



USDA Forest Service
Cherokee National Forest
2800 Ocoee Street N.
Cleveland, TN 37312
Web: <http://fs.usda.gov/cherokee>

News Release



Media Contact: Terry McDonald
(423) 476-9729

Be Mindful of the Weather

Hurricane Michael - Cherokee National Forest

CLEVELAND, TENN, October 10, 2018 – The USDA Forest Service is monitoring the projected path of Hurricane Michael. Forest Service officials say that Hurricane Michael is predicted to pass to the east of the Cherokee National Forest after it makes landfall in Florida.

The Cherokee National Forest could see the effects of Hurricane Michael in the form of showers and thunderstorms Wednesday and Thursday. Rain amounts could vary from 1/4" to approximately 3" in some areas. Wind speeds are predicted to be from 5-10 mph with gusts from 15-25 mph, especially in the higher elevations.

Much of the Cherokee National Forest is heavily forested, remote and mountainous. National forest visitors should always pay close attention to weather reports and be prepared to take necessary safety precautions and to be aware of changing conditions.

Low laying areas are especially vulnerable to rapidly rising and swift water. These areas should be avoided during and after major storm events. Trees falling and large limbs breaking off are not uncommon occurrences during windy conditions. Excessive rain can severely damage or wash out gravel/dirt roads in the national forest.

For information about conditions in the Cherokee National Forest visit: <http://fs.usda.gov/cherokee>
For outdoor safety information visit: https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r8/home/?cid=fsbdev3_066387

-USDA-



Forest Service