

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE



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To the Residents of Flagler County and the City of Palm Coast...

Natural disasters and other emergencies are unfortunate occurrences that we all will face at some time or another. In Palm Coast and Flagler County, our own piece of paradise can be threatened. It is vital that we each prepare with a specific plan for the safety and protection of our loved ones and our property.

This year, your City and County governments united to produce and distribute this Disaster Preparedness Guide. Your elected officials and government staff believe that educating yourself

about the fundamentals of wildfires, hurricanes, floods and strong storms will help keep you organized and calm during an emergency. Nothing is more important to us than your safety.

Keep this guide handy. Use the information to prepare for the threatening storm seasons.

Be assured that we are prepared to deal with natural and man-made disasters. However, your own preparedness will make the job much easier. Working together, we know we can weather any storm.



Flagler Emergency Services
1769 E. Moody Blvd.
Bldg. 3
Bunnell, FL 32110
386-313-4200



City of Palm Coast
160 Cypress Point Pkwy.
Suite B106
Palm Coast, FL 32164
386-986-3700

Guide design by curleytail design



Should I Stay or Should I Go?

When a hurricane warning is issued, local emergency officials offer the following advice:

- If you live east of I-95 be prepared to LEAVE — The areas east of I-95 are considered primary hurricane evacuation zones.
- If you live in a mobile home or manufactured home, recreational vehicle be prepared to LEAVE — Mobile homes, manufactured homes and recreational vehicles must be evacuated for any hurricane countywide. Even if you live inland and have tie downs, these buildings may not withstand hurricane conditions or wind-borne debris. Most wind related fatalities are in mobile and manufactured homes.
- If you live west of I-95 in a newer, well-constructed home consider STAYING.

Planning for the Unexpected

The highest priority is your personal safety. Decide what situations could force you to leave your home. If you will remain in your home – perhaps for several days – what steps will you take to keep yourself safe, secure and comfortable? While most emergency situations will not require evacuation, they can arrive with little or no warning. The time to plan and prepare is now. Visit www.floridadisaster.org for help with your plan.

Careful consideration of options in advance helps provide peace-of-mind in an emergency.

Having a family disaster plan will guide you in protecting yourself, your family and your property. Your disaster plan can be as simple or as thorough as you like. Visualize problems you may face and decide which solutions work best.

CREATE A DISASTER PLAN

1. **Educate yourself.** What are the requirements for responding to fire, flood, hurricane or tornado?
2. **Decide when you would evacuate.** Know your home. Are you in a low-lying area that may flood? Are you in a coastal high wind zone? Does your home meet building code for hurricanes? Do you live in a high fire hazard area? If you are asked to evacuate by authorities, please do so in a timely manner and be prepared to be away from your home for the duration of the event.
3. **List simple action steps in priority order.** These will vary with the nature of the threat.
4. **Create an emergency kit with supplies and copies of essential documents.**
5. **Make arrangements for emergency communications.** Have school and work numbers handy. Establish a meeting place for family members. Have a local contact and one from out-of-state.



6. **Identify special transportation or medical needs.** Inform local emergency management of these needs.
7. **Have a plan for pets.** Most shelters do not accept pets. In a mandatory evacuation Flagler County will provide pet sheltering options.
8. **Consider modifications to protect your home from wildfire, wind and rising water.** Review insurance coverage, particularly flood insurance, which often must be purchased separately.
9. **Learn about community emergency plans.** How will your child's school react, and what about plans at work? What will you do if bridges or major roadways are closed?



The best way to receive warnings for hazardous weather is to have an NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio.

These radios sound an alarm and notify you of any tornado or severe storm warnings as well as other hazardous weather. It is important that your weather alert radio have the alert and SAME (Specific Area Message Encoding) features so you will receive information specific

to Flagler County. The NOAA Weather Alert Radios are the primary warning system used by the National Weather Service. Weather alert radios can be purchased anywhere electronics are sold. **Get warned! Get a weather alert radio.** The primary frequencies for Weather Alert Radios in Flagler County are: 162.400 or 162.425. The SAME code for Flagler County is 012035. For programming assistance call 386-313-4250.



CodeRED

Helps Save Lives

The City of Palm Coast and Flagler County have activated a **CodeRED** high speed emergency notification service. Officials can deliver pre-recorded emergency messages to homes and businesses at a rate of 60,000 calls per hour. **CodeRED** will be used to dispatch emergency information regarding hurricanes, fires, floods, chemical spills, gas leaks, evacuation notices, drinking water contamination and other emergencies.

To have your contact information added to the **CodeRed** notification system visit either of these websites: www.ci.palm-coast.fl.us or www.FlaglerEmergency.com and follow the **CodeRED** Enrollment link on the right margin of the homepage. There is no need to register on both sites. Those without Internet access may call (386)986-2360 or visit your local library. Information gathered is confidential.

All residences, businesses, individuals with unlisted phone numbers or those who have changed their telephone numbers or addresses within the last year should consider registering for **CodeRED**.



