



**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR

**HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK**

WHEREAS, the first week in May is recognized by the National Hurricane Center as National Hurricane Preparedness Week and is dedicated to sharing information and encouraging individuals to prepare for the 2023 Atlantic Hurricane Season; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is a national leader in the field of emergency management and remains committed to ensuring Floridians are able to prepare for, and recover from, all disasters impacting our state; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) responds to disasters year-round, including hurricanes, tropical storms, wildfires, and man-made hazards and remains committed to meeting the needs of Floridians during times of a disaster; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 Atlantic Hurricane Season begins on June 1 and runs through November 30 with September marking the historical peak of the season; and

WHEREAS, during the 2022 Hurricane Season the FDEM led historic responses to Hurricanes Ian and Nicole and continues to support recovery efforts in impacted communities; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Governor DeSantis, the state of Florida mobilized after catastrophic Hurricane Ian with a record-breaking recovery response including implementing temporary housing programs, debris removal, satellite imagery for damage assessment, and more; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Disaster Fund, spearheaded by First Lady Casey DeSantis, raised over \$60 million in donations to help with recovery in communities impacted by Hurricane Ian; and

WHEREAS, the FDEM has distributed more than \$8 billion in disaster recovery funding since 2018, the most funding that has been paid out within that time frame in the Division's history, to local governments to support disaster recovery and resiliency of Florida's communities; and

WHEREAS, hurricanes and tropical storms threaten the lives of those in their path and can cause serious damage to homes, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, this year the State of Florida will commemorate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hurricane Michael's landfall which was the first Category 5 storm to make landfall in the U.S. since Hurricane Andrew and the first on record to make landfall in Florida's Panhandle; and

WHEREAS, all Floridians and visitors are encouraged to create an individualized disaster preparedness plan and stock a disaster supply kit with at least seven days of supplies for each individual and pet residing in the household; and

WHEREAS, all Floridians and visitors are encouraged to identify nearby flood-prone areas and evacuation zones to better understand orders from local officials during a disaster and develop a comprehensive evacuation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Division encourages Floridians and visitors to keep their gas tanks at least half-full throughout hurricane season to ease evacuation traffic and long-lines at gas stations; and

WHEREAS, residents and visitors must engage in disaster preparedness because the State of Florida is subject to a variety of natural and man-made hazards.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend support and encouragement to all observing April 30 – May 6, 2023 as Hurricane Preparedness Week.



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 30th day of April, in the year two thousand twenty-three.

  
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Governor