

Administration

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Begin hurricane season preps by shopping local during sales tax holiday

May 27, 2020 – The official start of hurricane season will be here rapidly, and Flagler officials are urging residents to prepare early by shopping locally and taking advantage of the upcoming Sales Tax Holiday.

Governor Ron DeSantis signed legislation designating a 2020 Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday from Friday, May 29 through Thursday, June 4 – a full week.

During this sales tax holiday, items related to disaster preparedness are exempt from sales tax.

“We ask residents to have a number of emergency supplies ready, and this is the perfect time to take a look at what you have and replenish or replace these items,” said Emergency Management Director Jonathan Lord. “Remember to test things like flashlights and replace outdated batteries.”

As with food, water, and medications, officials recommend having seven days’ worth of supplies.

The qualifying list of items includes the following: reusable ice packs; flashlights, lanterns and candles; fuel and kerosene containers; batteries (excluding automobile and boat); coolers and ice chests; tarps; ground anchor systems; tie-downs; bungee cords; two-way and weather band radios that are powered by battery, solar or hand-crank; and, portable generators selling for less than \$750 to be used for providing light, communications or to preserve food in the event of a power outage.

“Another thing we would ask residents is to do now is to take a moment to sign up for special alert notifications at www.flaglercounty.org/alertflagler,” Lord said. “If you know someone with special needs – someone who requires electricity, refrigeration for medication, or oxygen – encourage them or register for evacuation assistance at www.flaglercounty.org/special_needs.”

Also remember to shop locally.

“Certainly we hope to be spared this year, but it is a good time to remind our residents to consider making their purchases within Flagler County,” said Economic Opportunity Manager Kat Friel. “Our businesses have been hit so hard already this year by COVID-19. We are just starting to regain strength. The more we continue to boost our businesses, the quicker they will rebound which will make our recovery less painful.”

Charles Ericksen, Jr.
District 1

Greg Hansen
District 2

David Sullivan
District 3

Joe Mullins
District 4

Donald O’Brien, Jr.
District 5

All residents and businesses are reminded to abide by Executive and Emergency Orders, and follow Florida Department of Health and CDC guidance.

Additionally, those who are sick and/or told to self-isolate are to: remain at home unless seeking medical care, cover coughs and sneezes, wear a facemask around others, and disinfect touched surfaces daily.

COVID-19 testing is available for Flagler County residents at a variety of locations, please visit www.FlaglerCounty.org, and following the links for COVID-19 and then select Screening & Testing for the latest options.

COVID-19 health related questions or concerns should be directed to your regular healthcare provider or the Florida Health hotline at 866-779-6121.

COVID-19 business concerns should be directed to the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation at 866-532-1440.

All other COVID-19 government services questions or concerns may be directed your municipality or the Emergency Operations Center at 386-313-4200.

Check for current information on Flagler County's website www.flaglercounty.org, and follow "Flagler County Government" or "Flagler County Emergency Management" on Social Media. The county's social media team will provide updates through these official accounts:

Flagler County Government

- [Facebook.com/FlaglerCountyGovernment](https://www.facebook.com/FlaglerCountyGovernment)

Flagler County Emergency Management

- [Facebook.com/FlaglerEOC](https://www.facebook.com/FlaglerEOC)
- [Twitter.com/FlaglerEOC](https://twitter.com/FlaglerEOC)
- [Instagram.com/FlaglerEOC](https://www.instagram.com/FlaglerEOC)

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