

2011-12

Presented by Putnam County  
Emergency Management

# ALL HAZARDS GUIDE

- Prepare
- Plan
- Stay Informed





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[www.putnam-fl.com](http://www.putnam-fl.com)

***Residents and Visitors of Putnam County:***

*Are you ready? In the last seven years Putnam County has received five (5) federal disaster declarations and has witnessed hazards ranging from wildfires and hurricanes to tornados and flooding.*

*This year, we will continue to promote a culture of preparedness across Putnam County. Every citizen can do his part by taking the time to learn about the different hazards Floridians could encounter. Get a plan, restock emergency supplies, purchase an all-hazard weather radio, and be ready to act when threatening weather approaches your community. Please read and share this informative guidebook with your family, friends and coworkers. The time spent now to prepare and to develop a plan could save your life and your family's lives in the future.*

*Be assured that Putnam County works hard on a daily basis to prepare, respond, recover and mitigate a disaster. However, if you take steps to ensure your family is prepared for any emergency, it will make our job much easier!*

*Sincerely,  
**Quin Romay,**  
Chief of Emergency  
Preparedness and Operations*



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## EMERGENCY PHONENUMBERS

**FOR EMERGENCY DIAL ..... 911**  
 Putnam County  
 Emergency Operations Center ..... 386-329-0379

### UTILITIES

Clay Electric Co-op..... 888-434-9844  
 FPL..... 800-468-8243  
 Comcast Cable..... 386-328-1567

### WATERWORKS

City of Palatka ..... 386-329-0109  
 (after hrs & weekends call Sheriff Dept. 386-329-0800)  
 Town of Interlachen ..... 386-684-3811  
 City of Crescent City..... 386-698-2525  
 Town of Welaka ..... 386-467-8677  
 Putnam County Regional Water ..... 386-326-7289

### NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Putnam County Emergency Management..... 386-329-0379  
 Putnam County Emergency Medical Services .....386-329-0892  
 Putnam County Fire Services.....386-329-0479  
 City of Palatka .....386-329-0100  
 Putnam County Sheriff .....386-329-0800  
 Town of Welaka .....386-467-3171  
 Town of Pomona Park .....386-649-4902  
 City of Crescent City.....386-698-2525  
 Florida Department of Health .....386-326-3200  
 Public Safety.....386-329-0379  
 Animal Control.....386-329-0396  
 American Red Cross .....904-358-8091  
 Florida Division of Forestry Burn Authorizations.....352-955-2010

### IMPORTANT WEBSITES

Putnam County Emergency Operations .... [www.putnamalert.com](http://www.putnamalert.com)  
 Putnam County..... [www.putnam-fl.com](http://www.putnam-fl.com)  
 Putnam County Board of County Commissioners .....  
 .....[www.putnam-fl.com/bocc](http://www.putnam-fl.com/bocc)  
 Putnam County Sheriff's Office ..... [www.pcsso.us](http://www.pcsso.us)  
 Florida Department of Health ..... <http://doh.state.fl.us>  
 Putnam County Health Department..... [www.doh.state.fl.us](http://www.doh.state.fl.us)  
 Florida Division of Emergency Management.....  
 ..... [www.floridadisaster.org/index.asp](http://www.floridadisaster.org/index.asp)  
 Florida Division of Forestry ..... <http://www.fl-dof.com/index.html>  
 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).....  
 ..... [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)  
 Florida Department of Law Enforcement..... [www.fdle.state.fl.us](http://www.fdle.state.fl.us)  
 U.S. Department of Homeland Security ..... [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov)  
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ..... [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)  
 Florida Power and Light..... <http://www.fpl.com>  
 Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. .... <http://www.clayelectric.com>  
 Putnam County School District..... <http://www.putnamschools.org>  
 National Hurricane Center ..... <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>

# EMERGENCY CHECKLIST

- A supply of bottled water (one gallon per person per day). Store water in sealed unbreakable containers. Identify the storage date and replace every six months.
- A supply of non-perishable, high-energy packaged foods and canned foods (at least a three-day supply).
- Water purification tablets (halazone).
- A manual can opener and utility knife.
- Disposable plates, cups, utensils and paper towels.
- A change of clothing, rain gear, sturdy shoes, hat and gloves.
- Blankets or sleeping bags.
- A first-aid kit and prescription medications (a two-week supply) and vitamins.
- Map of area.
- Paper and pencil.
- A battery-powered radio, 2-inch to 5-inch TV, flashlight and plenty of extra batteries.
- Credit cards, cash and traveler's checks.
- An extra set of car keys.
- An extra flashlight & batteries.
- A list of family physicians.
- A list of important family information, such as the style and serial number of medical devices such as pacemakers.
- Photo I.D. with address, family records, medical records, insurance policies and warranties.
- Special items for elderly, disabled or infants — such as disposable diapers, powdered milk.
- Booster cables for car.
- Signal flare.
- Compass.
- Fire extinguisher (5 pound, A-B-C type).
- Waterproof matches.
- Charcoal and lighter fluid.
- Pet food and supplies.
- Masking or duct tape.
- Non-electric clock.
- Ice chest and ice.
- Lamp or lantern with fuel supply.
- Portable outdoor camping stove or grill with fuel supply.
- Plastic trash bags and sealable plastic bags of various sizes.
- Plastic sheeting.
- Chlorinated bleach and hand-washable clothes detergent.
- Mosquito repellent.
- Film and camera.
- Hand-held or battery-operated fans.
- Extra pots and plastic storage containers.
- Heavy-duty aluminum foil.
- Sunscreen.
- Spare glasses and contact lens solution.
- A list of phone numbers for family and friends.
- Change for vending machines and pay phones.
- For women, feminine hygiene products and birth control pills.
- Retainers or orthodontic supplies for those with braces.
- A non-electric razor and shaving cream.
- Toilet paper.
- Cell phone and extra batteries.



# PUTNAM COUNTY SHELTERS

## WHAT TO BRING...

- Clothing - one complete change of clothing including footwear; rain gear
- Bedding - Sleeping bag, blanket and pillow.
- Food - If you have the need for special foods. High energy foods such as peanut butter, jelly, crackers, granola bars if you get hungry between meals.
- Baby food and formula if needed, extra nipples and bottles.
- Personal Items - washcloth, small towel, soap, toothbrush, sanitary napkins, towelettes, diapers, baby wipes, etc.
- Medications. First Aid Supplies - medications clearly marked with your name, dosage, type of medications and prescribing physician. You must be able to take all medications by yourself. Any dressing changes needed.
- Important papers - Identification and valuable papers (insurance documents, etc). Name and address of doctors. Name and address of nearest relative not living in area.
- Miscellaneous - Cell phone. Games, cards, toys, battery powered radios, flashlights, batteries.
- Take a bath and eat before you leave home if possible. Register immediately upon entering shelter.



