



STATE OF FLORIDA
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
"State Emergency Response Team"

CHARLIE CRIST
Governor

W.CRAIG FUGATE
Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FLORIDA HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK IS MAY 25-31

-The Florida Lottery joins the State Team to help Floridians prepare for the Season-

TALLAHASSEE – Governor Charlie Crist has proclaimed May 25 – 31, 2008 as *Florida Hurricane Preparedness Week*, by urging all Floridians to prepare for the 2008 Atlantic Hurricane Season that begins June 1. This year the Florida Lottery will join the outreach team to help get the word out to the state's 18 million residents.

"We welcome our new partners from the Florida Lottery as we travel the state to promote awareness of the 2008 hurricane season," said State Emergency Management Director Craig Fugate. "If you call the Sunshine State home, now is the time to get a plan and get ready."

State and local emergency managers are hosting outreach events and expos from the Panhandle to the Keys over the week and beyond to get Floridians ready for the annual season. The State Kick-off media event will take place at 11:20 a.m. on Tuesday, May 27, at the Home Depot Store located at 2300 22nd Avenue, North, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Residents should consult their local emergency management agency to find out when and where there is an event nearby. This year, Florida Hurricane Preparedness Week will be held in tandem with the national outreach initiative. For more information go to: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/intro.shtml>

The 2008 Atlantic Hurricane Season runs from June 1 through November 30, 2008. To develop your personalized family or business disaster plan, go to: www.FloridaDisaster.org

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CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

FLORIDA HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK

WHEREAS, Florida is the most hurricane vulnerable state in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Florida's citizenry and numerous visitors must remain aware of a hurricane's hazards by adopting a culture of preparedness; and

WHEREAS, the greatest potential for the loss of life is storm surge and inland flooding; and

WHEREAS, high winds and tornadoes can affect all of Florida, including inland and coastal areas; and

WHEREAS, education about hurricanes and forecasting is one of the best methods of protecting the public; and

WHEREAS, Florida joins and supports the National Hurricane Preparedness Week that is running concurrent to extend public awareness across hurricane-prone regions of our great country; and

WHEREAS, all Florida's residents should take personal responsibility and 'GET A PLAN!' based on their own needs;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the State of Florida do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing May 25 – 31, 2008 as

Florida Hurricane Preparedness Week

and urge all citizens to participate in activities to increase their knowledge of preparing and protecting from the hazards of a hurricane. I encourage all Floridians to replenish their emergency supplies before the 2008 Hurricane Season that runs from June through November.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capitol, this 19th day of May, in the year two thousand eight.




Governor

FLORIDA HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK

Tuesday, May 27

FLORIDA OFFICIALS KICK-OFF MEDIA EVENT

**The Home Depot 11:20 a.m.
2300 22nd Avenue North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33713
727-898-1100**

Wednesday, May 28

FLORIDA KEYS HURRICANE PROGRAM

**Monroe County Government Center 7:00 p.m.
2798 Overseas Highway
Marathon, Florida 33050
305-289-2517**

Thursday, May 29

NATIONAL HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS INITIATIVE

PRESS CONFERENCE

**National Hurricane Center 10:00 a.m.
11691 SW 17 Street
Miami, Florida 33165
305-229-4470**

Friday, May 30

FLORIDA ATTORNEY GENERAL, VOLUNTEER FLORIDA FOUNDATION DISASTER CHECK PRESENTATION

**State Logistics Response Center 10:00 a.m.
2702 Directors Row
Orlando, Florida 32809
407-268-8608**

MIAMI -DADE HURRICANE PREPS, EXPO KICK-OFF MEDIA EVENT

**Miami – Dade County Emergency Operations Center 1:30 p.m.
9300 NW 41 Street
Doral, Florida 33178
305-468-5400**

FLORIDA CERT HURRICANE CONFERENCE

**St. Petersburg College – Allstate Center 9:00 a.m.
3200 34 Street, South
St. Petersburg, Florida 37711
727-341-4500**

Saturday, May 31

MIAMI -DADE STORM PREP EXPO 2008

**Miami Beach Convention Center, Hall C 10:00 am – 7 pm
Miami Beach, Florida
(Expo continues through June 1) 11:00a.m. – 6 p.m.**

For Additional Local Events – consult your city or county government for more information

- **May 30: Pinellas County EOC Media Day**
- **May 31: Indian River EOC Ribbon Cutting**
- **May 31: Southeast Florida Citizen Corp/CERT Symposium- Davie**
- **May 31: City of Tampa/ Hillsborough County Hurricane Expo- Tampa**
- **May 31:Hernando County Hurricane Expo “Mitigate in 2008”- Weeki Wachee**
- **May 31: South Tampa Hurricane/Storm Preparedness Event 2008- Tampa**
- **May 31: City of Destin Hurricane Preparation Show- Destin**

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