



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

FLORIDA SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS, Florida Severe Weather Awareness Week is observed each year by the National Weather Service to increase awareness of and preparedness for severe weather hazards; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Division of Emergency Management responds to disasters throughout the year and remains committed to meeting the needs of Floridians; and

WHEREAS, the DeSantis administration has continued to provide support to communities who have been impacted by Hurricane Ian, Hurricane Nicole, Hurricane Idalia, and the North Florida Tornadoes; and

WHEREAS, in September 2023, Governor DeSantis awarded \$338 million communities affected by Hurricane Ian to assist with ongoing hurricane repairs and recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, in November 2023, the Governor signed legislation from Special Session to expand hurricane relief; and

WHEREAS, in January 2024, Governor DeSantis and First Lady Casey DeSantis awarded \$550,000 in Florida Disaster Fund recovery grants to support long-term recovery efforts following Hurricane Idalia; and

WHEREAS, Florida's Severe Weather Awareness Week focuses on common natural hazards occurring in Florida including lightning, marine hazards, rip currents, thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, flooding, temperature extremes, and wildfires; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Weather Service the State of Florida has the most hurricane impacts of any state in the nation and can cause severe damage from high winds, storm surge, and heavy rain; and

WHEREAS, Florida's residents and visitors must be aware of and prepared for several year-round threats such as flooding, rip currents, and wildfires; and

WHEREAS, Florida residents are encouraged to be prepared, and to visit the Floridadisaster.org website to learn more about how to prepared and what items should be included on your disaster supply checklist; and

WHEREAS, education and community outreach remain critical components of preparing and protecting the public from these natural hazards, especially informing about the critical importance of generator safety; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida encourages every resident and visitor to visit their local County Emergency Management website and social media pages for the most up-to-date and locally significant information to create locally-specific disaster plans for their households.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing February 5-9, 2024, as *Florida Severe Weather Awareness Week* and participating in activities to increase their personal knowledge of and preparing and protecting their families, homes, and businesses, from natural hazards that impact Florida.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 5th day of February, in the year two thousand twenty-four.



Governor