**Legend**

0 2 4 Miles

- Putnam County Hurricane Shelters
- Putnam County Evacuation Routes
- Putnam County Major Roads
- Major Lakes, Waterways
- Putnam County Boundary

-WEST PUTNAM-

-CENTRAL PUTNAM-

-SOUTH PUTNAM-

Interlachen Elementary School  
American Red Cross Shelter  
251 S. State Rd. 315 Interlachen, FL

Ochwilla Elementary School  
American Red Cross Shelter/ Pet Shelter  
299 N. State Rd. 21 Hawthorne, FL

Q.I. Roberts Middle School  
American Red Cross Shelter  
901 State Road 100 Florahome, FL

BrowningPearce Elementary School  
American Red Cross Shelter  
100 Bear Blvd. San Mateo, FL

Palatka High School  
Place of Refuge  
302 Mellon Rd Palatka, FL

Jenkins Middle School  
Place of Refuge  
1100 N.19 St. Palatka, FL

Kelley Smith Elementary School  
Special Needs Shelter  
1411 Kelley Smith School Rd. Palatka, FL

Middleton-Burney Elementary School  
American Red Cross Shelter  
1020 Huntington Rd. Crescent City, FL

Crescent City Jr./Sr. High School  
Place of Refuge  
2201 S. Highway 17 Crescent City, FL

Map Created by the Putnam County GIS Office with  
Dept. of Emergency Management on June 8, 2011.  
Projection of the data: NAD 1983 State Plane  
Florida East FIPS 0901 Feet  
Created in ESRI ArcMap 9.2®  
Copyright © 2008 Putnam County GIS Office.

For more information -please contact the  
Dept. of Emergency Management  
410 S.SR 19 Palatka, FL. 32177  
(386) 329-0379.

Information on this map is provided for purposes of  
discussion and visualization only.



**Putnam County, Florida  
Hurricane Shelters & Evacuation Routes**

# SPECIAL NEEDS INSTRUCTIONS

Any citizen of Putnam County requiring any type of assistance during an emergency situation should fill out a Special Needs registration form. This form is available on the county website or by calling (386) 329-0379.

## There are 3 levels of Evacuation Assistance Available.

1. Someone who requires transportation only to one of our Public Shelters.
2. Someone who has a special medical need that requires a Special Needs Shelter, but does not require transportation assistance.
3. Someone who has a special medical need that requires a Special Needs Shelter, as well as requiring transportation assistance.

You must meet a certain medical criteria to be assigned to a Special Needs Shelter. Special Needs Shelters are for people with a pre-approved medical need. Please review the information below regarding what is and what is not available at a Special Needs Shelter.

## We Do Not

Putnam County DOES NOT EVACUATE residents of nursing homes, convalescent homes, retirement homes, assisted living facilities, or other group facilities to the Special Needs shelter. The management of these facilities are required by Florida law to have an approved plan for an organized group evacuation of their own residents to a comparable facility in order to maintain their continuity of care. The Registry Program for Special Needs residents is designed to provide evacuation assistance only for those individuals with pre-approved medical need, not living in an assisted facility and have no other alternatives available to them. If you require ambulance transportation and / or hospital facilities YOU must make those arrangements yourself.

Animals may accompany you to the Ochwilla Elementary School Shelter only. Please make prior arrangements to pre-

pare and kennel them if needed.

## We Can Not Support

**Hospital Bed Patients:** For those confined to a bed, beds and hospital beds will not be available. Military style cots are available, but in a limited number. If you require a hospital bed, you may find it necessary to make arrangements to evacuate outside the county for your personal comfort.

**Dialysis Patients:** There will be NO DIALYSIS TREATMENTS at any Evacuation Shelter. You need to verify with your dialysis center that they will be operational up to, and immediately following, any emergency events. If they will not be operational, you should make arrangements to stay outside the evacuation area near your backup dialysis center. We are unable to transport sheltered to backup dialysis centers located outside of Putnam County.

**Ventilator Patients:** We cannot support ventilator patients. You must make arrangements with a hospital or facility that can support your medical needs outside the evacuation area.

**Tracheotomy Patients:** No suctioning equipment is available. There will be no medical staff available to perform this procedure. You must make arrangements with a hospital or facility that can support your medical needs outside the evacuation area.

**Hoyer Lifts:** For those who require a Hoyer Lift, they will not be available. If you require a Hoyer Lift, you will need to make arrangements with a hospital or facility that can support your medical needs outside the evacuation area.

**S p e c i a l  
T r a n s p o r t a t i o n**

**Requests:** We do not transport to specialized hospitals or treatment centers. If you are required to go to a special facility, you need to make arrangements for transport to that facility prior to a disaster.

## Registration

If you require any form of assistance, you may register with us either online or by mail. We have an On-Line Request Form, a printable Request Form; or you may contact the Putnam County Department of Health at 386-326-3200 or Putnam County Emergency Management at (386) 329-0379, and we will mail a Request Form to your home for you to fill out and return.

It is important to fill out this form as completely and as accurately as possible to insure that we can meet your specialized needs in an efficient manner.

## After You Are Registered

Once you are registered for the Special Needs Program, we ask that you help us to help you by keeping us informed of any changes to your needs. We can not keep your information accurate and up to date if we are not notified. It is also important that if you no longer need our help, or if you are moving, that you notify us.

Having up-to-date information will help to make the evacuation and sheltering process less difficult.





# PutnamAlert.com

## Keeping Citizens Informed

### What is PutnamAlert.com?

- A Website where Putnam County residents may register for the County notification system that is used to send critical communications, from evacuation notices to missing child alerts
- A site where County residents may obtain emergency information provided by the Putnam County Emergency Operations Center
- Where County residents may download the Emergency Management Daily Situation Report

### How it Works.

- Emergency Management staff will use the County notification system to call residents in the event of a potential or pending emergency
- Notification system is used to send critical communications such as evacuation notices, missing child alerts, and more
- Notification system will automatically contact Putnam County residents who have published residential phone numbers and those who have registered at PutnamAlert.com
- Residents must subscribe to register contact preferences such as email, cell phone, SMS address and other contact preferences

### Make Sure YOU get the Call.

To ensure you receive notifications, go to [www.putnamalert.com](http://www.putnamalert.com) and enter your contact information, including multiple phone numbers, text and email addresses.

Your contact information remains private and will only be used for community notifications.

# PETS AND LIVESTOCK

## Ochwilla Elementary School ready to shelter animal owners and pets in case of disaster.



Again this year, a hurricane shelter for Putnam County residents and their pets is planned for Ochwilla Elementary School.

Space is limited to pets of those owners sheltered at Ochwilla.

Natural disasters have often resulted in the abandoning and displacement of family pets.

A lack of suitable shelter options often leaves owners to make the painful decision to leave their furry friend behind, hoping for the best.

Additional problems occur when people refuse to leave

their house because of their pets.

The shelter will house both pet owners and pets, yet separately.

The Red Cross will handle the registration and care of people and volunteers will run the pet side.

Dogs, cats, birds, ferrets, rabbits, and pocket pets are allowed. No exotics or reptiles.

Owners will have to provide their own pet food and other pet supplies such as cages and crates. Proper paperwork will be required as will emergency contact

information. Dogs, cats, and ferrets need up-to-date rabies vaccination. A picture of pet with owner for ID purposes is highly recommended.

Walking of pets and one-on-one time will be regulated based on the storm's threat.

As long as the crisis is still approaching or has passed, people will be able to walk their dogs.

*Those interested in volunteering for the pet shelter can contact the Emergency Operations Center at 386-329-0379*

# HORSES AND LIVESTOCK

The leading causes of death of large animals in hurricanes are collapsed barns, dehydration, electrocution and accidents resulting from fencing failure.

