



DISASTER

PREPAREDNESS GUIDE



BEFORE pg. 3 **DURING** pg. 14 **AFTER** pg. 16

THE EMERGENCY

Dodge the Dunes

Helping protect our dunes is easier than you think!

The natural sand dunes that line the gorgeous shores along Highway A1A are more than massive piles of windblown sand. To make it easy, our dunes are essentially what is on the east side (beach side) of A1A. Natural dunes play a much larger part in our lives than the average beachgoer might expect, which is why we have to do everything we can to protect them. Our coastal lifestyle depends on the natural dunes for a variety of reasons. They provide the first line of defense against ocean storms for our homes, restaurants and hotels, as well as inland and coastal ecosystems.



How You Can Help

1 Make sure you “Dodge the Dunes” by avoiding any walking, parking or driving on any grass or plants on the east side of A1A.

Florida State Statute 161.053,
Flagler Beach City Ordinance 5.02.04



1

2 Only access the beach using the approved stairs and access points. Do not walk, slide, jump or throw items down the dunes.



2

3 Never disturb or harass sea turtles or the nests they leave behind.



3

4



4 Don't forget to take any trash with you to keep our beaches pristine.

respect. restore. revive.

www.DodgetheDunes.com | Find us on 

To the residents, visitors, and businesses of Flagler County and its Cities ...

We all want to keep our families, visitors, pets, homes, and businesses safe. When it comes to hurricanes, tropical storms, wildfires, thunderstorms, flooding, tornadoes, and other types of emergencies, the best way to accomplish that goal, and to protect property, is to be prepared.

Your City and County governments have teamed up to produce this Disaster Preparedness Guide - which provides information for before, during and after an emergency - because we are committed to helping you prepare for and manage disasters.

We hope you will be our partner as we prepare for local emergencies. To that end, we urge you to study this information, and act on the recommendations in this guide:

Create an Emergency Supply Kit and maintain it year round. Consider building a second smaller kit so that you may leave one at home and keep one with you if you have to leave your home.

Make a Plan in advance to ensure that your family is prepared at all times to shelter-in-place or evacuate should the need arise. Include in this plan how you will communicate emergency information. Also, have multiple in-town and out-of-town locations that you can go to should you need to evacuate.

Be Informed of your risks. This includes knowing the potential hazards in our community, such as severe weather and wildfires. Take a minute to review the information in this guide, and familiarize yourself with information, such as the hurricane evacuation zones. Sign up for the **ALERTFlagler** and your municipalities' emergency notifications such as **ALERTPalmCoast** and **ALERTFlaglerBeach**.

Get Involved in helping our community prepare and respond to disasters. Being prepared and able to take care of yourself and your family in an emergency or disaster will help you stay calm and organized. It also makes you a resource for friends and neighbors who may not be as knowledgeable and prepared as you. Programs such as the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) provide you with additional knowledge and skills to assist your neighborhood in a disaster.

Remember, we're all in this together.



Flagler Emergency Management
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386-313-4200
www.flaglercounty.org/emergency
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Town of Beverly Beach
2735 N Oceanshore Blvd.
Beverly Beach, FL 32136
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www.mybeverlybeach.org



Town of Marineland



Department of Health
301 Doctor Carter Blvd.
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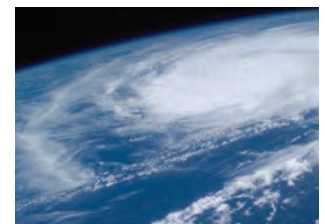
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**Tear-Off Information Card
 on the Back Cover
 Evacuation Zones Map on Page 20**

BEFORE an emergency

PLANNING FOR THE UNEXPECTED

Carefully considering your options in advance helps provide peace of mind in an emergency. Having a family disaster plan will guide you in protecting yourself, your family and your property.

Visualize problems you may face and decide which solutions work best. The highest priority is your personal safety. Decide which situations could force you to leave your home. If you will remain in your home—perhaps for several days—what steps will you take to keep yourself safe, secure and comfortable? While most emergency situations will not require evacuation, they can arrive with little or no warning.

Visit www.flaglercounty.org/emergency for assistance in building a family or business disaster plan.



CREATE A DISASTER PLAN

1. Educate yourself on the requirements for responding to a fire, flood, hurricane or tornado.
2. Decide when you would evacuate. Understand the construction and location of your home and determine what plans you should utilize. Are you in a low-lying area that may flood? Are you in a coastal high-wind zone? Does your home meet the current building code for hurricanes? Do you live in a high fire-hazard area? If you are asked to evacuate by authorities, do so in a timely manner and be prepared to be away from your home for the duration of the event.
3. List simple action steps in priority order. These will vary with the nature of the threat.
4. Create an emergency kit with supplies and copies of essential documents kept in water-resistant containers.
5. Make arrangements for emergency communications. Have school and work phone numbers handy. Establish a meeting place for family members in the event of a home fire or if a disaster occurs while you are not together. Have a local contact and one from out of state and ensure each member of your family has their contact information.
6. Identify special transportation or medical needs in the event of an evacuation. Sign up for the Special Needs Registry.
7. Have a plan for pets. Flagler County does operate pet-friendly shelters if you plan to evacuate to a shelter. Otherwise, arrange to stay with friends or family members not in the evacuation zone who are willing to house you and your pets.
8. Consider modifications to protect your home from wildfire, wind and rising water. Review insurance coverage, particularly flood insurance, which often must be purchased separately.
9. Learn about community emergency plans. How will your child's school react? What about plans at work? What will you do if bridges or major roadways are closed?

ALERT AND WARNING

It is important to be aware of the multiple ways to receive emergency/disaster warnings and alerts, including severe weather in our community.

The **Emergency Alert System (EAS)** is a national public warning system that requires broadcasters, cable television systems, and satellite radio/TV service providers to deliver emergency information from County, State, and Federal authorities. These alerts typically come across your radio or TV, preceded by a tone and may be audible and/or displayed on the screen. There is no cost to receive these alerts and your device must be turned on to receive the alerts.

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from an area's National Weather Service office. In addition to the weather information, this system broadcasts **Emergency Alert System** messages. In order to receive the weather information and EASs from this network a NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receiver is required. These receivers are readily available at a variety of retailers. Many receivers have a feature that allows you to leave your radio turned on 24/7, but only have the audio play out loud when it receives specific messages for your area; this feature is known as Specific Area Messaging Encoding (SAME). The SAME code for Flagler County is 012035; and the frequencies to be used in the receiver for Flagler County are 162.400 MHz or 162.425 MHz. For assistance programming a receiver, please contact Flagler County Emergency Management at 386-313-4200.

Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) are emergency messages sent by the County, State, or Federal governments through WEA enabled mobile phones (check with your mobile phone carrier). There are three types of WEA: Presidential Alerts, Extreme/Severe Alerts, and Amber Alerts. There is no need to register for this service; it is based on your current location at the time the alert is sent. There is no cost to receive these alerts. It is extremely important that you do not disable the receipt of the Extreme/Severe Alerts, as this is the type of alert used to disseminate Tornado Warnings and Protective Action messages, such as whether to evacuate or shelter in place.