WATCH VS WARNING

A WATCH...

is issued when hazardous weather conditions are possible for a given area. Watches will define the potential hazards and the times in which severe weather may occur.

A WARNING...

is issued when hazardous weather has been spotted, detected or is imminent. Warnings will define the hazard, when it is expected and where it is likely to impact.

Special Needs Shelter

The Special Needs Shelter is available for individuals who are not in a care facility, such as a hospital, nursing home or congregate living facility, and are not bedridden. The shelter is for individuals whose capabilities require assistance in the management of their illness, infirmity, injury or other condition. A family member or caregiver should stay at the shelter with the individual. The program is coordinated by the Emergency Management Division and involves the Flagler County Health Department, Flagler County Senior Services and the School Board. The Flagler County Health Department will review each application to verify qualification.

Home health agencies are responsible for registering their clients with the Flagler County Emergency Management special needs database. Individuals can also register themselves or a family member.

Doctors, providers of in-home medical equipment, and others in medically related professions can help their patients and clients with the registration form which is available by mail from the:

**FC Division Of Emergency Management
Attn: Special Needs
1769 E. Moody Blvd., No. 3 • Bunnell, FL 32110
(386) 313-4200**

Community Emergency Response Team

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program trains people to be prepared for emergencies in their community and neighborhood. The program trains neighbors to help neighbors prepare for, respond to, and recover from an emergency right in their backyards. The role of a CERT volunteer is self-help/neighbor-help until such time as trained first response personnel arrive.

CERT members give critical support to First Responders, provide immediate assistance to victims, collect disaster information, and may be the first to provide help in their neighborhood immediately following a major emergency.

For info call (386) 313-4200 or (386) 986-2300.



DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

WATER

At least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days

FOOD

At least enough for 3 to 7 days

Non-perishable packaged or canned food/juices

Foods for infants or the elderly, Snack foods

Non-electric can opener, Cooking tools/fuel

Paper plates/plastic utensils

BLANKETS / PILLOWS, ETC.

CLOTHING

Seasonal/rain gear/sturdy shoes

FIRST AID KIT / MEDICINES / PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

SPECIAL ITEMS - For babies, the elderly and pets

TOILETRIES - Hygiene items

MOISTURE WIPES

FLASHLIGHT / BATTERIES

RADIO

Battery operated and NOAA weather radio

CASH

Banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods

KEYS

TOYS, BOOKS AND GAMES

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

Put in a waterproof container:

insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security cards

Document all valuables with videotape, if possible

TOOLS

Keep a set with you during the storm

VEHICLE FUEL TANKS FILLED

PET CARE ITEMS

Proper identification / immunization records, ample supply of food and water, a carrier or cage, medications, muzzle and leash





Hurricanes

Hurricanes have been called
“The Greatest Storms
on Earth.”

This title is well earned, as these massive storms can be 600 miles across, pack winds from 74 mph to more than 155 mph and can affect millions of people in their paths. Hurricanes bring many threats including storm surge, winds, heavy rain and tornadoes.

STORM SURGE: Hurricane winds can create storm surge heights up to 30 feet above normal wave heights. Storm surge is the deadliest hurricane hazard. This rise of the ocean can cause extreme flooding from the ocean to I-95 in Flagler County. Remember, run from the surge, and hide from the winds.

Storm surge is the reason mandatory evacuations are issued in areas where ocean flooding will occur.

WINDS: Hurricane force winds greater than 74 mph can cause major damage. Winds can be much stronger and in extreme cases can exceed 155 mph causing catastrophic damage.

TORNADOES: Hurricanes and tropical storms that make landfall can produce numerous small tornadoes. These can strike with little warning.

HEAVY RAIN: Rain can cause massive inland flooding. In recent years, the rain has been responsible for the greatest amount of deaths related to hurricanes — many of which were miles inland.

BEFORE

Hurricanes pose a tremendous threat to life and property. Contrary to popular belief, Flagler County is not immune to a direct hurricane strike. It is essential to learn the preparedness basics before a hurricane strikes.

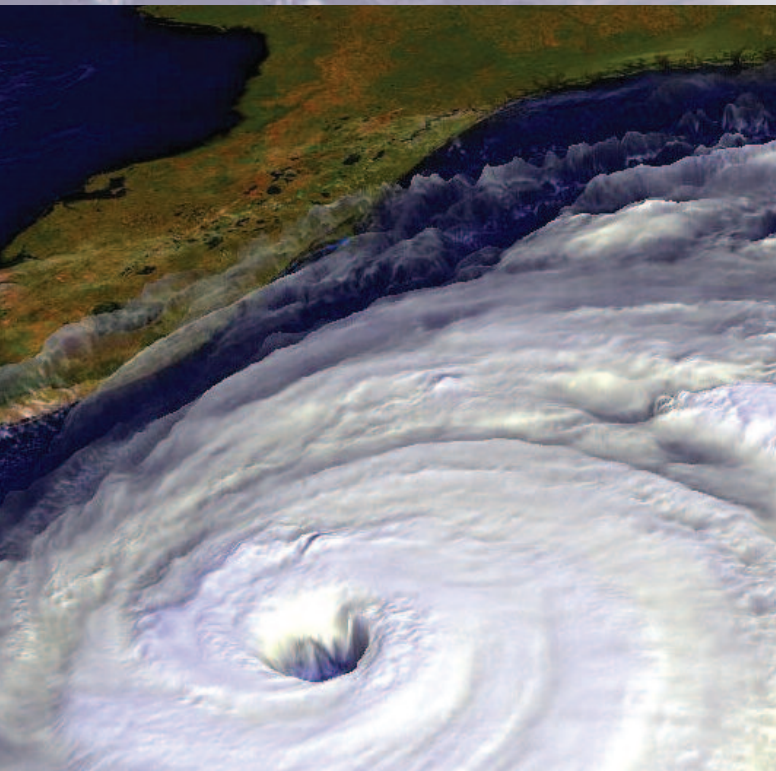
- Being prepared and having a plan is your best protection against hurricanes.
- Have a disaster supply kit ready.
- Understand the threats associated with a hurricane.

