

# Hurricane Irma Preparedness and Resources

*September 5, 2017*

## Florida Resources

### **Office of the Governor, Rick Scott**

Governor Scott Issues Updates on Hurricane Irma Preparedness. For updates on the State of Florida Emergency Response Team, please visit the website: [Flgov.com](http://Flgov.com)

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – Today, Governor Rick Scott received a full update on Hurricane Irma from the State Emergency Operations Center. Governor Scott has been in constant communication with state and local emergency management officials, law enforcement, school superintendents and county leaders who are also working to ensure the state is prepared to respond to any potential impacts from Hurricane Irma. Yesterday, Governor Scott issued Executive Order 17-235 declaring a state of emergency in all 67 counties within the State of Florida. Governor Scott today requested that President Donald Trump declare a pre landfall emergency for the State of Florida in preparation for Hurricane Irma to provide important preparation resources and assistance from the federal government. The State Emergency Operations Center has been activated to level one, which is a full-scale, 24-hours-a-day activation

### **American Red Cross – South Florida Region**

- Visit the Red Cross of South Florida here [Red Cross South Florida](#)

The Red Cross Issues Safety Steps as the 2017 Hurricane Predictions Escalate:

#### WHAT TO DO

- Talk with your family about what to do if a hurricane strikes. Discussing hurricanes ahead of time helps reduce fear, particularly for younger children.
- Make sure you have access to NOAA radio broadcasts. Find an [Online NOAA Radio Station](#) . Search for a NOAA radio app in your app store. Purchase a battery-powered or hand-crank NOAA radio in the [Red Cross Store](#).
- Keep insurance policies, documents, and other valuables in a safe-deposit box. You may need quick, easy access to these documents. Keep them in a safe place less likely to be damaged if a hurricane causes flooding.
- Take pictures on a phone and keep copies of important documents and files on a flash drive that you can carry with you on your house or car keys.
- Protect windows with permanent storm shutters or invest in one-half inch marine plywood that is pre-cut to fit your doors and windows.

## ***Crisis & Disaster Resources***

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- Identify a place to store lawn furniture, toys, gardening tools and trash cans (away from stairs and exits) to prevent them from being moved by high winds and possibly hurting someone.
- Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts to prevent flooding and unnecessary pressure on the awnings.

### THREE EASY STEPS

- **Build an emergency kit** with a gallon of water per person, per day, non-perishable food, a flashlight, battery-powered radio, first aid kit, medications, supplies for an infant if applicable, a multi-purpose tool, personal hygiene items, copies of important papers, cell phone chargers, extra cash, blankets, maps of the area and emergency contact information. Many of these items are available through the Red Cross Store at [redcrossstore.org](http://redcrossstore.org).
- Talk with household members and **create an evacuation plan**. Practicing the plan minimizes confusion and fear during the event.
- Be Informed. Learn about the community's hurricane response plan. Plan routes to local shelters, register family members with special medical needs as required and make plans for pets.

### **Florida Division of Emergency Management**

- **Visit the Division of Emergency Management website here** [FloridaDisaster.org](http://FloridaDisaster.org)

Florida Emergency Information Line -- 800-342-3557

The Florida Emergency Information Line (FEIL) is a toll-free hotline activated at the time of an emergency to provide an additional resource for those in Florida to receive accurate and up-to-date information regarding an emergency or disaster situation impacting the State of Florida.

FEIL line is currently activated and available 24 hours/7 days a week. For updates on any potential power outages, travel, shelter information and county emergency management offices, please visit the website

### **Florida 511**

- **Visit the Florida 511 website here** [Florida511](http://Florida511)

511 provides locally generated reports on:

- Traffic conditions on major evacuation routes
- Road and bridge closures
- Toll suspensions
- Other travel alerts in affected counties, cities, roadways and agencies

## ***Crisis & Disaster Resources***

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- Plan ahead! Check out the recommended [Evacuation Routes](#) from the Florida State Emergency Response Team (SERT). Then register for a [My Florida 511](#) account and set up one or more personalized evacuation routes.
- During an emergency, you can get real-time information on your planned routes via the 511 phone call or app; or request email or alerts to be sent to you.

### **Florida 211**

- Visit the 211 website here [Florida211](#)

2-1-1 connects callers to health and human services information and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, even during disasters. Information and resources may be provided for a variety of needs including shelter, basic needs, and disaster assistance. Dial 211 from your phone to speak with a trained information and referral specialist. Calls are routed to service centers based on your geographic location. You may also search online for resources or find the local number for your local 211 service center by clicking on the link above.

### **Disaster Assistance.gov**

The Disaster Assistance Improvement Program's (DAIP) mission is to provide disaster survivors with information, support, services, and a means to access and apply for disaster assistance through joint data-sharing efforts between federal, tribal, state, local, and private sector partners. Visit this website [Disaster Assistance](#) to:

- Enter your address to see if your area has been declared for Individual Assistance
- Find Assistance
- Apply Online for Assistance
- Check the status of your application
- Find local resources

### **Information for Preparedness/Recovery and Weather Alerts**

- Ready.gov <https://www.ready.gov/>
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- National Weather Service <http://www.weather.gov/>

This guide provides referrals to resources. It does not endorse or recommend the resource providers. While every effort is made to maintain current provider information, information may change without notice.