

## Ron DeSantis

## FLORIDA PREPAREDNESS MONTH

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Governor DeSantis, the State of Florida is a national leader in the field of emergency response and remains committed to ensuring Floridians can efficiently prepare for and recover from all disasters impacting our state; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 Atlantic Hurricane Season began on June 1 and runs through November 30, with September marking the historical peak of the season; and

WHEREAS, this year the State of Florida commemorates the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historic 2004 hurricane season and has since taken monumental strides in mitigation, preparedness, and response capabilities; and

WHEREAS, residents and visitors are encouraged to engage in disaster preparedness because the State of Florida is subject to a variety of natural and man-made hazards; 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, all Floridians and visitors are encouraged to remain prepared throughout hurricane season by creating an individualized disaster preparedness plan and stocking a disaster supply kit with at least seven days of supplies for each individual and pet residing in the household; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, Governor DeSantis approved a disaster preparedness sales tax holiday beginning August 24 through September 6 to encourage Floridians to stock up on necessary disaster preparedness items; 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, all Floridians and visitors are encouraged to determine whether they reside in floodprone areas and evacuation zones to better understand orders from local officials during a disaster and develop a comprehensive evacuation plan; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida encourages all Floridians and visitors to educate themselves on their specific needs and living situations, so that they are empowered to make informed decisions before, during, and after a disaster.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing September 2024 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 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year two thousand twenty-four.

Governor

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