### Evacuation:

Make arrangements in advance to have your horse trailered in case of emergency. If you do not own a trailer or do not have space for all your horses be sure to have people on stand by to help evacuate your horses.

Know where you can take your horses in an emergency evacuation. If planning to board horses, you must call early as these places fill quickly.

Place your horses' current Coggins tests, veterinary pa-

pers, identification photographs and vital information such as medical history, veterinarian and family phone numbers in a watertight envelope. Keep these papers in a safe place.

Keep halters ready for your horse. Each halter should have the following information: horse's name, your name, your telephone number and another emergency phone number where someone can be reached. During a hurricane, trees can fall on fences, allowing horses to run free. This information is important for those evacuating as well as those who must leave their horses behind.

Have on hand a supply of wa-

ter, hay, feed and medications for at least three days.

If your horse does not trailer often, practice the procedure now so they can become accustomed to it. Do not wait for an evacuation to practice trailer loading.

### Livestock

Evacuate animals as soon as possible. For a hurricane, leave no later than 72 hours before anticipated landfall, especially if hauling a high profile trailer. If there are high winds, it may not be possible to evacuate.

Arrange for a place to shelter your animals. Take all your disaster supplies with you or make sure they will be available at your evacuation site. You

should have or be able to readily obtain feed, water, veterinary supplies, handling equipment, tools and generators if necessary.

If your animals are sheltered off your property, make sure they remain in groupings they are used to.

Have a current list of animals including location and records of feeding and tests. Make sure you have proof of ownership for all the animals.

Have supplies for temporary identification of your animals such as plastic neck bands and permanent makers to label your animals with your name, address and telephone number.

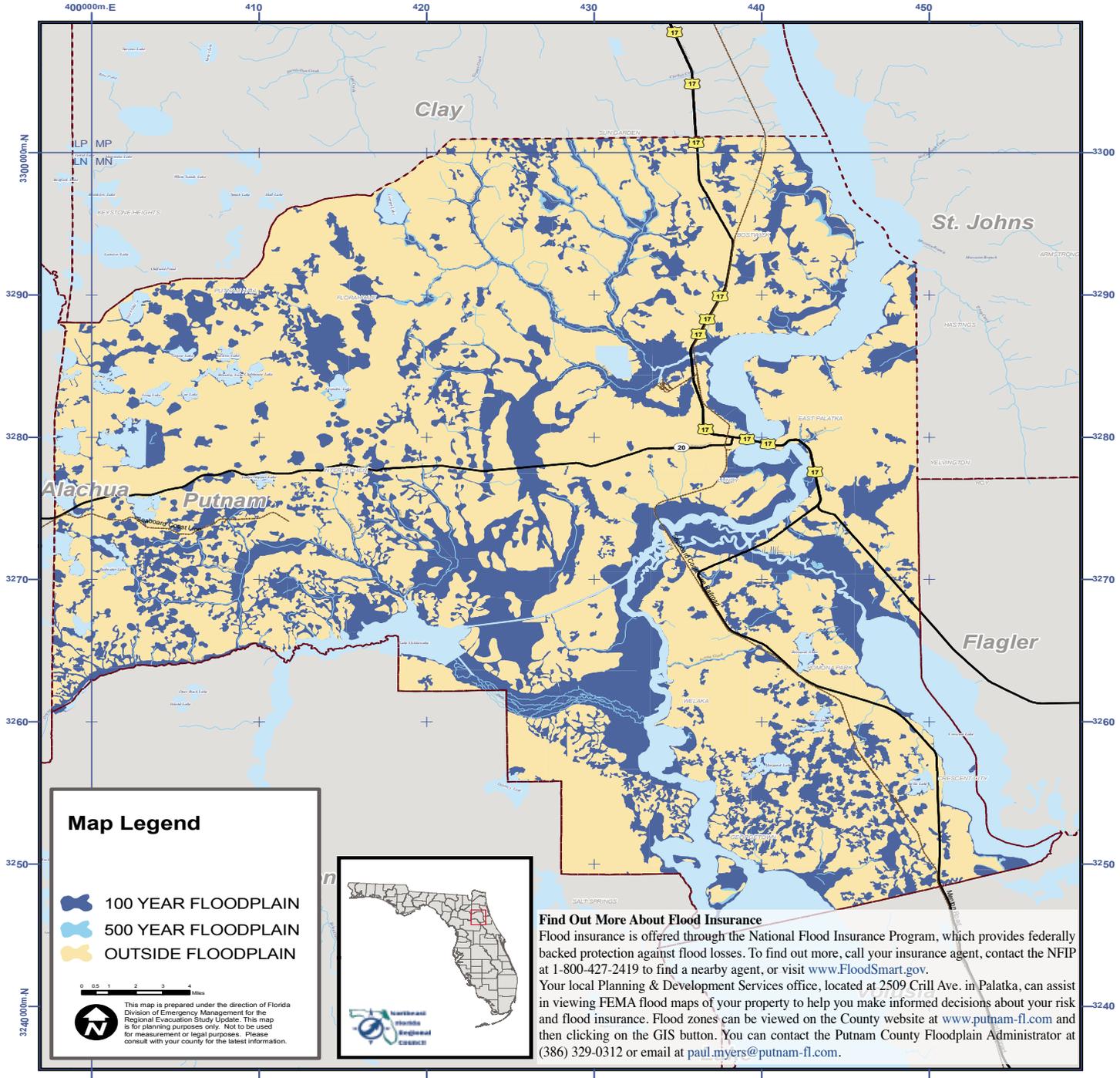
# PUTNAM COUNTY FLOOD PLAINS



## Putnam County

### Map IVF - 3 FEMA FIRM Floodplains





### Map Legend

- 100 YEAR FLOODPLAIN
- 500 YEAR FLOODPLAIN
- OUTSIDE FLOODPLAIN

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles

This map is prepared under the direction of Florida Division of Emergency Management for the Regional Evacuation Study Update. This map is for planning purposes only. Not to be used for measurement or legal purposes. Please consult with your county for the latest information.



**Northwest Florida Regional Emergency**

**Find Out More About Flood Insurance**  
 Flood insurance is offered through the National Flood Insurance Program, which provides federally backed protection against flood losses. To find out more, call your insurance agent, contact the NFIP at 1-800-427-2419 to find a nearby agent, or visit [www.FloodSmart.gov](http://www.FloodSmart.gov). Your local Planning & Development Services office, located at 2509 Crill Ave. in Palatka, can assist in viewing FEMA flood maps of your property to help you make informed decisions about your risk and flood insurance. Flood zones can be viewed on the County website at [www.putnam-fl.com](http://www.putnam-fl.com) and then clicking on the GIS button. You can contact the Putnam County Floodplain Administrator at (386) 329-0312 or email at [paul.myers@putnam-fl.com](mailto:paul.myers@putnam-fl.com).



# 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 with little warning.

Six inches of water can knock you off 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.



## 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, personal emergency supplies and insurance papers. When evacuating, take property identification and important personal papers and documents.

## During and After

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

Have electricity turned off by the power company. 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 glass and nails. Floors and stairs that have been covered with mud can be slippery.

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.

## 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).

You can make your walls waterproof and place watertight 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 ditches, swales or canals. 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.

## Do you have flood insurance?

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

You may want to include the contents of your house on a flood insurance policy as most policies do not cover the contents. Call your insurance company and inquire about options for your policy.



