

JOINT LEON COUNTY / CITY OF TALLAHASSEE NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
September 1, 2015

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September is National Preparedness Month

When disaster strikes, response and recovery efforts are “all-hands-on-deck” operations. Because preparation is the key to recovery, the City of Tallahassee, Leon County Government and other community and regional partners are coming together to promote September as National Preparedness Month. The goal is that, by the end of the month, all Big Bend residents will have the information and tools they need to prepare for emergency situations.

To help focus the message, each week will have a different topic. Useful information about ways to protect yourself and your property, items to keep on hand and area resources will be shared via partner websites, social media and area media partners. This year’s topics include flooding, hurricanes, wildfires and power outages.

To test the preparedness plan you built over the month, two free online exercises will be offered on September 30 to all North Florida and South Georgia residents. Participants will be guided through a disaster scenario and prompted to answer questions about how they would respond. By working through these exercises, participants will be able to assess their existing crisis plan and identify weak points for improvement. To register, visit <http://www.drc-group.com/project/prepare-fl.html>.

Preparedness is especially important for Big Bend residents as it is the middle of hurricane season. While there have been six named storms to date and no direct impact on our area, you cannot wait to be prepared.

For more information about local preparedness and resources, visit the Leon County Emergency Information Portal at www.LeonCountyFL.gov/EI and the City of Tallahassee Emergency Management page at www.Talgov.com/emergency. Follow [@LeonCounty](https://twitter.com/LeonCounty) and [@COTNews](https://twitter.com/COTNews) on Twitter and Instagram throughout September for tips and information.