



# Okaloosa County News Release

Contact: Kathy Newby, 850-651-7515; 585-7059 ;  
[knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us) ; Sandra Launch, 855-0589 ;  
[slaunch@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:slaunch@co.okaloosa.fl.us)

Date April 3, 2009  
Update#: 11  
Weather Warning

## **Okaloosa County Road Updates *New Program Allows for Daily Updates on Web Site***

Due to recent rain storms, Okaloosa County has received approximately 18 inches of rain. At the present time approximately 30 roads are still closed of the over 77 roads and bridges originally closed. Bridges overcome by water have been inspected by certified bridge inspectors and have received a rating allowing them to be reopened to the motoring public.

Two bridges were damaged to the point that they cannot be reopened until they are repaired: the bridge over Pond Creek on Lake Ella Road, and the bridge over Canoe Creek on Canoe Lake Road, south of Holt. Several other bridges will remain closed until their approach roads are repaired.

Starting today, The Road Division of Okaloosa County Public Works will begin 12-hour work shifts and 7-day weekly operations in order to restore roads and bridges. Permanent repairs to the damaged roads begin as soon as the emergency repairs are completed. It will be several days until we are able to assess the total damage and prepare a time-line for permanent repairs.

However, Public Works has created an Okaloosa County web site that shows the status of all damaged roads and bridges. **This web site will be updated at least daily until the roadways and bridges are repaired and returned to their pre-storm condition.**

For residents in damaged areas, patience and caution is greatly appreciated during this recovery process. Again, you can check progress by visiting [www.okaloosaf.com](http://www.okaloosaf.com), just look for the scrolling road updates link.

Residents are also encouraged to take this opportunity to register for **Code Red** Weather Warning and Ready Okaloosa, online at [www.okaloosaf.com](http://www.okaloosaf.com) and you will be called with weather warnings in your neighborhood. Select the Public Safety icon from the home page for code red information and weather updates. Continue to monitor our website and local forecast. For more information, call 850-651-7150 or visit [www.okaloosaf.com](http://www.okaloosaf.com), [www.YouTube.com/FloridaSERT](http://www.YouTube.com/FloridaSERT) .

###