



**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR

**FLORIDA PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

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

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Governor DeSantis, the Florida Division of Emergency Management led historic disaster responses to both hurricanes Ian and Nicole and continues to spearhead innovative recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, the month of September is recognized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as National Preparedness Month and is dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time; and

WHEREAS, the Division has cut through red tape resulting in \$1.2 billion in obligated funds post-landfall of Hurricane Ian, which has generated an estimated \$1.2 billion in resilience funding – the most the Division has ever-before obligated and secured in this time frame and the most ever secured in such a short time following a disaster for any state managed hurricane response; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Division of Emergency Management has distributed more than \$8.6 billion in disaster recovery funding during the DeSantis Administration, the most funding that has been paid out within 5 years in the Division's history to support disaster recovery and resiliency of Florida's communities; and

WHEREAS, this year the State of Florida will commemorate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hurricane Michael, the first Category 5 hurricane to make landfall in Florida since Andrew in 1992 and the first Category 5 on record to impact the Florida Panhandle; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Governor DeSantis signed the largest tax relief plan in Florida's history creating a second disaster sales tax holiday beginning August 26 through September 8 to encourage Floridians to purchase disaster preparedness items; and

WHEREAS, all Floridians and visitors are encouraged to remain prepared throughout hurricane season by creating disaster preparedness plans and stocking a disaster supply kit with at least seven days of supplies for each individual and pet residing in the household; and


WHEREAS, all Florida business owners play a critical role in the recovery of their local communities and are encouraged to build a business disaster continuity plan to reduce the impact on their business and ensure their ability to re-open; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida encourages each resident and visitor to visit their County Emergency Management Department's websites and social media pages for the most up-to-date and locally significant information to create individualized disaster plans for their households.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing September 2023 as *Florida Preparedness Month*.



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 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, in the year two thousand twenty-three.

  
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Governor