FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Take measures to secure home’s exterior from Matthew’s winds

October 3, 2016 – Please take care of a few things outside to help to prevent storm damage inside the house, as Flagler County prepares for the effects of Hurricane Matthew to reach us.

“We don’t know exactly where Matthew will hit, but all of the models indicate that we are going to have some strong winds by mid-week. Shoring up your property will lessen the risk of damage to your home,” said Flagler County Public Safety Emergency Manager Steve Garten. “If you have trees that are close to your house, you should check them for weak limbs and branches. Of course, prune back anything that is overhanging a structure.”

Tie down, remove or bring inside outdoor items that could be torn loose or blown away, including potted plants. Roll up and secure canvas awnings with sturdy rope or twine.

Keep chemicals, fertilizers and other toxic materials in a secure area on the premises. Secure propane tanks away from heat sources, such as water heaters and appliances.

“We urge you to take care of these things now, ahead of any effects of the hurricane impacting Flagler County,” County Administrator Craig Coffey said. “It will help us to help you.”

###