ALERTFlagler is a no-cost, countywide, subscription service that allows you to sign-up for a variety of emergency notifications based upon address(es) that you enroll. This service allows you to customize your notifications and choose delivery methods that include phone calls, email, SMS/Text messages, and even through a downloadable app. Information on this program can be found at www.FlaglerCounty.org/AlertFlagler or by visiting www.FlaglerCounty.org/emergency and then selecting **ALERTFlagler** from the menu, or by calling 386-313-4200.

In addition to **ALERTFlagler**, residents of the City of Palm Coast can sign up for **ALERTPalmCoast** to receive notifications from the City of Palm Coast and the County. Residents of the City of Flagler Beach can sign-up for **ALERTFlaglerBeach** to receive emergency notifications from their city. You may obtain more information on these services by visiting www.PalmCoastGov.com (386-986-2360), www.CityofFlaglerBeach.com (386-517-2000 x.248) and selecting Emergency Notification.

WATCH vs. WARNING

A WATCH...

is issued when hazardous weather conditions are *possible* for a given area. Watches will define the *potential* hazards and the times in which severe weather *may* occur.

A WARNING...

is issued when hazardous weather has been *spotted, detected or is imminent*. Warnings will define the hazard, when it is expected, and where it is likely to impact.

GET INVOLVED

Flagler Emergency Management Volunteers (FEMV) is a volunteer corps managed in partnership with Flagler Volunteer Services. FEMVs are trained to assist not only in the day-to-day operations of the Emergency Operations Center, but are also activated during disasters to assist with response and recovery efforts.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program trains people to be prepared for emergencies in their communities where first responders may not be able to address the needs of the community in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. This program trains neighbors in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies taking place near their homes.



CERTs are trained to give safe and effective assistance to victims while waiting for emergency services to arrive. Once trained, it is up to neighborhood team members to practice their skills and determine what their contingency plans are and to pre-identify those roles. CERT is a nationally certified curriculum that allows people to train with subject matter experts in areas such as fire safety and suppression, critical decision making and first aid.

For more information, visit
www.flaglercounty.org/emergency

EVACUATION AND SHELTERING

All areas of our community have the potential to be ordered to evacuate in an emergency. It is important to be aware of any specific evacuation zones, such as Hurricane Evacuation Zones, in which your home or business may be located.

If ordered to evacuate, it is important to implement your personal/family emergency plan and immediately go to your predesignated location outside of the evacuation area, such as a friend's / family member's home, or a hotel/motel.

Flagler County will ensure that public shelters are made available for evacuees who have not predesignated an evacuation location, or are unable to go to their predesignated evacuation location. These shelters will provide safe haven from the emergency and may provide limited food service, depending on the duration of the emergency. It is important to be aware that public

sheltering is an option that any resident or visitor may take advantage of; however, shelters will not offer many of the creature comforts, or privacy, found at home or in a hotel/motel.

All evacuees are reminded to ensure that they bring their disaster supply kits, with them to any public shelters.



SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTER

Flagler County Emergency Management dedicates a shelter for people with special needs during an evacuation. A Special Needs Shelter is available for individuals whose capabilities require assistance in the management of their illness, ailment or injury. A family member or caregiver is asked to stay at the shelter with the individual. The shelter is not available for individuals who are in a care facility (such as a hospital, nursing home or congregate living facility) as those facilities are required to have their own emergency plans.

The Special Needs Shelter is a temporary facility capable of providing *limited* medical care to individuals who require services of a caregiver or home health care provider in their everyday activities due to medical conditions and/or disabilities. The Special Needs Shelter or any evacuation shelter will only be available as a last resort for people who have no other place to go. These shelters cannot offer the same level of care that is available in a hospital or other health care facility. If you need to evacuate, seek shelter with relatives, friends or in hotels/motels when possible/feasible.

Supplies at the shelter are limited, and it may be several hours before more supplies arrive. You should bring at least a 5 day supply of all medications (in original containers), medical supplies (i.e. gauze, saline, etc.) and personal items (i.e. hygiene products, clothing, diapers, pillows, blankets, etc.) in a small travel bag to the shelter. A maximum of one suitcase is allowed due to space limitations. If you plan to bring your service animal, you would also need to bring supplies relevant to its needs (food, travel bowls, safety harnesses/

leashes, cages/carriers, sanitary supplies, any needed medication, bedding and identification).

The Special Needs Shelter is coordinated by the Emergency Management Division and involves the Flagler County Health Department, Flagler County Senior Services and the Flagler County School Board. The Flagler County Health Department will review each application to verify qualification. Home health agencies are responsible for registering their clients with the Flagler County Emergency Management special needs database. Individuals may also register themselves or a family member.

Pre-registration is important for persons with special needs. During an emergency is not the time to get on the People with Special Needs list. Attempting to register during an emergency causes a critical delay, and inhibits the ability of Emergency Management to render services to our vulnerable population. The registration form is available online at www.flaglercounty.org/emergency or by mail from:

Flagler County Emergency Management
Attn: Special Needs
 1769 E. Moody Blvd., No. 3 • Bunnell, FL 32110
 386.313.4970

PET-FRIENDLY SHELTERS

Flagler County Emergency Management, in coordination with the Flagler County Humane Society also provides pet-friendly shelters. Note that this means that pets are allowed to be sheltered there, not that pets will be allowed to shelter with or alongside their owners. Pets may be housed in a different area of the shelter. “Pets” include domesticated animals—dogs, cats, birds, rabbits, rodents or turtles. Household pets do not include reptiles (except turtles), amphibians, fish, insects/arachnids, farm animals (including horses) or animals kept for racing purposes. There is a four (4) pet maximum per household.



Pet owners must provide:

- Government-issued picture ID
- Proof of residency within an evacuation zone
- Current medical/vaccination records for each pet
- Supplies for themselves and their pet(s) including food, medication, crates/cages and comfort items

Pet owners are reminded that pets require special consideration. Owners must remain at the shelter, and cannot drop off pets to be sheltered there while they evacuate or shelter elsewhere. While the Flagler County Humane Society will provide any necessary medical treatment for pets brought to the shelter, pet owners must be prepared to care for and maintain control over their pets at all times. Owners are required to maintain their pets in a crate/carrier, and muzzle aggressive or anxious pets in order to avoid injury to response personnel or the public.

BUSINESSES NEED A PLAN TOO!

Whether open or closed, local businesses are still exposed to the same hazards as the rest of the community, and it pays to be prepared. Just like with residences, steps must be taken prior to an event to repair and strengthen structures and to relocate or brace equipment and other property. Even small proactive measures can result in sparing your business tremendous amounts of damage in case of a disaster.

