

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

from our team to yours



Will You Have a White Christmas This Year? Christmas Forecast 2023

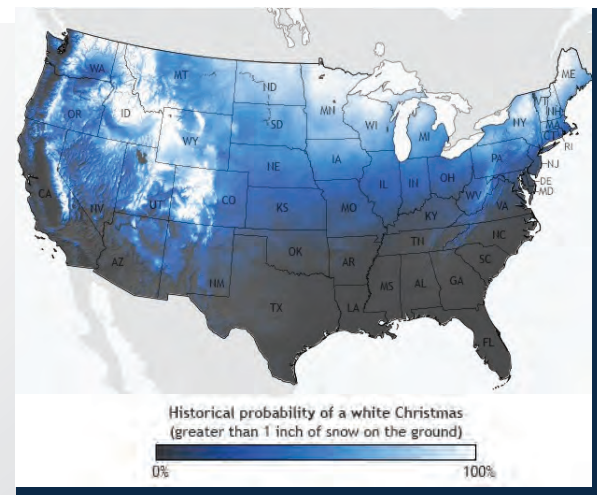
Are you dreaming of a White Christmas? In 2023, your dreams might come true! Of course, lots of snow can also affect travel plans. As always, The Old Farmer's Almanac looks ahead with our special Christmas Forecast 2023.

Snowfall will be above normal across the most snow-prone areas, except for the Pacific Northwest. So, if you love to travel to ski country—whether out West to the Rockies or East to the Appalachians- you'll be in luck!

Winter will be colder-than-normal in most of the northern tier states, Midwest, Great Plains, and Rockies. It will be warmer than normal from New England and the Atlantic Corridor down through the Southeast to Florida and in the southern half of Texas.

Will there be a white Christmas where you live?

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)





FedEx Delivers 300,000 Free Christmas Trees to Military Families

FedEx is rolling down the highway to deliver Christmas joy to military families throughout America in the annual Trees for Troops program.

The freight company is delivering nearly 16,000 Christmas trees this month to families at over 90 military bases across the U.S.

Partnering with the Christmas SPIRIT Foundation, FedEx has also reached a special milestone with the program, delivering tree number 300,000 during a special celebration at Fort Liberty in North Carolina. [READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



Detroit's Newest Road Can Now Charge Electric Cars as They Drive on it

Detroit, Michigan celebrated a major milestone in the future of vehicle electrification, as crews finished installing the nation's first wireless-charging public roadway last month. [READ THE ARTICLE](#)



The good news about climate change

The solutions we need for a carbon-zero future already exist.



Low cost solar, wind, and battery technologies are on profitable, exponential trajectories that if sustained, will be enough to halve emissions from electricity generation by 2030. Wind and solar energy now regularly out-compete fossil fuels in most regions of the world. Electric vehicle growth has the potential to reach a 90% market

share by 2030 if sustained, but only if strong policies support this direction.

Developed responsibly, we can harness these technologies and potentially scale further unproven ones to reduce about nearly two thirds of potential emissions in 2030. [READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



Maui -All zones in the wildfire disaster area has opened

Ancient California Redwoods Defy Scientists' Expectations and Sprout New Shoots From Blackened Trunks

A devastating fire sparked fears that California's redwoods would never recover, but these old timers had a trick up their trunks, and utilized deep stores of energy in their roots to sprout new growth weeks after they were charred.

The story begins after lightning sparked a fire in California's Big Basin Redwoods State Park during the early years of the recent drought. Scientists were worried about the ancient trees, but also knew that they evolved to deal with fire over millions of years.

Nevermind their thick shaggy bark which acts like a fireman's coat—the fire blazed right up to their crowns, torching every needle along the way, and frightening scientists into thinking they would never recover. [READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



New life growing from charred redwoods, taken by the US Forest Service



2024 AND BEYOND



Dan Martin, PHD, CEM
Managing Principal
Dan.Martin@i-s-consulting.com

After Three Decades It's Time to Reimagine Emergency Management

As I reflect on my 30-year career in emergency management, I can't help but feel we have reached an inflection point. I've had the honor of coordinating response efforts for countless floods, wildfires and storms over the decades. I have had the opportunity to experience the half-hearted attempt to drive change in the industry by introducing new regulations and policies after 9/11, Katrina, Sandy, and countless large wildfires. Despite these efforts, we as emergency managers are failing to keep pace with the increasing number and severity of disasters.



