



STATE OF FLORIDA

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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Governor

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Florida State Emergency Response Team Conducts 2017 Statewide Hurricane Exercise

TALLAHASSEE — Yesterday marked the start of the 2017 Florida Statewide Hurricane Exercise, which runs through Thursday, May 4 at the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee.

The State Emergency Response Team (SERT) annual exercise tests Florida's emergency plans and procedures for a potential hurricane landfall. Along with federal, local and private-sector partners, FDEM will simulate emergency response efforts to manage an evolving hurricane scenario.

Governor Rick Scott said, "I am proud of the many state, local and federal partners that are working together during this year's Statewide Hurricane Exercise in order to ensure Florida is fully prepared for the 2017 hurricane season. We know from our experiences with last year's storms that early preparation is incredibly important and I encourage all Floridians to take action today to keep their families, homes and businesses safe."

"The 2017 statewide hurricane exercise serves as an opportunity to practice our lessons learned from the 2016 Atlantic Hurricane Season and to solidify our valuable partnerships in preparation for the upcoming season," said Bryan W. Koon, director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management. "As we work with our partners to test our hurricane response plans and make the necessary updates to keep Floridians safe, families should take the opportunity to double-check their own plans and ensure their disaster supply kits are properly stocked."

The 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season begins Thursday, June 1. Make sure your family and business are prepared to follow the instructions of local officials in case a hurricane threatens your community. Know the nearest shelter, build an evacuation plan and maintain a disaster supply kit.

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For the latest information on the 2017 Hurricane Season and to Get A Plan!, visit www.FloridaDisaster.org and follow FDEM on Twitter at @FLSERT and Facebook at www.Facebook.com/FloridaSERT.

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