- Protect your windows and doors against wind-borne debris by installing a shutter system or attaching plywood.
- Evaluate your roof system to make sure it can weather a storm.
- Remove overhanging trees and branches that could fall and damage structures.
- Anchor and brace tall bookcases, filing cabinets, shelves, and racks to wall studs to keep them from falling.
- Relocate valuable equipment and fragile items to safer locations.
- Take important business documents, licenses and insurance documents with you.
- Back up computer files if possible.
- Secure computers and other office equipment to desks, tables or countertops with straps, Velcro or similar materials.
- Secure all appropriate items including water heaters, gas tanks, heaters and other utilities, and raise them to higher locations to avoid water damage.
- Shut off your utilities (electricity, gas, and/or water).
- Update all gas appliances with flexible connections and/or breakaway gas shut-off devices.

Additionally, having a business disaster preparedness plan can reduce the time of recovery and allow your business to more rapidly resume normal operations following a disaster. A business disaster plan should include the following:

- Important business contacts, including utilities, suppliers, accountants and employees;
- Alternate location(s) for your business should relocation be necessary due to damages;
- Important records and documents necessary to business operation;
- Checklists of important steps to take before, during and after a disaster; and
- Emergency contacts for the community, such as the perforated *Important Information* card on the back page of this guide.

Go to www.flaglercounty.org/emergency for more information and to help you create your own business disaster plan.

DISASTER SUPPLY KIT CHECKLIST

WATER

- At least 1 gallon per person per day for five to seven days

FOOD

- At least enough for five to seven days
- Non-perishable packaged or canned food/juices
- Foods or special items for infants, the elderly or pets; also snack foods
- Non-electric can opener, cooking tools/fuel
- Paper plates/plastic utensils

CLOTHING

- Seasonal/rain gear/sturdy shoes

BLANKETS/PILLOWS, ETC.

FIRST AID KIT/MEDICINES/

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

TOILETRIES AND HYGIENE ITEMS

MOISTURE WIPES

FLASHLIGHT/BATTERIES

RADIO

- NOAA manually or battery-operated weather radio

CASH

- Banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods

KEYS

TOYS, BOOKS AND GAMES

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

Put in a waterproof container:

- Insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security cards and utility records
- Document all valuables and their condition with videotape or photos, if possible

TOOLS

- Keep a set with you during the storm

VEHICLE FUEL TANKS FILLED

PET CARE ITEMS

- Proper identification/immunization records, ample supply of food and water, suitable bowls/feeders, carriers/cages, medications, muzzle and harnesses/leashes



NOTES:

BATTEN DOWN THE HATCHES

The key to protecting your boat from hurricanes or any threatening severe weather is planning, preparation and timely action.

The time to prepare is **BEFORE** the storm is on the horizon. Prepare your hurricane plan now! Keep a copy of your plan on your vessel, at home and at the marina. Always keep your watercraft in good condition and ensure that all systems are functioning. Record your boat's registration, engine numbers and description. Keep important documents, such as insurance policies, a current photograph of the vessel, boat registration, equipment inventory, lease agreement with the marina or storage area, and telephone numbers of authorities, such as the harbor master, insurance agent and National Weather Service, and keep them in a secure location off the vessel.

Boaters should review their insurance policy, and keep it current. Some marine insurance policies require owners to relocate their vessels out of a hurricane zone by a specified timeframe before the storm. It's also important to check the lease or dockage agreement with your marina, storage facility, or private dock owner where your boat is moored to be sure the vessel can remain there during a hurricane. If it can stay, be sure you know the procedure for securing not only your vessel, but those docked around it, as well.

BOATS IN DRY STORAGE:

Securing a boat on shore is much more advantageous than leaving your boat anchored in the water during a hurricane. Store the boat and trailer unit in a secure, covered building, such as your garage, if possible. If left outside, secure the boat to its cradle with heavy lines. Based on the weight of the boat, consider adding water to the bilge to help hold it down and provide extra stability. Be sure the water does not touch the engine or batteries. Put wooden blocks between the trailer frame and the springs for extra support with the added weight. Secure the unit to the ground using ground hooks and straps. It also helps to place something heavy between the frame of the trailer and the turning axle to resist movement and strong winds. Never leave a boat in davits or on a hydro-lift.

BOATS IN A MARINA BERTH:

Boats docked in a marina or in a private berth should be centered in the slip. Double all lines, including spring lines to secure the boat in its mooring. Attach lines high on pilings and allow as much line as possible to allow for tidal rise or storm surge. Use several cleats to distribute the load on the boat. Use fenders to protect your boat from pilings, piers, seawalls and other boats. Secure all hatches and doors, and tape all windows from the inside. Attach chafing gear, such as reinforced radiator hose, where lines will rub. Provide several feet of chafing hose on each side of rub locations. Disconnect electric, water and other connections from dock. Remove all detachable items from your boat, such as canvas, sails, cushions, fishing rigging, radios and antennas, and all electronics and valuables to prevent destruction or theft. Lash down everything that you cannot remove, including booms, tillers, wheels, etc. Fuel tanks should be filled and water tanks emptied.

ANCHORING BOATS IN SAFE HARBOR:

If you plan to take your boat to safe harbor or hurricane hole—an inlet, a cove, or an area with some surrounding protection, like strong trees or anchoring points—leave early. There may not be room at the last minute. Cooperate with other boaters in securing vessels as long as it is safe. Use two heavy, durable anchors and no stern anchor. Line length should be at least six to nine times the depth of the water to compensate for possible storm surge and swing. Use chafing gear. When making preparations, remember that the position of the boat may change drastically as the storm passes and winds shift.

BOATS IN RESIDENTIAL CANALS:

In a narrow residential canal, a boat should be secured in the center with several sturdy lines ashore to both sides of the canal. Attach lines high on pilings and allow as much line as possible to allow for tidal rise or storm surge, and use fenders and chafing gear to protect your boat from pilings, seawalls and other boats. The boat should be facing the canal's entrance and be as far back from open water as possible. Securing boats in canals with private homes is possible only if you make arrangements with the homeowners whose trees and pilings you will be using to secure your boat. This can be difficult if your boat isn't normally moored in the canal. If your boat is already in the canal, getting other homeowners involved in planning for a hurricane increases the chances that your boat (and theirs) will survive. All it takes to wreak havoc in a narrow canal is one or two neglected boats coming loose.

No matter where your boat is, do not try to ride out a storm on board. No matter how valuable your vessel is to you—both financially and sentimentally—it's not worth your life.



TRIM TREES BEFORE A STORM



Before the start of each hurricane season, look for potential hazards such as cracks in the trunk or major limbs, hanging branches, improperly formed branches, one-sided or significantly leaning trees, branches that may graze the house or hollow and decayed trees. Do not “top” your trees. It is a mistaken assumption that cutting back branches will prevent breakage in future storms. Professional arborists say “topping,” the cutting of main branches back to stubs, is extremely harmful for trees. Stubs often grow back weak branches that are more likely to break. Also, do not place yard debris out at the curb in the days leading up to a tropical

storm. In high winds, branches can become dangerous projectiles.

