2009 KIDS WEATHER SURVIVAL WEEK IS FEBRUARY 1-7, 2009

Public is invited to the grand kickoff event at Downtown Disney this Saturday!

Tallahassee – Governor Charlie Crist has proclaimed February 1-7, 2009 as Kids Weather Survival Week, formerly Hazardous Weather Awareness Week, in Florida. This year the annual public awareness campaign included a poster and essay contest sponsored by five Florida area Radio Disney stations in Jacksonville, Miami, Orlando, Tampa and West Palm Beach.

Multiple events are planned statewide as state, county and local emergency officials seek to educate Floridians on daily topics such as; lightning, tornadoes, floods and rip currents. The annual kickoff media event and award ceremonies will be held at the Downtown Disney Marketplace in Lake Buena Visa beginning on Saturday, January 31, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. The fun, family event is free and open to the public.

“Florida is a great place to live, work and play, “said Craig Fugate, director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management. “With this beautiful place comes a personal responsibility for all Floridians to understand and be prepared to survive the weather hazards that affect our state.”

Over 400 elementary and high school students statewide participated in the annual poster and essay contests. The winning entries will be displayed in the Historic Capitol Building and the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee during the first two weeks in February.

An overall grand prize winner, six regional winners and their respective teachers were selected from each of the seven emergency management areas in the state. The grand prize winner will receive year-round passes to Walt Disney World Parks for a family up to four and an "All-Hazards" Weather Radio.

The teacher of the grand prize winner will receive a $250 gift certificate and an All-Hazards Weather Radio, and the respective teacher for each of the six regional winners will receive a $100 gift certificate and an All-Hazards Weather Radio.

Annual Tornado Drill Wednesday, February 4

In addition to the poster and essay contests, on Wednesday, February 4, the statewide Tornado Drill will be conducted by the National Weather Service Offices in Florida at 10:10 a.m. Eastern Time (9:10 a.m. Central Time). This year the drill will include actual over-the-air test messages on the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and NOAA Alert Radios. In the event of an actual severe weather threat, the test would be moved to the same time on Friday, February 6.
All Kids, young and old, can GET A PLAN! today at: www.kidsgetaplan.com

For 2009, a new interactive Website has been developed by the Division and i.d.e.a.s. to give all students (K through 6), teachers and residents; free downloadable information, educational activities and stories on weather hazards. Go to www.kidsgetaplan.com to learn more today.

Additional Kids Weather Survival Week sponsors include the American Red Cross, the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes, the Florida Association of Broadcasters, the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association, the Florida Department of Education and Midland Radio Corporation.

For more information on the 2009 Kids Weather Survival Week go to www.FloridaDisaster.org

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CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

**FLORIDA KIDS WEATHER SURVIVAL WEEK**

WHEREAS, in 2008, Florida experienced tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, flood, and lightning damages totaling more than $187 million; and

WHEREAS, in Florida in 2008, tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and lightning injured 46 people and killed 8 people; and

WHEREAS, in Florida in 2008, 26 people drowned in rip currents; and

WHEREAS, a public that is well informed of the dangers associated with hazardous weather can improve its preparedness and reduce the occurrence of death and injury as a result of weather conditions; and

WHEREAS, The Florida Division of Emergency Management and Florida's National Weather Service forecast offices wish to stress the importance of remaining prepared by disseminating safety and preparedness information to the people of the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing February 1-7, 2009 as Florida Kids Weather Survival Week.

Proclamation signed on January 16, 2009 by Governor Charlie Crist.

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Florida Kids Weather Survival Week
February 1-7, 2009
Events Calendar

Saturday, January 31, 2009
Kickoff Media event and award announcement ceremony
4:30 p.m.
Downtown Disney Marketplace
1780 Buena Vista Drive
Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830
Contact: Mike Stone (850) 413-9883 or 528-8975
(407) 828-3800 - Marketplace

Monday, February 2, 2009
Poster and Essay Contest Artwork on Display February 2-7
The Historic Capitol Building – Room 108
South Monroe Street and Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Additional entries to go on display at the State EOC in the Southwood Campus
Contact: Mike Stone (850) 413-9883
Florida Division of Emergency Management

Tuesday, February 3, 2009
Statewide Tornado Drill Media Conference Call
Florida Division of Emergency Management
Directors Conference Room
2555 Shumard Oak Blvd
Tallahassee, FL 32399 -2100
Time 9:00 a.m. *Dial-in number to be sent separately Monday

Wednesday, February 4, 2009
Statewide Tornado Drill
10:00 a.m. - Tornado Drill
Contact: Ben Nelson (850) 413-9885

Friday, February 6, 2009
Alternate Tornado Drill date*
Partial list of participating schools as of 1/28

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert Hungerford Preparatory High School</td>
<td>100 E Kennedy BL</td>
<td>Eatonville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whispering Oak Elementary</td>
<td>15300 Stoneybrook West Park</td>
<td>Winter Garden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eustis High School</td>
<td>1300 Washington Ave.</td>
<td>Eustis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Umatilla Middle School</td>
<td>305 E Lake St.</td>
<td>Umatilla</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. R. Tolar K-8</td>
<td>P. O. Box 609</td>
<td>Bristol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Triangle Elementary</td>
<td>1707 Eudora Road</td>
<td>Mt. Dora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cypress Ridge Elementary</td>
<td>350 East Ave.</td>
<td>Clermont</td>
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<tr>
<td>Umatilla High School</td>
<td>320 North Trowell Avenue</td>
<td>Umatilla</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palmetto Youth Academy</td>
<td>14494 Harlee Road</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hans Christian Andersen Elementary</td>
<td>3011 S. Fiske Boulevard</td>
<td>Rockledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moore Haven Jr. Sr. High School</td>
<td>700 Terrier Pride Drive</td>
<td>Moore Haven</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lincoln High School</td>
<td>3838 Trojan Trail</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
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<tr>
<td>BISHOP KENNY HIGH SCHOOL</td>
<td>1055 KINGMAN AVE</td>
<td>JACKSONVILLE</td>
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Contact the Florida Department of Education at 850-245-0413 or your County School District media rep for local information on participating schools.