

Press Release

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P07-104

Ready Okaloosa Registration Fridays in May

Ready Okaloosa is a combined effort of the American Red Cross of Northwest Florida, United Way, Okaloosa Walton College, Americorp, Okaloosa County Public Safety and the Sheriff's Office to assist residents with knowledge, preparation and guidance for storms and evacuation. Ready Okaloosa focus consists of the following:

1. **Fridays in May**, Americorp volunteers will man the Okaloosa County Citizens' Information Line, **850.651.7583**, from **9 a.m. until 3 p.m.**, in order to register residents in a database, as well as provide them with information for neighborhood shelters, and flood or evacuation zones. Phones will be manned from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Fridays in May.
2. Provide residents with an 11-week step-by-step instruction booklet to prepare for emergencies. Also, these organizations evaluated community needs with current information, and organized vital information in an envelope that can be stored, filed in a safe place, or travel with you.
3. Provide Okaloosa County with a more accurate record to track residents before, during and after a storm.

"While I hope we don't need this packet of information anytime soon, this is a phenomenal group effort between American Red Cross of Northwest Florida, United Way, Okaloosa Walton College, Americorp, the Sheriff's Office and the County for the safety of residents of Okaloosa County," stated Okaloosa County Commissioner Don Amunds. "We want to hope for the best and prepare for the worst," he added.

Ready Okaloosa registration is also available online. For more information, contact Public Safety at 850.651.7150 or visit www.co.okaloosa.fl.us.

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