PREPARE POOL AREAS

DECKS: Make sure as much water as possible drains from the deck as quickly as possible. Test how well your deck drains by using a garden hose to spray water on the deck and watching how quickly the water disappears. Most pools have a plastic slotted deck drain designed to take water from the slab to the yard. If you have an acrylic painted deck, some of the slats may be painted over. Carefully use a small flat screwdriver to push the paint through and open the slats. If there is dirt inside the drain, you can insert a garden hose from one side and try to flush it out with water. Bring in any patio furniture or items that may be blown about. Some waterproof pool furniture can be sunk in the pool itself, but do not put any metal or glass items into your pool.



POOLS: Never empty your pool. Pools that have been emptied may experience serious structural problems and could even be lifted off their foundations. If your pool overflowing poses a flood risk to your home, it is recommended you lower the water level only 6-12 inches to a nearby grassy area to allow for heavy rains. Ensure that your water is properly treated, as it may become a good source of water for washing and flushing should the utility water fail during or after the storm. All electric power should be turned off at the circuit breakers before the storm hits.

LIVESTOCK AND LARGE ANIMALS

Livestock and large animal owners have the ultimate responsibility for their animals. While the Florida State Agricultural Response Team (SART) will support an effective and coordinated incident response for the animal and agricultural sectors in large disasters, the best way to be prepared is to create a personal emergency plan that includes provisions to care for your animals.

Some considerations include:

- Ensure all animals have some form of identification.
- Evacuate animals to a safer location whenever possible. Map out primary and secondary routes in advance.
- Ensure vehicles and trailers are available for transporting and supporting each type of animal. Also be sure to plan for needed handlers and drivers. Note: It is best to allow animals a chance to become accustomed to vehicular travel so they are less frightened and easier to move.
- Ensure destinations have food, water, veterinary care and handling equipment.
- If evacuation is not possible, animal owners must decide whether to move large animals to shelter or have them remain outside.



For more information visit www.FLSART.org

HURRICANES AND TROPICAL STORMS



Hurricanes and strong tropical storms can bring hazards to the area, even if they approach from the Gulf Coast or from the south. Each storm is different. If you have experienced one before, it does not mean you have experienced them all.

WINDS: Winds in strong tropical storms can approach 73 mph and gust over hurricane force. Hurricane winds exceed 74 mph and in extreme cases can exceed 155 mph.

STORM TIDES AND SURGE: Winds from these massive storms can drive ocean water well inland, flooding coastal and low-lying areas with up to 30 feet of water in extreme cases. Storm surge can be especially destructive, leveling buildings and even changing the very landscape it impacts.

FLOODING: Most hurricane- and tropical storm-related fatalities occur from inland flooding. Even weak tropical storms can produce excessive amounts of rainfall that can cause dangerous flooding conditions hundreds of miles inland.

TORNADOES: Tropical storms and hurricanes can

produce small but violent tornadoes that can strike with little to no warning.

WIND MITIGATION—STRENGTHEN YOUR HOME

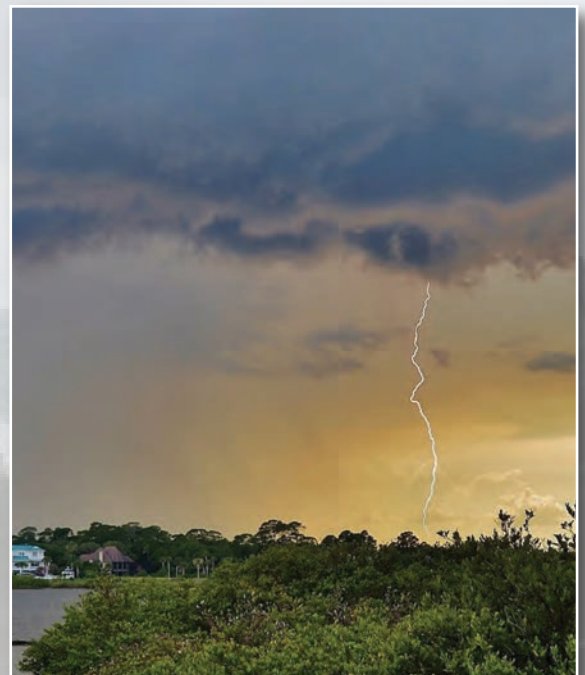
There may be grant programs available to retrofit site-built homes (not manufactured or mobile) using recommended wind mitigation techniques. These mitigation techniques may include repairing or replacing the roof, replacing windows with impact-resistant glass, installing shutters, installing storm doors, bracing gable-ends, hurricane straps and more. The goal of mitigation is to minimize insured loss exposure, promote the use of sound residential retrofitting, educate the homeowner to practical and affordable ways to strengthen homes and increase public awareness. Flagler County and its municipalities want to help you protect your home!

For more information, visit www.flaglercounty.org/emergency.

THUNDERSTORMS

A thunderstorm is considered severe if it produces hail at least 1 inch in diameter or has wind gusts of at least 58 miles per hour. Florida is the nation's capital for lightning strikes. Every thunderstorm produces lightning, which kills more people each year than tornadoes or hurricanes. Know thunderstorm safety rules before storms threaten. The primary rule is if thunder is heard, you are in range of the lightning.

People are most often struck by lightning on beaches, on/near water or in large, open fields. Fully enclosed vehicles will protect you from lightning. However, open-air vehicles like golf carts, bikes and convertibles offer no protection. Heed severe thunderstorm warnings. When a warning is issued, it means that the thunderstorm is capable of producing damaging winds or large, destructive hail. Even if no warning is in effect, seek shelter immediately when you hear thunder.





TORNADOES

Have a plan in place before the threat of a tornado arises. Know what to do if a tornado warning is issued, as you may have only a few minutes to seek shelter. Tornado warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property.

Remember, your best shelter is a small, windowless interior room on the lowest floor of a sturdy building. Mobile homes and vehicles offer no protection from tornadoes and should be abandoned for sturdy shelter.

A tornado can occur without warning. If threatening weather approaches seek shelter immediately.



FLOODS

Flooding is an act of nature that respects no boundary lines. Floods are among the most frequent and costly natural disasters. Flood waters can cover many blocks with water depths up to 4 feet and can come with little warning. Most flood deaths occur in vehicles. **If you do not know how deep it is, do not drive through it.** Do not make assumptions about the depth of the water. Water, especially moving water, can be very deceptive.

A flood may be caused by the Intracoastal Waterway or a tributary overflowing the banks during severe storms and/or high tide. It also can occur in areas away from bodies of water by an unexpected, large downpour of rain.

If your home is well constructed and local authorities have not called for evacuation, stay home and enact emergency preparations. If told to evacuate, follow instructions from local authorities and follow safe evacuation routes to shelter. Your personal evacuation plan should provide for your pets, your personal emergency supplies and include insurance policy documentation. When evacuating, take property identification, important personal papers and documents.

DO YOU HAVE FLOOD INSURANCE?

Homeowner's insurance typically does not cover floods. If you do not have separate flood insurance, contact your insurance agent. There is a 30-day waiting period after a flood policy is purchased before coverage goes into effect.

