

# **Okaloosa County News Release**

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## **Okaloosa County Transit Provides Emergency Evacuation to Citizens**

Whenever the National Weather Service issues a severe weather warning or watch for Okaloosa County, citizens with no other means of transportation to evacuate are encouraged to call Okaloosa County Transit to arrange transportation to emergency shelters. If you live in a hurricane evacuation zone, mobile home, are electricity dependent, or otherwise cannot stay in your home during a severe weather event, you should call **833-9168** for transportation to one of the county's designated shelters. All rides to shelters are free during a declared emergency.

Once sustained winds reach 35 mph we pull our vehicles off the road; therefore it is imperative that citizens seeking shelter comply with the follow requirements:

- Provide a complete address including apartment or lot number of your pick up location, and a phone number where we can reach you with pick up information in advance.
- Once the shelters are open, citizens who have requested transportation will be called and informed of estimated pick up time.
- Be ready to travel when the vehicle arrives. (Depending on the severity and speed of the storm and number of citizens requiring transportation, drivers will not be able to wait or make additional trips.)

Once the Okaloosa County Emergency Operations Center is activated, you can contact the Citizen Information Line by dialing 311 or 850-423-4894 for the latest information on the storm and information regarding shelter activations. The Emergency Broadcast System Stations in Okaloosa County are AM 1260, AM 1050, FM 105.5, FM 104.7 and FM 99.5. For more information on Okaloosa County Transit please visit our website at [www.rideoct.org](http://www.rideoct.org). Hurricane Season starts June 1. Register for Ready Okaloosa and visit [www.okaloosaf.com](http://www.okaloosaf.com), and select the Public Safety icon for more information.

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