DURING

- When a storm threatens the community, stay informed by monitoring the latest forecasts and warnings from the National Weather Service, as well as information and advice from local emergency management officials.
- Implement your family’s disaster plan and stay calm.
- Evacuate if ordered to do so. Bridges will be closed to all traffic, including emergency responders.

AFTER

- Protect yourself and family first.
- Protect your home and property from further damage.
- Expect to be without power for extended periods of time.
- Never use your generator indoors and never connect your generator directly to your home’s wiring.
- Stay away from downed power lines and flooded areas.
- Assess all food to decide what to keep or throw away.
- Dispose of food waste as soon as possible.
- Wash hands often with soap and water.
- Separate yard trash from household trash.



Thunderstorms and Lightning

BEFORE

If thunderstorms approach, postpone activities that will take you outdoors.

Stay inside a building, well away from windows. Cars with hard tops offer some protection but should be avoided when possible. Tires and rubber-soled shoes offer no protection from lightning strikes. Avoid water, including bathing, swimming, etc. Refrain from using telephones with cords. Unplug appliances and electronics to avoid damage from power surges.

DURING

Seek shelter in an appropriate area, such as the center most part of the building, well away from windows, doors, etc. If caught outside, do not stand under or near tall trees, open areas such as the beach or golf course or in any type of water. Stay away from metallic items (bicycles, motorcycles, golf carts, etc.).

If shelter is not available, squat very low to the ground, in a low area if possible. Never lie flat on the ground.

If you hear thunder, you are in range of the lightning. If you or someone with you is struck by lightning, seek medical attention immediately. Call 911 and administer first aid until professionals arrive. Lightning strikes cause a myriad of injuries that are not often seen by, cursory inspection. Have a professional evaluate the victim immediately.

AFTER

Limit outdoor activity until thunder is no longer heard. Remember, many people are struck by lightning after a storm has passed.

Tornados

BEFORE

Have a plan well before time. If a tornado warning is issued, seek shelter in a small interior room, away from windows.

Be sure family members are aware of the location, as the nature of these events may not permit immediate planning.

Do not open windows. If you are in a mobile home, trailer or vehicle, leave immediately and seek shelter in a sturdy building. In the worst-case scenario, a ditch or ravine in a face down position will offer some protection.

DURING

During a tornado, crouch down or lie face down and protect your head. Protect yourself with pillows or a mattress if possible. Even the smallest items can become a missile in these wind events while debris is tossed about.

AFTER

Survey your surroundings carefully before venturing out. A direct hit from a tornado will cause massive damage. Do not put yourself or your family at risk with dangers resulting from the storm. Attend to yourself first with basic first aid and then move on to family members. There may be broken gas lines, live electrical wires, broken water lines, etc.

Be aware of displaced wildlife that may also be victims of a storm. Wait for emergency services help to arrive.

A Tornado Watch is issued when tornados are possible.

A Tornado Warning is issued when a tornado has been sighted or is indicated by weather radar.





Batten Down the Hatches

PRIOR TO HURRICANE SEASON

Prepare your hurricane plan. Keep a copy on the vessel, at home and at the marina.

Make sure your insurance policy is current.

Keep documents - insurance policies, a photograph or video of the vessel, boat registration, equipment inventory, lease agreement with the marina or storage area and telephone numbers of authorities, such as the harbor master, Coast Guard, insurance agent and National Weather Service in your possession in a locked waterproof box.



Trim Trees Before A Storm

Trees can be spared from the worst of storm damage by following suggestions from the International Society of Arboriculture.

PRE-STORM PREPARATION

Look for potential hazards: Look for damage such as cracks in the trunk or major limbs, hanging branches, improperly formed branches, one-sided or significantly leaning trees, branches that may rub the house, or hollow and decayed trees.

Do not top your trees: Untrained individuals may urge you to cut back all branches on the mistaken assumption that it helps avoid breakage in future storms. However, professional arborists say that "topping," the cutting of main branches back to stubs, is extremely harmful and unhealthy for trees. Stubs often

The key to protecting boats from any severe weather is planning, preparation and timely action. A boat owner/operator may be held responsible for damages caused by his vessel during a natural disaster.