# HURRICANE EVACUATION ZONES

## What is a Hurricane Evacuation Zone?

A hurricane evacuation zone is a geographic area that has been identified to protect public safety based on the potential for storm surge. Storm surge is historically the most deadly of all hurricane hazards. If a hurricane evacuation occurs, it will be ordered by Zone (A, B, C,) as shown on these color-coded maps. Other evacuations may be ordered for residents that live in manufactured homes. Stay aware of information provided by Putnam County Emergency Management for all information that pertains to evacuations. Plan ahead. Page 5 of this guide includes a map that shows the locations of evacuation routes and public shelters.

## Do you know Your Zone?

In order to know if officials have ordered an evacuation for hurricane surge flooding in your area, you must KNOW if your home is with an evacuation zone. If your residence is located on one of the referenced streets you may be located within a hurricane evacuation zone. If you need assistance in locating your zone, evacuation route, or evacuation shelter, contact Putnam County Emergency Management at 386-329-0379.

## What if a hurricane evacuation order is issued?

Determine if your residence is affected by the evacuation order (does it include

your evacuation zone or do you live in a mobile or manufactured home?)

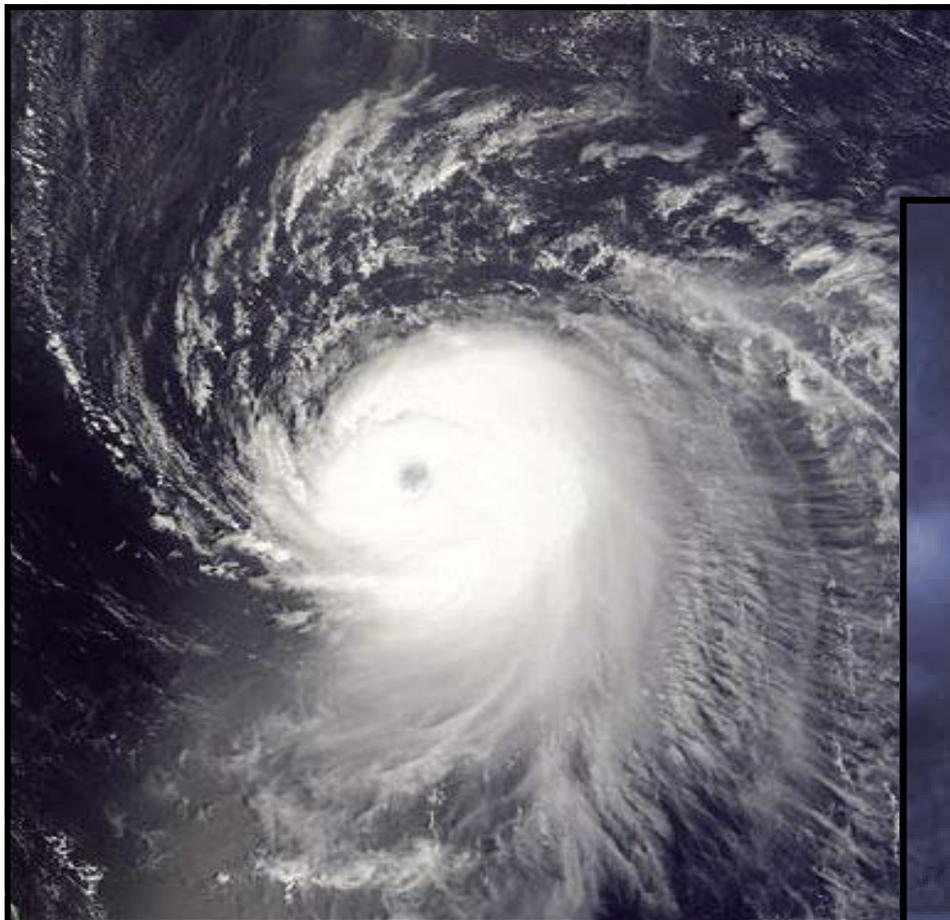
If you are evacuating locally, get to your shelter location within a few hours of the evacuation order. Be sure to check which public shelters are open. (See pages 12 and 13)

If you are traveling out of the local area, leave as quickly as possible to avoid traffic jams.

If you are not required to evacuate, prepare your home for the event and stay off the roads to enable evacuation traffic to clear the area.

Bring the items listed on the "Emergency Checklist", which you can print from this guide.

Bring ID. You may need to show proof of residence to re-enter an evacuation area once the all clear is given.





# HURRICANES

## 2011 STORM NAMES

ARLENE  
BRET  
CINDY  
DON  
EMILY  
FRANKLIN  
GERT  
HARVEY  
IRENE  
JOSE  
KATIA  
LEE  
MARIA  
NATE  
OPHELIA  
PHILIPPE  
RINA  
SEAN  
TAMMY  
VINCE  
WHITNEY

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 150 mph and can affect millions of people in their paths.

Hurricanes bring many threats including storm surge, winds, heavy rain and tornados.

## BEFORE

Hurricanes pose a tremendous threat to life and property. It is essential to learn the preparedness basics before a hurricane strikes.

Being prepared and having a plan is your bet protection against hurricanes.

- Have a disaster supply kit ready.
- Reinforce exterior doors and windows. These are the protective shell of your home. If your home’s protective shell is broken, high winds can enter and put pressure on your roof and walls, causing damage.
- Tree preparation: Look for potential hazards, such as cracks in the trunk or major limbs, hanging limbs, improperly formed branches, one-sided or significantly leaning trees, branches that may rub the house, or hollow and decayed trees.
- Understand the threats associated with a hurricane:

**Storm Surge:** Hurricane winds can create storm surge heights up to 30-feet above normal wave heights. Storm surge is the deadliest hurricane hazard. Remember, run from the surge, and hide from the winds.

Storm surge is the reason mandatory evacuations are issued in areas where ocean flood-

ing 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.

**Tornados:** Hurricanes and tropical storms that make landfall can produce numerous small tornados. 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 are miles inland.

## 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 when conditions become unsafe.
- Stay inside, away from windows, skylights, and glass doors.
- Do not go outside when the eye passes over, winds and rain will soon resume.

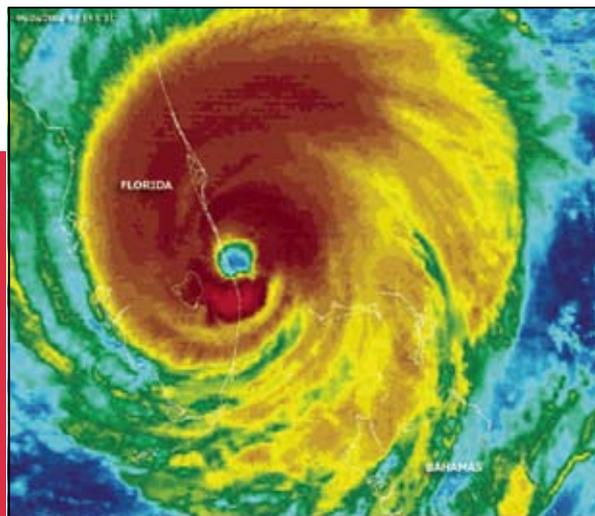
## SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO?

