



Administration
1769 E. Moody Blvd Bldg 2
Bunnell, FL 32110
Phone: 386-313-4001



Julie Murphy
Flagler County
Public Information Officer
(386) 313-4039 Cell: (386) 931-6316
Email jmurphy@flaglercounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Flagler hosts wildfire mitigation for Hammock residents

February 17, 2016 – Hammock residents are invited to attend an informational meeting about post-hurricane wildfire mitigation at 6 p.m. February 23 at the Hammock Community Center.

Flagler County staff from both Land Management and Fire Rescue, along with representatives from the Florida Forest Service will make a presentation about the Hurricane Matthew Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Project, followed by a question and answer session.

“Residents need a 30-foot buffer of ‘fire-defensible’ space between vegetation and their homes,” said Flagler County Land Management Coordinator Mike Lagasse. “This will be especially important as we head into wildfire season this year, as there is a lot of dead and dried vegetation because of the hurricane.”

This project will create that 30-foot buffer for the residential areas that are directly adjacent to Flagler County-owned natural areas.

The work will be done on county property utilizing fire-wise principles. Hazardous fuels will be reduced or eliminated by grinding or mulching them.

“Saltwater inundation from Hurricane Matthew flood waters took a toll on the natural areas of the barrier island,” Lagasse said. “We want to reduce the hazards associated with wildfire, and this is a good way to do it.”

The Hammock Community Center is located at 79 MalaCompra Road.

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