The insurance is backed by the federal government and is available to everyone, even if the property has never flooded or is not in a special flood hazard area. You may also want to include the contents of your house on a flood insurance policy. Renters are also eligible to purchase a flood insurance policy for their belongings.

Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and flood protection references are available at the Flagler County Public Library in Palm Coast, Flagler Beach City Hall, and Palm Coast City Hall. You may also visit www.flaglercounty.org or your respective City's website (www.PalmCoastGov.com) or (www.CityofFlaglerBeach.com), FEMA's website (www.FEMA.gov), or the National Flood Insurance Program's website (www.floodsmart.gov). For more information, call the Certified Floodplain Manager for the City of Palm Coast at (386) 986-2458, the City of Flagler Beach at (386) 517-2000 ext 248, or for Flagler County at (386) 313-4065.



CRS–COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM

The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages communities to exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. The CRS has three main goals:

1. Reduce flood damage to insurable property;
2. Strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP; and
3. Encourage a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.

Homeowners who live in the special flood hazard areas in communities enrolled in the CRS receive discounts on their flood insurance premium rates. Communities receive a score based on the number of floodplain management activities completed and the scoring translates into a discount. Flagler Beach, Palm Coast and the unincorporated areas of Flagler County all participate in the CRS program. Savings on flood insurance premiums in these areas range 5 percent to 30 percent. Unfortunately, CRS does not offer discounts for homeowners who purchase flood insurance outside of the special flood hazard area, since the rates for these zones already reflect significant premium reductions. To determine if you live in a special flood hazard area, contact your Certified Floodplain Manager for the City of Palm Coast at (386) 986-2458, the City of Flagler Beach at (386) 313-4065 or for Flagler County at (386) 313-4068.

REDUCE FLOOD DAMAGE–MITIGATE!

One way to minimize flood damage is to make sure your lot is graded to drain away from your house/business and toward an existing drainage way (i.e. front yard swale). Contact your City or County Building Department

before altering, re-grading, filling or building on your property. A permit is needed to ensure projects do not cause flooding problems on your property or anyone else's property.

You can also make your walls water-resistant and place water-tight closures under the doorways. This method is not recommended for houses/businesses with basements or if water will reach more than 2 feet deep. Another approach is to modify the structure and relocate the contents so there is little or no damage when floodwaters enter.

You can help your City and County with its drainage system maintenance program by not dumping or throwing anything into the ditches, swales or canals, which is a violation of City and County ordinances. Even grass clippings and branches can accumulate and block stormwater flow. A plugged ditch or canal cannot carry water away, resulting in overflow onto your property. If you see dumping or debris in the ditches or canals, contact Flagler Beach Public Works at (386) 517-2000 ext. 243, Palm Coast Customer Service at (386) 986-2360 or Flagler County Code Enforcement at (386) 313-4004.



WILDFIRES

Plan your evacuation well before the threat of a wildfire arises. Emergency officials will make every attempt to alert residents as far in advance as possible, but there may be little or no notice of the impending danger of a wildfire. You may only have minutes to evacuate. If there is sufficient time, use a hose to wet down your house, the roof and the surrounding area.

All residents are encouraged to create an evacuation plan including routes, a meeting place and emergency contacts (preferably someone well outside the area).

When planning an evacuation route, have more than one route planned in case an area is blocked. Use main arteries and avoid “short cuts” on less traveled routes. Emergency service personnel will monitor safety on the main arteries and surveillance of lesser-known streets is a lower priority.

PREVENT WILDFIRES

Flagler County is in a wildfire hazard area. Various ignition factors start fires, including lightning, burning without a permit, catalytic converters on cars coming in contact with dry grass, improperly discarded cigarettes and arson. You can help prevent wildfires by adhering to County burn bans. One way the County helps prevent



wildfires is the use of prescribed fire. Prescribed fire is used to reduce hazardous fuel buildups, thus providing increased protection to people, their homes and the forest. To help protect residents from the effects of a wildfire, the cities of Palm Coast and Flagler Beach have Wildfire Mitigation Ordinances. These ordinances state any vacant property owner has the responsibility to mow vegetation deemed a fire hazard, which is brush within 30 feet of an adjacent structure in Palm Coast or within 10 feet of an adjacent structure in Flagler Beach. Hazardous vegetation includes saw palmetto, gallberry, wax myrtle and cedar that is an average height of more than 3 or 4 feet and densely populated. If there is an unmaintained vacant lot next to your house, call Palm Coast Code Enforcement at (386) 986-3758 or Flagler Beach Code Enforcement at (386) 517-2005 with any concerns.

FIRE SAFETY

In an emergency, *call 911 for assistance*. Do not call the Fire Department directly. All emergency vehicles and services are dispatched through the 911 system. Responses to critical situations are handled by priority.



The Fire Department cannot drain flooded homes, pools or drainage ditches, and does not handle tree/limb removal. The Fire Department only responds to downed power lines to secure the area until Florida Power & Light arrives. It does not handle electrical problems. When the power fails, turn off light switches and unplug all electrical connections. This will prevent hazards when power is restored. If you evacuate, turn off your water, electricity and propane.

Grills and camp stoves should only be used outside in a well-ventilated area away from buildings. Do not leave grills or camp stoves unattended, and extinguish the flame when you are finished cooking. Any fire used for cooking purposes must be contained; cooking over open flames is prohibited.

Avoid the use of candles and other open-flame situations. It is easy to leave candles unattended, and the result can be devastating. Have plenty of battery-operated lighting options available. Generators should be wired by licensed electricians and only used in well-ventilated areas outside.

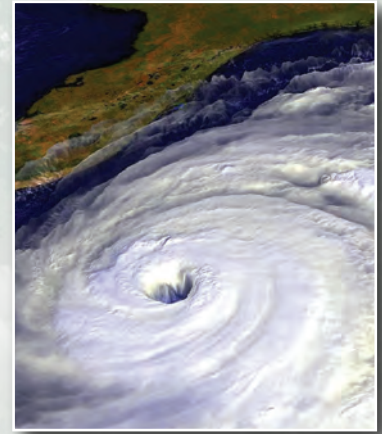
BE FIREWISE

- Store firewood, propane tanks and gasoline away from the house.
- Clean gutters and roofs of leaves and pine needles.
- Install spark arresters on chimney flues.
- Enclose under-eave and soffit vents or screen with metal mesh to prevent ember entry.
- Sweep decks and porches clear of fallen leaves.
- Install wire mesh screening to prevent burning embers from blowing under decks.
- Consider using fire resistant building materials on the exterior of your home.
- Remove leaves from shrubbery beds and dead branches from trees. Mow and trim grass and shrubs.
- Remove vines that allow fire access to the tree canopy.
- Elevate or trim tree branches so they do not touch the roof of the house.
- When planting, keep a clear space at plant maturity of at least 2 or 3 feet from the house.
- Consider using fire-resistant landscaping materials and/or high-moisture-content annuals and perennials.