Do not stay aboard any vessel during a hurricane.

BOATS IN DRY STORAGE

Wherever you choose to locate your boat for the duration of the hurricane, lash the boat to its cradle with heavy lines. Based on the weight of the boat, consider adding water to the bilge to help hold it down. Never leave a boat in davits or on a hydro-lift.

BOATS IN MARINA BERTH

Double all lines. Attach lines high on pilings to allow for tidal rise or surge.

grow back weak branches that are more likely to break.

POST STORM FIRST AID

Do not try to do it all yourself: A professional arborist is needed if large limbs are broken or hanging, or if overhead chain saw or ladder work is required.

Assess the damages: Is the tree basically healthy? Are major limbs still remaining? Are at least 50 percent of the tree's branches and leaves still intact? Are there remaining branches that can form a new branch structure? If the answer is "yes" to the majority of these questions, there is a good chance for complete recovery.

Stand trees back up: Many trees suffer friction failures that cause the tree's root system to lift out of the ground as the tree leans over. Uprooted trees are often unnecessarily removed under the mistaken idea that they cannot be saved. Consult an ISA certified arborist to determine the tree's condition.

Prepare Pools

- Never completely drain the pool.
- You do not need to lower the water level in the pool; if you do, close the skimmer valve to prevent damage to the pump when the power is turned on.
- Turn off all electrical power to the swimming pool (pump, motor, lighting, chlorinators). If your filter pump is in an unsheltered area, have the motor removed and stored or wrap the motor with a plastic bag and tie it securely in place to prevent sand and water from entering the motor.

■ Remove loose items from the pool area. It is not advisable to throw patio furniture or accessories into the pool. If it is necessary, however, remove them as soon as possible after the storm. Furniture may chip and damage the pool finish and the pool chemicals will have an adverse affect on the furniture.

■ Add extra chlorine to your pool to prevent contamination. The pool provides a handy source of water for washing and flushing if your house water supply fails.

■ If your pool area is screened, you may prevent costly damage to the frame structure by removing one or two panels of screen above the chair rail on each side to allow the wind to blow through.

HURRICANE TRACKING CHART



SEVERE WEATHER EXPERTS



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In the face of disaster, Bright House Networks is a ready partner in community

We all work together

safety efforts. With local employees that are here to respond quickly and

to be safe and prepared.

efficiently. And the area's most accurate 24/7 news and storm forecasts from

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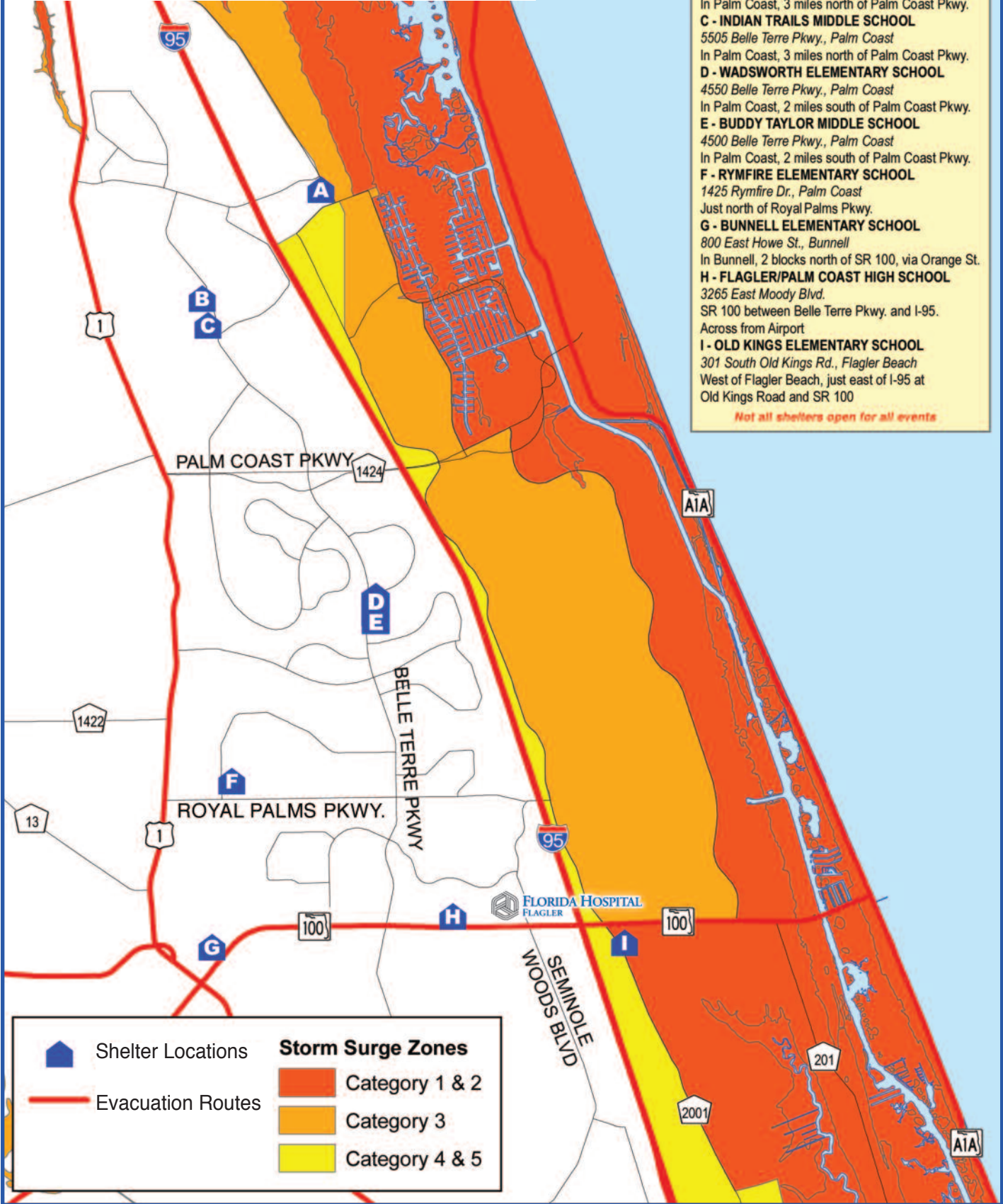
www.cfnews13.com