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

If you live anywhere in a mobile home or manufactured home or recreational vehicle be prepared to LEAVE Mobile homes, manufactured homes and recreational vehicles must be evacuated for any hurricane

county wide. Even if you live inland and have tie downs, these buildings will not withstand hurricane conditions or wind-borne debris of any force. Most wind related fatalities are in mobile and manufactured homes.

If you live in a newer, well-constructed home consider STAYING.





in doubt, throw it out. Dispose of food waste as soon as possible.

- Wash hands often with soap and water.
- Separate yard trash from household trash.

## AFTER

■ Protect yourself and family first. If in a safe location, stay there until directed by local authorities. If you evacuated the community, do not return until authorities say it is safe.

■ Stay away from downed power lines.

■ 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.

■ 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. Watch out for wildlife in flooded area.

■ Once you return, carefully check for structural damage prior to entering the building. Use caution when entering. Look before you step. The ground and floors are covered with debris including broken bottles and nails. Floors and stairs can be slippery. Beware of insects and animals driven to higher ground by floodwaters.

■ Protect your home and property from further damage.

■ Open windows and doors to ventilate and dry your home.

■ 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.

■ 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.

■ When 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, use candles, lanterns or matches 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 chemical from roads, commercial properties and storage buildings.

■ Spoiled food, flooded cosmetics, and medicines can be health hazards. When

## FOOD PREPARATION AND SAFETY

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

Food safety is more important than ever.

Be fire safe.

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 F in your refrigerator or freezer, discard all perishable food.

Throw away all food that has been exposed to floodwaters. 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 and 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 item in clean water (room temperature) containing 2 teaspoons of 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.

Source: University of Florida IFAS Extension

## HURRICANE CATEGORIES



**CATEGORY 1**  
Sustained Winds -  
74-95 mph

Damage -  
Minimal: Unanchored  
mobile homes, vegeta-  
tion and signs



**CATEGORY 2**  
Sustained Winds -  
96-110 mph

Damage -  
Moderate: All mobile  
homes, roofs, small  
craft, flooding



**CATEGORY 3**  
Sustained Winds -  
110-130 mph

Damage -  
Extensive: Small  
buildings, low-lying  
roads cut off



**CATEGORY 4**  
Sustained Winds -  
131-155 mph

Damage - Extreme:  
Roofs destroyed, trees  
down, roads cut off, mo-  
bile homes, destroyed,  
beach homes flooded



**CATEGORY 5**  
Sustained Winds -  
>155 mph

Damage: Catastrophic  
- Most buildings de-  
stroyed, vegetation  
destroyed, major roads  
cut off, homes flooded

# TORNADO DANGERS

## When is Florida's Tornado Season?

Florida has two Tornado Seasons.

The summer season, from June until September, has the highest frequencies with usual intensities of F0 or F1 on the Fujita Scale. This includes those tornados that form from landfalling Tropical Cyclones.

The deadly spring season, from February through April, is characterized by more powerful tornados because of the presence of the jet stream. When the jet stream digs south into Florida and is accompanied by a strong cold front and a strong squall line of thunderstorms, the jet stream's high level winds of 100 to 200 mph often strengthen a thunderstorm into what meteorologists call a supercell or mesocyclone. These powerful storms can move at speeds of 30 to 50 mph, produce dangerous downburst winds, large hail and the most deadly tornados.

## What Time Are Florida's Tornados Likely to Strike?

Florida tornado climatology shows us that strong to violent tornados are just as likely to occur after midnight as they are in the afternoon. This unique feature makes these tornados more dangerous because most people are asleep after midnight and cannot receive weather warnings relayed by commercial radio or television stations.

The solution to this is to have a NOAA Weather Radio in your home with a tone alert feature. This will allow you to receive warnings issued by your local National Weather Service office.

## What Actions Should You Take To Be Prepared?

- Build or identify a safe-room in your home
- Purchase and use a NOAA Weather Radio
- Inquire if your community is stormready.

## Key Safety Rules

### BEFORE

■ Have a plan well before time. If a tornado warning is issued, seek shelter in a small inter-

rior room or hallway on the lowest floor away from windows and get under a sturdy piece of furniture. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside.

■ Occasionally, tornados develop so rapidly that advance warning is not possible. Remain alert for signs of an approaching tornado such as a dark, often greenish sky, large hail, or a loud roar similar to a freight train.

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

■ Do not open windows.

■ Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornados. You should leave a mobile home 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.

■ If caught outside in a vehicle, do not try to outrun a tornado. Get out of the vehicle and seek safe shelter. Lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands.

### 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.

■ Be aware of flying debris. Flying debris from tornados causes most deaths and injuries.

### 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.

## THE FUJITA SCALE

The Fujita scale (F-scale) uses observed damage to determine a tornado's wind speed.

### F0

GALE < 72 mph

Some damage to chimneys. Tree branches broken off. Shallow rooted trees uprooted.

### F1

MODERATE 73 to 112 mph

Peels surface off roofs. Mobile homes overturned. Moving autos pushed off roads.

### F2

SIGNIFICANT 113 to 157 mph

Considerable damage. Roofs torn off frame houses. Large trees snapped or uprooted. Light-object missiles generated.

### F3

SEVERE 158 to 206 mph

Severe damage. Roofs and some walls torn off well constructed homes. Trains overturned. Most trees in forests uprooted. Heavy cars lifted off ground and thrown.

### F4

DEVASTATING 207 to 260 mph

Well-constructed houses leveled. Structures with weak foundations blown off some distance. Cars thrown and large missiles generated.

### F5

INCREDIBLE > 260 mph S

Strong frame houses lifted off foundations and disintegrated. Automobile-sized missiles fly through the air in excess of 100 mph. Trees debarked.

## WATCH VS WARNING

A **TORNADO WATCH** means conditions are favorable for severe weather.

A **TORNADO WARNING** means severe weather is occurring or has been detected by radar.



# THUNDERSTORMS AND LIGHTNING

All thunderstorms are dangerous. Every thunderstorm produces lightning. In the United States, an average of 300 people are injured and 80 people are killed each year by lightning. Although most lightning victims survive, people struck by lightning often report a variety of long-term, debilitating symptoms.

The following are facts about thunderstorms:

- They may occur singly, in clusters, or in lines.
- Some of the most severe occur when a single thunderstorm affects one location for an extended time.
- Thunderstorms typically produce heavy rain for a brief period, anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour.
- Warm, humid conditions are highly favorable for thunderstorm development.
- About 10 percent of thunderstorms are classified as severe—one that produces hail at least three-quarters of an inch in diameter, has winds of 58 miles per hour or higher, or produces a tornado.

**The following are facts about lightning:** Lightning's unpredictability increases the risk to individuals and property.

- Lightning often strikes outside of heavy rain and may occur as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall.
- "Heat lightning" is actually lightning from a thunderstorm too far away for thunder to be heard. However, the storm may be moving in your direction!
- Most lightning deaths and injuries occur when people are caught outdoors in the summer months during the afternoon and evening.
- Your chances of being struck by lightning are estimated to be 1 in 600,000, but could be reduced even further by following safety precautions.
- Lightning strike victims carry no electrical charge and should be attended to immediately.

## Know the Terms

**Severe Thunderstorm Watch:** Tells you when and where severe thunderstorms are likely to occur. Watch the sky and stay

tuned to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television for information.

**Severe Thunderstorm Warning:** Issued when severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property to those in the path of the storm.

