

## Administration

1769 E. Moody Blvd Bldg 2  
Bunnell, FL 32110



[www.flaglercounty.org](http://www.flaglercounty.org)

Phone: (386)313-4001

Fax: (386)313-4101

---

Julie Murphy  
Flagler County  
Public Information Officer  
(386) 313-4039  
Email [jmurphy@flaglercounty.org](mailto:jmurphy@flaglercounty.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Free Skywarn Storm Spotter class Saturday March 7

**February 25, 2020** – Flagler County Emergency Management and the National Weather Service will host a free Skywarn Storm Spotter class on Saturday, March 7, at the Emergency Operations Center.

Ben Nelson, meteorologist with the National Weather Service, will teach the class. It will cover everything from cloud formations to thunderstorm development to visual predictions.

Those who participate in the class – which will run from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – are eligible to become volunteer storm spotters and assist Emergency Management and the National Weather Service by reporting potentially hazardous weather events.

While warnings for thunderstorms are only issued for hail and high winds, lightning is part of all storms and is the cause of more deaths in the United States than tornadoes and hurricanes, according to the National Weather Service.

“It is so important for us to have well-trained volunteers, because Flagler County is located within a Doppler radar gap,” said Emergency Management Chief Jonathan Lord. “These storm spotters serve as the local eyes of the National Weather Service.”

Flagler County has been hosting Skywarn Storm Spotter classes in coordination with the National Weather Service since 1995. Emergency Management Technician Bob Pickering has organized all 55 classes.

“Storm spotter reports from Flagler County to the National Weather Service have included: waterspouts, hail, wall clouds, flooding, and even developing tornadoes before they could be detected by weather radar.”

Registration is required, and can be done by calling Pickering at 386-313-4250, or by email at [EOC@flaglercounty.org](mailto:EOC@flaglercounty.org).

###

---

Charles Ericksen, Jr.  
District 1

Greg Hansen  
District 2

David Sullivan  
District 3

Joe Mullins  
District 4

Donald O'Brien, Jr.  
District 5