DURING an emergency

HURRICANES AND TROPICAL STORMS

- Stay informed by monitoring the latest forecasts and warnings from the National Weather Service, as well as information and advice from local emergency management officials. Local news and radio broadcasts will detail Flagler-specific information.
- Bring in anything that can be picked up by the wind (bicycles, lawn furniture).
- Close your windows, doors and hurricane shutters. If you do not have hurricane shutters, close and board up all windows and doors with plywood.
- Turn your refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting. Keep them closed as much as possible so food will last longer if the power goes out.
- Unplug small appliances.
- Fill your vehicle's gas tank.
- Implement your family's disaster plan and stay calm.
- Evacuate if ordered to do so. Bridges will be closed to all traffic, including emergency responders, once tropical storm force winds arrive.



SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO?

If you live in an evacuation zone (see map on inside back cover), **be prepared to leave** if an evacuation is ordered for your zone.

If you live in a mobile home, manufactured home or recreational vehicle, also **be prepared to leave**. Mobile homes, manufactured homes and recreational vehicles must be evacuated countywide for any hurricane. Even if you live inland and have tie downs, these buildings may not withstand hurricane conditions or wind-borne debris.

If you live west of I-95, outside of the evacuation zones in a newer, well-constructed home, **consider sheltering at home**, unless ordered to evacuate by emergency management officials.

THUNDERSTORMS

When storms approach and thunder is heard, move indoors. If you are caught outside, do not stand under or near tall trees, open areas (such as the beach or golf course) or in water. Stay away from metallic items (bicycles, motorcycles, golf carts, fences, etc.). Heed all severe thunderstorm warnings. If a warning is issued, prepare for damaging winds or large hail.

If you or someone with you is struck by lightning, seek medical attention immediately.



TORNADOES

Seek shelter when a tornado warning is issued or if you see threatening weather. You may only have minutes to do so. Seek shelter in a small, windowless interior room on the lowest floor of a sturdy building. Abandon mobile homes for more substantial shelter or find a low lying area such as a swale or ditch in which to lie down. Crouch down protecting

your head as best you can. Protect yourself with pillows or a mattress.

Do not try to outrun a tornado in your vehicle. If you see a tornado, stop your vehicle and get out. Do not get under your vehicle. Seek shelter in a ditch by lying flat on the ground or any low area.

FLOODING

Do not drive around road barriers; the road may be washed out. If you do not know how deep it is, do not drive through it. **Turn around, don't drown.** Drowning is the number one cause of deaths during floods. If you are caught on a flooded road and waters are rising rapidly around you, get out of the car quickly and move to higher ground. Most cars can be swept away by less than two feet of moving water.

Do not walk through flood waters; there may be submerged hazards or contaminants in the water. Six inches of water can knock you over and carry you away. **Keep children out of the water;** they are often curious and lack the necessary judgment about running water or contaminated water.

The second-leading cause of death in a flood is electrocution. Electrical current can travel through water. Don't use appliances or motors that have gotten wet until they are taken apart, cleaned and dried.

Look out for small animals. Animals flooded out of their homes may seek shelter in yours.

Leave immediately when told to evacuate. Proceed calmly and quickly with your pre-planned evacuation. After leaving the evacuation area, make emergency contacts. Make the calls brief, as others will be attempting to do the same and lines may be tied up.

If you are severely injured, or in imminent threat of danger, call 911 for assistance. Do not call the Fire Department directly.

Monitor www.flaglercounty.org/emergency, radio and television for current information. The media will work closely with emergency officials to ensure the most up-to-date information is available. Do not return to your home or business until instructed to do so.



AFTER an emergency

RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS RE-ENTRY

Residents and businesses should be prepared BEFORE a disaster to regain access to their homes and facilities AFTER the disaster. Upon cessation of the hazard(s), re-entry is not permitted until a preliminary survey has been conducted to determine whether conditions are safe. The re-entry plan incorporates traffic control locations and check points to identify returning individuals. Prior to returning, it is imperative that residents and business owners check county and municipal websites or call (386) 586-5111 to determine which re-entry phase their community is in. Re-entry is conducted in two phases:



PHASE 1:

In Phase 1, re-entry is limited to:

- Essential staff of critical municipal agencies, hospitals and skilled nursing facilities; and
- Property managers and/or business owners and associated maintenance or protection agents with signed official documentation.

RESTRICTIONS:

- Re-entry is permitted only for the purpose of securing property against damage from weather and from illegal entry. Other repair work is not permitted;
- Essential staff, business owners and employees must have an employee specific, official authorization letter specifying their purpose(s) for re-entry along with a government-issued picture ID;
- Curfews may be established to limit the duration of the re-entry period (if this is the case, you WILL NOT be able to stay overnight); and
- Officers will check vehicles entering the beaches area for possession of credible forms of documentation indicating the person has a legitimate reason to enter the area.

PHASE 2:

In Phase 2, the following are allowed to re-enter:

- All those listed in Phase 1;
- Residents;
- Essential employees of healthcare, community service agencies and banks;
- Repair workers; and
- Disaster response teams.

RESTRICTIONS:

- Government-issued picture ID with a current address, or a government-issued picture ID and a utility bill will be required for residents to re-enter;
- Restrictions on the number of persons and/or vehicles for any owner, tenant, business owner, property manager or property agent which are permitted in the storm-affected area may be imposed at any time during this period;
- Repair worker(s) without an essential contractor letter (i.e. for a private residence) may require an escort by the property owner or resident;
- Business disaster response teams must show company ID; and
- In extreme cases, curfews may be established to limit the duration of the re-entry period (if this is the case, you WILL NOT be able to stay overnight).



GENERAL INFORMATION

Once you return, you should carefully check for structural damage prior to entering any building. Use caution when entering; look before you step. After a flood, the ground and floors may be covered with debris including broken bottles and nails. Floors and stairs can also be slippery.

After ensuring your neighborhood has been cleared to do so, turn on the utilities in your home. Turn the electricity on one breaker at a time and watch for smoke or sparks. Be alert for gas leaks. Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Never smoke or use candles, lanterns, matches or open flames unless you know the gas has been properly turned off and the entire area is ventilated.

Remember, carbon monoxide exhaust kills. Only use a generator or other gasoline-powered equipment outdoors. The same goes for cooking stoves. Charcoal fumes are especially deadly and should be outdoors.

Avoid loose or dangling power lines and immediately report them to 911. For power outages in your area, contact Florida Power & Light at 1(800) 468-8243. Although cable lines do not carry any electricity and cannot cause an electric shock, many of the lines are connected to power poles and may come into contact with live power as a result of storm damage. It is extremely dangerous for anyone to go near these lines. Once power has been restored to an area, crews move in to reconstruct lines and restore services as quickly as possible.

If you have sustained damage that makes staying in your home unsafe, find alternate shelter and have a professional assess and repair the damage. Protect your property from further water damage from wind driven rain by boarding damaged windows and using tarps to cover damaged roofs.

