



MAY 2018 | CITY OF TALLAHASSEE

INSIGHT

Make a Plan. Build a Kit.

Hurricane season runs from June 1 through Nov. 30. Before September 2016, Tallahassee had not been struck by a hurricane since 1985, but that year and last year, hurricanes impacted this community. Downed trees, power outages and other impacts disrupted life, though thankfully no lives were lost.

Forecasting services are currently predicting a slightly above-average season in 2018. This makes it vitally important for Tallahasseeans to be prepared. As hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria all demonstrated last year, one storm can devastate a community, changing lives forever.

Having a hurricane plan for your home and family is essential. Visit www.ready.gov or www.floridadisaster.org to develop your personal plan, get helpful information and ensure you're prepared. Leon County also offers resources for building a personal plan, as well as the local disaster survival guide, at www.haveahurricaneplan.com.

Once you've created your plan, discuss it with your entire family to ensure everyone knows key details, like contact numbers and evacuation routes.

To help residents prepare for hurricane season, the City of Tallahassee, Leon County Government and the American Red Cross, with support from many area partners, will host the annual Build Your Bucket event on Saturday, June 2, at the North Florida Fairgrounds from 9 a.m. to noon. Check Talgov.com for additional details.

The first 800 families / households at the event will receive a free disaster preparedness bucket and starter supplies. Disaster survival guides, preparedness supplies checklists and more will also be distributed at the event. More than 20 area agencies will be on site to connect residents with critical resources and information that will aid in recovery following a disaster. This is a great opportunity to learn more about how to prepare and protect your property, your family and your community.

Citizens can access additional information about local resources, like shelters, relief agencies and disaster training videos, at Talgov.com or LeonCountyFL.gov.

Ensure You Stay Informed

The City will send email and text alerts to City utility customers during emergencies. Check your Utility account contact information to ensure it is up-to-date. Log in to your utility account on Talgov.com or call Customer Service at 891-4968 to verify your contact information.

In addition to direct customer contact, official City information will be posted online and on social media. Bookmark Talgov.com, follow @COTNews on Twitter and like City of Tallahassee, FL – Government on Facebook (Facebook.com/COTNews) now. Local info will also broadcast on 88.9 WFSU-FM.

Prepare Your Business

From a Fortune 500 company to local start-ups, every business should have a hurricane plan. Do you have a building evacuation plan that is regularly practiced? Have you gathered insurance forms, lease agreements and other important paperwork? How will employees get information about the status of operations? These are only a few of the many things employers need to consider when creating a business resiliency plan.

Get more details and helpful information at www.ready.gov/business.



ARE YOU READY?

Build Your Bucket
Saturday, June 2 / 9 a.m. to noon
North Florida Fairgrounds

COMING IN JUNE

June 6	City Commission workshop at 1 pm
June 6	City Commission regular meeting at 4 pm
June 18	Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency meeting at 1:30 pm
June 20	City Commission regular meeting at 4 pm
June 21	Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meeting at 3 pm

All meetings are held in the City Commission Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall (300 S. Adams St.), unless noted otherwise. Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. City Commission meetings are shown live and rebroadcast on WCOT, the City's government access channel (Comcast Cable and CenturyLink channel 13). City Commission meetings are also streamed live online and are indexed and posted for viewing on Talgov.com. Call the Department of Communications at 891-8533 for more information or view the current City Commission agenda online at Talgov.com. Follow @COTNews on Twitter for City news.

Reporting Power Outages

If you haven't already downloaded DigiTally (the City's free trouble reporting mobile app) there is no better time than right now. If the power goes out during a storm, you can quickly and easily report it through the app via your smart phone or tablet. The app will ask for the address of the outage and your phone number. Once you submit the report, you'll receive a confirmation email. All reports submitted via DigiTally are sent directly to the Electric Utility and put into the system to be addressed.

If you don't have a mobile phone, there is a similar functionality for reporting outages on **Talgov.com**. You can also call Customer Service at 891-4968. Call wait times will be longer during major events.

Plan for Your Pet

When crafting your family's preparedness plan, be sure to include your pets. Pets will need food, water, medication and other items, too. If you live in an evacuation zone, identify shelters or nearby hotels/motels that take pets. Put a current photo of your pet in your kit for identification purposes.

Get more pet preparedness tips at www.ready.gov/animals.