Flagler County Storm Surge and Evacuation Map



- A - MATANZAS HIGH SCHOOL**
3535 North Old Kings Road, Palm Coast
Just north of Forest Grove Dr., across the Matanzas Woods Pkwy overpass
 - B - BELLE TERRE ELEMENTARY**
5345 Belle Terre Pkwy., Palm Coast
In Palm Coast, 3 miles north of Palm Coast Pkwy.
 - C - INDIAN TRAILS MIDDLE SCHOOL**
5505 Belle Terre Pkwy., Palm Coast
In Palm Coast, 3 miles north of Palm Coast Pkwy.
 - D - WADSWORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
4550 Belle Terre Pkwy., Palm Coast
In Palm Coast, 2 miles south of Palm Coast Pkwy.
 - E - BUDDY TAYLOR MIDDLE SCHOOL**
4500 Belle Terre Pkwy., Palm Coast
In Palm Coast, 2 miles south of Palm Coast Pkwy.
 - F - RYMFIRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
1425 Rymfire Dr., Palm Coast
Just north of Royal Palms Pkwy.
 - G - BUNNELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
800 East Howe St., Bunnell
In Bunnell, 2 blocks north of SR 100, via Orange St.
 - H - FLAGLER/PALM COAST HIGH SCHOOL**
3265 East Moody Blvd.
SR 100 between Belle Terre Pkwy. and I-95.
Across from Airport
 - I - OLD KINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
301 South Old Kings Rd., Flagler Beach
West of Flagler Beach, just east of I-95 at Old Kings Road and SR 100
- Not all shelters open for all events



	Shelter Locations	Storm Surge Zones
	Evacuation Routes	 Category 1 & 2
		 Category 3
		 Category 4 & 5

Important Information

EMERGENCY 911

(Call 911 ONLY to report an emergency)

Flagler County Emergency Services:
(Office Line) 313-4200

Flagler County Sheriff's Office:
(non emergency number) 313-4911
www.myfcsso.us

Florida Division of Forestry: 446-6785
www.fl-dof.com/wildfire

Florida Hospital Flagler: 586-2000

Flagler County Administration: 313-4000

Poison Control: (800) 222-1222

Florida Power and Light: (800) 4-OUTAGE

ATT: (800) 432-1424

Flagler County Emergency Services
www.FlaglerEmergency.com

Florida Emergency Management
www.floridadisaster.org

National Weather Service
www.srh.noaa.gov/jax

Federal Government
<http://ready.gov>

Official Emergency Public Information

Television:

BrightHouse Network Channel 198 - FCTV
BrightHouse Network Channel 199 - PCMA TV

Channel 2 - Orlando WESH - NBC

Channel 6 - Orlando - WKMG - CBS

Channel 9 - Orlando - WFTV - ABC

Channel 35 - Orlando - WOFH - FOX

Channel 13 - Orlando - BrightHouse

Radio:

WNZF Radio - 1550 AM & 106.3 FM

WBHQ Radio - Beach 92.7 FM



**FLAGLER COUNTY EMERGENCY
INFORMATION LINE**
(386) 586-5111

**FLAGLER COUNTY
EMERGENCY SERVICES**

1769 East Moody Blvd., Bldg. #3, Bunnell, FL 32110

Phone: (386) 313-4200 Fax: (386) 313-4299

Email: info@FlaglerEmergency.com

**BRIGHTHOUSE NETWORK
CABLE CHANNEL 198**

(386) 313-4000
(386) 313-4101 (fax)



160 Cypress Point Pkwy. • Suite 1069
Palm Coast, FL 32164

CITY'S MAIN TELEPHONE LINE:
(386) 986-3700

PALM COAST EMERGENCY LINE
(386) 986-2360

Report flooding, tree damage, wastewater,
fallen power lines, street blockage or
disrupted water supplies.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION:
(386) 986-CITY (2489)

Hear recorded information about emergency
supplies, hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, boat
safety, insurance and
debris pick-up.