New Jersey
after Hurricane Sandy



New Orleans
after Hurricane Katrina

In recent years, there has been a growing attention and support towards true comprehensive emergency management programs. Additionally, there is also an elevated focus on the importance of engaging the "whole community", to include the marginalized segments of our communities that are disproportionately vulnerable to disasters. Although this renewed vision is long overdue, our communities continue to lack the adequate resources to prepare, recover, and build a more resilient community.

It gradually dawned on me that while technology has increased our disaster response capacity, it has also dangerously centralized power in the hands of a few. I believe we can no longer tackle disasters through reactionary, brute-force tactics. Today's megafires, atmospheric rivers and flash droughts unsettle even the most seasoned emergency managers like myself. We need nothing short of a paradigm shift in our approach.

That's why our team at ISC has been focusing on changing the future of Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery. Our objective? To design a comprehensive readiness and crisis management framework for the 21st century centered on community resilience, empowerment, and transparency.

We are pioneering Odysseus - an AI-infused environment offering a comprehensive software solution to uplift community resilience. For too long, leaders have deployed technology to reinforce centralized control and one-size-fits all measures. We invert that approach entirely.

Odysseus is a cloud-based system that leverages emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, machine learning, and augmented reality/virtual reality offering a comprehensive program management software solution designed specifically for disaster and emergency management.

2024 AND BEYOND Reimagining Crisis Response

WEBINAR | December 21, 2023 12pm CST



Restructure with EM Services/Solutions and Innovations

• Expediting Regional Recovery

In 2024, ISC will provide integrated recovery solutions combining innovative financing, resilient reconstruction, and community development. We are pioneering grant funding mechanisms to fund long-term recovery projects. By unleashing new funding channels, our partners can rebuild critical infrastructure to higher resilience standards. At the grassroots level, we will coordinate neighborhood committees to instill local ownership over recovery programs. This will ensure communities emerge more equitable, prepared, and resilient.

• Preparedness as a Service

Organizations can implement Odysseus capabilities in a modular way via cloud microservices. With continuous delivery of new features, stakeholders future-proof their readiness postures with maximum flexibility. Our models allow scaling emergency programs quickly.

• AI-Powered Analytics and Predictive Modeling

Odysseus employs machine learning algorithms on structured and unstructured data sources to empower data-driven and predictive risk analytics. Fundamental to this is our ability to leverage evidence-based knowledge to uncover trends, patterns, and correlations from raw data to help make data-informed decisions.



• Enhancing Situational Awareness

During complex events, responders struggle to synthesize intelligence into actionable plans. The assistants will generate recommendations on resource planning, public health response triage and protective actions. We are also investing in drones, and crowdsourced visual intelligence.

• Safeguarding Health and Welfare

Disasters exacerbate economic and health disparities within communities. By 2024, ISC will introduce community wellness metrics to guide resource allocation during response. Our library of 4,500 scientific indicators and measurements of community vulnerability such as physical and mental health impacts based on housing status, access to care and social needs. Our vision is to eliminate disparities and ensure inclusive outcomes regardless of socioeconomic status.

• Augmented Intelligence for Enhanced Decision Making

Odysseus couples predictive insights with augmented visualizations to provide actionable intelligence. AR/VR scenarios help administrators model complex response tradeoffs on-the-fly. Real-time AI assistants offer rapid recommendations by considering impacts across social, economic, health, and environmental outcomes.



• Community Resilience Incentives

Users can configure Odysseus as a digital ecosystem to incentivize resilience behaviors like community training, infrastructure hardening, and establishing aid networks. Robust participation unlocks new funding channels for equitable recovery.

Odysseus represents the bold reimagining needed in these turbulent times. By driving innovations across preparedness, response and recovery, ISC seeks to deliver a continuum of crisis management that uplifts affected communities. We believe this vision will set new benchmarks for protective, transparent and compassionate emergency management by 2030.

Contact us today to learn more.



Odysseus@i-s-consulting.com
847.437.4271



D Y S S E U S TM

672%

INCREASE IN
PROGRAM EFFICIENCY

300^x

STAKEHOLDER
COLLABORATION

99%

REGULATORY &
PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

54^x

RETURN ON
INVESTMENT

97%

PERFORMANCE
RATING

The Industry's First Comprehensive Emergency and Disaster Program Management Software

Odysseus™ offers a suite of tools and systems designed, dedicated to the efficient management of comprehensive disaster and emergency management programs. The union of technological and programmatic features offers organizations an efficient and effective method to systematically design, develop, maintain, and continually improve all elements of a comprehensive emergency management program.



[Click Here to
Learn More About Our
Innovative Technology](#)

Contact us today to learn more.



Odysseus@i-s-consulting.com
847.437.4271