Clean and dry everything that got wet. Flood waters pick up sewage and chemicals from roads, commercial properties and storage buildings. Spoiled food, flooded cosmetics and medicines are health hazards. When in doubt, throw it out. To properly dispose of medications, contact the county Health Department at (386) 437-7358.

Do not let children play in or around high water, storm drains or ditches. Besides the danger of drowning, backed-up sewage and possible toxic runoff make this water unhealthy, and debris and other hazards may not be visible beneath the surface.



FOOD PREPARATION AND SAFETY

Food kept in a closed, full freezer is safe for about 48 hours without power. A closed refrigerator should keep food safe for about four hours. If the temperature rises above 41 degrees in your refrigerator or freezer, discard all perishable food.

Throw away all food that has been exposed to flood waters. This includes food in cans, plastic, glass and cardboard containers. Discard all paper, wood or plastic items containing food or used in food preparation contaminated by flood waters.

Ensure water is properly sanitized before using it. Clean and sanitize all food preparation surfaces as well as the inside of your refrigerator and freezer before restocking groceries. Wash and sanitize all utensils before use: completely immerse them in clean water and bring it to a rolling boil for 1 minute; allow to cool, remove and air dry prior to use; or immerse them in clean water (room temperature) containing 2 teaspoons of unscented chlorine bleach per quart or 3 tablespoons unscented chlorine bleach per gallon for 15 minutes. Remove and air dry prior to use.

Wash your hands with clean water and soap before handling foods and after handling contaminated surfaces.

Use paper/plastic items for serving foods until running water is available.

DEBRIS REMOVAL

Questions about debris removal, flooding or downed trees should be directed to the Call Center at 386-586-5111, the City of Palm Coast at (386) 986-2360, the City of Flagler Beach at (386) 517-2000 ext. 243 or City of Bunnell at (386) 437-7500. Depending on the severity of the damage, debris pickup following a storm is either collected by Public Works personnel or through a debris management company contracted by the City or County. In either case, debris should be placed curbside as soon as possible following the storm.

Care should be taken to not place debris in the roadway, near fire hydrants, mailboxes, swales or ditches. Yard waste



must be separated appropriately or bundled for collection. Excessive tree debris may be collected as an expanded service. Heavy rains common with many types of storms cause flooding in swales, which are designed to hold water.

Garbage collection resumes its normal schedule as soon as possible following any event. Your household solid waste, recyclables and yard waste may be placed in its normal location for collection on scheduled days.

Call the Flagler County Emergency Information Line at 386-586-5111 or City Customer Service to report traffic signal outages, downed street signs and stop signs, and downed trees in the right-of-way. Do not go near or touch downed power lines. Whether they appear to be live or not, contact 911 immediately to notify the authorities.

TREES AND LIMBS

Do not try to do it all yourself; a professional arborist is needed if large limbs are broken or hanging, or if overhead chain saw or ladder work is required.



HURRICANES AND TROPICAL STORMS

- Protect yourself and family first.
- Heed all advice from emergency officials and monitor information sources (like the radio) for bulletins.
- Expect to be without power for extended periods of time.
- Never use your generator indoors and never connect your generator directly to your home's wiring.
- Stay away from downed power lines and flooded areas.
- Assess all food to decide what to keep or throw away.
- Dispose of food waste as soon as possible.
- Wash hands often with soap and water.
- Separate yard trash from household trash.



TORNADOES AND THUNDERSTORMS

- Do not resume outdoor activities until thunder is no longer heard for at least 30 minutes.
- If damage has occurred, survey your situation before venturing out. If significant damage has occurred to your neighborhood, remain at your home if it is safe to do so. Wait for responders to arrive. There may be multiple hazards from debris and power lines.
- Document and report damage to your insurance company when it is safe to do so.
- Monitor media sources or www.flaglercounty.org/emergency for any official information.





