

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS State Surgeon General & Secretary

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ENCOURAGES FLORIDIANS TO PLAN, PREPARE, STAY INFORMED WITH NEW FLORIDA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

**TALLAHASSEE**- During the height of hurricane season, the Florida Department of Health (DOH) encourages residents throughout the state to stay healthy and be prepared for hurricanes and other hazards by offering the new Emergency Preparedness Guide. Now, more than ever, it is important to consider health-related needs before an emergency or disaster.

Available <u>online</u> or at one of the Department of Health offices across the state, the Guide provides health-based information and tips to Floridians on how to plan, prepare and stay informed before and throughout hurricane season. The Guide includes steps to create an emergency plan for individuals, families and pets. Information is provide to help make an emergency supply kit including items for basic dietary, medical and hygiene needs as well as specialty items for people with disabilities, people with access or functional needs, and pets.

"I encourage all Floridians to include important health-related items and medical documents in their emergency supply kits," said Dr. John Armstrong, State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health. "By planning ahead families can remain safe and healthy during hurricane season and beyond."

View DOH's emergency preparedness videos: "Don't Forgo the H2O" and "Don't Let Your Emergency Food Become a Disaster to Your Diet"

For more information on hurricane and all hazards preparedness, visit <u>www.floridashealth.com</u> or <u>http://www.floridadisaster.org/</u>

DOH protects, promotes and improves the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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