

*News Release*



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#100517-GUIDE

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### ***2010 Disaster Preparedness Guide Now Available***

Santa Rosa County Division of Emergency Management's newest disaster guide, "Plan Prepare Prevent," is now available. This annual 48-page guide provides preparation information not only for hurricanes, but floods, tornados, pandemics, wildfires, and hazardous chemical accidents as well. Information on seasonal emergencies, terrorism and important phone numbers are also included.

While the annual guide still contains a disaster kit shopping list, hurricane tracking chart and important information about what to do before, during and after a disaster, residents will also find new information such as updated evacuation zones and changes in hurricane classifications. Evacuation zones, originally summarized into three categories, have been expanded into five categories. To find out how the new evacuation zones affects you, see page 26 of the guide or enter your home or business address on the interactive map found at [www.santarosa.fl.gov/gis](http://www.santarosa.fl.gov/gis). In order to implement your plans in a timely and effective manner, it is important to become familiar with these changes before a disaster strikes.

Residents can pick up a free copy of the guide at county offices and libraries, local chambers of commerce, and local retailers including Wal-Mart, Winn Dixie and Publix, or download an electronic version from the county's Website at [www.santarosa.fl.gov/emergency/disasterprep.html](http://www.santarosa.fl.gov/emergency/disasterprep.html). Additionally, each seventh grader in the Santa Rosa County School District will receive a copy to take home.

Churches, civic groups, and businesses may request multiple copies for distribution as supplies allow by calling Santa Rosa County Emergency Management at (850) 983-5360.

Santa Rosa County Emergency Management issues the annual guide as a general guideline to follow when preparing for disasters. As seen in the past, hurricanes are not the only disasters that face residents. Santa Rosa County Emergency Management urges citizens to be prepared and have a plan for all potential disasters. The disaster guide is funded in part by a Department of Homeland Security grant for public awareness and education.

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