GOVERNOR SCOTT PROCLAIMS SEPTEMBER FLORIDA PREPAREDNESS MONTH
~Get a plan for your family or business and stock your disaster supply kit today~

TALLAHASSEE – Governor Scott proclaims September as Florida Preparedness Month. The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) reminds Floridians and visitors to prepare for all types of disasters by having an emergency preparedness plan and a disaster supply kit.

While September is the historical peak of hurricane season, Florida also experiences natural hazards such as extreme heat, thunderstorms, tornadoes, wildfire, floods, and drought. There is no better time than today to get a plan for your family or business.

“Florida Preparedness Month serves as a reminder to Florida’s residents and visitors that a disaster can happen any time and the best way to recover is by preparing,” said FDEM Director Bryan Koon. “Take the time to review your family and business plan. Ensure your disaster supply kit is complete with the recommended items. Do not wait until a disaster happens to confirm your plans.”

Created in September 2004, National Preparedness Month recognizes the events that occurred on September 11, 2001 and encourages all Americans to prepare. Florida Preparedness Month serves as a reminder to all Floridians to remain vigilant about the threat of natural hazards, but also man-made disasters.

All Floridians should take personal responsibility and develop a disaster preparedness plan based upon their own needs, and an emergency supply kit to sustain themselves and their family for up to 72 hours after a disaster by visiting FloridaDisaster.org. Kids can also build their own disaster supply kit at KidsGetAPlan.com. Students, parents and teachers can also obtain safety information, books and learning tools to be better prepared.

For more information about emergency response in Florida, the 2013 Hurricane Season, and how you can to Get A Plan! visit FloridaDisaster.org. Follow FDEM on Twitter at @FLSERT, on Facebook at Facebook.com/FloridaSERT and Facebook.com/KidsGetAPlan.

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WHEREAS, Florida is the most hurricane vulnerable state in the nation and September marks the historical peak of hurricane season; and

WHEREAS, Florida remains a hospitality state, and residents and visitors must be aware of and prepared for natural hazards, such as hurricanes, and man-made hazards, such as threats to domestic security by adopting a culture of preparedness; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has developed a Domestic Security strategy fostering collegial partnerships with first responders and emergency managers from local, regional, and state levels to ensure that all Floridians are protected from potential acts of terrorism; and

WHEREAS, Florida’s State Emergency Response Team and Regional Domestic Security Task Forces remain committed to meeting the needs of Floridians during times of disaster; and

WHEREAS, education and community outreach remain best methods of preparing and protecting the public from all hazards; and

WHEREAS, all Floridians should take personal responsibility and develop a disaster preparedness plan based on their own needs and an emergency supply kit to sustain themselves and their family for up to 72 hours after a disaster by visiting www.FloridaDisaster.org; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, the State of Florida continues to promote the educational resource, www.KIDSGETAPLAN.com, where students, parents, and teachers can obtain safety information, books, and learning tools to become better prepared; and

WHEREAS, the great State of Florida supports the federal outreach initiative and declaration of September 2013 as National Preparedness Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing September 2013 as Florida Preparedness Month and urge all Floridians to participate in activities to increase their personal knowledge of preparing and protecting their families, homes, and businesses from the hazards of natural disasters or man-made events and to GET A PLAN! for appropriate actions when called to do so by their local authorities.

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 29th day of August, in the year two thousand thirteen.

[Signature]
Governor