

## Member Communication Experience

Mountains of rubble replacing neighborhood homes and large pools of standing water left over from waist-high

devastating hurricanes. States like Florida are no stranger to tropical cyclones and the destruction they leave behind. Since U.S. record keeping began in 1869, the state has seen at least 120 hurricanes make landfall.

In September 2022, the deadliest hurricane in nearly one hundred years, Hurricane Ian, hit the western coast of Florida. The National Weather Service recorded more than 20 inches

state from the Gulf to the Atlantic coast. Floodwaters such as these are considered the most destructive result of a hurricane. According to FEMA, "...just a few inches of water can cause tens of thousands of dollars in damage." In the case of Hurricane

dollars in damage across Florida.

After standing water recedes and debris is cleared, an initial step of emergency workers undertaking hurricane-recovery efforts is to assess and open critical infrastructure. It is the responsibility of state governments and localities to clearly communicate to the public which roads and bridges are accessible. Vulnerabilities in pavement, sidewalks, and the soil below must be considered following a storm such as Ian to ensure safety for returning residents as well as recovery teams.

Predisposition to extreme weather conditions combined with Floridian soil that is prone to instability and erosion can

are obvious, such as cracked pavement, potholes or sinkholes,





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## About the Article

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