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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Tropical Storm Dorian: Now is the time to prepare

**August 27, 2019** – As Tropical Storm Dorian, soon to be a hurricane, continues to approach Florida, Flagler County urges residents and businesses to prepare now.

“Over the next few days, Dorian’s forecast is expected to fluctuate,” said Flagler County Emergency Management Director, Jonathan Lord. “However residents, visitors, and businesses should remain vigilant and complete their preparedness plans and review emergency kit supplies today.

*Today* is the day to stock up on emergency supplies, fuel your vehicles – and keep them topped off the rest of the week – and to check your hurricane shutters.”

Tuesday morning the National Hurricane Center (NHC) placed Flagler County, along with the majority of the Florida Peninsula, within Dorian’s Forecast Cone. The Forecast Cone represents the area, within which, the center of Dorian is likely to travel. Dorian may travel or expand outside of this cone, and storm impacts may be felt within – and outside of – the cone.

As of 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the NHC was not forecasting hurricane force winds for Flagler County. The NHC did however forecast a 20% cumulative chance of receiving tropical storm force winds between 8 a.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. Sunday, as a result of Dorian.

“At this time, Flagler County does not have plans to provide sandbags,” added Lord. “However, the county will make sand available in multiple locations later this week. We’ll announce those locations as soon as practical. For residents looking for sandbags, we have verified that stores such as Home Depot, Lowes, Ace Hardware, and Amazon currently have them available either for pick-up or shipping within the next 2 days.”

In preparation for Dorian, and emergencies year-round, Flagler County Emergency Management urges:

- **Get a Kit:** Have an emergency supply kit that contains enough food, water, hygiene and medical supplies, medications (including oxygen), clothing, etc. for at least five to seven days for each member of the household, as well as family pets. Do not forget cash and fuel needs.
- **Make a Plan:** Decide today, that if your neighborhood is ordered to evacuate in an emergency, where you will go, such as a family or friend’s home, hotel, or shelter.

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Charles Ericksen, Jr.  
District 1

Greg Hansen  
District 2

David Sullivan  
District 3

Joe Mullins  
District 4

Donald O’Brien, Jr.  
District 5

- **Be Informed:** Ensure that you are aware of the hazards affecting your home or business, know if you are in a Hurricane Evacuation Zone, and sign up for **ALERTFlagler** to receive emergency messages from the County and your municipality.

For more information on how to be prepared, including what to include in your emergency supply kit, how to make a disaster plan, and finding out if you are in a Hurricane Evacuation Zone, visit [www.FlaglerCounty.org/emergency](http://www.FlaglerCounty.org/emergency). You can also sign up for **ALERTFlagler** emergency notifications and access the Disaster Preparedness Guide online. Printed Guides are available for pick-up at most public government buildings within Flagler County.

If you or a household member require daily home medical care in an evacuation, or require transportation evacuation assistance, please sign-up for the Special Needs Registry at [www.FlaglerCounty.org/emergency](http://www.FlaglerCounty.org/emergency) and select 'Individuals with Special Needs' from the menu.

For additional assistance or information from Flagler County Emergency Management, email [EOC@FlaglerCounty.org](mailto:EOC@FlaglerCounty.org) or call 386-313-4200.

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