## Take Protective Measures

### Before Thunderstorms and Lightning

To prepare for a thunderstorm, you should do the following:

- Remove dead or rotting trees and branches that could fall and cause injury or damage during a severe thunderstorm.
- Remember the 30/30 lightning safety rule: Go indoors if, after seeing lightning, you cannot count to 30 before hearing thunder. Stay indoors for 30 minutes after hearing the last clap of thunder.

### Thunderstorms

The following are guidelines for what you should do if a thunderstorm is likely in your area:

- Postpone outdoor activities.
- Get inside a home, building, or hard top automobile (not a convertible). Although you may be injured if lightning strikes your car, you are much safer inside a vehicle than outside.
- Remember, rubber-soled shoes and rubber tires provide NO protection from lightning. However, the steel frame of a hard-topped vehicle provides increased protection if you are not touching metal.
- Secure outdoor objects that could blow away or cause damage.
- Shutter windows and secure outside doors. If shutters are not available, close window blinds, shades, or curtains.
- Avoid showering or bathing. Plumbing and bathroom fixtures can conduct electricity.
- Use a corded telephone only for emergencies. Cordless and cellular telephones are safe to use.
- Unplug appliances and other electrical items such as computers and turn off air conditioners. Power

surges from lightning can cause serious damage.

■ Use your battery-operated NOAA Weather Radio for updates from local officials.

### Avoid the following:

- Natural lightning rods such as a tall, isolated tree in an open area.
- Hilltops, open fields, the beach, or a boat on the water.
- Isolated sheds or other small structures in open areas.
- Anything metal—tractors, farm equipment, motorcycles, golf carts, golf clubs, and bicycles.

### During a Thunderstorm If you are:

- In a forest: Seek shelter in a low area under a thick growth of small trees.
- In an open area: Go to a low place such as a ravine or valley. Be alert for flash floods.
- On open water: Get to land and find shelter immediately.
- Anywhere you feel your hair stand on end (which indicates that lightning is about to strike): Squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet. Place your hands over your ears and your head between your knees. Make yourself the smallest target possible and minimize your contact with the ground. DO NOT lie flat on the ground.





# WILDFIRES RISKS AND HAZARDS

## Wildland Urban Interface

Over the past fifty years, more and more Floridians have moved out of the cities to build homes and businesses in the outlying fringe areas known as the wildland urban interface. Residents here, however, usually don't realize they may live too "close to nature." They may, in fact, be living on the edge of a wildland fire disaster. When dry years come, Florida experiences severe wildfires – wildfires that destroy homes, disrupt people's lives and impact our community.

## Why Homes Burn

Wildland urban interface homes are usually lost because of the "little things" associated with the two most vulnerable parts of a home: the roof and the area immediately surrounding the structure. The most vulnerable part of the house is the roof and soffits. Wood shingles can easily catch fire from flying fire brands. Roofs with fire resistant shingles can

also catch fire from embers if there is an accumulation of leaves and pine needles on the roof and in the gutters. Exposed eaves can allow fire brands into the attic and catch the roof on fire. Vinyl soffits are not recommended in fire prone areas unless they have backing of 1/8" noncombustible (wire) mesh. They melt easily and can allow fire brands in the attic area.

## When Wildfire Threatens

Should your house be threatened by wildfire, you may be advised to evacuate by a fire or law enforcement official. Do not try to fight the fire yourself if you have been asked to evacuate the area.

## Protect Your Family

- Evacuate all family members as well as pets.
- Include special items needed for infant, elderly or disabled family members and pets.
- Contact a friend or relative and relay

your plans of where you are going.

- Tune into a local television or radio station and listen for updates and instructions.
  - Place valuable papers and mementos in the car.
  - Wear protective clothing – sturdy shoes, cotton, or woolen clothing, long pants, a long sleeved shirt, gloves and a handkerchief to protect your face.
  - Choose a route away from fire hazards. Watch for changes in the speed and direction of fire and smoke.
  - If you have time before you evacuate, take these steps to protect your home:
    - ◆ Protect the exterior of your home.
    - ◆ Close all exterior doors and windows.
    - ◆ Place combustible patio furniture in the house or garage.
    - ◆ Shut off propane at the tank or natural gas at the meter.
    - ◆ Make sure all garden hoses are connected to faucets and attach a nozzle set on "spray."
- Fill trash cans and other containers with water. Soak rags, towels or small rugs with water to use in beating out embers or small fires.

Consider placing lawn sprinklers on the roof if water pressure is adequate. Do not turn on water until burning embers begin to land on the roof in order to conserve the water supply.

Wet or remove shrubs within fifteen feet of the home.

## Protect the interior of your home.

Close all interior doors.

Leave a light on in each room to increase the visibility of your home in heavy smoke.

Remove lightweight and /or non-fire resistant curtains and other combustible materials from around windows.

If available, close fire resistant drapes, shutters or venetian blinds.

Turn off all pilot lights.

Move flammable furniture into the center of the home, away from windows





quired setbacks and there are no local, city or county ordinances in place that prohibit burning.

Check with your local, city and county officials to find out if there are any restrictions in your area.

**What Is Yard Waste?**

Yard waste is vegetative debris such as grass clippings, brush, leaves, tree limbs, palm fronds, etc., that are a result of yard maintenance.

make sure it is legal to burn in your area. Make sure you meet the required setbacks.

Clear an area down to bare soil around your pile to prevent your fire from spreading.

Burn only yard waste, no household garbage (includes paper products and newspapers).

Cover a non-combustible container with wire mesh to keep sparks from flying out and starting new fires.

Don't burn on windy days. Never leave a fire unattended. Keep a water hose or shovel handy in case your fire escapes.

Make sure your smoke does not obstruct visibility on nearby roads.

Be sure your fire is completely out before you leave.

Remember..if your fire escapes, you may be liable for costs of suppression and damage to the property of others.

If you have questions on outdoor burning, please contact your local Division of Forestry Office at 352-955-2010 or visit our website at "http://www.fl-dof.com" www.fl-dof.com.

and sliding glass doors. For more information, contact your local Division of Forestry Office at 352-955-2010 or log on to "http://www.fl-dof.com" www.fl-dof.com.

You may burn yard waste as long as: You meet the required setbacks and no local, city or county ordinances prohibit burning.

The yard waste was generated on your property and it will fit in an 8-foot diameter pile or non-combustible container.

Your fire is ignited after 9:00am Eastern Time and is extinguished one hour before sunset.

Smoke is not a hazard or nuisance.

NOTE: Piles greater than 8-feet in diameter will require an authorization from the Division of Forestry, must have suppression equipment on hand, and need to meet additional setback requirements.

It is illegal to burn household garbage (including paper products), treated lumber, plastics, rubber materials, tires, pesticides, paint and aerosol containers.

**Outdoor Burning Tips**

Check with your local Division of Forestry office to

**KNOW THE LAW**  
Before You Strike That Match  
in Florida

**Did You Know?**

Escaped debris burning is one of the leading causes of wildfires in Florida.

The Florida Division of Forestry administers Florida's outdoor burning and forest fire laws.

Some types of burning require an authorization from the Division of Forestry while others do not.

