

Hurricane Season Begins Today

Are You Prepared?

Although preparing for a storm this year might look a little different amid the Coronavirus, we cannot let our guards down. We must do everything we can to ensure our families can stay safe. To the extent that your family is financially able to – consider purchasing supplies for your disaster supply kits online. That includes vital supplies, like food, water, flashlights, batteries and other necessities. Every family and business needs to make or revisit their emergency plans. You can find resources and information on creating a personalized emergency plan at www.ready.gov.

Click [HERE](#) to view Senator Scott's 2020 Hurricane Season Preparedness Video

And in case of a storm, always stay tuned to your local news reports and follow the direction of local law enforcement and emergency management officials. As Senator Scott always says, you can rebuild your home, but you cannot rebuild your life.

We must keep doing everything we can to take care of each other and protect our families. Don't wait to take action. Start getting prepared TODAY.

More information and resources available to prepare for the 2020 hurricane season can be found below or by visiting www.rickscott.senate.gov/Hurricanes.

For Your Family & Business

Federal Government Resources

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has published guidance on how to protect yourself and others from the Coronavirus while preparing for hurricane season, as well as additional guidance for public shelters – read more [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has also published guidance on hurricane preparedness amid the Coronavirus – read more [HERE](#).

State of Florida Resources

To find Florida-specific resources and information, or to create an emergency plan for your family or business, visit the Florida Division of Emergency Management's website at www.FloridaDisaster.org.

The 2020 Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday begins Friday, May 29, 2020, and extends through Thursday, June 4, 2020. During this sales tax holiday period, qualifying

items related to disaster preparedness are exempt from sales tax. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

For Your Community

FEMA has published updated guidance for elected officials and community leaders, including emergency managers and public health officials, to help them prepare and keep their communities safe during hurricane season.

FEMA's [COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance for the 2020 Hurricane Season](#):

- Describes anticipated challenges to disaster operations posed by COVID-19;
- Highlights planning considerations for emergency managers based on current challenges;
- Outlines how FEMA plans to adapt response and recovery operations;
- Creates a shared understanding of expectations between FEMA and emergency managers; and
- Includes guidance, checklists and resources to support emergency managers' response and recovery planning

FEMA Grant Program – Funding for Regional Catastrophic Preparedness

FEMA recently announced \$10 million in funding for the [Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program](#). The program provides funding to eligible states and local governments to close preparedness capability gaps, encourage innovative regional solutions to issues related to catastrophic incidents and build on existing regional preparedness efforts, including pandemic preparedness.

Changes to the 2020 funding include regional pandemic preparedness as a program objective, with specific focus on pandemic planning activities. The application period closes July 15, 2020. Submissions must be made through [Grants.gov](#). The funding notice and additional information is available on the [FEMA website](#) as well as on [Grants.gov](#), under Assistance Listings Number 97.111.

More on Social Media

The following Twitter accounts, along with your local Sheriff's Office, Police Department, and County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), may be helpful for up-to-date information and resources on any storms affecting Florida.

- [@SenRickScott](#) – Sen. Rick Scott
- [@FEMA](#) – FEMA
- [@FEMARegion4](#) – FEMA Region IV, covering Florida
- [@FLSERT](#) – Florida Division of Emergency Management
- [@NHC Atlantic](#) – National Hurricane Center, covering the Atlantic Basin
- [@NWSNHC](#) – National Weather Service's National Hurricane Center

- [@FL511_State](#) – FL 511 major traffic reports from the Florida Department of Transportation