**BRIGHTHOUSE NETWORK
CABLE CHANNEL 19**



In The Event Of A Flood...

Flooding is an act of nature which respects no boundary lines, either community or personal. Floodwater can cover many blocks with water depths up to 4 feet and can come with little warning.

Flooding in Palm Coast and Flagler County may be caused by the Intracoastal Waterway or a tributary overflowing the banks during severe storms and/or high tide.

Flooding also can occur in areas away from bodies of water by an unexpected, large down-pour of rain, such as our heavy rains in May 2009.

FLOOD SAFETY BEFORE THE STORM

If your home is well constructed and local authorities have not called for evacuation, stay home and make emergency preparations. If told to evacuate, follow instructions from local authorities and follow safe evacuation routes to shelter. Your personal evacuation plan should provide for your pets, your personal emergency supplies and insurance papers. When evacuating, take property identification, important personal papers and documents.

DURING AND AFTER THE STORM

If you are in a public shelter, remain there until informed by those in charge that it is safe to leave and return home. Often times people are injured immediately after a storm because of unsafe buildings, downed power lines, contaminated water, moving debris and other dangerous conditions.

Carefully check for structural damage prior to entering a building after a storm. Use caution when entering the structure, turn electricity on one breaker at a time and watch for smoke or sparks. Report broken sewer and water lines to your local utility department.

Drowning is the number one cause of flood deaths. Six inches of water can knock you off of

your feet. If you must walk in standing or flowing water, use a pole or stick to ensure that the ground is still there. Many people drown in their cars. Do not drive around road barriers; the road may be washed out.



■ The second-leading cause of death in a flood is electrocution. Electrical current can travel through water. Report downed power lines to Florida Power and Light or the City Public Works Department.

■ Have electricity turned off by the power company. Some appliances, such as TVs, keep electrical charges even after unplugged. Don't use appliances or motors that have gotten wet unless they are taken apart, cleaned and dried.

■ Look out for small animals. Animals flooded out of their homes may seek shelter in yours. Use a pole or stick to turn items over to scare away animals.

■ Look before you step. After a flood, the ground and floors are covered with debris including broken bottles and nails. Floors and stairs that have been covered with mud can be slippery.

■ Be alert for gas leaks. Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Never smoke or use candles, lanterns, matches or open flames unless you know the gas was properly turned off and the entire area has been ventilated.

■ Carbon monoxide exhaust kills. Use a generator or other gasoline-powered equipment outdoors. The same goes for cooking stoves. Charcoal fumes are especially deadly and should be outdoors.

■ Clean everything that got wet. Flood waters have picked up sewage and chemicals from roads, commercial properties and storage buildings. Spoiled food, flooded cosmetics and medicines can be health hazards. When in doubt, throw it out.





Do You Have Flood Insurance?

Homeowner's insurance typically does not cover floods. If you do not have separate flood insurance, contact your insurance agent. There is a 30-day waiting period after a flood policy is purchased before coverage goes into effect.

The City of Palm Coast participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) – and has taken voluntary actions to exceed the minimum standards of the program. Due to these voluntary actions, residents may benefit with a 20% discount for policies issued or renewed in the 'special flood hazard area' on or after May 1, 2009. (It should be noted that there are no discounts for reduced rate Preferred Risk Policies which are available for eligible B, C and X flood zones designated properties as the rates for these zones already reflect significant premium reductions). The insurance is backed by the federal government and is available to everyone, even if the property has never been flooded or is not in a special flood hazard area. You may also want to include the contents of your house on a flood insurance policy.

Palm Coast has been assigned a Community Identification Number (CID) so insurance companies can identify properties within the City and apply the applicable discounts. It is possible that properties within the City are using the Flagler County CID and are not getting the additional benefits awarded to Palm Coast residents and businesses. The CID for Palm Coast is 120684. Call your insurance company and verify the CID being used for your policy.

Flood maps and flood protection references are available at the City's website, www.ci.palm-coast.fl.us, and the Flagler County Public Library in Palm Coast. For information, call Constance Bentley, Certified Floodplain Manager for the City of Palm Coast, at (386) 986-3736.



Preventing Flood Damage

One way to minimize flood damage is to make sure your lot is graded to drain away from your house and toward an existing drainage way (i.e. front yard swale). Contact the City Building Department before altering, regrading, filling or building on your property. A permit is needed to ensure that projects do not cause flooding problems on your property or anyone else's property.

You can make your walls waterproof and place water-tight closures under the doorways. This method is not recommended for houses with basements or if water will reach more than 2 feet deep. Another approach is to modify the structure and relocate the contents so that when floodwaters enter there is little or no damage.