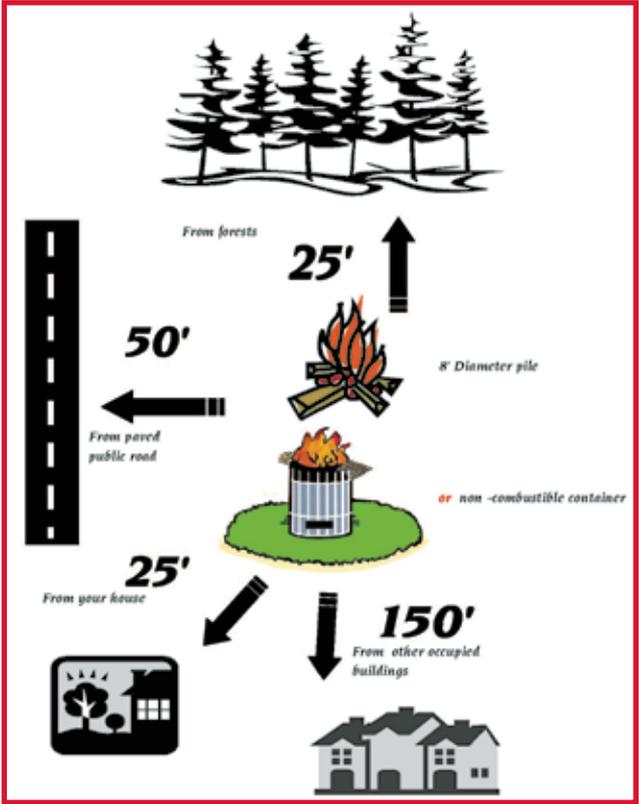
Burning yard waste does not require an authorization but you must follow the rules for your area.

**Burning Authorization Required**

Agricultural, silvicultural, land clearing, pile and acreage burning all require a burning authorization from the Division of Forestry.

**Burning Authorization Not Required**

Authorization is not required to burn yard waste as long as you meet the re-





# FIRE PREVENTION

## Fire Prevention and Safety

The Fire Prevention Division of Emergency Services is tasked with protecting the public from fire disasters through public education, code enforcement, and fire prevention and investigations. In natural disaster situations the Fire Prevention Division works in support of Emergency Management and fire personnel. There are many ways to protect your family, home, and business from fire before, during and after disasters strike.

## Before Disasters: Practice Fire Safety All Year Long

- Secure all gas cans and other flammables making them less accessible to vandals and arsonists
- Always stay alert when cooking and never leave cooking unattended
- Never leave candles burning overnight or when you leave home
- Be careful when smoking. Never smoke in bed and always fully extinguish smoking materials before discarding them
- Check your electrical outlets to ensure that circuits are not overloaded. Minimize the use of power strips, extension cords and outlet expanders
- Keep your grill a safe distance from your home and deck

## During Disasters: Listen to local media for specific information

- Be observant and report all suspicious activity to local authorities. Arson cases increase during and after disasters
- With an approaching hurricane unplug any out-

side electrical appliances and de-energize outside electrical circuits. Water can cause dangerous electrical shorts

- Use caution when fueling generators. Fuel spilling on hot engine parts may ignite and cause serious injuries
- Never use generators indoors. Lethal Carbon Monoxide can build up in your home

## After Disasters: Clean-up and Return to Normal

- Assist Emergency Responders by providing necessary information about damage to your home
- Report anything out of place in your community. A minor issue to you may be a major help to emergency personnel
- Ensure that all appliances and lights are turned off before power is restored. The sudden power draw can cripple elec-

trical systems that are being restored and may cause fires

- Always change the batteries in your smoke alarms TWICE each year. Install Carbon Monoxide Alarms in your home to alert you to the presence of this lethal and otherwise undetectable gas. Consider home fire sprinkler systems in all new home construction.





# TERRORISM

High-risk target for acts of terrorism include military and civilian government facilities, international airports, large cities, and high-profile landmarks. Terrorists might also target large public gatherings, water and food supplies, utilities, and corporate centers.

## Chemical Threats

Chemical agents are poisonous vapors, aerosols, liquids, and solids that have toxic effects on people, animals, or plants.

They can be released by bombs or sprayed from aircraft, boats, and vehicles. They can be used

as a liquid to create a hazard to people and the environment.

Some chemical agents may be odorless and tasteless.

They can have an immediate effect (a few seconds to a few minutes) or a delayed effect (two to 48 hours).

## Biological Threats

Biological agents are organisms or toxins that can kill or incapacitate people, livestock, and crops.

The three basic groups of biological agents that would likely be used as weapons are bacteria, viruses, and toxins.

Biological agents can be dis-

persed by spraying them into the air, by infecting animals that carry the disease to humans, and by contaminating food and water.

## Radiological Dispersion Device (RDD)

Terrorist use of an RDD (often called dirty nuke or dirty bomb) is considered far more likely than use of a nuclear explosive device. An RDD combines a conventional explosive device (such as a bomb) with radioactive material. It is designed to scatter dangerous and sub-lethal amounts of radioactive material over a general area.

Depending on the speed at which the area of the RDD detonation was evacuated or how successful people were at sheltering-in-place, the number of deaths and injuries from an RDD might not be substantially greater than from a conventional bomb explosion.

## Nuclear Blasts

A nuclear blast is an explosion with intense light and heat, a damaging pressure wave, and widespread radioactive material that can contaminate the air, water, and ground surfaces for miles around.

A nuclear device can range from a weapon carried by an intercontinental missile to a small portable nuclear device transported by an individual.





# PANDEMIC FLU

## Flu Pandemics

A pandemic is a global disease outbreak. An influenza pandemic occurs when a new influenza A virus emerges for which there is little or no immunity in the human population, begins to cause serious illness and then spreads easily person-to-person worldwide. A pandemic is determined by spread of disease, not its ability to cause death.

## New Flu Viruses

There are three types of flu viruses. Type A viruses are found in many kinds of animals, including ducks, chickens, pigs, and whales, and also humans. The type B virus widely circulates in humans. Type C has been found in humans, pigs, and dogs and causes mild respiratory infections, but does not spark epidemics.

Influenza virus is one of the most changeable of viruses. Changes may be small and continuous or large and abrupt.

Small, continuous changes happen in type A and type B influenza as the virus makes copies of itself. The process is called antigenic drift. The drifting is frequent enough to make the new strain of virus often unrecognizable to the human immune system. For this reason, a new flu vaccine must be produced each year to combat that year's prevalent strains.

Type A influenza also undergoes infrequent and sudden changes, called antigenic shift. Antigenic shift occurs when two different flu strains infect the same cell and exchange genetic material. The novel assortment of HA or NA proteins in a shifted virus creates a new influenza A subtype. Because people have little or no immunity to such a new subtype, their appearance tends to coincide with a very severe flu epidemic or pandemic.

## Seasonal Flu Basics

Influenza (the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It spreads from person-to-person and can cause mild to severe illness; and in some cases, can lead to death.

- In the United States, yearly outbreaks of seasonal flu usually happen during the fall through early spring.

- The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccination each year.

- Flu viruses can cause illness in people of any age group. Children are most likely to get sick because their immune systems aren't strong enough to fight off the infection.