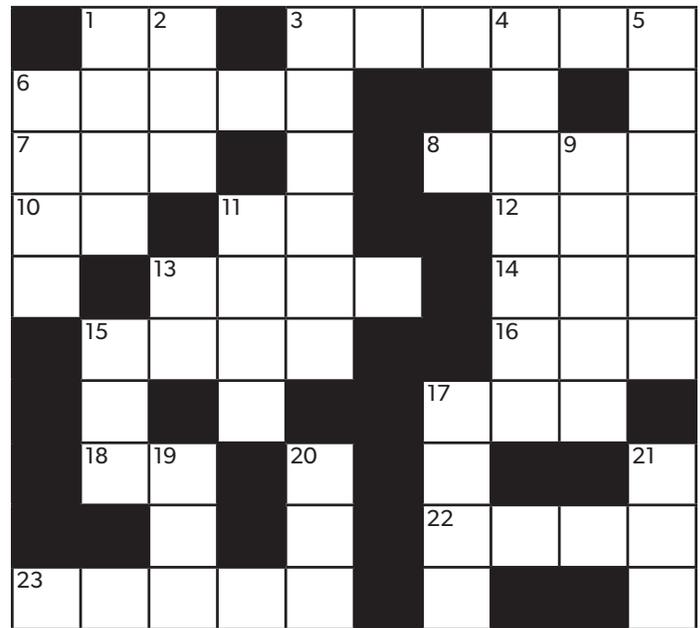
Special Needs? Register Now.

Citizens who will need assistance with evacuation and sheltering because of age, disability or other special needs should register NOW. All information you provide is confidential and protected under Florida Statutes. Special needs shelters are intended to provide, to the extent possible under emergency conditions, an environment that can sustain an individual's level of health. If you or a loved one require a high level of medical care or depend on electricity for life-sustaining medical equipment, you should consider registering for the special needs shelter. Completing the Florida Special Needs Registry does not, however, automatically qualify the individual for a special needs shelter. Register online at snr.floridadisaster.org. For further assistance with registration, call Leon County Division of Emergency Management at 606-3700.

Register online at snr.floridadisaster.org.

YOUR CITY CROSSWORD

Topic: Emergency Preparedness



Answers available at Talgov.com/cheater

ACROSS

- 1 Have a radio to hear emergency management updates on 88.9 on this radio transmission with a larger signal-to-noise ratio
- 3 Garment made from watertight material to repel rain
- 6 Type of large plastic bag that can go in the bin or be used creatively, like a makeshift 3 across
- 7 Initials of the inventor of the English detective themed board game, Cluedo, which would provide non-energy dependent fun for a family during a hurricane
- 8 If you need special medical this, apply for the Special Needs Registry
- 10 The second syllable of the scale in solfège
- 11 Initials of actress who portrays medical examiner Melinda Warner on Law & Order: SVU
- 12 Confucian virtue denoting the good feeling experienced when being altruistic
- 13 Pack non-perishable this in your supplies
- 14 Scottish word that means go
- 15 Have these for your home and car
- 16 Abbreviation for the pre-established detour system for major highways in Ontario
- 17 Keep clothes this by putting them in sealed, waterproof bags
- 18 Abbreviation for a vital bathroom product to use when nature calls
- 22 Whether for your hands or body, this will help you clean up
- 23 Store at least a gallon of this per day per person for a 3-day period

DOWN

- 1 Costs no money, like the supplies that will be distributed at Build Your Bucket on June 2
- 2 This can help you find routes during an evacuation
- 3 These images of loved ones help with reunification
- 4 Cell batteries die. Have a portable this ready to go.
- 5 Hungry? Use this to get into cans.
- 6 This big, flat object can help keep rain out of the house should your roof spring a leak
- 9 Visit this .gov site to learn more about disaster preparedness
- 11 Have kids? Pack these to keep them entertained.
- 13 Chemical symbol for iron
- 15 A first aid this can help with minor cuts
- 17 This mask can help with harmful particles
- 19 Family member with four legs who also needs supplies
- 20 Put gas in this in case you need to evacuate
- 21 DigiTally is a mobile this that makes it easy to report issues to the City of Tallahassee

INSIGHT is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related terms of interest. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the appropriate City department. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Requests should be made at least seven hours in advance. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance request.



For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquires, please call 891-4968 or visit Talgov.com.