES IN/AROUND STORM TRACK:

Florida:

Gainesville/Alachua – Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) <http://www.gru.net/>
Clay Electric Cooperative <http://clayelectric.com/>
Florida Power Corporation
<http://www.progress-energy.com/index.asp>
City of Alchua (Public Utility)
Florida Power & Light (FPL) <http://www.fpl.com/index.shtml>

Dade City – Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative <http://www.wrec.net/>
Chiefland – Central Florida Electric Cooperative Inc <http://www.cfec.com/>
Jacksonville – Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) <http://www.jea.com/>
Ocala – Ocala Electric Utility <http://www.ocalaelectric.com/>
Starke – Starke Electric System
Tampa – Tampa Electric Company/Teco Energy
<http://www.tampaelectric.com/>
<http://www.tecoenergy.com>

Georgia:

Reidsville - Canoochee Electric Corporation <http://www.canoocheeemc.com/>
Savannah - Savannah Electric <http://www.savannaelectric.com/>
Sylvania – City of Sylvania (Public Utility)

NUCLEAR REACTORS IN/AROUND STORM TRACK:

Crystal River 3 Nuclear Plant, Citrus County, FL (Capacity 842 net MW)

REFINERIES IN/AROUND STORM TRACK:

Citgo Asphalt Refining Co., Savannah, GA (Capacity 28,000 bpd)

USEFUL WEBSITES:

City of Orlando Emergency Management:

http://www.cityoforlando.net/fire/emergency_management/Hurricanes_Charley.htm

Florida Division of Energy Management: <http://www.floridadisaster.org/>

National Hurricane Center: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

Tampa Tribune: <http://www.tampatrib.com/>

Progress Energy Storm Information: <http://www.progress-energy.com/aboutenergy/stormcentral/index.asp>

EXCERPTS NEWS REPORTS (Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/5653487/>):

Hurricane Charley brushed the Florida Keys Friday as it headed on a path towards the Tampa area. Florida officials urged about two million tourists and residents to evacuate and avoid the path of a storm that could submerge parts of this city's downtown and other neighboring areas by late afternoon Friday.

State meteorologist Ben Nelson said the surge could reach up to 16 feet in the Tampa area if Charley hits at 120 mph, making it a major hurricane at Category 3 strength. At 11 a.m. ET, the hurricane's eye was 150 miles south of the Tampa area, with top sustained winds increasing to 110 mph. It was moving north-northwest near 18 mph and was expected to strengthen, meteorologists said. Hurricane force winds extended outward 30 miles from the eye; tropical storm force winds went out 105 miles.

About 6.5 million of Florida's 17 million residents were in Charley's projected path, the U.S. Census Bureau reported. About 1.9 million people from the Florida Keys north through the west coast were advised to evacuate, although many will stay in their homes, said Kristy Campbell, spokeswoman at the state emergency management center. It was estimated that 1.1 to 1.5 million people will be leaving their homes ahead of the storm, she said. Officials had earlier said nearly one million were told to evacuate.

All residents of MacDill Air Force Base, on another peninsula in Tampa Bay, were ordered out with only essential personnel remaining. MacDill is home to U.S. Central Command, the nerve center of the war in Iraq. "MacDill Air Force Base will probably be mostly underwater and parts of downtown Tampa could be underwater if we have a Category 3," Nelson said. "In a Category 3, you can almost get to the point where Pinellas County becomes an island

Many streets there were deserted Friday morning as workers were told to stay home. By 8 a.m. ET, a shelter at Sickles High School in northwestern Tampa was full to its capacity of 500. Windows had been reinforced with screens and tarps to prepare for the storm. Charley's expected 120 mph top sustained winds and massive storm surge could devastate coastal and low-lying areas in Tampa and St. Petersburg.

Charley was expected to be the worst storm in the Tampa area since a 1921 hurricane. Risk Management Solutions, a provider of catastrophe risk management services, said Charley could cause more than \$10 billion in insured losses on its predicted track.

Most of the evacuations were in the counties of Hillsborough, which contains Tampa, and Pinellas, a peninsula that contains St. Petersburg. Busch Gardens Tampa Bay, the major theme park closest to the storm's path, didn't open Friday, and workers were posted outside to turn guests away. In Orlando, about 80 miles inland, Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando and SeaWorld Orlando planned to close in the early afternoon.