- Some groups are more likely to have complications from the seasonal flu. These include:

- ♦ those age 65 and older
- ♦ children younger than 2 years old
- ♦ people of any age who have chronic medi-

cal conditions (e.g. diabetes, asthma, congestive heart failure, lung disease)

- Complications from the flu can include:

- ♦ bacterial pneumonia
- ♦ ear or sinus infections
- ♦ dehydration
- ♦ worsening of chronic medical conditions

## Characteristics and Challenges of a Flu Pandemic

### 1. Rapid Worldwide Spread

- ♦ When a pandemic influenza virus emerges, its global spread is considered inevitable.

- ♦ Preparedness activities should assume that the entire world population would be susceptible.

- ♦ Countries might, through measures such as border closures and travel restrictions, delay arrival of the virus, but cannot stop it.

### 2. Health Care Systems Overloaded

- ♦ Most people have little or no immunity to a pandemic virus. Infection and illness rates soar. A substantial percentage of the world's population will require some form of medical care.

- ♦ Nations unlikely to have the staff, facilities, equipment and hospital beds needed to cope with large numbers of people who suddenly fall ill.

- ♦ Death rates are high, largely determined by four factors: the number of people who become infected, the virulence of the virus, the underlying characteristics and vulnerability of affected populations and the effectiveness of preventive measures.

- ♦ Past pandemics have spread globally in two and sometimes three waves.

### 3. Medical Supplies Inadequate

- ♦ The need for vaccine is likely to outstrip supply.

- ♦ The need for antiviral drugs is also likely to be inadequate early in a pandemic.

- ♦ A pandemic can create a shortage of hospital beds, ventilators and other supplies. Surge capacity at non-traditional sites such as schools may be created to cope with demand

- ♦ Difficult decisions will need to be made regarding who gets antiviral drugs and vaccines.

### 4. Economic and Social Disruption

- ♦ Travel bans, closings of schools and businesses and cancellations of events could have major impact on communities and citizens.

- ♦ Care for sick family members and fear of exposure can result in significant worker absenteeism.

Communications and Information are Critical Components of Pandemic Response

Education and outreach are critical to preparing for a pandemic. Understanding what a

pandemic is, what needs to be done at all levels to prepare for pandemic influenza, and what could happen during a pandemic helps us make informed decisions both as individuals and as a nation. Should a pandemic occur the public must be able to depend on its government to provide scientifically sound public health information quickly, openly and dependably.

## Seasonal Flu versus Pandemic Flu

### Seasonal Flu

- Outbreaks follow predictable seasonal patterns; occurs annually, usually in winter, in temperate climates.

- Usually some immunity built up from previous exposure.

- Healthy adults usually not at risk for serious complications; the very young, the elderly and those with certain underlying health conditions at increased risk for serious complications.

- Health systems can usually meet public and patient needs.

- Vaccine developed based on known flu strains and available for annual flu season.
- Adequate supplies of antivirals are usually available.

- Average U.S. deaths approximately 36,000/yr.

- Symptoms: fever, cough, runny nose, muscle pain. Deaths often caused by complications, such as pneumonia.

- Generally causes modest impact on society (e.g., some school closing, encouragement of people who are sick to stay home).

- Manageable impact on domestic and world economy.

### Pandemic Flu

- Occurs rarely (three times in 20th Century).

- No previous exposure; little or no pre-existing immunity.

- Healthy people may be at increased risk for serious complications.

- Health systems may be overwhelmed.

- Vaccine probably would not be available in the early stages of a pandemic.

- Effective antivirals may be in limited supply.

- Number of deaths could be quite high (e.g., U.S. 1918 death toll approximately 675,000).

- Symptoms may be more severe and complications more frequent.

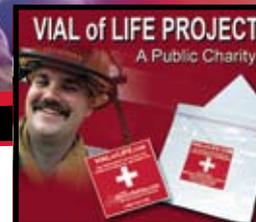
- May cause major impact on society (e.g. widespread restrictions on travel, closings of schools and businesses, cancellation of large public gatherings).

- Potential for severe impact on domestic and world economy



information compiled from flu.gov

# VIAL OF LIFE PROJECT



Date Completed \_\_\_\_\_

**VIALOFLIFE.com**

**1-888-724-1200**

A charitable non-profit organization. "The Vial of Life is designed to speak for you when you can't speak for yourself. The vial contains important medical information that can assist emergency personnel in administering the proper medical treatment."

**1. Fill out Vial of Life Form**

- Answer all pertinent questions.
- Make blank copies of this form to keep information current or go to [www.vialoflife.com](http://www.vialoflife.com) to maintain and store updated information.

**2. Place decal on front of a plastic bag.**

- Place the filled out vial form in the plastic bag. Also, place the following items: Copy of EKG, Living Will of equivalent, DNR (Do Not Resuscitate), Recent picture of self.

**3. Place the bag on your refrigerator door.**

- Securely tape plastic bag to front refrigerator door.
- Place plastic bag at eye level so that anyone responding to a medical emergency can find complete medical information .

**4. Place the second decal on your front door or window for easy visibility by anyone responding to a medical emergency.**

FIRST NAME			INITIAL		LAST NAME			SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	
STREET				CITY		STATE		ZIP	
TELEPHONE		DATE OF BIRTH		MALE/FEMALE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	HAIR COLOR	EYE COLOR	BLOOD TYPE
RELIGION		List hearing difficulties			DENTURES		UNABLE TO SPEAK		
List vision difficulties		UPPER		LOWER		<input type="checkbox"/>			
NATIVE LANGUAGE IF NOT ENGLISH									
Identifying Marks									
Current Medical Conditions									
Past Medical Conditions									
Current Medications: Dosage and Frequency									
Allergies to Medications									
Doctors Name and Telephone Number									
Last Hospitalization									
Special Instructions such as health directives, etc...									
Health Insurance Policy									
Emergency Contact Notification - Name - Address - Phone - Relationship									
<b>PLACE ON REFRIGERATOR DOOR - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY</b>									

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Sample Form



**For more information go to  
[www.VialofLife.com](http://www.VialofLife.com)**

**[WWW.PUTNAMALERT.COM](http://WWW.PUTNAMALERT.COM)**

# To the Residents of Putnam County:



Nancy Harris  
DISTRICT 1  
698-2776



Chip Laibl, Chair  
DISTRICT 2  
329-0210



Kenny Eubanks  
DISTRICT 3  
329-0213



Ed Taylor  
DISTRICT 4  
329-0205



Brad Purcell  
DISTRICT 5  
329-0214

We are pleased to present you a copy of the All Hazards magazine for 2011-12. A short six years have passed since one of the deadliest hurricanes known devastated New Orleans, and it has been only seven years since Florida was pummeled by an onslaught of hurricanes that left residents fleeing for shelters throughout our community. Recently, we faced a potentially devastating fire season in the summer of 2011. May and June saw increased wildfires to a level almost equal to the 1998 season.

Natural disasters and other emergencies are unfortunate occurrences that we all will face at some time or another. While the hurricane season is active summer through fall, we, as residents, must be vigilant to the other potential hazards that face our community. If hurricanes make landfall in Florida and cross Putnam County, debris could once again build up, creating the potential for brush fires, another hazard discussed in this publication.

It is our hope that you will use this publication and keep it handy as a resource to all the potential hazards we face in Putnam. We would also like to remind you that you can sign up for emergency notifications through our PutnamAlert system (registration information is provided on page 21). Nothing is more important to us than your safety. Be assured that we are prepared to deal with natural and man-made disasters.

Working together to keep our community safe,  
*Your Board of County Commissioners*