You can help the City with its drainage system maintenance program by not dumping or throwing anything into the ditches, swales or canals. This is a violation of City ordinances. Even grass clippings and branches can accumulate and block stormwater flow. A plugged ditch or canal cannot carry water away, resulting in overspill onto your property.

If you see dumping or debris in the ditches or canals, contact Customer Service at (386)986-2360 or visit: www.ci.palm-coast.fl.us



Wildfires



BEFORE

Preplan your evacuation.

Emergency officials will make every attempt to alert residents as far in advance as possible, but there may be little or no notice of the impending danger of a wildfire.

All residents are encouraged to create an evacuation plan that includes routes, a meeting place and emergency contact (preferably someone well outside the area).

Having an emergency supply kit ready will make immediate evacuation easier and quicker. When planning an evacuation route, have more than one route planned in the event that an area is blocked. Use main arteries and avoid “short cuts” on less traveled routes. Emergency service personnel will monitor safety on the main arteries and surveillance of lesser-known streets will take a back seat.

Upon leaving your home, turn off all utilities at the main switches including electric, gas, propane tanks and water. Time permitting, unplug all electrical outlets and turn off all light switches. This will prevent problems when power is restored.

DURING

DO NOT PANIC. Proceed calmly and quickly with your pre-planned evacuation.

Remember to take care of your own needs first and then tend to other family members.

After leaving the evacuation area, make

emergency contacts. Make the calls brief as others will be attempting to do the same and lines may be tied up.

If you are severely injured, or in imminent threat of danger, call 911 for assistance. Please do not call the Fire Department directly.

Monitor radio and television for current information. The media will work closely with emergency officials to ensure the most up-to-date information is available. Do not return to your home or business until instructed to do so.

AFTER

Upon returning home you may be asked to make a cursory inspection to assess damage. In this case, re-entry passes may be issued allowing one vehicle per household to enter the area.

Please do not turn on utilities until given an all clear. Assess your home for hazards and if problems exist that endanger you and your family, leave the structure until proper repairs have been made.

Do not place yourself or your family in a dangerous situation.





Fire Safety

**In an emergency,
CALL 911 FOR ASSISTANCE.**

Do not call the Fire Department directly. All emergency vehicles and services are dispatched through the 911 system. Not using this service could delay response.

Calls for assistance are answered as quickly as possible. Responses to the most critical situations are handled with priority. If there is a delay in response time, it is because the Fire Department is handling a more urgent situation and will respond accordingly.

- The Fire Department cannot drain flooded homes, pools or drainage ditches, and does not handle tree/limb removal.
- The Fire Department only responds to downed power lines to secure the area until Florida Power and Light arrives. It does not handle electrical problems.
- Sand bags will be made available to residents as needed. Locations will be announced through local media at that time.
- When the power fails, turn off light switches and unplug all electrical connections. This will prevent hazards when power is restored. If you evacuate, turn off water, electricity, propane, etc. at appropriate mains.
- Grills and camp stoves should only be used outside in a well ventilated area, away from buildings. Do not leave grills or camp stoves unattended and extinguish the flame when you are finished cooking. Code Enforcement bans all open burning; any fire used for cooking purposes must be contained.
- Avoid the use of candles and other open flame situations. It is easy to leave candles unattended and the result can be devastating. Have plenty of battery operated lighting options available.
- Generators should be wired by licensed electricians. Use generators in well ventilated areas outside.



Prevent Wildfires

Flagler County is in a wildfire hazard area.

Wildfires always have been a part of nature and they always will be.

Various ignition factors start fires, including lightning, burning without a permit, catalytic converters on cars coming in contact with dry grass, and arson.

To help protect residents from the effects of a wildfire, the Palm Coast Wildfire Mitigation Ordinance states that any vacant property owner has a responsibility to underbrush mow any vegetation deemed a fire hazard that is within 30 feet of an adjacent structure.

Vegetation that is considered a hazard are saw palmetto, gallberry, wax myrtle and cedar that is an average height of more than 3 or 4 feet and densely populated.

If there is a vacant lot next to your house, call Palm Coast Code Enforcement at (386) 986-3758 with concerns.

BE FIRE WISE

- Store firewood, propane tanks and gasoline away from the house.
- Clean gutters and roofs of leaves and pine needles.
- Install spark arresters on chimney flues.
- Install wire mesh screening to prevent burning embers from blowing under decks.
- Remove vines that allow a fire access to the tree canopy.
- Elevate tree branches off the roof of the house.
- Remove leaves from shrubbery beds and dead branches from trees. Mow and trim grass and shrubs.
- When planting, keep a clear space at plant maturity of at least 2 or 3 feet from the house.

After The Disaster

■ Do not turn on utilities until instructed to do so. Stay indoors until it is safe to come out. If you have sustained damage that makes staying in your home a threat, find alternate shelter and have a professional assess and repair damage.

■ When you do go out, avoid loose or dangling power lines and immediately report them to Florida Power and Light.