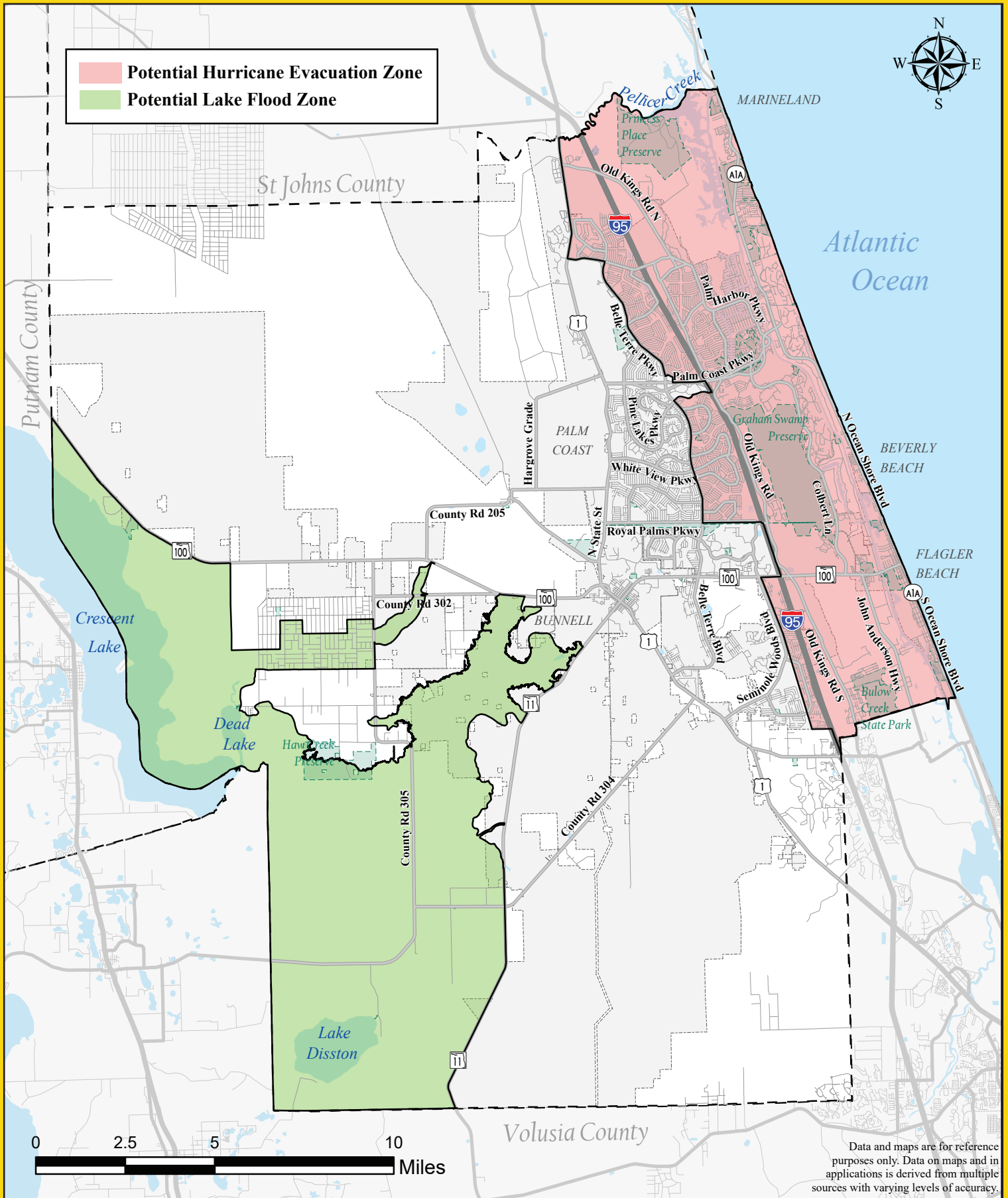
FLOODING

- Door frames may swell or warp, making them difficult to open. You may want to try entering through a window instead.
- Look before you step. Following a flood, the floor may be covered with hazardous materials. Floors and stairs covered with mud are slippery.
- Relocate vehicles, salvageable building contents and other personal belongings to high-ground areas to protect from additional damage.
- Extra caution must be practiced when pumping out water in basements or below-ground rooms. If the surrounding ground around the home is still waterlogged, emptying these areas too quickly may cause the walls to collapse and/or ceilings and upper floors to buckle.
- Be cautious of animal hazards. Snakes, rodents or other small animals, even fire ants and scorpions, could have entered the home looking for shelter from the water.
- Watch your wake! Flooded streets may be closed if impassable, but even open roads may still have standing water. Protect your and your neighbors' property by slowing down and watching your wake.

WILDFIRES

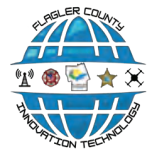
- Do not place yourself or your family in a dangerous situation.
- If you remained at home, check the roof immediately after the fire danger has passed. Put out any roof fires, sparks or embers. Check the attic for hidden burning sparks.
- If you evacuated, upon returning home, you may be asked to do an inspection to assess damage. In this case, the re-entry process may be affected, allowing only one vehicle per household to enter the area.
- Use caution when entering burned areas as hazards may still exist, including hot spots, which can flare up without warning.
- If you detect heat or smoke when entering a damaged building, evacuate immediately.
- Do not turn on utilities until instructed to do so by local officials. Assess your home for hazards, and if problems exist that endanger you and your family, leave the structure until proper repairs have been made.
- For several hours after the fire, maintain a "fire watch." Recheck for smoke and sparks throughout the house.
- Be aware of fire damaged trees. Burned branches are more prone to breaking and can fall resulting in property damage or personal injury. Even trees that do not appear burned can have root damage and are more likely to fall.
- Watch animals closely and keep them under your direct control. Hidden embers and hot spots could burn your pets' paws or hooves.
- Follow public health guidance on safe cleanup of fire ash and use of masks. Wet debris down to minimize breathing dust particles and wear leather gloves and heavy soled shoes to protect hands and feet.
- Cleaning products, paint, batteries and damaged fuel containers are hazardous waste products and need to be disposed of properly to avoid risk. Flagler County accepts household hazardous waste free of charge, at the landfill facility located at 1700 S. Old Kings Road.
- Discard any food exposed to heat, smoke or soot.





Map created May 2023

Potential Evacuation Zones Flagler County



Important Information

EMERGENCY 911

(Call 911 ONLY to report an emergency)

Flagler County Administration

386-313-4000

www.FlaglerCounty.org

Florida Hospital Flagler

386-586-2000

Poison Control

(800) 222-1222

Florida Power and Light

(800) 4-OUTAGE

FL Division of Emergency Management

www.floridadisaster.org

National Weather Service

www.weather.gov/JAX

Federal Emergency Management (FEMA)

www.Ready.gov or www.FEMA.gov

1-800-621-FEMA (3362)

OFFICIAL EMERGENCY PUBLIC INFORMATION

www.flaglercounty.org/emergency
386-313-4200

Local Radio (Flagler Broadcasting):
WNZF Radio – 1550 AM & 94.9 FM

TELEVISION

FLAGLER COUNTY TV

SPECTRUM CABLE CHANNEL 492
ATT U-VERSE CHANNEL 99

PALM COAST TV

SPECTRUM CABLE CHANNEL 495
ATT U-VERSE CHANNEL 99

Report flooding, tree damage, wastewater,
fallen power lines, street blockage or
disrupted water supplies.



FLAGLER COUNTY EMERGENCY INFORMATION LINE

386-313-4200

FLAGLER COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1769 East Moody Blvd., Bldg. #3, Bunnell, FL 32110

Phone: 386- 313-4200 Fax: 386-313-4299

Email: EOC@FlaglerCounty.org

facebook.com/flaglereoc

www.flaglercounty.org/emergency



City of Palm Coast

160 Lake Ave. • Palm Coast, FL 32164

386-986-2360

facebook.com/discoverpalmcoast

www.palmcoastgov.com



City of Flagler Beach

105 S. Second St. • P.O. Box 70
Flagler Beach, FL 32136

386-517-2000

facebook.com/FlaglerBeachPolice

www.cityofflaglerbeach.com



City of Bunnell

201 W. Moody Blvd. • Bunnell, FL 32110

386-437-7500

facebook.com/BunnellFL

www.bunnellcity.us



Town of Beverly Beach

2735 N. Oceanshore Blvd.
Beverly Beach, FL 32136

386-439-6888

www.mybeverlybeach.org



Town of Marineland

Department of Health

301 Doctor Carter Blvd.
Bunnell, FL 32110

386-437-7350

flagler.floridahealth.gov



Flagler County Sheriff

901 E. Moody Blvd.
Bunnell FL 32110

386-313-4911

www.flaglersheriff.com



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www.FlaglerCounty.org

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386-586-2000

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Florida Power and Light

(800) 4-OUTAGE

FL Division of Emergency Management

www.floridadisaster.org

National Weather Service

www.weather.gov/JAX

Federal Emergency Management (FEMA)

www.Ready.gov or www.FEMA.gov

1-800-621-FEMA (3362)

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386-313-4200

FLAGLER COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1769 East Moody Blvd., Bldg. #3, Bunnell, FL 32110

Phone: 386- 313-4200 Fax: 386-313-4299

Email: EOC@FlaglerCounty.org

facebook.com/flaglereoc

www.flaglercounty.org/emergency



City of Palm Coast

160 Lake Ave. • Palm Coast, FL 32164

386-986-2360

facebook.com/discoverpalmcoast

www.palmcoastgov.com



City of Flagler Beach

105 S. Second St. • P.O. Box 70
Flagler Beach, FL 32136

386-517-2000

facebook.com/FlaglerBeachPolice

www.cityofflaglerbeach.com



City of Bunnell

201 W. Moody Blvd. • Bunnell, FL 32110

386-437-7500

facebook.com/BunnellFL

www.bunnellcity.us



Town of Beverly Beach

2735 N. Oceanshore Blvd.
Beverly Beach, FL 32136

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www.mybeverlybeach.org



Town of Marineland

Department of Health

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flagler.floridahealth.gov



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