■ Although Bright House Networks' cable lines do not carry any electricity and cannot cause an electric shock, many of the lines are connected to power poles and may come into contact with live power as a result of storm damage. It is extremely dangerous for anyone to go near those lines. Once power has been restored to an area, Bright House Networks' crews will move in to reconstruct lines and restore services as quickly as possible.

■ Stay away from flooded areas. Flood waters may last for days following a hurricane. If you cannot discern the depth of standing water do not attempt to drive through or wade into it. Water that appears to be calm on the surface may have a very strong undercurrent and pose a significant danger. If water is moving swiftly, even water 6 inches deep can sweep you off your feet.

■ Do not let children play around high water, storm drains or ditches. Besides the danger of drowning, backed up sewage and possible toxic runoff make this water unhealthy.

■ If you reside in an area that is evacuated, do not return until an "All Clear" has been announced through local media. In areas of heavy damage, re-entry may be controlled by special permit, pass or documentation in order to verify property ownership.

■ One vehicle per household will be allowed to enter and make a cursory inspection to assess damage.

■ Once you return you should carefully check for structural damage prior to entering the building. Use caution when entering. Look before you step. After a flood, the ground and floors are covered with debris including broken bottles and nails. Floors and stairs can be slippery.

■ If you have been advised that utilities have been restored, turn electricity on one breaker at a time and watch for smoke or sparks. Be alert for gas leaks. Use a flashlight to inspect for damage.

■ Never smoke or use candles, lanterns, matches or open flames unless you know the gas has been properly turned off and the entire area is ventilated.

■ Clean everything that got wet. Flood waters have picked up sewage and chemicals from roads, commercial properties and storage buildings. Spoiled food, flooded cosmetics and medicines can be health hazards. When in doubt, throw it out.



Food Preparation & Safety

**Your electricity is out.
You have thawed food that cannot be refrozen.
Your family is hungry.**

- Food safety is more important than ever.
- Use safe water for cooking.
- Food kept in a closed, full freezer will be safe for about 48 hours. A closed refrigerator should keep food safe for about four hours. If the temperature rises above 41 degrees in your refrigerator or freezer, discard all perishable food.
- Throw away all food that has been exposed to flood waters. This includes food in cans, plastic, glass and cardboard containers.
- Discard all paper, wood, or plastic items that

contain food or are used in food preparation that have had contact with flood waters.

- Clean and sanitize all food preparation surfaces as well as the inside of your refrigerator and freezer before use.
- Wash and sanitize all utensils before use: Completely immerse them in clean water and bring it to a rolling boil for 1 minute; allow to cool, remove, and air dry prior to use; or immerse them in clean water (room temperature) containing 2 teaspoons of unscented chlorine bleach per quart or 3 tablespoons unscented chlorine bleach per gallon for 15 minutes; remove and air dry prior to use.
- Wash your hands with clean water and soap before handling foods and after handling contaminated surfaces.
- Use paper/plastic items for serving foods until running water is available.

Debris Removal

- Questions about debris removal, flooding or downed trees should be directed to the City's Customer Service Department at 386-986-2360.
- Depending on the severity of the damage, debris pick-up following a storm will either be collected by Public Works personnel or through a debris management company contracted by the City or County. In either case, debris should be placed curbside as soon as possible following the storm.
- Care should be taken not to place debris in the roadway or obstruct fire hydrants, mailboxes, swales or ditches.
- Yard waste must be bagged or bundled for collection. Excessive tree debris may be collected as an expanded service.

■ Heavy rains that are common with many types of storms will cause flooding in swales. It is important to remember that the swale is designed to hold water.

- Garbage collection will resume its normal schedule as soon as possible following any event. Your household solid waste, recyclables and yard waste can be placed in its normal location for collection on scheduled days.
- Call your Customer Service Department to report traffic signal outages, downed street signs and stop signs, and trees that are down in the right-of-way.
- Do not go near or touch downed power lines whether they appear to be live or not. Call Florida Power and Light at 1-800-4-OUTAGE.





Natural disasters come in all sizes...

Whether a nasty fall, cough and cold, upset stomach, or cuts and bruises, Florida Hospital Flagler's Urgent Care has a plan in place for your family. We treat children and adults, accept most insurance plans, and offer extended hours, with no appointment required.

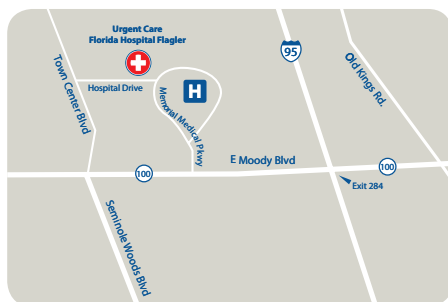
When to go to Florida Hospital Flagler's Urgent Care Walk-In Clinic

- You have the flu or a stomachache
- You have a sore throat or cold
- You have an earache
- You need an X-ray or stitches
- You're concerned you may have a broken bone

Welcome Sirpa Autio, MD!



Dr. Autio is board certified in Family Medicine and has joined Florida Hospital Flagler as the primary physician at the Urgent Care. She is fluent in English, Spanish, Finnish, and German.



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